Board of Selectmen - Electronic Meeting by teleconference
April 6, 2020

7:00 PM  The Board of Selectmen Chairman Jim Waddell, has determined that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor’s Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, he has determined that to properly ensure the safety of the public and as several of the Board members are within the CDC guidelines needing to take special precautions, this body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governors Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming we are:

Utilizing a teleconference service for this electronic Meeting. The Public may join the teleconference by calling toll free **1-857-444-0744** and use the code **156034**.

There was roll call attendance:
Chuck Rage, present, no one in room with me
Rusty Bridle, present, nobody with me
Regina Barnes, present, nobody here
Mary Louise Woolsey, present, me, and three cats
Chairman Jim Waddell, called for pledge of allegiance:

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Chairman Waddell noted that public comment if comment, there is no answering.

I. Public Comment

Claire Libby, commented that Hampton is doing a fantastic job, she appreciates all the help that is being offered, thanking all those involved.

II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Sel. Woolsey announced that the chairman of the budget committee would like all of the departments to email their town reports, and that Ch. 22 will be adjusting information to a larger, more user friendly print.

Sel. Barnes announced that see is concerned about the $1.4 billion we have accepted from the Federal Government. She noted she is looking for answers from the Governor. She commented on the State Senator meeting with the Hampton Beach Village District, noting
that Hampton is responsible for all of Hampton, including the beach, and encouraged the Senator to reach out to the Board of Selectmen. She commented that both management, and the Town
of Hampton, have done a wonderful job during this crisis, and she thanked both chiefs and department heads, noting that Hampton does it best.

Sel. Rage reminded everyone the Village District meeting is May 19th, at the Fire Station.

Sel. Bridle hopes that everyone is safe and is going by the rules, and together we will get through this.

Chairman Waddell asked that all follow the rules and do social distancing. He complimented all the local restaurants staying open for takeout.

III. Approval of Minutes

1. March 16, 2020
Selectman Woolsey MOTIONED to APPROVE the minutes of March 16, 2020, SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0


2. March 23, 2020
Selectman Woolsey MOTIONED to APPROVE the minutes of March 23, 2020, SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0


IV. Consent Agenda

1. 2019 Tax Collector Abatement:
2. 2019-TC2-No refund
4. 2020 Disability Exemptions Renewal Denial: Kalil, Deborah
5. 2020 Elderly/Disabled Exemptions New: Hughes, Mary C
6. 2020 Elderly/Disabled Exemptions Renewals: Jameson, Beverly
8. 2020 Veterans Credits New: Bickel, Scott, Cagliuso, Family Revocable Trust, Cyros, Family Revocable Trust, Davis, April & Johnson, Douglas

9. 2020 Total Veterans Credit New: Binette, Barbara Ellen Revocable Trust

10. 2020 Total Veterans Credit Renewal: Burrell, Gerry David, Hincman, Leo J., Michaud, Robert & Susan, Lylis, Alice, Barbieri, Christine & Stephen

11. Cable TV Advisory Board Appointments: Paul Paquette, Peter Reed


13. Heritage Appointment: Mary-Louise Woolsey

14. Leased Land Real Estate Commission Appointments: Nancy Stiles, Jeannine St. Germain

15. Request for No Objection: Liquor License for Ronald Cipullo dba “Sofia on Lafayette” 822 Lafayette Road

Sel. Barnes requested to remove #14 from consent

Selectman Bridle MOTIONED to MOVE the Consent Agenda EXCEPT for #14, SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0


Discussion on #14 Leased Land Real Estate Commission Appointments:

Sel. Barnes noted her interest in the committee, noting she did not see there was a conflict, as well as Todd Loiseau.

Sel. Rage asked if more could be on the committee. Chairman Waddell asked Town Manager Welch to clarify. Town Manager Welch noted appointments are by request and there are three vacancies. Chairman Waddell asked about two being interested and could they fill out applications. Town Manager Welch stated yes, or the board could appoint one. Town Manager Welch expounded on it not having to be in writing and there are term limits.

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPOINT Todd Loiseau, Nancy Stiles, and Jeannine St. Germain to the Leased Land Real Estate Commission, SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0


Sel. Woolsey asked about the signing of documents and Town Manager Welch explained the procedure.
V. Appointments

1. Rene Boudreau, Parks and Recreation Director & Beth Dupell, Operations Assistant
   a. Departmental Update
      i. UNH Needs Assessment update
Bob Barcelona will have the final document to us by week's end. Bob is finalizing it to have in a format that I will be able to email you all the results this week. He did apologize for the delay as they too have been hit hard by the COVID-19 and it has disrupted their normal operations and schedules.

      ii. Dept. actions regarding COVID-19
We have closed all parks and playgrounds until further notice. We are having some challenges with people from out of town visiting the skate park and inline rink but the police have done a great job driving through every so often to help us out.

      iii. Facilities, programs, events, trips cancelled or on hold
As of the middle of March, we have postponed, cancelled and, are trying to reschedule our programs and trips, including Tuscany. We have refunded or credited most if not all trips for March-April and will adjust as needed going forward as we continue to get updates regarding the COVID-19. We are still looking for new ways to offer programs to the people through different platforms. We have been updating our face book page daily with updates and great ideas to stay active and safe. I will let Beth talk on that in more depth shortly.

      iv. Taken on role to coordinate assistance w/ seniors
We have taken an active role in calling all of the seniors that have done programs through the Rec. in the last two years that are in our database to ask how they are doing and if there is anything we can help them with. It has been a very nice response with people happy we are checking in. We are also trying to see if they know of anyone that may need our assistance in some way. They have been very happy that we are reaching out to make contact with them, we have almost 200 or so. We have a handful of volunteers that will be ready to help us to shop and deliver groceries if there is a need. Some seniors are scared to leave their houses but they have family or friends that have been helping them out we are finding so far. We are finding the community as a whole has really been helping out our seniors.

      v. Social media and Channel 22 Public Service Announcements (PSA) Beth Dupell
To follow up on the social media side of things I will turn it over to Beth to speak on what she has been doing in regards to the rec dept and town social media along with Ch. 22 PSA’s Ms. Dupell commented on the increase in followers on the face book page, noting people are getting the information that is being put out. She noted the PSA’s and the slides on Ch 22, and commented trying to get the word to as many people as possible. She discussed the phone calls and encouraging the people they do talk to, to let others know what is available for support.

Sel. Bridle stated they have done a great job, suggested checking with North Hampton library, and commented that the PSA videos are excellent. He encouraged anyone that might have a friend or neighbor who needs assistance to call the Rec Dept.
Sel. Barnes agreed with Rusty, and also reiterated the PSA’s are awesome, and also mentioned the webpage. She discussed the great job the Rec. Dept. is doing and the positivity it is bringing to the community.

Sel. Woolsey commented liking the PSA’s done by Beth and Kristi Pulliam, and reiterated the request for the budget committee.

Sel. Rage reiterated the same that has been said and all are doing a great job.

Chairman Waddell commented on what a great job Rec. did in changing focus from recreation, to emergency help and support. He discussed the great PSA’s and noted the great work from Channel 22 as well.

Sel. Bridle asked if there was a problem with any of the tour companies. Dir. Boudreau stated no problems, and Collette tours with the Tuscany trip has refunded all money.

2. Chief Sawyer, Police and Deputy Town Manager Sullivan

a. COVID-19 Update

Chief Sawyer discussed how well the weekend went, with parking and crowd control, and noted the assistance from State Police. He discussed upcoming assistance from the Deputies at the Sheriff’s Dept., as well as Fish and Game if necessary. He discussed the upcoming weather and making plans for the weekend.

Dep. Town Manager asked the Chief to discuss PPE’s. The Chief discussed scrambling for supplies and noted a local company, SleepNet, coming through with compliant masks, also noting donated face shields. He noted the Fire Dept. getting gowns and supplies as well.

Sel. Rage said they are doing a great job and asked about people not being able to go to the beach. Chief Sawyer answered discussing the Governor’s order, and noted no access means no access for all.

Sel. Bridle asked for further explanation about the state police. The Chief discussed the state statute regarding communities of over 3000 needing to request state assistance before the state police have jurisdiction. He noted the longstanding working relationship Hampton has with them, commenting they do have their own duties and reiterating the assistance from the Sheriff’s Dept. The Chief highlighted the great job DPW is doing in their assistance to police.

Sel. Woolsey stated great job.

Sel. Barnes asked if the Chief felt comfortable in the amount of PPE’s that we have, and he answered for the immediate, we do. He discussed wanting to get them to more people and the CDC recommending more masks. She asked about the sidewalks on the west side being closed and the answer was the sidewalks on the west side of Ocean Blvd. are not closed. The Chief also discussed the parking in that area, and possible signage. She commented on an article she wrote about the beach and the change in title when it was published. She clarified her actual intent of the article. She offered her thanks to the Chief, Chief Ayotte, and DPW and noted appreciating all they are doing to keep us safe.

Chairman Waddell offered his thanks to the Chief and all departments and, also to the public, doing their part in social distancing. The Chief agreed, noting most in compliance and referencing discussions with the surf community. The Chief discussed potential issues as the
weather warms, and asked for direction that parking on town roads be for town residents only. Consensus was it was voted for him to have that authority.

Dep. Town Manager James Sullivan discussed all of the town departments quickly adapting to all of the challenges being faced and being proud of how it is all working. He discussed working on plans for current work and going into the future with regard to finances. He discussed projects being put on hold to see where we are at, and to see what the financial future for the town holds, noting we are in a good place for now. He noted revenue from motor vehicles and taxes with the next tax due in June, and discussed being on top of the situation daily.

Sel. Woolsey stated good job.

Sel. Barnes commented on her discussions with the Town Manager and the Dep. Town Manager and highlighted that she has seen them be on top of this since day one and offered her thanks for that. She asked about the last Governor’s order about hotels. Dep. Sullivan noted it was dealing with new bookings and current stays may be finished out. He also noted that an exception was emergency management personnel who may need a place to go, and possible special needs.

Sel. Rage noted that utility workers are included in the exception as well, and Dep. Sullivan agreed, highlighting essential workers.

Sel. Bridle stated the Town Manager and Deputy are doing an exceptional job and he will continue to look to them for guidance.

Chairman Waddell reiterated the discussion on spending, and that the Town is always open to suggestions, but they should be directed to the board, not sent to the newspaper. He asked about plans for the future and getting back to operations. Dep. Sullivan discussed they are planning, and much is dictated by the Governor’s orders, and stated they are trying to plan for short term and long term. He noted paying close attention to the federal funding that will be available. Chairman Waddell asked about the Governor’s order for municipalities to waive interest, and the answer was that is correct and the Town is weighing options about how to proceed, and then a game plan will be brought to the board.

Sel. Bridle asked if closing a business is necessary, does the police Chief have the authority to do that, and the answer was yes, the Governor’s order states that.

VI. Town Manager’s Report

1. Departments are continuing to perform their duties while expending as little of our funds as possible.
2. Design work in preparation for the sewer replacement, drainage improvements, and paving of Locke Road is underway.
3. Preparation for paving of Park Avenue and Lafayette Road is being scheduled with the paving contractor as soon as materials are available and scheduling will permit.
4. The contractor has been engaged for tree work in the cemetery that was approved at Town Meeting.
5. We need to request the Selectmen to release $20,000 from the Hampton Cemetery Association Trust held by the Board for tree work in the Ring Swamp Cemetery. A
number of trees are in need of immediate removal because of their advanced state of failure.

6. We are working very hard to keep operations as normal as possible with the least amount of spending as possible.

Selectman Woolsey MOTIONED to approve the cemetery funds for tree removal, SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0


Chairman Waddell asked if the paving at Lafayette Road is being coordinated with businesses, and the answer was yes, they will all have visits regarding the situation. Sel. Bridle noted the email the Dep. Dir. Hale sent to all of them.

VII. Old Business

Sel. Rage reiterated the tax interest relief order of the Governor.

Sel. Barnes asked about making Mill Road even, after Aquarion has completed their work. Town Manager Welch noted reserving funding until the road can be repaved.

Sel. Woolsey asked that at the next meeting, on the agenda, there is a discussion on sending a letter to the state regarding collecting trash.

Chairman Waddell asked if she wanted to make a motion. She stated after a discussion.

Chairman Waddell asked if she wanted to make a motion to put the subject on the agenda. There was a discussion on appropriate timing of this issue. Sel. Woolsey reiterated her position.

VIII. New Business

1. Cemetery Regulations

Town Manager Welch discussed the vote at Town Meeting regarding cemeteries and that it is effective June 9th. He is asking to board to approve regulations. He noted they have been given the regulations, and they are the same as we have now.

Selectman Woolsey MOTIONED to APPROVE the Cemetery Regulations, SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0


2. 2020 JOP DNCR and Hampton

Town Manager Welch discussed it is that time of year, even though the beach is closed, it will open at some point. He noted the importance of not letting this lapse. He discussed the financial part of it and stated he is not ready to go forward at this time, but it needs to be addressed.
Chairman Waddell clarified that they all had a copy of the JOP from 2019 and Town Manager Welch stated yes, with all correspondence.

Sel. Bridle noted the time they will have to go over it and see where things stand.

Sel. Barnes commented she is happy to put off, and discussed the 2020 JOP, noting the Town should look into outsourcing trash pick up entirely, with state parks doing the same thing.

Sel. Rage commented looking forward to further discussion, with a lot to talk about still.

Sel. Woolsey stated this needs to be resolved.

3. Locke Road Reconstruction

***At this point, Atty. Mark Gearreald called with a comment regarding the cemetery vote and an amendment needed, to read Hampton Association Cemetery Trust.

Selectman Woolsey MOTIONED to AMEND THE CEMETERY VOTE TO READ, Hampton Association Cemetery Trust, SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0


Town Manager Welch discussed Locke road and noted he sent the board information regarding the intersection between Winnacunnet and Locke roads which included diagrams and plans. He noted the change to right angles as opposed to 45 degree angles. He discussed abutters properties and further noted the diagrams and the survey marker that can not be moved. He is asking the board for approval to move the intersecting way, to have the right angles properly aligned.

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the Moving of the Intersecting Way at Locke and Winnacunnet Roads, SECONDED by Selectman Woolsey.

Sel. Bridle asked about the little park with the tree and will we be making that so it looks as it should and Town Manager Welch answered it will all be grass and the area around the tree will be better shaped.

VOTE: 5-0-0


4. Acceptance of Bond for 431 & 435 Ocean Blvd “Riviera” for $18,255

Town Manager Welch stated this is on recommendation from DPW for work on Town property.

Selectman Bridle MOTIONED to APPROVE the Acceptance of Bond for 431 & 435 Ocean Blvd “Riviera” for $18,255, SECONDED by Selectman Rage.

VOTE: 5-0-0

5. NHMA Legislative Policy

Sel. Barnes stated she has been put on the Infrastructure Development and Land Use Committee, noting it covers, Solid Hazardous Waste, Transportation, Land Use, Environmental Regulation, Housing, Utilities, Code Enforcement, and Economic Development, and said committee recommendations must be completed by May 22nd. She asked for input on any of the topics, as we will need as much help as possible after this crisis. She commented that NHMA should lobby for municipalities.

Chairman Waddell commented it is a good idea and updates will be appreciated.

IX. Closing Comments

Sel. Rage: Everyone stay safe, pay attention to the rules, and help your neighbors.

Sel. Bridle: This has been a good test run for virtual meetings, the board all works, and thanked the Chairman, Town Manager, Dep. Town Manager and all for putting together.

Sel. Barnes asked about utilities using 5g and if the board is ok with contacting them to see if it will be available in Hampton. Town Manager Welch stated we could contact, but it will have no effect on their plans. Dep. Sullivan stated he had done some research and noted 5G has launched in Boston, and stated it looks like it could reach Hampton area. He also discussed the issue of the infrastructure for it. The consensus was that we will ask.

Chairman Waddell asked if anything else needed to be done with the meeting to make sure it is properly done. Dep. Sullivan commented it went well and noted a call on the alternate number. Atty. Gearreald agreed.

Sel. Woolsey asked the next date for a meeting. Town Manager Welch discussed the schedule and the Assessing item needing two weeks and noted a meeting next week is not necessary at this time. Consensus was the meeting should be in two weeks as originally scheduled unless something comes up.

X. Adjournment

At 20:29 PM, the Selectmen adjourned the Public Session on the MOTION of Selectman Bridle, SECONDED by Selectman Rage, which passed unanimously 4-0-0.


(note: Sel. Barnes call had dropped off)