

DRAFT 2
**(with revisions/corrections to be approved at the
Monday, May 3, 2010 BOS Regular Meeting)**

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, April 5, 2010 at the Town Office Building.

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

Staff Present: Marlene B. Aulten, Recording Secretary

Item 1: Call to Order: First Selectman Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

Item 2: Audience for Citizens:

Bob Burgoyne objected to First Selectman's Donnelly decision to restrict comments to second Audience for Citizens. He also has some questions regarding the April 29, 2010 Budget Hearing.

Doug Stewart spoke regarding ball field signage, and the need to advise proper usage (no horses or motor vehicles). Ed Burchfield suggested having the information on the website and published in the Gazette.

Penny Newbury spoke regarding an item on the Treasurer's March report. She questioned Line Item 5100-16 Elderly & Veteran's Income - where does the income come from and why was it over budget? First Selectman Donnelly noted she could obtain the **answers** from Treasurer Rodriguez.

Irene Browne spoke regarding her appreciation for the triangle planted with flowers. She inquired as to storm damage from the recent rains.

Ed Burchfield spoke regarding an e-mail from the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Region 4; they are looking to obtain reports of both Town owned, and personally owned, property damaged in the recent storm. Call Ed for further information at 860-455-1247

John Wertam spoke regarding the re-hiring of the Administrative Assistant.

Marcia Kilpatrick inquired about the hemlock tree that still needs to come down. She also asked when the Town crew would mow the fire pond.

Peter Vertefeuille spoke regarding Fuller Brook and the washed out dam on that road.

Dayna McDermott-Arriola thanked Selectman Donnelly for her suggestions for a revision of a statement she made at the December BOS meeting. She also noted 2 changes that need to be made to the March 1, 2010 **BOS minutes.**

Linda Gorman spoke regarding the re-hiring of Administrative Assistant.

Ed Burchfield spoke regarding having voted for the current Board, and their commitment to doing the right thing.

Leslie Wertam spoke regarding the re-hiring of the Administrative Assistant.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes: 3/1/10 Regular meeting; 3/9/10 and 3/23/10 Budget Workshop meetings

MOTION:

Selectman Dionne made a motion to approve the minutes of the 3/1/10 regular meeting with the modifications discussed. Selectman Chapel seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

MOTION:

Selectman Dionne motioned to approve the 3/9/10 Budget Workshop Minutes; Selectman Chapel seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

MOTION: Selectman Chapel motioned to accept the 3/23/10 Budget Workshop minutes; Selectman Donnelly seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Item 4: Liaison Reports:

A. D-11 Board of Ed - George Askew reporting:

Mr. Askew was unable to attend; he conveyed the information that at present the RD-11 budget is 0% increase; there is a reduction in staff, but not to quality of education. A budget hearing date is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13, a Tri-Town Budget hearing for May 3, and a Budget Referendum on May 4th.

B. Hampton Board of Ed - John Burnham reporting:

Mr. Burnham reported that the Board is deep in budget process. The next meeting is tomorrow (April 6), and a regular April meeting will be held on the 15th. The current draft shows a 5.5%. There are several things left to consider and many things left to work on. He mentioned the endorsement of the solar energy grant application.

C. Fire Department : No report this month.

D. Ambulance Corp: Selectman Chapel reported that the Corp responded to 22 calls in March. The HCAC stood by for 8 hours at the propane truck rollover to be available should a firefighter need medical assistance. Corp EMTs also assisted at the Windham train de-railing incident. He also reported the Corps is currently compiling an e-mail database to determine who may be interested in CPR courses.

Item 5: Additions to agenda:

Add Item 8C-APPOINTMENTS: Inland Wetlands appointments.

MOTION: First Selectman Donnelly moved to add Inland Wetlands appointments to 8C; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

ADD ITEM 11F to New Business (Item 11E on Agenda becomes 11F)::

Coventry's request for energy proposal.

MOTION: First Selectman Donnelly moved to add Item 11F to the Agenda; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

ADD ITEM 10E Old Business Form AgVocate Committee and appoint members.

MOTION: Selectman Donnelly motioned to form a Hampton AgVocate Committee and appoint members. Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Item 6: Review of Financial Report -

For month ending March 31, 2010 was submitted by Treasurer Ellen Rodriguez and reviewed by the Selectmen.

6A. Transfers for the month ending March 31, 2010:

Treasurer Rodriguez recommended the following transfes:

1. \$400.00 from Account #6300 Sanitation to Account #6900 Insurance and Bonds
 2. \$300.00 from Account #6300 Sanitation to Account #7100-08 Probate Court
- These transfers are to cover over-expenditures.

MOTION: Selectman Chapel motioned to approve the transfers recommended by Treasurer Rodriguez; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Item 7: Tax Collector's Report: For month ending March 31, 2010, Tax Collector Baum reported the following via written memo:

"We received and deposited \$43,843.82 in March and have received \$3,662,547 on a year to date basis. This is \$99,637 ahead of last year, and at 95.93% of current collections versus 96.88% of current collections last year. We are on schedule to equal or exceed the budgeted rate of collection of 97%. Our tax amount for this fiscal year is approximately \$175,000 more than last year due to less State reimbursement."

7A. Tax Refunds: There are two refunds, for a total of \$411.37, the Tax Collector recommends the Board approve.

1. \$48.81 overpayment
2. \$362.56 due to assessor changes/corrections

MOTION: Selectman Dionne motioned to approve the refunds as recommended by Tax Collector Baum; Selectman Chapel seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Item 8 Appointments/Terms:

8A: Appoint Marien & Company CPAs, LLC as our auditors for the period **7/1/09** through 6/30/10

Motion: Selectman Chapel motioned to approve the appointment of Marien and Company CPAs, LLC for the period as noted above; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

8B. Appoint **Marcy Robert** as an alternate for NDDH (Northeast District Department of Health) for a term of 3 years, 4/5/10 to 4/15/2010.

MOTION: Selectman Dionne motioned to appoint **Marcy Robert** to NDDH for the term as noted above; Selectman Chapel seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

8C. Appoint Rachel Starr and Maura Robie to the Inland Wetlands Commission, terms to be in accordance with Ordinance.

MOTION: Selectman Donnelly motioned to appoint Rachel Starr and Maura Robie to the IWWA; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Item 9: Committee/Commission minutes for review:

Reviewed by Selectmen.

Item 10 Old Business:

A. Grants:

1. **UCFC Tree Grant** -- in the amount of \$1,500.00 has been approved. First Selectman Donnelly will discuss purchase of trees with Daryl Christadore, Marcia Kilpatrick, Kevin Grindle, and Mike Chapel, **and** the

grant administration with Bob Ricard; she also thanked Kevin Grindle for the great work he did on the grant.

2. **Green Energy Committee Grant** -- has been approved for \$4,000 to be distributed in \$2,000 increments. The Green Energy Committee will administer the grant to promote clean energy sign-ups by residents. Proposals from town residents will be sought in the future.
3. **AgVocate Grant:** Hampton has been admitted, as one of four new Communities, to the AgVocate program. The program will provide us with the assistance to ensure our community is farm friendly. A Committee will be appointed, and will be assisted by AgVocate representative Jennifer Kaufman for one year.
4. **Energy Efficiency Block Grant:** Stimulus money that will be used for the heating system.
5. **LOCIP (Local Capital Improvement Program):** We've been approved for LOCIP funds in the amount of \$31,025 for paving Estabrooks Road.
6. **TAR (Town Aid for Roads):** We have received TAR in the amount of \$95,019.

B. Garage Funding - Set Town Meeting Date: Bids will be open April 13, 2010 and a Town meeting date needs to be set to approve funding. A Special joint meeting of the BOS and the Garage Committee will be scheduled to discuss funding options and set a Town Meeting date.

C. Discuss and Act on Town Web Site Proposals: Currently we have 2 bids, and are awaiting 2 more; tabled until next meeting.

D. Discuss and Act on Local Option Tax Relief Committee

recommendations. Discussion ensued, and it was decided to ask Town Counsel to review the proposed ordinance. For details on the recommendations, please refer to the ordinance (Addendum A, page 7).

MOTION: Selectman Chapel motioned to send the recommendations to the lawyer for review, and to subsequently vote on the recommendations at a Town meeting; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

E. Establish AgVocate Farm Committee:

MOTION: Selectman Chapel motioned to establish the Committee for a period of one year; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: First Selectman Donnelly motioned to appoint Ron Gluck, Mike Chapel, Bruce Kittredge, Rob Miller, and Diane Noyes, to the AgVocate Committee; Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

ITEM 11 NEW BUSINESS:

A. Set Town Meeting Date:

MOTION: First Selectman Donnelly motioned to set a date of Monday, May 17, 2010 for the Town Meeting. Selectman Chapel seconded; all in favor; motioned carried.

B. Discuss and act on Probate Memorandum of Agreement

Discussion ensued. Our portion of the yearly fee for court costs under the restructuring will be \$600.96, beginning January 5, 2011. The main probate office for this area will be at Windham Town Hall (open 5 days a

week), with a satellite office in Colchester (open two days per week).

MOTION: Selectman Dionne motioned to approve and sign the *Probate Memorandum of Agreement*; Selectman Chapel seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

C. Discuss and Act on award for Small Cities grant application preparation and grant management and for FY2010 Small Cities/HRHRP (Hampton Regional and Housing Rehabilitation Program) Grant Application, Program Income Plan, and other related votes.

MOTION: Selectman Chapel motioned to award the Small Cities grant preparation and management to COG, Inc. (Community Opportunities Group); Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

D. Proclaim April Fair Housing Month:

MOTION: First Selectman Donnelly motioned to proclaim April *Hampton Fair Housing Month*. Selectman Dionne seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

E. Coventry energy proposal: The Town of Wethersfield is able to purchase power at a reduced rate for its own use and for that of its citizens (a discount to senior citizens, and payment to the town). Coventry, is writing an RFP for a similar program. First Selectman Donnelly will ask to include Hampton in the RFP with no obligation to participate.

F. Discuss and Act on hiring Administrative Assistant (Executive Session Anticipated)

Regular meeting recessed, and Board of Selectmen entered into Executive Session, at 8:37p.m. Board of Selectmen returned from Executive Session at 9:28p.m., and regular meeting resumed.

MOTION: Selectman Dionne motioned to re-hire the Administrative Assistant; First Selectman Donnelly seconded. **Vote on re-hire:** First Selectman Donnelly and Selectman Dionne in favor of, Selectman Chapel **opposed**; motion carried.

ITEM 12: Communications: None at this time

ITEM 13: Audience for citizens:

Ed Burchfield spoke regarding Maura Robie's appointment to Inland Wetlands.

Dayna McDermott-Arriola asked if the Town Budget was going to referendum, and when that would be determined. She was concerned **about the Gazette deadline**.

Irene Browne noted that May is Lyme Disease Awareness month; she inquired about possibly having a speaker about the disease from NDDH.

Penny Newbury spoke regarding the web site, and getting quotes **on the program called Virtual Town Hall**. She also spoke regarding the Local Option for Property Tax Relief. She inquired why the State's Attorney report was not addressed under communications, or addressed in a public hearing.

Peggy King suggested a citizen hold a gathering to discuss the report.

Dayna McDermott-Arriola clarified that the investigation was an act of the former First Selectman.

ITEM 15: ADJOURNMENT:

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MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Dionne motioned to adjourn at 9:40p.m.; Selectman Chapel seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene B. Aulten
Recording Secretary

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4/1/2010

To: Hampton Board of Selectman

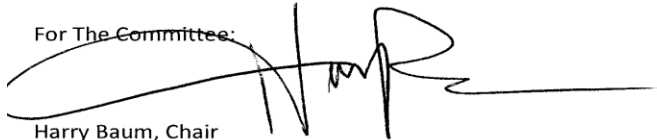
From: The Committee for Local Option Property Tax Relief.

We were charged to study and investigate options for local tax relief and report to you our recommendations along with Fiscal Effects and a form this program should follow. At our Special Meeting on April 1, 2010 the following was agreed to by the members in attendance.

1. Our Recommendation:
 - a. That The Town of Hampton create a program that would match the State of Connecticut Circuit Breaker program in dollars and requirements. This program would start with the taxes incurred by the 2009 assessment year and continue in subsequent years.
2. The Fiscal Effects:
 - a. Quantifiable in that the Town of Hampton benefit reimbursed by The State of Connecticut currently and in all instances since 1995 has been very stable.
 - b. The benefit amount in Fiscal Year 2009 was \$18,441 and in FY2010 was \$18,668. It is reasonable to assume that the cost for FY2011 would be less than \$20,000.
3. Our Recommendation Is Simple:
 - a. No additional paperwork for recipients.
 - b. Very little work for Tax Assessors or Tax Collector.
 - c. Easy to understand.
 - d. Criteria and Benefit set by the State of Connecticut.

If further analysis or information is required, please notify the committee.

For The Committee:



Harry Baum, Chair

Fred Curry

Roger Dionne

Mario Fiordella