

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

**JUNE 2, 2021- 6:00 PM
TOWN HALL**

FINAL

PRESENT: L. Gargiulo, Chairman; M. R. Lane, Vice Chairman; E. B. Beattie, Selectman;
L. A. Ruest, Town Administrator; R. Webb, Town Secretary

OLD BUSINESS

FINANCIAL REPORTS – GENERAL FUND BALANCE \$190,810

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

Bookkeeper	Payroll Warrant #542	69,856.51
	Accounts Payable Warrant #770	57,789.25

MOTION: To approve the warrants as presented above.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

TOWN HALL RE-OPENING PLAN – COVID 4/19/2021

L. Ruest presented results of a survey completed of surrounding communities' municipal buildings and their requirements regarding masks. The mask mandate in most instances has been lifted for local government buildings, as most towns have returned to "normal". L. Ruest prepared a draft memo for the Board's consideration to summarize the recommendation of the Board to reflect the new mandates from the CDC and the State. The Board agreed that the approach was fair and in keeping with the CDC and State mandates, that lifts the mask mandate for vaccinated people and **recommends** the continued use of masks for those unvaccinated.

MOTION: To circulate the information in the memo prepared by L. Ruest to Hampton Falls Employees, regarding the CDC mask mandate being lifted for vaccinated people, and recommending the continued use of masks for those unvaccinated.

MOTION: M. LANE

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

PAINTING OF COLUMNS AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

The Selectmen received a quote for the painting of the exterior columns at the Historical Society Museum in the amount of \$ 400 from Gayle Gauthier.

MOTION: To authorize the painting of the exterior columns at the Historical Society Museum in the amount of \$ 400 by Gayle Gauthier.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: M. LANE

UNANIMOUS

2021 HIGHWAY PROJECTS

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Road Agent R. Hilliard presented information regarding the Curtis Road culvert, that the Town Engineer, Brad Jones is getting permission from the State to get the proper size culvert. R. Hilliard reminded the Board that the manufacturing of the culvert takes thirty (30) days from the state approval of the specifications. The King Street culvert materials have arrived and will be assembled on-site. L. Ruest presented information regarding the contracts for the two culvert projects (namely: Curtis Road and King Street). Under advice from Town Counsel, the decision was made to separate the two projects into two contracts. The King Street culvert contract can be signed tonight and the work can commence tomorrow.

There was discussion and comparison of the 2020/2021 Capital Reserve Funds with the 2021 Road and Culvert Work as prepared in a spreadsheet by L. Ruest. The Board and R. Hillard discussed the projects listed in the spreadsheet generally as: culverts, drainage, paving, crack sealing, and shoulder work. R. Hilliard stated that drainage work is a first priority before paving work. E. Beattie remarked that investing in, and prioritizing crack sealing work and shoulder work now, prevents more expensive road maintenance work in the future, so he recommended those two types of projects to have priority over the paving projects.

MOTION: To authorize the Road Agent to move forward with the Crack Sealing and Shoulder work projects, as listed on the 2021 Road and Culvert Work spreadsheet dated 03/31/2021, presented this evening.

MOTION: M. LANE

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

R. Hilliard inquired about authorization to clean out catch basins, and L. Gargiulo asked about the budget for that work. R. Hilliard stated that there are 13 catch basins needing to be pumped, and that he wanted to assist the contractor to identify those catch basins. L. Ruest inquired about the status of "Stop Bars", and R. Hilliard responded the vendor has been scheduled.

OTHER SELECTMEN'S OLD BUSINESS

There was no other Selectmen's Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1) Larry Smith, Old Stage Road, inquired what were the costs of the two culverts discussed earlier? King Street is \$101,770 without the culvert, plus \$49,000 for the culvert, plus \$27,500 for shoulders, guardrail, and paving; Total = \$178,270
Curtis Road is \$138,900 including the culvert, plus 20,000 for shoulders, guardrail, and paving; Total = \$158,900
- 2) Beverly Mutrie, Brown Road, inquired with R. Hilliard about drainage at the Library building, that collects runoff under a cement catch basin lid, and pipes it under the parking lot and runs the drainage out to the field in back. She stated that the pipe is twenty (20) years old, and was inquiring if there is any maintenance required to inspect it for blockage. R. Hilliard said that he would take a look at it, as time allows.

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CONSENT AGENDA

1) Monthly Financial Reports of Bookkeeper, Treasurer, Tax Collector

L. Ruest confirmed with the Selectmen they are receiving an email regarding the monthly reports.

2) Clay Brook Forest Conservation Easement

L. Ruest called the Board's attention to the Press Release from May 27, 2021 titled: "James and Katherine Kibler Act Quickly to Conserve 30 Acres in Hampton Falls". L. Gargiulo mentioned that there is an event planned on Saturday at 4:00 PM, to celebrate the acquisition, however he will not be able to attend, and neither will M. Lane, so E. Beattie said that he will try to attend.

The Board reviewed and acknowledged the items in the consent agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

PROPERTY TAX REFUND #733 (overpayment of Taxes) in the amount of \$38.29

MOTION: To approve the Property Tax Refund # 733 as presented.

MOTION: M. LANE

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

PLANTING OF ELM TREES

Larry Smith, Old Stage Road, presented a summary of the 300th Anniversary Elm Tree project, and a proposed planting plan. He also presented an itemization of trees purchased and donated. L. Smith recommended that Thank You letters be sent for their donated trees to the Town, to both Avesta Housing (17 trees) and also to David French (3 trees). The result is that nine (9) trees are recommended for planting at Governor Weare Park, with three (3) additional trees to be planted along Town Hall along Route 88, and to remove a crabapple tree.

MOTION: To authorize the Town Improvement Committee to move forward with the Elm Tree planting plan as presented, at Governor Weare Park to plant nine (9) trees.

MOTION: M. LANE

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

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MOTION: To authorize the Town Improvement Committee to move forward with the Elm Tree planting plan as presented, at Town Hall to plant three (3) trees, and to remove a crabapple tree.

MOTION: M. LANE

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

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L. Smith concluded his presentation regarding the Elm Tree planting plans by stating that he wants to contact Christine Dumont, of Exeter Road, to share with her the planting plans, as an abutter to Governor Weare Park.

Lastly, as an informational comment, L. Smith reported that the Friends of the Library installed a “Little Free Library” at Governor Weare Park parking lot, and he encouraged the Board members to go see it.

RELEASE OF IMPACT FEES THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021 TO SAU 21

MOTION: To approve the release of Impact Fees for the purpose of the Winnacunnet School Bond (2004), regarding two lots on Brown Road:

- 1) Map 5, Lot 14-1 in the amount of \$9,110.94, and**
- 2) Map 5, Lot 14-2 in the amount of \$10,000.74**

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: M. LANE

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L. Gargiulo stated that the Town should investigate ways to continue to collect impact fees, once the current bond payment for Winnacunnet School sunsets in June 2024. L. Ruest explained that in the past the Town hired an Actuarial (Bruce Mayberry of Yarmouth ME, who is an expert on Impact Fees), to determine where the impact fees would qualify. There was discussion regarding the potential alternate applications of impact fees. There needs to be a specific purpose in order to qualify for impact fees. L. Gargiulo suggested L. Ruest obtain some guidance from the NH Municipal Association, and E. Beattie requested some research on what types of impact fees other towns are using to inform whether Hampton Falls should consider the same or different types of impact fees. L. Ruest said that she would share with the Board the Actuarial’s report to provide some background and context.

OTHER SELECTMEN’S NEW BUSINESS

L. Gargiulo reported that he has read some complaints on social media regarding the mowing at the cemeteries. E. Beattie mentioned that the Cemetery Trustees are unhappy with the situation, as the cemeteries should be in pristine condition for Memorial Day. L. Ruest said that she will discuss the issue with the Cemetery Trustee Chairman.

NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was heard at this time.

SELECTMEN REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

PLANNING BOARD, LIBRARY TRUSTEES, TRICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE:

E. Beattie stated that he had not attended the most recent Library meeting, but that there were no issues to report.

The Tricentennial Committee has met recently and are making great progress with a good working group of people. They are moving forward with plans for: July 31, 2022 Sunday through August 6th, Saturday. Events will be planned for three types of events such as educational, entertainment, and for all

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ages. There is interest in a Road Race, possibly a Parade, and an Olde Time Baseball game. He also mentioned the desire to get the Clydesdale horses, and is asking if anyone has a connection via Budweiser.

In terms of the Planning Board, the applicant for 41 Lafayette Road is still before the Planning Board pending completion of addressing outstanding concerns and questions of the Board. The applicant intends to bring their updated site plan to the next Planning Board meeting June 22, 2021.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION, LINCOLN AKERMAN SCHOOL BOARD:

M. Lane was not in attendance at the most recent Parks and Recreation Commission; however, he reported that the first of four Castleberry Fairs was successful, and they intend to implement three (3) additional fairs, as they are a money-maker for the Commission. Details on the Summer Camp are still being negotiated, as the Commission is trying to get approvals to use the school building. And the Concerts on the Common are scheduled to start fairly soon, with a great line-up of concerts.

M. Lane missed the Route 1 Corridor Public Hearing, but reported that approximately 10-15 people attended, and that it was largely the same information presented at their first committee meeting. He stated that the Public Hearing scheduled for July 15th will be the more important one to attend, and the Committee is expecting a larger turn-out for that, so the consultant has requested to utilize the School for July 15th. L. Gargiulo spoke with Shawn Hanson about the possibility of televising the meeting, as many people may be away on summer vacation mid-July. L. Ruest informed the Board that there is an opportunity for the Public to participate in giving the consultants information about their opinions via an online survey.

TAKE THE ONLINE SURVEY REGARDING ROUTE ONE CORRIDOR STUDY

Go to www.HamptonFalls.org, go to Department drop-down menu choice HIGHWAY/ROAD AGENT. Find center area description of ROCAC Route One Corridor Advisory Committee, and read to blue LINK button to NH DOT project webpage. Click LINK. On NH DOT project webpage see Survey in center of page, Click TAKE SURVEY. Identifying issues on US 1 Hampton Falls. Click on blue PARTICIPATE button, located in bottom right of screen. There are only a couple of questions to the survey, but you may record your opinions with or without your name, as well as see others' comments. DEADLINE for participation is June 30, 2021.

M. Lane added to his report that the School Board continues to interview new school staff, that Graduation is scheduled to happen June 10th outside in the new nature area, and that the goal is to get "back to normal" by September, in terms of mask mandates.

HERITAGE COMMISSION, CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

L. Gargiulo reported that the Heritage Commission meeting was moved to next week, that photos are still being taken of historic properties, and that the book is being put together regarding historical homes in the community.

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The Conservation Commission will be having a speaker on the topic of “acquisitions of conservation land”. There is an event scheduled for Saturday regarding the donation of 30 acres for the Clay Brook Forest conservation easement. There was a survey conducted regarding a conservation easement enforcement issue in the vicinity of Marsh Lane. And a Summer Intern was hired to work with the Conservation Commission, who will be working two-days a week.

OTHER SELECTMEN’S NEW BUSINESS:

No other Selectmen’s Business was brought forward at the time.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS’ MINUTES: May 19, 2021 and May 25, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the May 19, 2021 and May 25, 2021 meetings as written.

MOTION: M. LANE

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

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PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was heard at this time.

Motion to enter Nonpublic Session made by **E. BEATTIE** seconded by **M. LANE**

Members Present: Louis Gargiulo, Chairman
Mark Lane, Vice Chairman
Edward Beattie, Selectman

Specific Statutory Reason cited as foundation for the nonpublic session:

- X RSA 91-A:3, II(d) *Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are averse to those of the general community.*
- X RSA 91-A:3, II(c) *Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, **other than a member of this board**, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.*
- X RSA 91-A:3, II(e) *Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against this board or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership therein, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled*

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Roll Call vote to enter nonpublic session:	Louis Gargiulo, Chairman	Y
	Mark Lane, Vice Chairman	Y
	Edward Beattie, Selectman	Y

Entered nonpublic session at 7:10 p.m.

Motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session by E. BEATTIE seconded by M. LANE.

Motion: PASSED

Public session reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: M. LANE

UNANIMOUS

NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021, 6:00 P.M., TOWN HALL