

Hampton Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 4, 2024
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Hampton Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:45 PM by First Selectman Allan Cahill. The meeting followed the Special Town Meeting held earlier in the lower level of the Town Hall. Other board members present were Bob Grindle and John Tillinghast. Also present was Board of Finance Chair Kathy Donahue, members of the public, and Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant.

2. Audience for Citizens: None

3. Acceptance/Approval Minutes of Feb. 8, 2024: **Bob Grindle moved to approve the minutes of February 8, 2024. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote:**

YES: A. Cahill and B. Grindle

ABSTAIN: J. Tillinghast

4. Additions to Agenda: **Bob Grindle moved to add the 2024 Little River Trails Grant application under New Business. John Tillinghast seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

5. Communications: The DPW continues to work on usual projects including winter work and road clearing. From the First Selectman, Mr. Cahill spoke with CIRMA, and Workers' Compensation and Liability Insurance will be capped at 3% increase. He also met with DOT and DEEP regarding a resurfacing TRIP grant that will be put on hold with these departments to apply for additional grant funding for the washouts from this fall. NEECOG is working on a Regional Performance Incentive Grant to collaborate with other small towns to hire a town manager, and will bring more information forward as it solidifies. Chaplin, Eastford, and Pomfret are looking into it as well. It would be a shared town manager for needs in the future.

6. Financial Report: No questions

7. Tax Collector Report

A. Refunds: **Bob Grindle moved to accept the following tax refunds:**

Jennifer Janners: \$78.34

Lisa Harrison: \$1,156.37

John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

8. Appointment(s): None

9. Board/Committee/Commission Minutes/reports for review: None

10. Old Business

A. 2024 Budget: Selectman Cahill is still waiting for submissions from various committees and commissions, but he is recommending a 3% cola for town employees. After general discussion it was confirmed there was no union representation at the town offices. Mr. Cahill and Ms. Donahue (Board of Finance chair) discussed adding an additional \$50,000 for the incentive program at the fire department, and they are also looking at funding a grant writing position. Mr. Cahill is also considering approaching EASTCONN regarding an in-kind service for possibly collaborating with Hampton for grant writing. EASTCONN is considering adding additional real estate property in Hampton.

11. New Business

A. Resolution for 2020 STEAP – Town Campus Improvements: OPM assigned the STEAP grant to the Department of Economic and Community Development, and they need a resolution that Hampton authorizes the First Selectman to enter into any contracts and he performs all necessary administration of the grant. **Bob Grindle authorized Allan Cahill to enter into the resolution, as read. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

B. Little River Grant Application 2024: It was emailed to the selectmen, and was admirably completed by Penny Newbury, Mark Cardwell, and Kevin Grindle. Mr. Grindle will complete the BOS letter of support for this grant round. **John Tillinghast moved to support the conservation commission trail grant application for 2024. Bob Grindle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.** They've also received a letter of support from the Democratic Town Committee, and there will be a letter of support from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

11. Audience for Citizens: Bruce Spaman wanted to make sure the board was aware of the Arbor Day celebration will be at the library this year on April 26th. A sugar maple was taken down this year, and they will speak with the library to find out if they'd like another sugar maple to replace it. A selectman will be available to read the proclamation.

Mark Samios asked for clarification on the 2020 town campus improvements. It is for the tennis courts and parking areas at the town hall and the grange area. The grant was assigned to the Department of Economic and Community Development, and they are asking for various documents that will be used to administer the grant.

Bob Grindle moved to adjourn at 7:02 PM. John Tillinghast seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant