

Town of Hampton  
Board of Finance  
Regular Meeting  
January 14, 2026  
7PM

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM.

**Roll Call:** Kathy Donahue, Ed Adelman, Judy Buell, Nick Brown, Regina DeCesare, Fran Gustavesen, Kathi Newcombe, Treasurer Ellen Rodriguez, First Selectman Allan Cahill, Recording Secretary Dayna McDermott-Arriola.

Regina DeCesare was seated, upon request, for Joan Fox. Fran Gustavesen was seated, upon request, for Kate Donnelly.

**Citizen Comments:** none.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** Judy Buell, seconded by Regina DeCesare, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2025. Motion carried unanimously, Nick Brown abstaining, with the following amendment under Treasurer's Report: "Treasurer Rodriguez stated that the fee was based on *the number of Hampton residents who used the service.*"

**Reports/Actions**

**First Selectman:** First Selectman Cahill reported that the State has reimbursed the town for the pickle ball court; though the cost of the project was projected to be \$200,000, it was completed for \$117,000, thus with the \$67,000 reimbursement from the State, the cost to Hampton taxpayers was \$50,000. Mr. Cahill noted that as soon as the snow melted, the court was back in use. He also reported a breakdown on one of the town's plow trucks, stating that, fortunately, it was between storms. The cost of the replacement parts was approximately \$7,000, but our highway department was responsible for the labor, saving a significant amount of money. Mr. Cahill also reported that the audit is almost finished, that the OSHA requirements identified at the Transfer Station are nearly complete, and that the schools' numeration is ongoing.

**Tax Collector:** None received thus far this month.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Rodriguez requested two transfers.

**Motion:** Nick Brown, seconded by Fran Gustavesen, to approve the following transfers: \$317 to #6000-08 Selectman Computer Support from #6000-08 Selectman Communications; \$1485 to #6300-00 Sanitation Transfer Station from #7000 Contingencies. Motion carried unanimously.

**Boards of Education:**

**Regional District #11:** Chairman Donahue reported that the school's audit review and calendar approval have been rescheduled. The board's Minutes reflect that a tuition rate has been approved, but there is no amount specified.

**Hampton Elementary School:** Chairman Donahue reported that the committees have been assigned and an updated 5-Year Plan developed.

First Selectman Cahill stated that the Board of Education acknowledged receipt of a correspondence from the Pomfret Elementary School Board of Education Chairman regarding tuitioning students, but took no action. Ed Adelman asked if Mr. Cahill initiated communication with Pomfret on his own. Mr. Cahill responded that he acted upon several requests from parents who are looking for expanded educational opportunities for their children. He also acknowledged that, as CEO of the Town, he has a responsibility to research alternatives due to declining school enrollment, accelerating costs, and concerns regarding student achievement. He stated that a Town Meeting should be called to facilitate a wider discussion, instead of limiting discussion to the members of the board of education. Chairman Donahue reminded members that an earlier study on combining Hampton and Scotland schools was initiated by the Selectmen of those two towns. She also reported that there are only 32 students from Hampton enrolled in Parish Hill Middle-High School in grades 7 – 12,

**Policies and Procedures Committee:** Chairman Donahue reported that the draft version of the policies and procedures developed were recently re-distributed to members, the Town Treasurer and the First Selectman, along with a version containing notations from the auditor’s review that have yet to be included in the document. She explained that the school administration changed multiple times during this process and therefore the committee did not receive the information requested of the school, and finance board members at the time wanted to approve a complete policy package that included both the town and school policies. The Committee will need to update the document per the auditor’s recommendations and add the missing school information. Since the membership on the Committee constitutes a quorum, a Special Meeting will be scheduled for January 22, at 2PM to begin this process.

**Correspondence:** Chairman Donahue reported receipt of the financial reports from the schools and read a correspondence from the Town’s attorney regarding the Solar Park court case.

**Old Business**

**a. Update on Contributions to Annual Report:**

Reports have been received from the Green Energy Committee and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

**New Business**

**a. Requests to Departments for Budget Submissions for FY2026-27**

The finance board will be sending requests for department budget proposals. Reportedly, the Superintendent will present the preliminary budget to the Board of Education this month.

**Additions to the Agenda:** none.

**Citizen Comments:** none.

**Suggestions for Next Agenda:** Members are encouraged to send suggestions for discussion to the Chairman.

**Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting:** February 11, 2026 at 7PM.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting adjourned at 7:23PM.

Dayna McDermott Arriola  
Recording Secretary

*This is a draft version of the Minutes until approved by the Board of Finance.*