

TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS

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

**MOTION TO GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION
UNDER 91-a AT 7:09 AM TO DISCUSS LEGAL**

**MOTION: F. J. FERREIRA, JR.
SECOND: P. G. ROBART
Unanimous**

**MOTION TO GO OUT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION
AND RESUME AT 7:34 AM**

**MOTION: P. G. ROBART
SECOND: F. J. FERREIRA, JR.
Unanimous**

ROAD AGENT: R. B. Merrill reported that his Department has gotten the roads back in shape following the severe rainstorm that caused washouts of some roads throughout town. He noted that beaver dams are holding the water at a high level and that he would like to get them removed. Referring to Brown Road, R. B. Merrill requested that Jones and Beach Engineers be contacted to design more culverts to address the increased water flow from the removal of trees at the Robinson horse farm. He would like to install the culverts this summer. M. J. Caruso stated he would like to review the Jones and Beach Engineers plans for the Sanborn Road culvert. R. B. Merrill reported that the frost ban is lifted. He also requested that Jones and Beach Engineers be contacted to discuss a turnaround on Marsh Lane. M. J. Caruso stated he would like to attend the meetings with Jones and Beach Engineers. R. B. Merrill reported that he would like to purchase a hot tar kettle in order to be able to do seams and cracks on roadways on his own rather than waiting for a contractor. The Board approved. R. B. Merrill will provide costs to E. N. Small.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: R. B. Vigneau referred the Board to his report for the month of March noting one new home permit. He added that test pit activity has been for replacement systems. He reviewed the status of code violations. Discussion of the Board's request to collect current use taxes before a building permit is issued took place. The reasons why this is not allowed were reviewed. R. B. Vigneau will inform the Assessor when a building permit is issued so that she can track the current use status.

FIRE CHIEF: J. M. Lord referred the Board to his report for March noting that the number of calls is within the average but behind 2003. He reported that Tank 4 is being repaired in Portland, Maine, and it is hoped to have it back next week. This matter was discussed with Town Counsel. The ventilation system is to be installed at the Public Safety Building soon. P. G. Robart attended his first Fire Department meeting. He asked that E. N. Small contact the members of the Fire/Ambulance Study Committee. J. M. Lord stated he will be submitting a letter of opposition to the one-way toll on Route 95 at the public meeting tonight. A copy was provided to E. N. Small. A letter from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission was acknowledged. J. M. Lord stated he plans to attend the meeting at FPL Energy Seabrook. Numerous appointments for Wardens were signed by the Board.

MOTION: To appoint J. M. Lord as Warden, R. W. Regan, J. W. Dodge, J. H. McEachern III, B. Flood and D. Lamontagne as Deputy Wardens for the year 2004.

MOTION: F. J. Ferreira, Jr.

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**SECOND: P. G. Robart
Unanimous**

POLICE CHIEF: R. Dirsa referred the Board to his report for March noting incidents, statistics and miscellaneous items. D.A.R.E. graduation is scheduled for May 11, 7:00 p.m., LAS Gym. A public hearing is scheduled for April 21 for a number of police grants. The Police Department will also be submitting a letter of opposition to the one-way toll on Route 95. E. N Small requested a copy and noted that he will be producing a letter for the Board's signature.

R. Dirsa informed the Board of his concerns with respect to a plan to consolidate Hampton and Exeter Courts. He prepared a letter of opposition for consideration of the Board. Following discussion, the Board signed the letter for mailing.

TOWN CLERK: Holly Knowles presented a proposal to change the Town Clerk office hours and offer the ability to register vehicles by mail. She explained her reasons for eliminating the Town Clerk's evening hour on Mondays to include security issues, fewer persons using the evening hour and staffing problems.

In response to the Board, she explained that the issuance of stickers is still planned to be done, however, the State of NH has started its new program with larger towns that already provide stickers. H. Knowles stated that she will be attending the Town Clerk's convention soon and that more information will be provided at that time. The Board supported the hour change.

GEORGE MERRILL – AGREEMENT FOR REPLACEMENT WELL AT 12 DEPOT ROAD: The agreement will be revised for consideration at the 4:30 p.m. meeting to be held today. It was agreed to amend the \$6,000 figure to the budget figure of \$6,500. Other revisions requested are to address the question of electrical service in that the Town is not responsible for upgrading of plumbing or electrical work to accommodate such well and to add the phrase "or other unknown sources."

OLD BUSINESS

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the March 24 meeting as written.

**MOTION: F. J. Ferreira, Jr.
SECOND: P. G. Robart
Unanimous**

FINANCIAL REPORTS: E. N. Small reported a General Fund balance of \$482,000. The Tax Collector collected \$82,200 in March and the Town Clerk collected \$37,800 in March. The property tax lien is being prepared and three properties are scheduled to be deeded.

COMCAST BILLING: The Board signed a letter to Comcast inquiring as to the Selectmen's ability to address complaints of customers.

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REVISED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES: A revised schedule was provided to the Board.

REVISED SALES ASSESSMENT RATIO: The revised sales assessment ratio is 95.1% for 2003.

FINANCIAL INFO TO NH BOND BANK: Information has been forwarded to the Bond Bank. This will allow information to be in place when it is time to request a bond.

ABATEMENT/REFUNDS: Signed by the Board.

CURRENT USE TAX: Signed by the Board. An updated spreadsheet of current use funds (\$1,049,530) in the hands of the Conservation Commission was provided to the Board.

DEADLINE FOR DECISION ON BARN EASEMENTS: E. N. Small has set a deadline date of May 19 to decide. E. N. Small will provide additional information and research information to the Board for consideration.

INVENTORY OF VALUATION – RESIDENT’S OBSERVATION: A copy of a PA28 form was provided to the Board for review at the property owner’s request.

ALTERNATE TO BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT (NON-PUBLIC):

PAINTING OF FRONT HALLWAY AND OFFICE: Bill Humphries is to do the painting of the two rooms.

LIABILITY INSURANCE CERTIFICATE: An insurance certificate will be received from the Historical Society.

ANNUAL APPLICATION FOR PROPERTY LIABILITY TRUST AND FIRE ENGINE REPLACEMENT COST: The annual renewal forms have been received to include fire engine replacement cost coverage.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: The DOT has requested a copy of the Town Report.

USE OF PLAYING FIELDS AT GOVERNOR WEARE PARK: The use of the playing fields will be discussed at the April 19 meeting of the Recreation Commission. B. Richards has volunteered to handle the scheduling of the fields. A Selectmen’s Permit from Bill Abbey for use of the fields for lacrosse was reviewed. Following discussion, it was determined that requests for use of the fields should be submitted by a specific date, such as March 15, for review of the Recreation Commission, and then presented to the Board for consideration. It was also suggested that the fields be closed from November 1 through April 15. The Selectmen’s Permit was not signed at this time. F. J. Ferreira, Jr. will contact Timberland to determine their commitment over the next two years in order to use this information in conjunction with scheduling of other activities.

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PILATES CLASSES AT TOWN HALL: The Recreation Commission is sponsoring a Pilates class on Thursday mornings at the Town Hall.

MEETING – NEW LIBRARY/SCHOOL/TOWN NEWSLETTER: A meeting is scheduled for April 15 at 6:45 p.m. to discuss the future of the Library Newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

PLAN A MEETING WITH DISTRICT STATE REPS: The Board asked E. N. Small to make arrangements for State Reps to meet with the Board.

LAS PTO ROAD RACE: A Selectmen's Permit was signed by the Board for a road race on May 8, 2004.

APPLICATION FOR ROCKINGHAM COUNTY NURSING HOME: The Board signed an application to the Rockingham County Nursing Home.

BAGS FOR DELIVERY OF TOWN REPORTS: R. P. McDermott of Coach Lane donated plastic bags for use in delivery of town reports. The Board requested a letter of thanks be sent to him.

REPORT OF APPROPRIATIONS VOTED (MS-2)/APPROPRIATIONS VOTED (MS-22) – WHS AND LAS: E. N. Small presented a copy of the MS 2 and MS 22 reports for review of the Board.

NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 6:30 PM, TOWN HALL:

MOTION TO GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION UNDER 91-a AT 9:35 AM TO DISCUSS WELFARE, PERSONNEL, AND LEGAL

**MOTION: F. J. FERREIRA, JR.
SECOND: P. G. ROBART
Unanimous**

MOTION TO SEAL THE MINUTES OF THE NON-PUBLIC SESSION AND RESUME AT 9:54 AM

**MOTION: P. G. ROBART
SECOND: F. J. FERREIRA, JR.
Unanimous**

MOTION: To require the Chairman of the Board to provide breakfast at those meetings held early in the morning.

**MOTION: F. J. Ferreira, Jr.
SECOND: P. G. Robart**

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

**MOTION: F. J. Ferreira, Jr.
SECOND: P. G. Robart
Unanimous**