

Hampton Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 4, 2023

6:00 PM

Town Hall Community Room

Upper Level

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by First Selectman Allan Cahill. Members present were Selectmen Bob Grindle and John Tillinghast. Also present was EMD David Paine and members of the public.

2. Audience for Citizens: None

3. Bob Grindle moved to approve the minutes of April 3, 2023. John Tillinghast seconded the motion and it was approved with the following vote:

YES: A. Cahill, B. Grindle

ABSTAIN: J. Tillinghast

4. Communications:

First Selectman Cahill reported the Public Works department has started on spring maintenance road projects, including edging, street sweeping, and ongoing tree trimming projects. Brooklyn took over the Hampton/Chaplin Little League and there are now over 200 kids participating. They use the Hampton field for practices 3-4 times/week. Work is scheduled to be done at the Route 97/Utley Road intersection, and traffic will be detoured during that time. They will wait until school is closed and anticipate a 12-14 week project. First Selectman Cahill also asked DOT for a safety review of the intersection of Routes 6 and 97 since another accident occurred the previous evening. He's also met with Eversource and Emergency Management to discuss maintenance projects to undertaken to offset weather related utility interruptions, NEECOG requested NDDH (the Northeast District Department of Health) hire a third party (consultant) to facilitate structural reform of the organization. A grant application has also been submitted through NEECOG to resurface portions of the airline trail. Mr. Cahill also reported there's a current conflict working its way through the courts regarding home vs. commercial generation by solar trust, and it is having a large impact on assessment values in the grand list. Real estate values are currently being paid, but personal business property is not. Hampton's CT Recreational Trails grant was denied for 2023, but the town has received authorization to proceed from the State for the STEAP grant award for Sarah Pearl Road Paving project, so RFP's will be developed.

5. Financial Report: No questions.

6. Tax Collector's Report: Lisa Madden was hired in Windham, and we have 2 months of reports (March and April). The court case of Solar Trust is having an impact on collections which represents approximately 10% of the grand list. **Bob Grindle moved to approve the tax collector's reports. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

A. Refunds: None

7. Appointments: None

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

9. Old Business:

A. KB Ambulance Contract: A one year agreement has been negotiated. **John Tillinghast moved to approve the KB Ambulance Contract. Bob Grindle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

- B. 23/24 Budget Review: No changes from previous proposal. The Board of Finance meets next week.
- C. Notification System Follow-Up: First Selectman Cahill received information from Gary Greenberg, First Selectman of Scotland regarding the notification system they use in town—CodeRed. He has passed information on to Emergency Management.

10. New Business:

A. Discuss and Act on 5-year Road and Capital Improvement Plan: Road Foreman Don Sholes completed the update of the 5-year CIP for roads and major expenses. All last year's goals were met and they are still working on updates to the tennis courts. The Little River Parcel parking lot can also be considered for CIP funds, but the expense must be forwarded by Hampton, and then reimbursement can be applied for.

Bob Grindle moved to accept the 5-year CIP. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Discuss and Act on Questions for Town Meeting:

Questions for consideration were:

- PPE for the fire department (\$26,000) to be funded through the general fund;
- Little River Park Maintenance (\$25,000) from general fund.

C. The public hearing will be May 25 and the town meeting will be in the first full week of June. The board of finance is meeting next week, and the date will be finalized.

11. Audience for Citizens: Jessie Loew-Samios asked if any bands committed for the Memorial Day Parade. Selectmen responded they hadn't heard back from the state, yet, but the Parish Hill band will be there.

Bob Grindle moved to adjourn at 6:37 PM. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson
Administrative Assistant