

Town of Hampton
Board of Finance
Public Hearing
May 8, 2018
6:45PM
Hampton Town Hall Lower Level

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Members Present: Jeff Clermont, Ed Adelman, Nick Brown, Rick Matejka, Mike Higgins, David Fowler, Kathy Donahue

Staff and others present: First Selectman Al Cahill, Selectmen Mike Chapel and Bob Grindle, Treasurer Ellen Rodriguez, Deputy Chief Noel Waite and Members of the Fire Department, Recording Clerk Dayna McDermott-Arriola, and residents.

Motion: Mike Higgins, seconded by Nick Brown, to seat Kathy Donahue for Perry Matchinis. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation of the Proposed 2017-2018 Town Government and Elementary School Budgets and Public Input

First Selectman Cahill reported that the only change to the budget presented at the April 24 Meeting was a reduction of \$33,000 in the Building and Maintenance Capital & Non-Recurring Account; as the amount in the account is no longer sufficient to satisfy the 5-Year Plan, funding for completion of projects would require approval by the legislative body at a Special Town Meeting. Ed Adelman asked if the projects were prioritized. First Selectman Cahill stated that the Town Hall entrance door and floor tiles were the first priorities for safety reasons.

Chairman Clermont reported that there were no changes to the Elementary School Budget that was presented at the April 10 Meeting.

Presentation of Plan and Funding for the Addition to the Fire House and Public Input

Chairman Clermont reviewed the Board of Finance's discussion regarding the need to present to the Town comparative bidding for the Fire Department's construction project, or the rationale for single source procurement. Mike Higgins expressed concern that the Board of Finance would be unable to answer the question at the Town Meeting of whether the quote for the project was comparably a fair price, or whether single source procurement could be adequately defended. Kathy Donahue also expressed concern that the project might not be approved by taxpayers without evidence of comparable bids.

First Selectman Cahill distributed the opinion he obtained from the Attorney regarding prevailing wages, which stated that if the project is fully funded by the Town, without use of State or Federal funds, it "would not be considered a public works project" and "the threshold requirements would not be applicable".

Deputy Chief Waite explained that the Fire Department selected a "design and build" company with which they shared a positive history from multiple past projects. He stated that the Department has already spent \$18,000 on the project to date, and that the company has committed to the original steel prices. Mr. Waite explained that starting the bidding process anew would require additional expenditures and would delay the project for another year, noting that both the Boards of Selectmen and Finance voiced support for the project during previous presentations.

Other members of the Department concurred with the decision to eliminate the extra time and expense of restarting the process.

Adjournment: With no further commentary, the public hearing adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dayna McDermott Arriola
Recording Clerk

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