

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

**DECEMBER 4, 2019- 6:30 PM
TOWN HALL**

DRAFT

PRESENT: L. Smith, Chairman; E. Beattie, Vice Chairman; L. Gargiulo, Selectman; L. Ruest, Town Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM.

WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Chairman Smith opens the public comment.

Tracy Beattie (Drinkwater Rd.) commented on piles of snow blocking the entrance to specific Historical Society buildings. She requests that for future storms, these piles kindly be removed to other sections of the property so as not to block any entrances or exits.

Mark Lane (Blakes Ln.) expresses concern about the amount of slushy snow still located on Sanborn Rd. and King Rd. He also comments on the lack of salting and wonders if this could be increased for future storms.

R. Bailey of Bailey Landscaping LLC was present. Chairman Smith acknowledges the lack of road salt used for the past storm and explains that this was directed per the Winter Road Maintenance Contract. Board Members discuss the scope of the Green Snow Pro Program and agree that they are in favor of leaving the amount of road salt used up to the discretion of the Contractor and Road Agent.

MOTION: To suspend the Green Snow Pro Program and allow the Winter Road Maintenance Contractor and Road Agent to utilize the application of road salt at their discretion.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

Chairman Smith encourages the Winter Road Maintenance Contractor and Road Agent to address any potential issues that could arise. The Road Agent inquires if any additional snow removal employees or trucks will be available from Bailey Landscaping LLC, and R. Bailey confirms that they will be available for future storms if needed.

2019 TAX RATE

No public comments were heard at this time.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Financial Reports, General Fund Balance: \$2,980,454.15

Accounts Payable/Payroll/Treasurer Warrant(s):

Bookkeeper	Payroll Warrant #478	\$21,161.63
Bookkeeper	Accts. Payable Warrant #686	\$43,728.03

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Bookkeeper	Payroll Warrant #479	\$66,008.27
Bookkeeper	Accts. Payable Warrant #687	\$24,406.51

MOTION: To approve the warrants as presented above.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE
SECOND: L. GARGIULO
UNANIMOUS

2020 TOWN WARRANT- Final Draft for Review of DRA and Town Counsel
Board Members review the final draft of the 2020 Town Warrant.

MOTION: To forward the final draft of the 2020 Town Warrant to the Department of Revenue Administration and Town Counsel for review.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE
SECOND: L. GARGIULO
UNANIMOUS

KING STREET CULVERT (SPECIFICATIONS AND RFP)

MOTION: To authorize the Town Administrator to contact the Town Engineer to proceed with the King Street Culvert specifications and request for proposal.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO
SECOND: E. BEATTIE
UNANIMOUS

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL REQUEST FOR QUOTE

Board Members review the request for quote for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal. After discussing the length of the contract, they agree to forward this to the Solid Waste Committee (SWC) for review and hold a joint meeting with the SWC at a future Board of Selectmen meeting.

MOTION: To forward the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Request for Quote to the Solid Waste Committee for review.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO
SECOND: E. BEATTIE
UNANIMOUS

DRAFT

**JOINT MEETING WITH LAS AND WHS BOARDS TO HEAR INFORMATION RE: CIP
PROJECTS 2020-2025**

Chairman Smith recommends holding a work session with the LAS and WHS Boards in March or April of 2020. Mark Lane, Vice Chairman of the Hampton Falls School Board, was present and confirmed that he is generally fine with this time frame.

OTHER SELECTMEN'S OLD BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

1. Monthly Financial Reports of Bookkeeper, Treasurer, Tax Collector
2. 2020 State Education Tax Warrant \$977,756
3. Important Notice – Price Changes (Comcast)

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

NEW BUSINESS

2020 DEFAULT BUDGET

MOTION: To approve the 2020 Default Budget, in the amount of \$2,748,853, as presented.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

2019 EQUALIZATION

Board Members review the 2019 Equalization Preliminary Ratio Study. Chairman Smith and E. Beattie express concern about the weighted mean ratio of 89.1% in the first year of the assessment having been completed, as well as the potential for inaccurate local funding as a result.

MOTION: To sign the 2019 Equalization Preliminary Ratio Study.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT REFUND #687

MOTION: To approve Abatement Refund #687 in the amount of \$15 as recommended by the Tax Collector.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

DRAFT

LIEN AND DEEDING SEARCH ANNUAL AGREEMENT

The Town Administrator gives background information on Sanders Searches, LLC. The annual cost of contracting with this company is \$285, with roughly 19 searches having taken place in the past year.

MOTION: To contract with Sanders Searches, LLC for one year.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

FORM A-5 LAND USE CHANGE TAX BILL (MAP 5, LOTS 14-01 AND 14-02)

Chairman Smith acknowledges receipt of the letter from the Town Assessor recommending a land use change tax for two parcels at \$25K each.

MOTION: To approve and sign the current use tax bill for Map 5, Lots 14-01 and 14-02 as recommended by the Town Assessor.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

TOWN TREASURER RECOMMENDATION – INTEREST RATES

Board Members reviewed interest rates shared by the Town Treasurer, with the recommendation of staying with Citizens Bank whom offers the highest interest rate of 1.62%.

MOTION: To remain with Citizens Bank for banking needs.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

ACCEPTANCE OF STATE MUNICIPAL AID (OCTOBER 2019 AND OCTOBER 2020)

Chairman Smith gives background information on the roughly \$20M being distributed to New Hampshire municipalities by the State Treasurer. The Town Administrator confirms that these funds will be deposited to the Undesignated Fund Balance and used to offset property taxes. The Town of Hampton Falls will be receiving a total \$29,488 for the two years.

MOTION: To accept the municipal aid for Hampton Falls in the amount of \$29,488.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

OTHER SELECTMENT'S NEW BUSINESS

None was discussed at this time.

DRAFT

SELECTMEN REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

PLANNING BOARD, LINCOLN AKERMAN SCHOOL, TRICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

E. Beattie reports that the Planning Board is reviewing potential land use changes on Route 1. No updates on the School or Tricentennial Committee to report.

HERITAGE COMMISSION, CONSERVATION COMMISSION

L. Gargiulo reports that there will be a fundraising event for the land purchase the Conservation Commission has been working on. In addition, Conservation Commission wine glasses have been made and will be available for purchase.

PARKS & RECREATION COMM., LIBRARY TRUSTEES, TOWN IMPROVEMENT COMM.

Chairman Smith reports of a new program at the Library for Kindergarten-aged readers. The Trustees have recently reviewed their investment policies, with no changes to report. They are currently working on the development of a bed bug policy due to a recent incident that took place at the Lane Memorial Library in Hampton.

The Town Improvement Committee recently received a \$250 grant for landscaping from the Rye Garden Club. Chairman Smith also reports that the floating dock will be on the March 2020 Town Warrant. The Parks and Recreation Committee will be moving forward with the Bandstand improvements. The Christmas Tree lighting will take place on December 8th and the skating rink will soon be installed.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: November 20, 2019

Chairman Smith requests that the approval of 11/20/19 meeting minutes be postponed until the December 17th Board of Selectmen meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Beverly Mutrie (Brown Rd.) inquires about the plans to address the slate roofing issues at the Museum/Historical Society. She confirms that there is damage currently being caused by the leakage in the roof.

After discussion, the Town Administrator requests the report on the issue so as to begin to collect estimates for the work.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:29PM.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS