

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

SIGNATURES: The following documents were signed by the Board.

- Budget Hearing Notice, January 13, 2005
- Bond Issue Notice – January 13, 2005
- Tax Refunds for Duplicate Payment
- Contract with Rockingham Planning Commission to index site plan, subdivision and building code regulation sections of the zoning ordinance.

E. N. Small provided the Board with a debt schedule for the proposed road bond and the Board began its review of the proposed budget department by department. E. N. Small noted increases and decreases where appropriate. The Board also reviewed warrant articles adjusting some and deleting others. E. N. Small will confirm that services are provided to Hampton Falls' residents regarding the warrant articles for health agencies.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief Dirsa was told that the Minolta leasing arrangement for the copier was acceptable.

MOTION: To authorize E. N. Small to sign the copier contract on behalf of the Board.

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

Discussion of leasing a cruiser rather than purchasing a cruiser took place. R. Dirsa provided information as to how a leasing situation works and indicated he would explore this arrangement further for consideration in the future. Suggestion was made that should this type of arrangement be worthwhile that a public hearing be held for input of the public before decision of the Board. Suggestion was also made that the discontinued cruiser be provided to the Fire Department as done in the past and the Fire Department vehicle be made available for the Building Inspector's use.

R. Dirsa restated his position on the need for a fifth full-time officer. He recognized financial restraints. M. J. Caruso stated his concern with the result of this request being denied last year as well as the increase in the budget. He stated this matter should be brought forward for public awareness and suggested that Town Meeting would be a good opportunity to talk about it.

R. Dirsa added that staffing will be difficult this year, that it has been difficult attracting part-time personnel and that there is an uncertainty for 2005. He requested the Board seek legal opinion as to whether the Board can hire without a vote of the Town. M. J. Caruso noted that 2004 was a unique year with a maternity and disciplinary matter. E. N. Small will contact counsel for opinion for use by the Board.

PRIMEX: E. N. Small reported a five percent reduction in costs for workers/unemployment compensation under a three-year contract.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DECEMBER 30, 2004**

**7:00 AM
TOWN HALL**

TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS

ELDERLY EXEMPTION: Suggestion is made to increase the valuation by 15 percent to bring figures more in line.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

MOTION: F. J. FERREIRA, JR.

SECOND: P. G. ROBART

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