

Note: Draft minutes are subject to corrections, additions, and deletions.

April 11, 2022

Posted: Library, Town Offices, Town website

7:00 p.m. Board of Selectmen's Room

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRESENT: James Waddell, Chairman  
Chuck Rage, Vice-chairman  
Russell Bridle, Selectmen  
Richard Sawyer, Selectman  
Amy Hansen, Selectman  
Jamie Sullivan, Town Manager

#### I. Public Comment [Time limitation of three (3) minutes]

Nancy Stiles, 1 Hayden Circle, discussed that the naming of a state building needs to go through the legislative process. She discussed Renny (Cushing) being a true representative of the town, noting his many accomplishments. She stated her thoughts of the importance of recognizing him.

Linda McGrath, 8 6<sup>th</sup> Street, discussed athletes with heart issues collapsing during competitions during the past year. She noted the average age being 23. She noted this is not normal and it coincides with the Covid vaccines. She discussed the heart attacks and noted soccer players in the EU. She noted the continuation of pushing the vaccine.

Jessica Lapa, 67 Esker Rd., discussed her livestock that will be discussed later tonight. She discussed getting goats and issues with them. She noted some of the bigger goats going to Legacy Farm in Stratham. She noted having a petition from neighbors who would like to keep the animals and the pasture.

#### II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Sel. Bridle announced National Public Safety Tele-Communications Week. He thanked the Hampton Police and Fire dispatchers, noting that they are the unseen heroes.

Sel. Hansen discussed the Rec. Dept. Egg Hunt at the Marston school last Friday, noting that it was a huge success.

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Sel. Sawyer announced that tomorrow is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the loss of Chief Mike Maloney of Greenland. He noted a drive thru memorial tomorrow at the Greenland Police Department.

### III. RSA 41:14-a Proceedings Second Hearing 843 Ocean Blvd Map 183, Lot 55

1. Removal of Deed restriction #3 “No Fences may be erected upon said premises other than ornamental fences of no than a 3-foot height”. Petitioner wishes to enclose right back corner of yard with a privacy fence not to exceed five (5) feet in height.

Hearing opened at 19:08.

Chairman Waddell noted this is the second hearing.

No public comment, no board comment.

Hearing closed at 19:09.

### IV. Approval of Minutes

1. March 23, 2022

Sel. Hansen MOTIONED to APPROVE the Minutes of March 23, 2022, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 5-0-0

2. March 28, 2022

Sel. Hansen noted a spelling correction.

Sel. Bridle MOTIONED to APPROVE the Minutes of March 28, 2022, as corrected, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 5-0-0

### V. Consent Agenda

1. 2022 New Veteran Credits: Ammon, Stephen; Bailey, Robert; Ballou, Jonah; Brady, Richard; Compos, Michael; Cooper, James; Ewell James; Goldberg, Maureen; Kelley, Trisha; Kennedy, Joseph; Kinney, Matthew; Massidda, Joseph; Morin, Paul; Oswald, Wesley; Rogers, Brian; Samuelson, Thomas; Sideris, John; Vanderley, Joshua; Veltsos, Michael; Weisheit, Charles
2. 2021 Abatement: 3 Hickory Lane
3. 2021-2022 Yield Tax on Timber: Map 14, Lot 8
4. Entertainment Licenses: Bernie’s Beach Bar, Bogie’s Depot Sq., Charlie’s Tap House, The Purple Urchin, The Goat, The Old Salt, Wally’s
5. Health Officer Appointment: Gregory Arvanitis, Building Inspector
6. Parade & Public Gathering License: Will Run For Beer, Smuttynose Rockfest Half Marathon & 5 k, Ride to End Alzheimer’s

TM Sullivan noted an upcoming change request to Charlie’s regarding their outside entertainment.

Chairman Waddell asked if these were all on time and the answer was yes.

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to APPROVE the Consent Agenda, SECONDED by Sel. Hansen. VOTE: 5-0-0

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## VI. Appointments

1. Erica DeVries
  - a Livestock Esker Road

Chairman Bridle noted there was a crowd and ask for people speaking to be succinct and not repeat.

Ms. DeVries asked that they are requesting enforcement of the zoning ordinance in their neighborhood. She noted a problem that the town has been aware of since last fall. She noted the Planning Board stated the area is not zoned for livestock. She mentioned urgency to this issue, and they are looking for action to be taken.

Betty Delaney of 47 Esker Road spoke. She discussed a request of the building inspector regarding zoning, she noted that she was asked to fill out a complaint form which she did. She discussed the Asst. Building Inspector coming to her home and the results. She noted being told it was being looked into with the town attorney.

Meg Hammond of 43 Esker Road spoke. She discussed the damage done to her yard by six sheep, goats, pigs, and dogs. She had before and after pictures of landscaping of her yard and plants being eaten. She discussed the animals and issues with the fence. She discussed having to return one of the animals to its owners. She discussed wanting to know the rules, what is allowed and acceptable.

Lisa Clark, 59 Esker Road spoke. She discussed multiple incidents with goats jumping the fence and eating vegetation. She discussed fence issues and noted making a plea for enforcement with these animals.

Janice Suarez, 63 Esker Road spoke. She discussed not being able to enjoy her property due to the livestock that resides on a property of one fifth of an acre with an open gate. She discussed the sheds and coops on said property. She discussed the last two years of diminished quality of life and no resolutions. She listed impacts of the animals to her property. She discussed fencing and what she has witnessed happening to other neighbors. She noted she had photos and discussed pleas for the town's support.

Ms. DeVries discussed her property being damaged by the goats and the sheep. She discussed and thanked Hampton Police and Animal Control for taking the issue seriously. She discussed the zoning, contact with the town office, and the intensity of the issue. She discussed the negative impacts regarding this issue, and, noted police at her property. She asked the town for enforcement of the zoning, and to keep the neighborhood apprised of the enforcement process. She noted documentation regarding the damage to her yard.

Sel. Bridle noted this is the first he has heard of it and would like to take a look at what they have.

Sel. Rage discussed living on that road at one time and referenced the sheep grazing. He discussed needing to research and noted possible easements.

Sel. Hansen noted concerns about the property damage. She discussed damage and fencing. She discussed zoning and limitations to chickens. She noted not knowing what should be next and referenced animal control

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Sel. Sawyer asked about summonses issued. TM Sullivan answered six summonses, and one arrest. He asked how many times have the defendants defaulted court, and the answer was unknown. Chief Hobbs noted a matter going to court on Monday. Sel. Sawyer discussed the defaults and it going beyond the animal control officer. He noted lack of respect for neighbors and the law and agreed they need to research, but if things are happening that should not be, then the neighbors have a right to expect action taken.

TM Sullivan agreed and further discussed the issues and what the town is doing and can do.

Chairman Waddell addressed the situation and that we are taking it seriously. He and the town manager discussed.

Ms. DeVries clarified that they have no complaint with the meadow, their issue is with the .2-acre property with the livestock and buildings.

2. Chief Hobbs, Deputy Chief Reno, Police Department
  - a Departmental Update

Deputy Chief Reno offered the quarterly report. He discussed full time personnel, noting promotions and officers attending the academy. He noted a new hire and the transfer of an officer to the K9 position and other changes. He discussed part time personnel and civilian personnel, noting changes and trainings. He discussed two new hires and open positions.

He discussed operations and noted the K9 program and discussed its progress. He discussed a missing persons case and the sad outcome. He discussed the newly created administrative sergeant position.

He discussed first quarter activity and compared to last year, noting up or down percentages.

Sel. Rage asked for clarification on the number of part time officers, and the answer was nineteen.

Chairman Waddell noted it was nice to see some activity percentages down, but noted it being terrible, the overdose fatality increase. Dep. Chief Reno noted the great job by our Fire Dept. to help with the overdose rate not having more fatalities. Chairman Waddell asked about DWIs being down. Dep. Chief Reno noted they come in waves and the officers are diligently doing enforcement.

3. Chief McMahon, Deputy Chief Paine, Fire Department
  - a Departmental Update.

Chief McMahon welcomed Selectwoman Hansen and thanked the voters for the actions taken at town meeting.

Sel. Bridle MOTIONED to APPROVE the appointment of Lt. James Squires and Fire Prevention Officer Matt Newton to Deputy Forest Fire Warden, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer.

Vote: 5-0-0

TM Sullivan announced that Fire Chief McMahon has completed a substantial training program, a four-year study at the National Fire Academy. He offered the chief congratulations on the outstanding completion of the program. The board offered applause and congratulations.

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Chief McMahan discussed a personnel retirement, and subsequent promotions. He discussed being down to 1 or 2 engines with an Exeter engine in reserve. He discussed the engine that was involved in the accident is still in the body shop awaiting parts. He discussed engine 3 being out of service, failing its state inspection. He discussed the taxpayer vote to purchase a new engine and noted a meeting on Thursday with one manufacturer. He discussed lead time issues with a new engine.

He discussed calls for service for the first quarter. He noted the quiet winter and discussed the few structure fires. He discussed EMS calls and that they are 2/3rds of all calls. He noted the board had breakdowns he has sent them. He discussed substance abuse calls, noting alcohol being one of the most common abuses. He noted that a vaccine clinic was hosted in Jan., and they hope it will be the last. He noted CPR and first aid classes and discussed many more will be happening in the current quarter. He discussed fire prevention and the transition of the new Fire Prevention Officer, noting the inspections and permits that were completed in the first quarter. He noted it being a significant increase over last year and the improvements to the program that are being made. He noted a propane and gas class that was held.

The chief discussed they are getting ready for the 2022 fireworks shows at the beach. He discussed communications and noted National Public Safety Tele-Communications Week and thanked all the firefighter operators. He discussed the communications infrastructure upgrade, noting looking for funding sources. He discussed several open positions, and they will be posted this week. He discussed the plan for placement of the new hires once they are on board. He discussed emergency management and noted drills and exercises held recently. He noted despite most new personnel in those positions, everything went quite well, and he thanked those involved. He discussed future plans for emergency management.

He discussed that they have begun the process of updating the towns hazard mitigation plan. He noted a public meeting next Tuesday.

Sel. Bridle clarified that when engine 2 comes back that will give them three engines and they are in the process of buying a fourth. The chief agreed that is the case as long as the timing works out with the buying process. Sel. Bridle noted he liked the plan for moving a man and a ladder to the beach. He asked that until we hire, will we keep 9 or 10 at the beach and the answer was that is the plan and the chief noted he is working on that plan.

Sel. Hansen asked what ETOH was and the answer was alcohol. She asked for an example of a hazard mitigation. The chief noted a big one that has not been addressed is the failing seawall, noting coastal flooding matters.

Chairman Waddell asked about preventing corrosion. The chief discussed choosing the right materials at purchase, noting they will be looking at steel that is better sustained in this environment. He asked if they were working with the town manager on the report received and the answer was yes. There was general discussion on the report and goals for all.

## VII. Town Manager's Report

1. A reminder that we will meet April 18<sup>th</sup>, and then not till May 9<sup>th</sup>.
2. DPW will begin paving on Monday.
3. We are apprising you of the continued ongoing work with FEMA regarding flood insurance. The building audit has been completed with six being identified. It has

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been a long, complicated process. There have been delays but we continue to work with FEMA.

Sel. Bridle asked how High Street is coming and the answer was it will be discussed under new business.

Sel. Hansen clarified that Winnacunnet Road will not be addressed until the other roads have been paved. TM Sullivan noted yes, and it will depend on materials and funds available. She asked about patching, and he discussed what is allowed.

Sel. Bridle noted the state is doing Ocean Blvd. from Rocky Bend up to the lights. There was general discussion on that.

## VIII. Old Business

### 1. Goals and Objectives

TM Sullivan noted he has received them from the majority of the board. He will compile into a document for next week. He noted he has given the same directive to the department heads and will include that.

Sel. Rage noted that signage and merchandise is getting out of control on the sidewalks. He discussed the police having to deal with the same people doing the same things over and over. There was general discussion on safety issues. TM Sullivan noted the concerns and that people need to take responsibility and follow the rules and noted the manpower challenges of the police. Sel. Rage asked about increasing the fines. TM Sullivan noted he does not think the fines are the problem and discussed. There was continued discussion. TM Sullivan noted he will discuss at staff meeting.

TM Sullivan discussed the parking lot fee cap. He noted he researched and found the minutes stating a cap of \$40.00. He asked the board's pleasure on whether or not to change.

Sel. Sawyer noted the state is at \$1 and will be going to \$2.

Sel. Rage noted he thinks \$40 is a good rate given that everything is going up.

Sel. Hansen noted thinking a \$10 increase would not deter someone from going to the beach but is sympathetic to the ongoing cost increases mentioned.

Sel. Sawyer discussed maximizing our own opportunities. He mentioned street parking.

Chairman Waddell agreed with the street parking but was unsure of increasing to \$50. There was general discussion on possible paid parking on the side streets and the phased street resident only parking. TM Sullivan discussed seasonal tourism and that opportunity.

Chairman Waddell asked if there were a motion. TM Sullivan noted he thought they were not at that point yet and explained. There was general discussion on paying to park on the street or the lots and possibly not charging residents, with opinions going back and forth. There was general discussion on demand pricing. There was general discussion on streets A-M being residential parking and on what other lots are getting for prices, as well as going up to \$45 for maximum pricing.

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to APPROVE the Board to set the Maximum Parking Lot Fee to be \$45.00, SECONDED by Sel. Hansen. VOTE: 4-1-0 (Rage)

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## IX. New Business

1. Grant acceptance Nature Conservancy Great Bay Resource Protection Program for \$2,100.00

TM Sullivan noted this is part of the Barkley Property purchase.

Sel. Rage MOTIONED to APPROVE the Grant acceptance Nature Conservancy Great Bay Resource Protection Program for \$2,100.00, SECONDED by Sel. Bridle. VOTE: 5-0-0

2. Bond acceptances 886 Lafayette Road for \$34,457.50

TM Sullivan noted this must be accepted by the board and it has been approved by planning.

Sel. Bridle asked what is 886. TM Sullivan explained the location and the building change.

Sel. Bridle MOTIONED to APPROVE the Bond acceptances 886 Lafayette Road for \$34,457.50, SECONDED by Sel. Hansen. VOTE: 5-0-0

3. High Street Bond

TM Sullivan explained they are asking the board's permission to enter into the bond sale for the High Street project. He noted we recommend going forward now as interest rates are expected to increase soon. He explained the process and timeline. He gave the board the bond interest rates that are currently at 2.5 for 20 years and 3% for 30 years. He noted the recommendation from himself, the Finance Director and DPW to move forward.

Sel. Bridle noted he would make that motion.

Sel. Hansen clarified this is for the warrant article and the answer was yes. She noted that was \$7 million and this is \$6.52, and TM Sullivan noted other funding. She asked about the number of years and the answer was that will be guided by the interest rates. She asked if potholes will be patched prior to the project start, and the answer was unknown except that we won't spend much money. She asked if it is the entire street and the answer was thinking it is not, but we will have DPW Director in for answers.

Sel. Bridle MOTIONED to APPROVE the Entering Into the Bond Sale for \$6.52 Million Dollars for the High Street Project, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 5-0-0

## X. Closing Comments

None

## XI. Adjournment

At 8:25 p.m., Sel. Bridle MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting., SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 5-0-0

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James Waddell, Chairman