

Town of Hampton
Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Minutes
Meeting May 31, 2011
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DRAFT TO BE APPROVED AT THE JUNE 6th Board of Selectmen Meeting

A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, May 31, 2011 at the Town Hall.

Present for the Board: First Selectman Kate Donnelly, Selectman Roger Dionne, Selectman Mike Chapel

Staff Present: Ellen Rodriguez, Treasurer; Liz Stillman, Recording Secretary

Item 1: Call to Order: First Selectman Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

ITEM 2: Audience for Citizens:

Wayne Kilpatrick read a letter sent to the Board of Selectmen dated May 28, 2011 from the Conservation Commission. The letter is attached.

Margaret Hargahay commented on parking at the Town Hall during Little League.

Randy Thompson spoke regarding the history of the Land Acquisition Fund.

Kathi Newcombe spoke regarding the town meeting and referendum dates and the availability of the absentee ballots.

Marsha Kilpatrick asked about the audience's opportunity to speak regarding budget items. Ms. Kilpatrick also mentioned that Conservation Commission is working on finding appropriate land to purchase.

Renee Cahill spoke regarding the Recreation Commission budget.

Dayna McDermott-Arriola spoke regarding budget cuts and town employee raises, as well as the Youth Sports budget.

John Gorman spoke regarding the Youth Sports activities and budget.

Brian Murphy spoke regarding the Youth Sports budget as well as the separation of Youth Sports from the Recreation budget.

Sam Higgins spoke regarding recreational activities in Hampton versus other area towns.

Gay Wagner spoke regarding how the Youth Sports budget that was derived from the Recreation Commission.

Dayna McDermott-Arriola spoke regarding the Youth Sports programs and their budget.

John Gorman spoke regarding the Youth Sports proposed budget increases.

Kathi Newcombe spoke regarding the undesignated unreserved fund. Ms. Newcombe also inquired about the property tax income budget line item decrease from the last proposed budget.

John Gorman spoke regarding the Town's budget process, as well as the Youth Sports budget and Town Employee's health insurance.

Angelica Hansen asked about if there were changes made to the Health Insurance budget line item.

Leslie Werham thanked the Board of Selectmen for their work, and addressed the Treasurer/ Bookkeeper positions.

Rachel Gersheck asked about the collection of overdue property taxes.

Harry Baum spoke regarding the tax collection process.

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Ed Burchfield spoke about community participation with the public budget process.

Gay Wagner spoke further regarding Recreation Commission funding as well as the activities planned by the Commission.

Rich Schenk spoke regarding the proposed fire truck budget.

Treasurer Rodriguez spoke regarding the property tax income decrease.

ITEM 3: Discuss and Act on FY 2011-2012 Town Budget

First Selectman Donnelly summarized changes made to the proposed budget:

- Removed all pay raises for town employees;
- Town employees (excluding full time employees) agreed to a 10% employee contribution to health insurance benefits (Effective December 1, 2011);
- Town clerk assistant budget line item went down to last year's level;
- Community Center oil line item went down;
- \$10,000 has been put back in to the land acquisition fund budget line item;
- First Selectman position is full time, will be treated as other full time town employees' positions and will cover health insurance benefits at 80%;
- Created a bookkeeping services line item for the Treasurer department. Position will be filled by the Treasurer or hiring a bookkeeper.

First Selectman Donnelly presented a list of duties of the Treasurer and Bookkeepers positions.

Selectman Dionne spoke regarding employee salaries and the Treasurer/ bookkeeping service. Supports keeping the fire truck line item in the budget.

Selectman Chapel supports the changes made to the budget, but would like to see policies set for all full time town employee positions in the future regarding health insurance benefits.

This proposed budget represents a .1 decrease in the mill rate.

MOTION: Selectman Dionne/ Chapel moved/ seconded moved to pass the budget as presented. All in favor; motion passed.

ITEM 4: Set Call, Date and Time for Town Meeting and Referendum:

MOTION: Selectman Dionne moved to set the Town Meeting, Thursday, June 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Town Hall. Selectman Chapel seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

MOTION: Selectman Dionne read proposed call, "To hear discussion on the General Government Budget for FY July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 as submitted by the Board of Selectmen, and to appropriate sums of money as required.", and moved to adjourn to referendum Tuesday, June 14th noon to 8PM in the Town Hall Community Room. Selectman Chapel seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

ITEM 5: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: There being no further business for the Board to discuss at this special meeting, Selectman Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.; all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Stillman
Recording Secretary