

Town of Hampton
Incorporated 1786
Board of Selectman Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 9, 2020

1. Call to order: First Selectman Cahill, Selectmen Grindle and Meade called to order at 7:03 pm.
2. Audience for citizens: Nat (Nathaniel) Woodward only audience; no comment.
3. Acceptance/approval of minutes: Regular meeting, 12/02/2019 and Special meetings 12/05/2019 and 12/10/2019, Grindle/Meade moved/seconded and motion passed unanimously.
4. Liaison reports: DPW—thus far, 70 trees have been removed with the new bucket truck. Town Christmas tree lights were hung; excavation for the propane fuel tank for HES generator completed. First Selectman Report—first selectman Cahill re-elected chair of NECOG; HES generator has been on-line since 12/24/2019 and it test fires every Saturday at 10 am; the final new window was installed in the Community Center; the insulated blinds sitting in the north hallway of the Town Hall are scheduled for installation tomorrow, Friday the 10th; Town Garage heating problem resulted in replacing circulator pump at considerable expense (roughly \$5K); Peterbilt was towed to Montville garage at cost of \$700 and new injector pump installed...back in service 12/26/2019; Bucket truck maintenance performed under warranty.
5. Communications: communication from CT Secretary of State that there is reason to have concern about 2020 elections and local registrars may require additional funds to insure appropriate security, i.e. paper ballots, etc.
6. Financial Report: accepted, no concerns
7. Tax Collector report:
 - A. Refunds: refund to Michelle West of \$239.36; Grindle/Meade moved/seconded; motion passed unanimously.
8. Appointments/Terms: none
9. Board/Committee/Commission minutes/reports for review: nothing submitted.
10. Old Business:
 - A. Board of Finance Ordinance vote: 172 yes---254 no 426 total votes::wait and see how this year's budget session goes before determining future action.
 - B. Hampton Elementary School, Community Center and Town Hall project updates: covered in First Selectman's report.
 - C. Ambulance service update: update was provided at the Board of Finance meeting on Wednesday, 01/08/2020...expect \$180K to \$250K as cost of service which would then be divided up based on number of towns in the final agreement. K-B and American proposals are in, Scotland FD's reported proposal has not been received. Chaplin's shared border with Windham raises questions as to likelihood of final alignment with Hampton.

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11. New Business:

A. RD#11 Group Medical—Dental Affiliation Letter agreement: Grindle/Meade, moved/seconded to accept proposed affiliation with RD#11 in order to negotiate with insurance carrier. Meeting to discuss rates and negotiations will be Thursday, 01/23/2020, 10 am at Parish Hill. Negotiations will start at projected approximate 10% increase.

B. STEAP Grant ideas: State has announced a new round of STEAP Grant monies are available—believed to be in the 10-15 million dollar range. NECOG suggests that infrastructure projects, not municipal improvements or expansions, are most likely to get grant approvals. There is a culvert on Station rd that has been identified as sub-par and would be likely infrastructure project worth considering. NECOG has engineering capability, but we don't subscribe to this service.

C. Gazette Web link: Meade/Grindle, moved/seconded to remove Gazette link from the Hampton town website. Motion passed unanimously.

D. 2020-2021 budget inputs: Board of Finance is scheduling budget presentations from all departments...so far, mostly non-profits and stipend expenses are in. Grindle reported that the Northeast District Department of Health has increased its per capita charge from \$5.25 to \$5.75.

12. Audience for citizens:

1. Dayna Arriola... indicated she is not concerned about the loss of the Gazette link from the town's website since circulation reaches at least half the households in Hampton and 182 donations in three years and ample on-line exposure indicate the Gazette is reaching residents, but suggests the town clean up the website since several now defunct community organizations are still listed on the website: 4-H, Brownies and Beautification, to name a few. Ms. Arriola also said that a serious problem with absentee ballots at the recently held referendum (01/06/2020) would require CT Secretary of State and Hampton town attorney intervention and that First Selectman Cahill should expect an e-mail from the SOS office concerning same...alleged matter concerns possible inappropriate defacing of one or more absentee ballots.

2. Juan Arriola...asked if a structure or pavilion dedicated to or honoring previous selectman Michael Chapel was still being considered? First Selectman Cahill said it definitely was and that it would probably be an incremental project over three or more years.

13. Adjournment: Grindle/Meade, moved/seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:12. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted

R.Grindle

This is a draft only until approved at subsequent meeting.