TOWN OF HAMPTON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - JUNE 8, 2023 MINUTES

The Legal Voters and those qualified to vote in Town Meeting assembled in Town Meeting at the Hampton Town Hall, lower level, 164 Main Street Hampton, Connecticut on June 8, 2023 at 7:00 PM and transacted the following business:

- 1. Call to order: First Selectman Allan Cahill called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM...
- 2. To elect a moderator for said meeting. John Tillinghast moved to nominate Richard Brown, who declined. **Kathy Freed/Kathy Donahue** moved/seconded to elect Allan Cahill moderator. Mr. Cahill was elected moderator unanimously by voice vote.
- 3. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow, if necessary, money to defray expenses until other funds are available: **Kathy Donahue/Kathi Newcombe** moved/seconded to so authorize. There was no discussion. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 4. To nominate and elect one member to the Regional District 11 Board of Education for a term of three years beginning with their first Board meeting in July, 2023. **Susan Lovegreen/Kathy Freed** moved/seconded to elect Joy Becker. There were no other nominations. Joy Becker was elected to the Board by acclamation.
- 5. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into agreement with the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Transportation for the expenditure of funds for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 for improvement and maintenance of Town roads: Kathy Donahue/Richard Brown moved/seconded to so authorize. Allan Cahill noted that the revenue line is 5100.04 Town Aid Roads. There was no further discussion. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
- 6. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve and accept Local Capital Improvement Funds (LoCIP) from the State of Connecticut for road improvement: Kathy Donahue/Mark Becker moved/seconded to so authorize. Allan Cahill noted that the revenue line is 5100.07 LOCIP (Local Capital Improvement). There was no further discussion. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
- 7. To approve the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan including the 5 year Road Plan: **Kathy Donahue/Kathi Newcombe** moved/seconded to approve. Mark Becker inquired as to whether there was anything special in the plan. Allan Cahill noted several items of interest, such as upgrades to Sarah Pearl and Reilly Roads and Community Center painting. There was no further discussion. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- 8. To hear discussion and act on the General Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 as recommended by the Board of Finance, and to appropriate sums of money as required: **Kathy Donahue/Kathi Newcombe** moved/seconded to open discussion. Mr. Cahill presented the major increases and decreases in the budget. Increases include 5% cost of living increase for town employees, increased rates in health insurance costs, and increases in transfer station costs. The budget also includes Fire Department capital non-recurring (CNR) for future truck replacement. There has been a decrease in tree removal. Questions were asked and answered regarding expenditures. The vote on this matter will take place at referendum.
- 9. To hear discussion and act on the Hampton Elementary School Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2034 as recommended by the Board of Finance, and to appropriate sums of money as required: **Kathy Donahue/Kathi Newcombe** moved/seconded to open discussion. Rose Bisson, chair of the HES Board of Education, stated that they had increased the special education director's hours to respond to the criticism regarding the number of students requiring special education services. Other increases include an increase in legal services due to pay negotiations and a 10% increase in the outsourced costs of students attending Barrows STEM academy. The board is pursuing grants to obtain mini-splits to help counter the increase in heating costs. The vote on this matter will take place at referendum.
- 10. To hear discussion and act on the use of \$60,800 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to supplement the Ambulance Service. These funds are requested for the current and proposed budget. Hampton has a cooperative agreement with KB Ambulance in Killingly for services to be shared equally between Eastford, Hampton and Pomfret. Allan Cahill stated that the town is pleased with the service but will be looking into amending the assessment to better reflect Hampton's call numbers, which are currently 25% of total calls. The vote on this matter will take place at referendum.
- 11. To hear discussion and act on an appropriation of up to \$10,000 from the unassigned general fund (UAGF) for Little River Park Maintenance. The town is working on modest improvements to improve access to the riverfront streambed. Although the Conservation Commission was not successful in its application for a DEEP grant, it received positive feedback and will re-apply in the upcoming year. The funds will also qualify as part of inkind services provided by the town and mandated by the DEEP grant. The vote on this matter will take place at referendum.
- 12. To hear discussion and act on the use of \$32,700 from the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) to purchase PPE and alarms for the Hampton Fire Company. Allan Cahill stated that the town is fortunate to have a number of new members in the Fire Company; these funds are for new protective gear. The vote on this matter will take place at referendum.
- 13. To hear discussion and act on the transfer of CNR unallocated funds to the CNR Capital Building Fund. Allan Cahill stated that this account accumulates interest only from the CNR funds

and that the town cannot spend funds out of this account. Therefore, the Selectmen are requesting that funds be reallocated to support building maintenance. Kathy Donahue stated that, as of May 20, 2023, there was \$8,900 in the account. Irene Brown, Maryellen Donnelly and Elizabeth Lindorff suggested that some funds be used to improve the ceiling of the lower level meeting room at town hall. The vote on this matter will take place at referendum.

- 14. To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting: Elizabeth Lindorf suggested that the town consider adding a speed bump on Station Road at the location of the airline trail to slow traffic down.
- 15. Adjournment: Sue Lovegreen/Kathy Freed moved/seconded to adjourn at 7:23 PM.

At its meeting held on May 25, 2025 the Board of Selectmen voted, pursuant to Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, that items 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 on the call of the June 8, 2023 Annual Town Meeting be submitted to referendum vote on June 15, 2023 between the hours of Noon and 8:00 P.M at the Town Hall, 164 Main Street, Hampton, CT.

The designation of the questions on the ballot for said referendum vote shall be as follows:

- 1. "Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate \$1,850,260 for the General Government for the 2023-2024 fiscal year?"
- 2. "Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate \$2,140,288 for the Hampton Elementary School for the 2023-2024 fiscal year?"
- 3. "Shall the Town of Hampton approve the use of \$60,800 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to supplement the Ambulance Service?"
- 4. "Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate up to \$10,000 from the unassigned general fund (UAGF) for Little River Park Maintenance?"
- 5. "Shall the Town of Hampton approve the use of \$32,700 from the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) to purchase PPE and alarms for the Hampton Fire Company?"
- 6. "Shall the Town of Hampton approve the transfer of CNR unallocated funds to the CNR Capital Building Fund?"

Dated at Hampton, this 8th day of June 2023

Kaye Johnson, Town Clerk