

TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS

PRESENT: S. C. Volpone, Jr., S. C. Hanson, Selectmen;
E. N. Small, Town Administrator; L. A. Ruest, Administrative Assistant

GOVERNOR WEARE PARK: HYA Representative Mark Lane and Peter Robart were present to follow up on the discussion to date with regard to HYA using the baseball field at Governor Weare Park. M. Lane reviewed the plans for the field, the investment HYA is willing to put forward and potential contract terms. **He indicated that conversations with Matt Shaw after his meeting with us on 2/21 led him to believe that we were having second thoughts about entering into a long-term contract or doing something this year that would make an HYA commitment to improving the field this year worthwhile.** HYA would like to come to an agreement to use the field as a practice field this year **if an agreement cannot be reached to use the field this year for games** and work toward entering into a long-term contract with the Town. M. Lane provided a copy of a draft contract to E. N. Small. **The board agreed to review HYA's plan and decide on a course of action at the April 4 BOS meeting.** E. N. Small requested a certificate of insurance from HYA.

S. C. Volpone, Jr. **disagreed with Matt Shaw's take on the 2/21 meeting that the board was pulling back on a commitment to allowing HYA use of the field for games this year. He reiterated that it was his impression that the board agreed with the plan in principal but that a review of items to be covered by a contract needs to take place as well as legal counsel input and public hearing(s). It was S.C. Volpone, Jr.'s feeling that this did not preclude using the field for games this year. He further stated that a definitive decision couldn't be made until brought before the full board at the April 4 meeting. This appeared to be acceptable to M. Lane.** It was also noted that the use of the field for practice is on the condition that the field(s) are not wet. This matter will be added to the Board's April 4 meeting.

7:00 PM - PUBLIC HEARING – ACCEPTANCE OF AVERY RIDGE LANE AS A TOWN ROAD: S. C. Volpone, Jr. opened the public hearing, reading the posted notice, and opened discussion to members of the public. E. N. Small reported that the Road Committee and Planning Board have recommended acceptance of this road as a Town road. Conditions have been met and funds remain posted with the Town for the two-year maintenance phase. The indemnification funds are to be held for damage to Old Stage Road. The money will be used to repair a portion of Old Stage Road unless the contractor repairs it. Hearing no comments from the public, S. C. Volpone, Jr. closed the public hearing.

MOTION: To accept Avery Ridge Lane as a Town road.

MOTION: S. C. HANSON
SECOND: S. C. VOLPONE, JR.

• **OLD BUSINESS**

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (JAN 10/25, FEB 7/21, MAR 6/7):
T. C. Tocci provided approval of these minutes in advance of leaving for vacation. S. C. Volpone, Jr. approved these minutes as well. S. C. Hanson abstained. Minutes as approved will be posted to the web site.

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FINANCIAL REPORTS-GENERAL FUND BALANCE - \$336,000: The tax lien is to be prepared mid-April for \$223,000 outstanding.

ACTION ITEMS: E. N. Small provided the Board with a copy of an updated listing of action items.

REPORT ON THE COSTS OF THE TOWN REPORT AND THE BALLOTS: E. N. Small reported that printer who was awarded the bid (Commonwealth Printing) accepted too many Town bids and was unable to complete the job in time for distribution in advance of Town Meeting. The printing of the Town report was sent to Yankee Printer for completion. The cost for this year's town report is \$7,600. Suggestion was made to consider having town reports and sample ballots available at the Town Hall for pick up and not delivering them as well as posting it on the web site. This matter will be added to a future agenda for the full Board to address.

T. Beattie stated her discontent with the town report noting that the print was too small, the photos fuzzy and the volume of the report being too wordy.

Suggestion was made to post Town election results in more locations (Library, Post Office and web site).

APPOINTMENTS – POLICE/FIRE/ZBA:

MOTION: To appoint:

Fire Personnel: R. Davies, D. Lamontagne, R. Regan, L. Anderson, B. Kent, J. McEachern, A. Benoit, S. Buchanen, D. Calderwood, M. Defeo, D. Gillick, G. Heal, S. Jautaikis, P. Simmons, E. Tatarinowicz, C. Trueman, P. Watson, M. Wallace, M. Bourbeau, H. Hubbard

Police Personnel: J. Allen, J. Mounsey, B. Preston

Recreation Commission Member: P. Robart

ZBA Member: P. Young

MOTION: S. C. VOLPONE, JR.

SECOND: S. C. HANSON

Appointment forms for each were signed by Board members. A listing of elected officials, with terms of office, was provided to Board members.

2007 AUDIT – ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD –STATEMENT OF AUDITING STANDARDS (SAS 112): A new GASB requirement has been put in place. The Town will need to hire someone to review the work of the auditors. Municipal Resources has personnel for this type of service. Funds will need to be added to the budget.

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REPORT ON THE ASSESSING AGENT'S COMPUTER: L. A. Ruest reported that arrangements have been made to purchase and install a new computer for the Assessor. Arrangements have also been made to retrieve and restore the data and provide software for the new machine.

CASH FLOW / TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES: E. N. Small provided the Board with an updated cash flow spreadsheet and indicated that there may be a need to borrow money this year.

SUMMARY OF THE OPERATING BUDGET AND SPECIAL ARTICLES: The revised listing, with results of Town Meeting, was provided to the Board. The resulting budget totals \$2,530,300 and the warrant articles total \$64,500.

ZONING DISTRICT CHANGE – USE A MAP IN THE WARRANT, WHEN A NEW ZONE IS PROPOSED: E. N. Small suggested placing a copy of a map on the warrant when a new zoning district is proposed to assist voters with understanding the area(s) affected.

MOSQUITO CONTROL - SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION: Sarah MacGregor of Dragon Mosquito Control has completed and submitted an application for mosquito control on behalf of the Town of Hampton Falls. It is available for review and is the same program as last year. Grant money is expected to be available as well. E. N. Small suggested the Board consider implementing a mosquito control ordinance. S. C. Volpone, Jr. requested that Sarah be invited to meet with the Board to discuss the program **(including describing treated areas)** and an ordinance.

MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT DRILL: This matter will be added to the next agenda.

WETLANDS APPLICATION FOR RETAINING WALL RECONSTRUCTION – BROWN ROAD AT GRAPE VINE RUN: A copy of this application, as prepared and submitted by Jones and Beach Engineers to the Department of Environmental Services, was provided for review of the Board. Once approval is received, this work will be sent out to bid. The work is planned to be done in the summer.

RIGHT TO KNOW LAW AND THE 5 DAY REQUIREMENT: E. N. Small informed the Board that the statute allows for additional time to answer inquiries if copies are not readily available.

W. H. Kenney inquired as to the availability of information to residents to obtain in order to send mailings. He was told that a property tax mailing listing is available from the Tax Collector's office and that photocopy fees apply.

INQUIRIES FOR INFORMATION – DRINKWATER AND EAST ROADS: C. Merrill has submitted requests for information with regard to road work. Answers have been provided and it has been learned that the State services to the area of the emergency access gate on Route 95. C. Merrill stated that he has signed an agreement with the Town that he would maintain East Road. The area of East Road to the gate was **salted several times this year since January 29 according to resident Chris Merrill. C. Merrill also stated that in his opinion the salting had never been performed before this time by the Town.** C. Merrill indicated that he feels

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the Town is harassing him by servicing this portion of East Road as the salt takes out the frost from the road and causes a muddy condition. He stated that he will maintain the road and that he wants the harassment to stop. S. C. Volpone, Jr. stated this matter would be reviewed.

T. Beattie inquired as to Drinkwater Road. E. N. Small stated that C. Merrill's inquiry related to road cracking and that the cracking was addressed by crack sealing of the road.

PAVING CONTRACTORS – SUMMER ROAD IMPROVEMENTS: E. N. Small noted that sometimes contractors submit written requests to be added to the bid list. These requests are kept in a file for use in sending out bids for this type of work.

B. Mutrie stated she noticed damage to Marthas Court while she was out walking. E. N. Small stated he would inform the Road Agent and request he report on this next meeting.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE SOUTHEAST REGIONAL REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT 53B were provided to the Board.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON THE RECREATION COMMISSION HAVE TO BE AN ODD NUMBER - CHANGE THE MEMBERSHIP ON THE RECREATION COMMISSION FROM 5 TO 7: E. N. Small reported that the Local Government Center provided him with information that there is no limit to the number of members but that the number should be an odd number.

APPOINTMENT OF P. ROBART & L. SMITH TO THE RECREATION COMMISSION: The appointment of P. Robart was addressed earlier this meeting and the appointment of L. Smith will be added to the next agenda.

ELM RESEARCH INSTITUTE 7 ELM TREES WITH A BRONZE PLAQUE: WalMart is willing to donate elm trees on the condition that arrangements be made to pick up the trees and plant them.

REPORT ON MEETING WITH THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION -- 3-8-07 – MINUTES OF MEETING: E. N. Small is attending Conservation Commission meetings as Selectmen's Representative. Copies of recent meeting minutes were provided to the Board. T. C. Tocci has provided an outline of topics for consideration. T. Beattie suggested conducting round table discussion with the Planning Board, ZBA, Selectmen and Conservation Commission.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

2006 EDITION OF *NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMUNITY PROFILES* was provided to the Board.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Reorganization of the Selectmen will take place next meeting when all are present.

2007 LOCAL OFFICIALS WORKSHOPS – MAY 22, STRATHAM MUNICIPAL CENTER: Information was provided to S. C. Hanson for Selectman training.

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NEW SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES: An updated listing was provided to the Board and posted.

COMCAST FRANCHISE FEE PAYMENT: Franchise fees (Sept. – Feb.) in the amount of \$8,066 have been received. These fees are dedicated to scholarships for high school seniors. S. C. Hanson inquired as to whether the Town has checked into services provided by Verizon. It was suggested that the Town look into bundling services with Verizon.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS FOR FEBRUARY: An updated listing of property transfers was provided to the Board.

LGC HEALTH TRUST: Notice has been received that social security numbers will no longer be used for employee identification on benefit documentation.

**ROCKINGHAM ECONOMIC DEVELOP. CORP. REDC – NEW PROJECT
SUBMISSION SHEET:**

FROST BAN ORDINANCE: Town roads have been posted in accordance with the frost ban ordinance.

HUTCHINGS TRUCKING LLC: A letter of interest in the position of Road Agent has been received from this company.

RESIGNATION – Conservation Commission: Elizabeth Volpone has submitted her resignation from the Conservation Commission.

MOTION: To accept the resignation of E. Volpone with regret.

MOTION: S. C. HANSON
SECOND: S. C. VOLPONE, JR.

OTHER

MS2 Report of Appropriations: The Board signed this year's MS2 form for submission to the Department of Revenue Administration.

Abatement of Taxes – Great Hill Horticultural Foundation: The Assessor has determined this Foundation to be a nonprofit organization. The Board signed approval of an abatement.

Other: B. Mutrie informed the Board of an article in the Union Leader with respect to pension plans for municipal employees. She stated her concern with the increase in costs. S. C. Volpone, Jr. stated the Board would be reviewing employee benefits and compensation during 2007.

C. Merrill asked whether the letter sent around town regarding SB2 was funded by two Selectmen. S. C. Volpone, Jr. stated he did not fund any mailing. C. Merrill also asked S. C.

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Volpone why he felt the budget was a “run away budget.” S. C. Volpone, Jr. neither agreed nor disagreed with C. Merrill’s indication of using the phrase “run away budget.” He spoke to the matter of SB2 versus town meeting and indicated that although he originally felt SB2 was more appropriate at the time, he now feels differently given his involvement as Selectman. He added that conscientious efforts are made by town employees with regard to budgeting. P. Robart added that he is interested in seeing how other towns faired with budgets. He suggested looking to see why Hampton Falls is different from other towns and possibly sharing this information for a better understanding by all.

W. H. Kenney inquired as to the progress of the Tonry land conservation easement. He was told that this matter has already gone to public hearing and is progressing. The \$150,000 costs incurred by the Town Conservation Fund will cover survey costs, administrative costs and legal costs.

B. Mutrie identified a number of repairs needed to town buildings.

NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2007, 7:30 A.M., TOWN HALL

**MOTION TO GO INTO NONPUBLIC SESSION
AT 8:46 AM TO DISCUSS WELFARE**

**MOTION: S. C. VOLPONE, JR.
SECOND: S. C. HANSON**

**MOTION TO GO OUT OF NONPUBLIC SESSION
AND ADJOURN AT 8:12 PM**

**MOTION: S. C. HANSON
SECOND: S. C. VOLPONE, JR.**