

Town of Hampton  
Board of Finance  
Regular Meeting  
March 11, 2026  
7PM

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

**Roll Call:** Kathy Donahue, Ed Adelman, Joan Fox, Nick Brown, Regina DeCesare, Fran Gustavesen, Kathi Newcombe, Hampton Elementary School Board of Education Chairman Mark Becker, Recording Secretary Dayna McDermott-Arriola.

**Motion:** Nick Brown, seconded by Ed Adelman, to seat Fran Gustavesen and Regina DeCesare for Kate Donnelly and Judy Buell. Motion carried unanimously.

**Citizen Comments:** none.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** Regina DeCesare, seconded by Ed Adelman, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2026, with the following amendment under Hampton Elementary School Report: “She reported that 30 students, nearly half of the school’s population, receive special education *and intervention services*”. Motion carried unanimously, Nick Brown and Kathi Newcombe abstaining.

**Reports/Actions**

**First Selectman:** First Selectman Cahill was not present.

**Tax Collector:** None received. Chairman Donahue reported that the town is exploring, with the Northeastern CT Council of Governments’ (NECCOG) assistance of writing a grant, collaboration of Hampton, Scotland and Canterbury for Tax Collection.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Rodriguez, not present, requested five transfers.

**Motion:** Nick Brown, seconded by Joan Fox, to approve the following transfers: \$2618 to #6000-07 Selectmen Computer Support from #7000 Contingency (this was accompanied with a Special Request for Budget Appropriation form); \$1238 to #6201-07 Town Garage Maintenance from #6201-01 Road Maintenance; \$300 to #6201-08 Training and Testing from #6206 Small Tools; \$1654 to #6201-09 Equipment Maintenance from #6201-01 Road Maintenance; \$455 to #6300-00 Sanitation Transfer Station from #6300-04 Sanitation Trucking. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Donahue reported that there were errors in the *February Balance Sheet* of the unassigned fund and unrestricted assets, which were subsequently corrected by the Treasurer and will be distributed to members.

**Boards of Education:**

**Regional District #11:** Chairman Donahue distributed the Regional District #11 Enrollment Summary and reviewed the report, noting that Hampton has 32 students enrolled in grades 7 – 12 at Parish Hill Middle/High School, and 27 students enrolled in Tech, Vo-Ag, and Magnet options. She also reported that the tuition rate for students attending Parish Hill from area towns was increased to \$8,632, and that currently the FY2026-2027 budget proposal has an increase of 3.19%.

**Hampton Elementary School:** Board of Education Chairman Mark Becker announced the PTO sponsored Spaghetti Dinner to be held on March 13 and thanked the Highway Department for plowing the

school parking lot this winter. He also reported on the current status of the FY2026-2027 budget proposal, currently a \$1,131,453 or 5.81% increase. This includes a rise in transportation costs, changes in Pre-K funding, an increase in legal fees for the upcoming contract negotiations, the position of behavioral interventionist, and another certified special education teacher to deal with the numbers and needs of special education students. He also reported that the superintendent is advocating for a market adjustment, relative to area schools, for the Business Coordinator, the Principal and the Administrative Assistant, which Chairman Donahue noted were each 10% increases. She also stated that the net current per pupil expenditure for Hampton Elementary School is \$30,509, and \$32,793 for Regional District #11. Chairman Donahue also announced that the schools were awarded a District Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP) grant, and that there is a proposal to share Hampton's physical education teacher (a .6 position) with the Scotland School, but reportedly the auditor had some issues with the suggested arrangement, and she has asked for copies of both schools' contracts and an answer to whether or not this will result in savings for our town.

Chairman Donahue also read a letter submitted to legislators from multiple area towns, signed by First Selectman Cahill and herself, advocating for solutions for funding of "unsustainable special education costs."

**Policies and Procedures Committee:** The committee did not meet.

**Correspondence:** Chairman Donahue reported receipt of the financial reports from the schools, and the letter to legislators.

#### **Old Business**

**a. Update on Budget Submissions for FY2026-2027**

Budget presentations will begin at the next regular meeting in April.

#### **New Business**

**a. Update on Proposed Governor's FY2026-2027 Budget and Town FY2026-2027 Budget Requests**

Chairman Donahue reported that departments are submitting their requests.

**Additions to the Agenda:** none.

**Citizen Comments:** none.

**Suggestions for Next Agenda:** Budget presentations and scheduling of workshops. Chairman Donahue asked members to email their availability for workshops, and whether or not they are available to attend a special meeting to hear budget presentations at 6:30 prior to the 7PM April meeting. Members are also encouraged to send suggestions for discussion to the Chairman.

**Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting:** April 8, 2026 at 6:30 or 7PM, TBD.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting adjourned at 7:35PM.

Dayna McDermott Arriola  
Recording Secretary

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