

TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS

PRESENT: F. J. Ferreira, Jr., Chairman; M. J. Caruso, P. G. Robart, Selectmen; E. N. Small, Town Administrator; L. A. Ruest, Administrative Assistant

ROAD AGENT: R. B. Merrill reported his department has been maintaining roads given the wintry weather. It was noted that the water level at the Sanborn Road culvert appears to be staying down. It was suggested to look at the water level at Whittier Pond in the spring to determine if another 6" board is needed to keep the water level up.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: R. B. Vigneau referred the Board to his monthly report for December. He also provided a compilation report of new homes by year, construction value and fees collected as well as an updated listing of objectives for 2004.

E. N. Small reported the status of zoning violations for James, Stevens, Kat and Anderson Marine.

Well contamination – Corner of Merrill Road and Depot Road: R. B. Vigneau reported he has spoken with representatives of the Department of Environmental Services and found that based on the levels reported on the tested water, there is a problem. R. B. Vigneau discussed the various options to cure this problem and has contacted an area contractor for an estimate. The Board requested that an independent water sample be done and asked that R. B. Vigneau contact the property owner on Thursday, January 8, in order to do this.

FIRE CHIEF: J. M. Lord referred the Board to his monthly report for December. He noted that emergency calls are up four from 2002 and service calls are up 60 from 2002. He noted that Christmas tree sales went well given the snowy weather. The new ambulance has transported patients on a number of occasions. J. M. Lord reported that he is revising the rules and regulations with respect to the payment of stipends. At E. N. Small's request, he provided the Board with a copy of the grants received and applied for. In closing, he noted that the Department assisted with the fire at the Hampton Marina as well as numerous traffic accidents.

POLICE CHIEF: R. Dirsa referred the Board to his statistical and narrative report for December. He also provided a recommendation to increase police detail rates based on a survey of area towns.

MOTION: To adjust the police detail fees according to the schedule provided by Chief Dirsa.

MOTION: M. J. Caruso
SECOND: P. G. Robart
Unanimous

R. Dirsa informed the Board of employee concern with unanswered questions relating to the SB2 form of voting. The Board suggested R. Dirsa meet with E. N. Small to discuss the concerns.

OLD BUSINESS

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the December 17 meeting as written.

MOTION: M. J. Caruso
SECOND: P. G. Robart
1 Abstention, Passes

FINANCIAL REPORTS: E. N. Small reported a General Fund balance of \$1,700,000. The Town Clerk has collected \$456,000 for 2003. The Tax Collector collected \$1,675,000 in December.

MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE – 6 SESSIONS 2004: E. N. Small stated he plans to attend these sessions. There is no fee as Hampton Falls is a member.

BUDGET HEARING – JANUARY 14, 7:00 PM, PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING:

TAX LIEN – MAP 4, LOT 27 – 23 KING STREET: A tax lien has been issued for the property at 23 King Street. The new owners did not respond to a certified mailing, therefore, counsel instructed the Tax Collector to lien the property. This has been done.

FRYING PAN LANE – PROPOSAL BY BUXTON FAMILY: E. N. Small reported that a member of the Buxton family has made a proposal to sell a portion of land to the town for use as a turnaround. The Board requested this matter be added to an agenda in the spring (April).

JANUARY 21 PUBLIC HEARING FOR ACCEPTANCE OF LINDEN ROAD AS TOWN ROAD: The Board signed a public hearing notice for the acceptance of Linden Road as a town road.

DEWITT MEMORIAL: E. N. Small distributed photos of the memorial placed at the Depot in remembrance of Dan Dewitt.

OLD BUSINESS

BOND LIFE STUDY BASED ON \$350,000 VALUATION: A spreadsheet outlining the costs of a \$2.5 million bond for open space was provided to the Board. The information was broken down in five year increments from 5 years to 30 years.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES 2004: E. N. Small provided the Board with a copy of the Schedule of Meetings and Activities for the year 2004.

NH MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION MEETING – JANUARY 16 – OVERTIME/FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT: E. N. Small will be attending this meeting.

TWO ABATEMENT APPLICATIONS (MAP 1, LOT 67 & MAP 2, LOT 23-1): Two applications have been submitted and will be forwarded to the Assessor for consideration.

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2004 STATEWIDE ENHANCED EDUCATION TAX - \$991,782 / 2003 - \$1,329,202 / 2004:
Updated figures have been received. Hampton Falls will be a receiver town in 2004.

CURRENT USE TAX – 10 LOTS AND ROADWAY AT MARSTON/SWAIN

SUBDIVISION: The Board signed the tax warrant for the referenced properties. The Board also signed a current use tax bill for Wayne Barker. A current use tax warrant for property on Starvish Lane is forthcoming.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS – NOVEMBER 2003: A spreadsheet outlining property transfers for November was provided to the Board.

CASH FLOW AND MONTHLY SCHOOL PAYMENTS: Notification has been received from the schools. The WHS payment has been reduced from \$85,000 to \$70,000, and the LAS payment will remain at \$285,000 per month. These payments are based on adjusted figures received from SAU 21.

SUPPLEMENTAL WARRANT FOR SECOND PROPERTY TAX - \$725: E. N. Small explained that a building on the church property has been added to a non-tax property tax card. Correction will be made and this warrant will cover the collection of the tax due. The Board signed the warrant.

VETERAN’S EXEMPTION: E. N. Small reported that he received an application for veteran’s exemption for a property owner that does not qualify. He added that there is legislation pending to allow for a tax exemption for all veterans.

PRIMEX UNEMPLOYMENT COMP REFUND - \$1,130.85:

AERIAL MAPS FROM ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION: D. Wickliffe has informed that the aerial maps will be distributed soon.

DAVID GRAF – REPAIR TO TOWN CLOCK: An invoice for \$50 has been received for repair to the clock. A contract for repairs to the town clock is in place for 2004.

PUBLIC HEARING - \$2.5 MILLION BOND ISSUE, JANUARY 14, PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING: The Board signed the public hearing notice.

BANKER ISSUER LETTER OF REPRESENTATIONS & ENGAGEMENT LETTER – BOND COUNSEL DAVID BARNES:

MOTION: To authorize the Chairman to sign the letter of representation and engagement letter for Bond Counsel David Barnes regarding the proposed bond for open space (Conservation).

MOTION: P. G. Robart
SECOND: M. J. Caruso

TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET – JANUARY 15, 7:00 PM, LAS: The Hampton Falls School Board has sent notice of this public hearing.

RESPONSE FROM DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION – ROUTE 88 CROSSWALK: A letter dated December 15, 2003 has been received indicating that the changes necessary to allow the relocation of the crosswalk have not been completed and therefore the relocation is denied. The necessary change would require construction of adequate pedestrian facilities or compliant sidewalks. A copy of this letter has been provided to E. Dumont.

NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 6:30 PM, TOWN HALL:

Questions from Public: F. J. Ferreira, Jr. opened discussion to questions and comments from the public. None were heard.

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| MOTION TO GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:37 PM UNDER 91-1 AT 10:27 AM TO DISCUSS WELFARE LAND ACQUISITION AND LITIGATION | MOTION: P. G. ROBART SECOND: M. J. CARUSO UNANIMOUS |
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| MOTION TO GO OUT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION AND RESUME AT 7:40 PM | MOTION: M. J. CARUSO SECOND: P. G. ROBART UNANIMOUS |
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Budget Review: The Board scheduled a work session for Monday, 7:30 a.m., to review the default budget.

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| MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:46 PM | MOTION: P. G. ROBART SECOND: M. J. CARUSO UNANIMOUS |
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