

Hampton Board of Selectmen
Monday, December 4, 2023
7:00 PM
Town Hall Community Room

The regular meeting of the Hampton Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 PM by First Selectman Allan Cahill. Also present were Selectmen Bob Grindle and John Tillinghast, Board of Finance chair Kathy Donahue, and Jennifer Nelson, administrative assistant.

Mr. Cahill asked for a moment of silence out of respect due to the passing of longtime resident and public official Dan Meade. Mr. Meade was extremely active on Town boards and commissions and provided Mr. Cahill with much advice at the start of Mr. Cahill's tenure on the Board of Selectmen.

2. Audience of Citizens: Kathy Donahue expressed concerns regarding the HVAC project at the elementary school regarding rates for credits. Mr. Cahill has not signed anything yet, and is also aware of the need to remain vigilant regarding the project, and contractors involved with it. Mr. Cahill has not received anything in writing yet, and will be sure to stay aware of any project specifics.

3. Acceptance/Approval of Minutes of November 6, 2023: Bob Grindle moved to the minutes of November 6, 2023. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Agency Reports:

Public Works: Due to flash flooding repairs, some road maintenance was deferred, but the workers were able to get all the town site lines on the roads mowed. Alex Bass passed all his Tree Warden certifications.

First Selectman: The fiscal audit is ongoing. The town has received the enumeration lists for the schools, and learned the DPW truck has arrived in Hartford. Mr. Cahill is meeting tomorrow evening with the Fire Company and their sales representative to discuss engine replacement. He also met with State Senator Gordon to discuss some of the town's concerns, including the legal battle with the solar park company, PILOT money for EASTCONN for the work they do in town and some of the educational issues in town. Senator Gordon is accommodating and willing to go to bat for Hampton, and he's willing to work with other people.

4. Communications: Mr. Cahill received an email from The Department of Transportation that the TRIP Grant he applied for through NEECOG (to resurface the Airline Trail), they've hired a consulting firm of the analysis of the proposed budget, and feel it is grossly underbudgeted. Among the issues they mentioned were excavation and drainage, and wildlife management and is why DEEP was originally considered as the managing agency. Mr. Cahill will continue to work through that. The IT audit is ongoing as well. They wanted to meet on Friday, but it will need to be rescheduled. Many projects are underway, but are not yet completed. He has also given the Health District Hampton's intent to withdraw. The withdrawal nonbinding, but the members of the district want an independent audit. The cost will go up though because Plainfield has withdrawn, and they provided a large portion of the membership.

5. Financial Reports: No questions. NERI has given the first rental payment since moving into the former Small Cities space.

6. Tax Collectors Report: Bob Grindle moved to accept the tax collector's report. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

A. Refunds: Bob Grindle moved to approve tax refunds of:

Mark Sullivan: 127.26

James Ouellet: 82.90

Elizabeth Garner: 1,662.14

Jason Barrett: 15.76

John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

7. Appointments: Stan Crawford has volunteered to serve on the ordinance committee, Allan Cahill moved to appoint Stan Crawford to the ordinance committee. Bob Grindle seconded the appointment, and it carried unanimously.

John Tillinghast moved to reappoint John Macheson and Sharon Wakely to the Green Energy Committee for two years until 12/1/2025 and reappoint Ev Hyde, Maryellen Donnelly until 12/31/2025. Bob Grindle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

John Tillinghast moved to reappoint Marc Cardwell to the Conservation Commission. Bob Grindle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

8. Board/Committee/Commission Minutes/reports for review: None

9. Additions to the Agenda: None

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business:

A. 2024 Meeting Dates: The board will continue with the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM for next year with the exception of January and September which will occur on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. Bob Grindle moved to accept the meeting dates for 2024 as presented. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

12. Audience for Citizens: None. Mr. Cahill wished everyone to a happy holiday.

Bob Grindle moved to adjourn at 7:16 PM. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant