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BOARD OF SELECTMEN PRESENT: L. M. Smith, Chairman; E. B. Beattie, Vice Chairman; L. Gargiulo, Selectman; L. A. Ruest, Town Administrator

CONSERVATION COMMISSION PRESENT: S. Hanson, Chairman; P. Melanson, N. Roka, M. Hill, Members; C. Golas Alternate Member

**PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED PURCHASE OF
CONSERVATION EASEMENT (TOPPAN LANE):**

S. Hanson opened the public hearing, welcomed all in attendance and provided a brief description of the proposal as posted in the public hearing notice. He also introduced two additional members of the Conservation Commission who have stepped down for this matter (K. Ayers and J. Kibler) and J. Charpentier of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests (that will be the holder of the conservation easement).

J. Kibler presented a Powerpoint presentation and provided the public with historical (Toppan's Ox Pasture), environmental and other unique information to the parcel. He identified valid reasons to conserve this parcel in conjunction with its proximity to the Taylor River and other conserved parcels in the area.

S. Hanson provided additional information relating to state agencies publications and efforts identifying this parcel as important to conserve as well as statistics and a listing of other parcels in Hampton Falls conserved over the recent past. Information was provided as to the appraisal value compared to the \$375,000 cost to the Town; these funds available from the Conservation Fund. Copies of handouts were made available.

Discussion was opened to members of the Conservation Commission who spoke in favor noting that this parcel compliments the types of parcels conserved in Hampton Falls (farmland, woodland, and marshland).

Discussion was opened to members of the public. Two residents of Toppan Lane spoke in favor to protect the wildlife and vegetation as well as the quality of the water supply. It was confirmed that the easement would carry from the current owner to any new ownership in perpetuity. Thanks were extended to all for this opportunity.

MOTION OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION: To recommend to the Board of Selectmen to move forward with the purchase of a conservation easement on the property located at Toppan Lane, Map 5, Lot 43, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement for Conservation Easement between the Town and James and Katherine Kibler.

MOTION: S. HANSON
SECOND: M. HILL
UNANIMOUS

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The public hearing was closed and discussion took place by the Board of Selectmen. Selectmen members had no questions or comments.

MOTION: To approve the purchase of a conservation easement on the property located at Toppan Lane, Map 5, Lot 43, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement for Conservation Easement between the Town and James and Katherine Kibler.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE
SECOND: L. GARGUILO
UNANIMOUS

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, L. Smith extended sincere thanks to all.

SECTION 1 – PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments were heard at this time.

ROAD AGENT – CORE SERVICES/INVOICE MONTHLY REPORT: The Board reviewed and approved the invoices for core services and road agent services for the month of June.

L. Gargiulo requested the Road Agent report the status of available funds when addressing tasks and needs. R. Hilliard stated he would like to meet with the Town Administrator in this regard.

STATUS OF 2019 HIGHWAY PROJECTS:

1. **KENSINGTON ROAD (ROUTE 84) DRAINAGE/DETERIORATED CROSS PIPE:** With reference to the Town's letter to the NH-DOT of June 10, 2019, L. Smith read a summarized response from Brian Schutt of District 6 indicating that it appears that the water levels in the pond have receded to normal levels and the drainage is functioning as it should. Although the system is old, there were no signs of failure in the shoulder or paved portion of the highway. The Road Agent was instructed that if any future issues were to arise, he should immediately call District 6. R. Hilliard added that he learned that the area of the pond to the manhole is the responsibility of the NH-DOT where the area of the manhole to the drainage swale is the responsibility of the Town. R. Hilliard also noted that the NH-DOT requires the floor drains in the old fire station to be closed with cement. Question was raised as to which entity is to initiate this. The Town Administrator was asked to contact B. Schutt as the property is private and not municipal.
2. **CATCH BASIN CLEANING;** R. Hilliard reported that the catch basin cleaning company was unable to clean all scheduled basins as the truck filled to capacity. Efforts will be made to return to Town to clean the remaining basins.
3. **SPECIFICATIONS AND COSTS TO INSTALL BEAVER LEVELERS;** R. Hilliard reported on his findings with regard to beaver dam activity. He noted that one of the two dams being watched has been abandoned and that installation of one beaver leveler is in order. He submitted a revised price of \$1,600. He also provided the Board with information on beaver dams used at culvert openings for consideration

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and was asked to obtain the costs associated with this option. No action was taken by the Board at this time; this matter will be added to the August meeting agenda.

4. FIXED PRICING FOR REMOVAL OF BRUSH FROM ROADSIDES (STORM DEBRIS); See #5 below.
5. FIXED PRICING FOR ROADSIDE BRUSH CUTTING AND ROADSIDE MOWING; Item 4, above, was discussed in conjunction with this. R. Hilliard reported that he has met with D. Sewall who is looking to provide a price to cut brush on through roads to include branches overhanging the roadway. The Board requested this information for review so that direction can be provided as to the prioritization of the work based on available budget funds. L. Gargiulo again asked for available funds at the time of request(s) in order to make a decision.
6. HAZARD TREES/LIMBS WORK (URBAN TREE); R. Hilliard is seeking an itemized quote from Urban Tree for the two days' work done in Hampton Falls to ensure it meets the pricing accepted in the proposal. Payment of this invoice is delayed pending receipt of this information.
7. PLACEMENT OF WEIGHT LIMIT SIGNS AT KING AND CURTIS; R. Hilliard reported this work has been done.
8. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT WORKSHEETS RE: ROAD PLATES (INCL. PAVING); R. Hilliard reported that his work has been done.

The Drinkwater Road culvert has been paved. The Board considered a number of Non-Emergency Highway Department Project Worksheets presented by the Road Agent; one for the repricing of the beaver dam leveler at Blakes/Curtis (on hold until August meeting), one for burning of brush at the Brush Dump \$680 for eight hours (approved by the Board), one for asphalt patch at the entrance of Hillcrest \$250 including materials (approved by the Board).

FIRE CHIEF, AMBULANCE, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – MONTHLY REPORT: The Board acknowledged the Fire Department report for June. E. Beattie acknowledged the efforts of members of the Department at a recent emergency call where he was present commending the professionalism.

TESTING OF WATER SUPPLY WELL AT 3 DRINKWATER: J. Lord reported that testing was conducted by the MtBE Remediation Bureau and no PFOA/PFOS or VOCs (cancer causing products in fire foam) were detected.

RESCUE 5 (1991 Ford F350): J. Lord reported that this Fire Department vehicle has reached the end of its life. The Volunteer Fire Department Association has offered to purchase a pick-up truck to replace this vehicle and donate it to the Town. As has been done in the past, once accepted by the Town, the maintenance needs of the vehicle then becomes part of the municipal budget.

MOTION: To accept the donation of a replacement pick-up truck from the Hampton Falls Volunteer Fire Association for use by the Fire Department with thanks for the generous donation.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO
SECOND: E. BEATTIE

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POLICE CHIEF, ANIMAL CONTROL – MONTHLY REPORT: The Board acknowledged the Police Department report for June. L. Smith noted the commendable effort of the Police Chief relating to the dumping of a sealcoating container in a Town cemetery.

ROUTE 1 TRAFFIC CONCERNS: R. Dirsa summarized the issues relating to traffic back-ups on Route 1 that relate to traffic signals, increased traffic flow due to summer activities as well as cell phone applications that provide alternate routes to backups on Route 95 and other highways diverting traffic to town roads. He reported on the efforts of District 6 with regard to adjustments to the traffic flow pattern at the Route 1 lights. Although improved, there are still adjustments that are in order. Suggestion was made to add signs on Town roads with regard to limiting traffic and monitoring of speeds to Town roads. R. Dirsa stated he would verify if this is an option and also give consideration to digital speed signs and the costs associated. In addition, the Board asked that the District be asked to lengthen the green light for Route 1, allowing for additional cars to stack on Route 88 and Depot Road, with the intent of helping the north and southbound traffic flows. If it is found in order, the NH-DOT representatives should be invited to meet with the Board in this regard to hear the Town’s concerns.

NEW POLICE CRUISER: R. Dirsa reported that he has ordered a new cruiser that should arrive in October and be available on the road the first of the new year. He stated the new cruiser is a hybrid model.

BUILDING INSPECTOR, CODE COMPLIANCE, HEALTH OFFICER – MONTHLY REPORT: M. Sikorski provided a verbal report for June. No questions were heard from the Board.

SECTION 2 – PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments were heard at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: The Board acknowledged the items in the consent agenda.

- MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS OF BOOKKEEPER, TREASURER, TAX COLLECTOR
- PERCENTAGE OF TAXES COLLECTED – FIRST HALF TAX BILL - 93%
- WINNACUNNET COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT UNADJUSTED ASSESSMENT 2019-2020 \$2,002,311

FINANCIAL REPORTS - GENERAL FUND BALANCE \$2,980,982

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/PAYROLL/TREASURER/TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS WARRANT(S)

Bookkeeper	Payroll Warrant #465	\$35,158.30
	Accounts Payable Warrant #668	\$39,573.04

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	Payroll Warrant #466	\$19,830.70
	Accounts Payable Warrant #669	\$1,251,871.55
Treasurer	Check Warrant #2019-8	\$6,686.18

MOTION: To approve the warrants as presented above.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE
SECOND: L. GARGIULO
UNANIMOUS

TRICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: Tricentennial Committee Members A. Montrone and D. French were present. A. Montrone reported on issues relating to a proposed carnival as a fundraising opportunity for the Tricentennial. He provided a summary of the Committee’s review and consideration of a carnival as an annual event to raise money for the Town’s 300th Anniversary.

A. Montrone reported that a meeting of Fiesta Shows and Department Heads, to include the Selectmen Chairman, took place on June 25 to identify needs and complete the Selectmen’s Permit Application for this special event. During that discussion, a number of public safety issues and needs were identified and Department Heads were to provide input for consideration of the Board of Selectmen at its work session of July 10 given the short amount of time available before the scheduled carnival date of August 2. Shortly following that meeting, Fiesta Shows cancelled the event. A. Montrone stated he was hoping to hear support for the community event given the efforts of the Committee.

L. Smith clarified that the meeting with Department Heads was not one to approve a carnival and that the Board of Selectmen did not get an opportunity to consider the Selectmen’s Permit Application request. He stated that he was in attendance hearing legitimate concerns of public safety officials. He added that the Hampton Falls Police Department does not have the resources available to staff an event of this size. The Board indicated that it would be in a position to consider the carnival for 2020.

Discussion took place with regard to the efforts and projects of the Tricentennial Committee regarding the events for the Town’s 300th Anniversary going forward. L. Gargiulo stated the Board and Departments need to be kept informed of the efforts of the Committee and help where needed in conjunction with listening to public safety officials. It has been identified that there is no Selectmen’s Representative assigned to this Committee. E. Beattie volunteered in this regard.

MOTION: To assign Selectmen Beattie as representative to the Tricentennial Committee.

MOTION: L. SMITH
SECOND: L. GARGIULO
UNANIMOUS

Further discussion included questions relating to events held on private property versus municipal events and the potential need for Planning Board site plan review if this is to be an annual event and who will

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oversee such an event once the Tricentennial passes. It was felt that with a Selectmen's representative attending the Tricentennial Committee meetings that knowledge of the event would have been known timely.

PROPERTY TAX REFUND #686 (MAP 4, LOT 5-4):

MOTION: To approve property tax refund #686 in the amount of \$54 for Map 4, Lot 504 for the year 2019 as recommended by the Tax Collector.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO
SECOND: E. BEATTIE
UNANIMOUS

NH DOT CROSSWALK MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT: An on-site meeting took place with representatives of the NH-DOT, elementary school, Senator Sherman and Town officials. The location of the crosswalk from the elementary school to the playing fields is to remain. Discussion included the need for additional signs and the potential of adding flashing lights (grant may be available in 2-3 years).

MOTION: To authorize the Chairman to sign the two NH Department of Transportation, Bureau of Traffic midblock crosswalk agreements (Project #16166H) eliminating the crosswalk between the Town Hall and Historical Society Museum (45 Exeter Road) and re-establishing the crosswalk between the elementary school and playing fields in its current location.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE
SECOND: L. GARGIULO
UNANIMOUS

SELECTMEN'S PERMIT APPLICATION (USE OF TOWN HALL & LIBRARY PARKING LOTS)

MOTION: To authorize the Chairman to sign approval of the Selectmen's Permit Application allowing parking at the Town Hall, Library and Gov. Weare Park on Saturday, August 17, 2 p.m. to midnight.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE
SECOND: L. GARGIULO
UNANIMOUS

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN: J. Rowden of the Rockingham Planning Commission reported that the amended plan has been finalized and reviewed by Homeland Security Emergency Management. She noted that comments received related to space weather and solar storms, a topic the Town's committee reviewed but found not to be hazards for Hampton Falls. J. Rowden presented the final document (binder) to the Board for signatures and notarizing. She requested a copy of the signed page to send

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along to HSEM and provided maps for use within the Town Offices. No questions were heard from the Board of the public.

MOTION: To adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2019 as presented with thanks to J. Rowden.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

MUNICIPAL MEETINGS VIDEO/AUDIO EQUIPMENT SET-UP PROPOSAL: The Board reviewed a proposal from Chris Parker Sound to assist with the equipment related to the video recording of municipal meetings. L. Stan, Meadow Lane, provided the status of the current equipment and the need to have a professional ensure that all is established so that users can simply turn the equipment on and off when needed. The Board approved a portion of the proposal.

MOTION: To hire Chris Parker Sound to perform the initial setup the new mixer and microphone equipment, attending a meeting to ensure all is working as anticipated.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM RESTORATION: Historical Society President T. Beattie provided an update on the status of the Society's efforts to evaluate the building and space needs at 45 Exeter Road. She reported that MerrimackDesign has been chosen to conduct a study and report on a plan for restoration, rehabilitation and improvements to the Museum at a cost of \$7,000 paid by the Historical Society. She noted that a subcommittee has been established consisting of three Historical Society members and three members of the public; input is welcomed from the Board of Selectmen. T. Beattie expressed concern with available funds going forward. Discussion of the Board included not duplicating the efforts of an assessment already done on the building, security needs and maintaining the building in an historical sense. T. Beattie requested a copy of the lease agreement with the Town.

OTHER SELECTMEN'S OLD BUSINESS: No other Selectmen's old business was heard.

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comments were heard at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

INTEREST RATES – RECOMMENDATION OF TOWN TREASURER:

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Town Treasurer with regard to investment of funds and interest rates as presented.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

**JULY 17, 2019 – 4:00 PM
TOWN HALL**

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MOTION: E. BEATTIE
SECOND: L. GARGIULO
UNANIMOUS

OTHER SELECTMEN’S NEW BUSINESS: No other Selectmen’s new business was heard.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: 6/19/2019 AND 7/10/2019:

MOTION: To approve the meeting minutes of June 19 and July 10 as written.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO
SECOND: E. BEATTIE
UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments from the public were heard at this time.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO
SECOND: E. BEATTIE
UNANIMOUS

NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2019, 4:00 P.M., TOWN HALL