

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

**JULY 13, 2022 – 6:00 PM
TOWN HALL**

FINAL

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

GUESTS: R. Hilliard, Road Agent; Pam Fitzgerald, American Legion Post 35; Bob Woodes, Former Fire Chief; L. Stan, Chair Recreation Commission; K. Sabatini, Treasurer Recreation Commission; L. Smith, Recreation Commission; J. Ziolkowski, ELM; S. Porcelli, Tricentennial.

Chairman M. Lane called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:00 PM.

Selectman Gargiulo requested to make some comments regarding the erroneous, recently sounded **Seabrook Alarm**. L. Gargiulo said that he was deeply concerned with what happened yesterday with the Seabrook alarm fiasco. He said that he received a number of calls from people who were equally concerned that the whole messaging was disjointed, people heard the loudspeakers go off, some people heard sirens, a lot of people didn't hear sirens. The reality is that thank goodness nothing bad happened, but their response was, in his opinion, less than acceptable. He continued that he felt that the Selectmen, as a Board, should go on record that they want some explanation for what happened. He said that he tried to reach out to Lyndsey Robinson at the Seabrook Station, and he received no return call. He said that it could have been a serious nuclear issue, they cleared the beaches, some people heard the alarms and some did not. He said that the only way he found out about it was through emails he received from the Town Administrator and the Fire Department. K. Anderson added that from what she understood, the only sirens that were activated were those located by the beach, it was not all of the sirens. L. Gargiulo countered that maybe all of the sirens should have been activated, since if you activate some, then you create hysteria at the beach but you don't tell people inland who are only one-mile away that something is happening, and then people start calling the dispatch centers and emergency services, and the response is disjointed and was not done appropriately. L. Gargiulo further asked how long did it take for the Seabrook Station to put out a clearing message? K. Anderson reported that the "Code Red" announcement, that the event happened, came out an hour after she was officially notified. L. Gargiulo said that he received messages around 1:00 PM that it was cleared, when the event started around 11:00 AM. He concluded saying that he thought the Selectmen should go on record, and write a letter to Seabrook Station saying that they are not happy, and would like to hear some explanations of what has been done. The other concern is that the siren system and the speakers are at least twenty-five years old, and nothing has been done to upgrade them. He said that he is in favor of Seabrook Station, but just thinks that their response to the erroneous alarm was poor.

M. Lane asked both L. Gargiulo and E. Beattie if they each received a text message regarding the emergency, at 11:07 AM, and they, all three Selectmen, confirmed that they did receive text messages, that said that: "*Seabrook sirens at the beach have been activated. We are tracking it down. THIS MAY BE A MISTAKE, I will advise as soon as I know.*" Then M. Lane subsequently received a text message within a half-hour saying that it was a mistake. L. Gargiulo responded saying that "the people" did not receive the message stating that it was a mistake.

E. Beattie said that this brings to light the Alarm system and how and when it was established. And it also brings to light how many more homes there are and how many more roads there are, and how much more traffic there is, since when the system was installed. And these were the concerns of people initially, for an event, in the middle of summer. E. Beattie said that he was glad that it was a mistake, but

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it points out things that should be followed-up, to communicate more properly. He agreed with L. Gargiulo that a letter should be sent to Seabrook Station. He continued that what he first heard was that it was a faulty alarm problem. He said that he is concerned because of the 830 homes in Hampton Falls, and their need to exit if it was a real emergency. L. Gargiulo said that there may have only been half the number of homes when the sirens and the speakers were originally installed. He said that the town officials go through the emergency drills annually but no one looks at the changes that have taken place.

Former Fire Chief Bob Woodes stated that he knows that the emergency siren near the fire station in Hampton Falls predates 1992 when the Fire Station was built thirty-years ago.

M. Lane said that a letter needs to be drafted to the Seabrook Station, to see if they would attend the next meeting and allow the Selectmen to ask some questions, and to provide some explanations on how to fix some of the obvious problems that occurred yesterday.

Larry Smith made a comment that although the emergency training for a response to an event at the Seabrook Station may go for longer than an hour in duration, that the actual response may be longer.

OLD BUSINESS

FINANCIAL REPORTS: General Fund Balance: \$3,949,028.10 (07/05/2022)

K. Anderson reported the General Fund Balance and confirmed with the Tax Collector that the Town has collected 95% of the real estate taxes due.

EXECUTIVE: Payroll Warrant, Accounts Payable, and Escrow Accounts: K. Anderson introduced the financial warrants needing approval from the Selectmen. Payroll Warrant # 578 dated July 6, 2022, in the amount of \$34,837.71. Accounts Payable Warrant #815 dated July 6, 2022, in the amount of \$382,649.77 that contains \$311,000 that were the warrant articles voted earlier in the year that are now being transferred into the Capital Reserve Accounts. The Escrow Accounts Payable Warrant #10 dated July 6, 2022, in the amount of \$2,038.18 is for an Escrow Account withdrawal from the Frying Pan Lane Fund for Tricentennial Expenses.

MOTION: To approve Payroll Warrant # 578 dated July 6, 2022, in the amount of \$34,837.71; to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #815 dated July 6, 2022, in the amount of \$382,649.77; and to approve Escrow Accounts Payable Warrant #10 dated July 6, 2022, in the amount of \$2,038.18.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

ROAD AGENT: MONTHLY REPORT/CORE SERVICES: R. Hilliard presented a proposal for **Crack Sealing** from Todd Connors of Indus located in Braintree, MA. R. Hilliard said that he knew the funds were previously set aside for this project, and he provided a list of roads that were highlighted in yellow, which totaled \$22,937. Additionally, roadside (Police) detail work would be completed on the busier streets for a price of \$2,063, for a total of the two projects of \$25,000. R. Hilliard provided a copy of the first contract with Indus, dated 06/30/2022, in the amount of \$38,755, on which he wrote "VOID" because Indus will be providing an updated contract in the amount of \$25,000. K. Anderson clarified that the Board of Selectmen had previously approved the Crack Sealing work up to an amount of \$25,000, and now this was the detail previously requested of the specific streets.

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R. Hilliard asked for clarification from the Selectmen for road painting specifications, that there will be no more Center Lines painted, and no more Fog Lines painted. L. Gargiulo said that there was a misunderstanding regarding Fog Lines approximately eight (8) years ago, and he did not want that to reoccur. He continued that he did not think it was appropriate to have double yellow, center lines nor fog lines painted on roads in residential subdivisions or neighborhoods. The only location that R. Hilliard said he recommended the painted double yellow center line was at the start of Drinkwater Road along Town Hall, past the Public Safety Building, to the Library. He further inquired about Brown Road, and E. Beattie said that he was in favor of letting the painted fog lines fade away to a country road, as long as there was no safety issue. L. Gargiulo suggested that R. Hilliard ask the Police Department for their input in terms of safety and line painting on Brown Road. L. Gargiulo said that he does not want the road painting to change the character of the town, except where safety is the priority. M. Lane added that it was his opinion that the painted double yellow lines may give the impression that it is a faster road, and not a country road.

Blake's Lane update: R. Hilliard said that he has been preparing the road for pavement and working on the drainage swales. He said that there is not a lot of traffic on Blake's Lane, so he was looking at reclaiming the roadway, and that estimate was \$60,000. R. Hilliard's recommendation was to shim the road and put on a two-inch (2") topcoat, similar to Surrey Lane, then he could incorporate the drainage at the bottom of Drinkwater Road at the intersection with Blake's Lane where the drainage needs correction. In addition, there is 1,500 feet of Nason Road from Curtis to Route 88 that could be paved for an additional cost of approximately \$15,700 in addition to the \$60,000. L. Gargiulo asked how that proposal fits in with the budget, and K. Anderson responded that it should be OK because the budget included \$70,000 for the Drinkwater Road Culvert, and with the grant coming in for the culvert that is only going to cost the Town approximately \$15,000 so there should be \$55,000 available. She continued that there is still money in the Capital Reserve account from last year, so the Town has a decent cushion in the Capital Reserve account to afford this proposal and be ready to afford any emergency repair. E. Beattie agreed that the section of Nason Road under discussion is bad, and R. Hilliard said that he receives complaints about it. M. Lane agreed with the proposal to shim and topcoat Blake's Lane. M. Lane inquired if R. Hilliard had specific project costs for the proposals discussed, and K. Anderson clarified that he only has the one bid. R. Hilliard said that he would put the projects out for pricing and have those numbers available for the next Selectmen's meeting.

Core Services: K. Anderson presented the Road Agent's Core Services bill of \$9,770.83 for the month of June 2022.

MOTION: To approve payment of the Road Agent's Core Services bill in the amount of \$9,770.83 for the month of June 2022.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

RECREATION: Wreaths Across America: Pam Fitzgerald, of 6 Toppan Lane, and Bob Woodes, of 8 Merrill, together spoke in response to an invitation by the American Legion Post 35 to participate in the *Wreaths Across America* program, to invite the Town of Hampton Falls to join with the towns of Hampton, North Hampton, and Hampton Beach. Bob Wood installs all of the flags in town, and he

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identified two-hundred-and-nine (209) veterans buried in seven (7) cemeteries in Hampton Falls. They stated that no one needs to snowplow the roads in the cemeteries for the program to be implemented, that people would walk in to the cemeteries to place wreaths, and to teach, honor and remember those who served. Typically, wreaths would be placed one week before Thanksgiving, and then removed during one week in January. They emphasized that the Wreaths Across America has nothing to do with religion, and nothing to do with Christmas. The per wreath cost is \$15, and would be paid with no local tax dollars, and would be all funded with private donations. 209 veterans times \$15/wreath totals \$3,135 project cost.

M. Lane asked if there would be an organized committee to run this program or is it going through the Recreation Commission. P. Fitzgerald responded that after the Selectmen approve the program that yes, there would be a person, or a business would run it, that there would be volunteers assembled to implement it. M. Lane said that he has been a proponent of the program, to recognize and honor the Town's veterans is something the Town should always do as often as possible.

M. Lane offered some context and explained some of the confusion about the program the first time it was proposed to the Board of Selectmen saying that there were unanswered questions, and there was no momentum to address the unanswered questions. E. Beattie highlighted the fact that the Cemetery Trustees are elected officials who preside over the cemeteries in Town, and the Board of Selectmen do not have any authority over the Cemeteries nor the Cemetery Trustees. He suggested that the Recreation Commission present their proposal to the Cemetery Trustees directly for a decision.

L. Gargiulo said that he was in support of the proposed program, and that he would be willing to make a substantial financial contribution to get the program started. Additionally, he stated that the Board of Selectmen should write a letter of support to the Cemetery Trustees, and M. Lane agreed. E. Beattie supports veterans but does not want to "cross a line".

E. Beattie said that there has been controversy surrounding the Wreaths Across America group and the 501-C-3 organization with which they are affiliated because when you go online there is the one group that makes the wreaths, and then the wife of that group is the CEO of the 501-C-3, and that has caused a charitable issue among this group. He said that when he went online, he found a number of towns that are doing the **Wreaths Across New Hampshire** program, and they specifically stated on their websites "*not affiliated with Wreaths Across America*".

M. Lane recalled the letter written by the Cemetery Trustees in response to this request initially, several months ago, and said that the Trustees posed several, legitimate questions, which, in his opinion, were answerable questions; and, it was his understanding that no one ever addressed the questions nor followed-up, and that is why/how the proposal fell apart the first time. M. Lane suggested that P. Fitzgerald, or her committee, answer those questions and respond to the letter showing that it is not a cumbersome situation, it is Volunteer, and there are solutions to their concerns. Specifically, one of the issues is that there can be an "Opt Out" option by family members or heirs, if someone does not want to participate, and that option can be posted by Public Notice prior to the event.

L. Gargiulo suggested a letter from the Selectmen to the Cemetery Trustees saying that the Selectmen met with representatives from the town who support Wreaths Across America, and the Board of

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Selectmen recognize that it would be a nice addition to honoring the veterans of Hampton Falls, and the Selectmen urge the Cemetery Trustees to allow this program to take place. M. Lane agreed with L. Gargiulo's proposal of a letter from the Selectmen to the Cemetery Trustees, and the content; but he said that he also thought that the specific questions posed by the Trustees needed to be responded to in a letter from P. Fitzgerald even though she had answered most of them during the Selectmen's meeting tonight. He said that he thought that the Cemetery Trustees may be satisfied with the responses given tonight, but that she should put those responses in a letter back to the Trustees. E. Beattie offered that if she is facing a deadline (August 1st), that perhaps she should call the Cemetery Trustees individually, to discuss the issues, as he doubted the Trustees were planning to meet again prior to August 1st.

P. Fitzgerald said that they are considering using the Recreation Commission's Revolving Fund one time this year, to get the program started, with the idea that private donations collected this year would fund subsequent years, and L. Gargiulo said that he thought it should be done privately.

S. Porcelli, 7 Taylor River Road spoke in support of the proposed program to honor Hampton Falls' veterans, and said that she is disappointed that the proposal got stuck in bureaucratic issues, so anything that the Selectmen can do to speed this along will be greatly appreciated, because she thinks it is a wonderful program.

L. Savoy, 8 Drinkwater Road, spoke in support of the proposed program, and said that she is willing to not only Volunteer on the Committee, but will also make a financial contribution.

A. Dittami, 5 Fieldstone Lane, told the story of his return from service and how he was disrespected in a restaurant for wearing his uniform, and how many veterans did not receive accolades upon their return home, but that every veteran deserves recognition for their service. Some veterans found ways to get support through the Veteran's Administration (VA) or through other institutions. What the Selectmen can do is give support to the veterans, although the Selectmen cannot control what the Cemetery Trustees do, nor do the Selectmen have control of the cemetery grounds. That control is only as good as the support the Trustees receive from the Selectmen, such as how fast monies get paid out, whether or not the Police department or the Fire department will make a response to that Cemetery call. For example, A. Dittami offered a hypothetical scenario that if the Cemetery Trustees do not change their opposing decision, and someone were to show up at a cemetery with fifteen (15) wreaths and place those on the gravestones, then the Trustees could call the Police department to report someone trespassing. A. Dittami continued that how long the Police take to respond to the call, to get to the cemetery, and whether they decide to charge or not is something that can be clearly influenced by the Selectmen; just as the decision to not put wreaths at the cemeteries is influenced by the Cemetery Trustees. A. Dittami strongly suggested that the Selectmen send their letter asking the Cemetery Trustees reverse their decision, and allow the wreaths to be put on the tombstones, and suggest that if that does not happen, then perhaps the support they will get from the Selectmen will be on the same level as their support of the veterans. He said that the Selectmen do not have to take any official action, but they don't have to take any action, nor do the Police. He said that the Selectmen can say that the support the Selectmen will give the Cemetery Trustees will be commensurate with the amount of support that the Cemetery Trustees give to the veterans, and that that will send a clear message that perhaps they should rethink their position on the proposed program.

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Larry Smith, of Old Stage Road, said that he served in the Navy for 7 years and got out in 1970, and removed the patches from his jacket so he would not be recognized as a veteran, and it was not until approximately fifteen (15) years ago that someone thanked him for his service.

Jody Chase, of Crank Road, said that she supports the program, and that she had emailed the Cemetery Trustees six weeks ago, and she did not receive a response, so that was frustrating.

Jon Ringel, a Planning Board member, said that he is a proponent of the proposed program because it puts an emphasis on American history. He has spent time in the Service in Arlington Cemetery and has a special appreciation for veterans.

K. Anderson said that she would draft a letter to the Cemetery Trustees for electronic signatures by the Selectmen. And P. Fitzgerald said that she would call Tracy Beattie of the Cemetery Trustees.

RECREATION: Discussion of Roles and Responsibilities of Recreation Commission: M. Lane introduced the subject saying that when the Town was having its annual Audit in the Spring 2022, it came to the attention of the Selectmen that the Selectmen should pay more attention to the different boards, commissions, and organizations because there were some discrepancies with financial practices. The Board of Selectmen are in the process of meeting with each committee to better understand their roles and to improve communication between the Board of Selectmen and the Committee. The Recreation Commission is the first commission to come to the Selectmen to discuss how to resolve some of those problems, confusion, and to discuss how to make the Recreation programs what they should be. M. Lane continued that one of the things that highlighted the concern for him, was understanding how monies flowed into and out of the Recreation Commission. He said that he was asking these questions when he was a member and also Chairman of the Recreation Commission, and in discussions with the former Town Administrator. Specifically, how some monies come in and go toward offsetting the budget, and how other monies come in and go to the Revolving Fund. M. Lane said that there are some inconsistencies with how the Town manages those monies.

Lyn Stan, Chair of the Recreation Commission distributed to the Selectmen a list of programs with which the Recreation Commission has been involved and/or initiated over the years. L. Stan said that there are Articles that state that the Revolving Fund money is separate from the General Fund. A few years ago, there was interest in building a Boat Ramp at the Depot, and the Recreation Commission earmarked \$17,000 for that project from the Revolving Fund (they paid for survey work, etc); however, the proposed project went to Town Meeting and was defeated, so the money was not spent.

Lyn Stan said that she spoke with a full-time Recreation Director in Stratham and asked him how they would fund the refurbishment or construction of a large sign, and he responded that he would not use the Revolving Fund for that type of project, that it would come from the capital improvements budget.

M. Lane said that he was interested in defining what monies raised by activities that the Recreation Commission administers gets deposited in the Revolving Fund, versus what monies raised by activities offsets the cost associated with running those programs. He provided the following examples to make his point regarding inconsistencies and the need to clarify procedures of financial management regarding the Recreation Commission. 1) Hampton Attack program uses the Governor Weare field, and the fees

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they pay are deposited into the General Fund to offset the costs of maintaining the fields; 2) Summer Camp program fees are deposited into the Revolving Fund, and the expenses of the Recreation Commission are offset; 3) Castleberry Fair fees are paid to the Town to use the Town Common, and the fees are deposited into the Revolving Fund, whereas the fees should be paid to offset the cost of maintenance of the Town Common.

When M. Lane started on the Recreation Commission, the Revolving Fund was approximately \$15,000. L. Stan said that the Recreation Commission paid Jones and Beach Engineers \$2,500 for design work for the proposed boat ramp. M. Lane said that his opinion was that the issue of how to pay for the sign at GW Park is not from the Revolving Fund, but rather, either from the budget, or a warrant article. He said that the goal is to define how the monies flow.

L. Stan said that there is a problem of drainage at GW Field, and the Recreation Commission is using Revolving Fund monies to permanently correct the problem. K. Sabatini and B. Forgione raised the subject of fee structures to identify how monies go into each program and provided some context around the growth of the Revolving Fund balance. M. Lane reiterated the need to be consistent with how money funds the Revolving Fund. He said that Castleberry Fair is the same as Hampton Attack, in that each is an "outside" organization that pays fees to use the facilities (GW Park and the Town Common) in Hampton Falls, and those fees should offset the costs to maintain the facilities those organizations use.

K. Anderson said that the question posed by the Auditors was: why one outside agency's fee (Hampton Attack) was deposited into the General Fund, and another outside agency's fee (Castleberry Fair) was deposited into the Revolving Fund? L. Gargiulo said that it would be beneficial for everyone to read the Warrant article that established the Recreation Commission, and what their roles and responsibilities are, because he thinks that things have morphed over time. He said that his understanding was that it was established to provide recreation activities in the town. He continued with the question how did the Town Common become a recreation property, or the same question regarding the Depot suddenly becoming a recreation property, and he did not believe that it was the intent.

L. Smith said that monies from the Castleberry Fairs should go into an account to maintain the fields and the Town Common. M. Lane offered that when he was Chair of the Recreation Commission there were eight (8) or nine (9) separate accounts, such as one for the Bandstand, one for the Town Common, and one for GW Field; and the separate funds were not being used because they were designated for specific purposes. So the Recreation Commission proposed to consolidate all of the separate accounts into one Revolving Fund account by putting the question on the Warrant and it passed. The problem that M. Lane has with the Revolving Fund now is the inconsistency with what goes into the Revolving Fund and what goes into the General Fund, and the Auditors are asking the same question.

E. Beattie said that the people voted for a specific designation for the Recreation Commission that was a warrant article that stipulated there were two or three different ways that you could propose a Recreation Commission, and that this one was for programs and activities. He continued that it was not written for anything else, and that it has not been rescinded by a vote of the people since it was approved. E. Beattie said that he happened to be in Town Hall the day the Auditors were here, and they asked him many questions (mentioned previously) and that, as most Auditors do, they wanted to see the "money trail" showing that money came in, money was budgeted for, money was spent, money was left over at the

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end of the year, and the remainder monies to work with. He said that the Auditors' inquiry was not specific to the Recreation Commission, it was another department, but it started this conversation of inconsistencies, and what has prompted this Board to ask these questions.

E. Beattie said that the Recreation Commission runs numerous programs (L. Stan provided a list of programs) as stipulated by the original warrant article. He continued that there are grounds and lands that people are confused about whether they are in control over. He said that the Selectmen need to figure out what they are responsible for and controlling, and what fee structure should be utilized so that it is fair to all. Whether those monies go to the General Fund and how they get distributed. That is the concern, and it is not just the Recreation Commission, it could be any other Board or Commission. E. Beattie said that he agreed with M. Lane that there are inconsistencies, and that people may be operating outside of the parameters of the warrant article granted them to do.

K. Anderson explained that the RSA establishes a choice of three types of commissions, namely: 1) a Parks Commission, 2) a Recreation Commission, or 3) a Parks and Recreation Commission, and Hampton Falls adopted a Recreation Commission by warrant article in 1992. K. Anderson said that although P. Fitzgerald described that over the years the Recreation Commission has changed, it has not officially changed to a Parks and Recreation Commission. She further stated that another warrant article should be moved forward to establish a Parks and Recreation Commission.

M. Lane said that there are lots of great programs provided by the Recreation Commission, but there is a need to identify what is going into the General Fund, and what is going into the Revolving Fund. E. Beattie said that the Auditors want a flow chart, showing where the money came from, and where it went, that does not graphically present as an octopus. He requested that this be resolved prior to the Auditor's return in January 2023.

L. Gargiulo said that he proposed to "Table" the discussion and to return to it in September to resolve it before Budget season, and that perhaps the Selectmen should schedule a work session for September/October. L. Stan said that she wants to be in compliance with the Auditors and said that she would be willing to fix whatever needs fixing and will work to figure it out. L. Smith inquired about the discrepancy between the Recreation Commission that was approved by the warrant in 1992, and the current Parks and Recreation Commission. L. Gargiulo said that he thought the Selectmen should get a legal opinion on what the Selectmen are statutorily required to do in this scenario where the Recreation Commission has morphed into activities beyond the original scope voted.

A. Dittami said that it was his opinion that when the Selectmen send the letter to the Cemetery Trustees about the Wreaths Across America program, that the Selectmen also send a letter to all of the Boards and Committees saying that the Auditors have a few problems and explain the kinds of information the Auditors are seeking before budget sessions begin. A. Dittami continued that it would be appropriate to inform the Cemetery Trustees that their behavior, both monetarily and socially is being watched.

OTHER: Other Selectmen's Old Business: There was no Other Selectmen's Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS PUBLIC COMMENT There was no Old Business Public Comment.

NEW BUSINESS

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

**JULY 13, 2022 – 6:00 PM
TOWN HALL**

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ASSESSING: Inventory of Taxable Property, PA 28: K. Anderson described that each year the town has the opportunity to send out the PA-28 to residents to collect any changes to properties, determine number and age of residents and other census-type information. The data is useful for the school to estimate the number of pre-school children in town. The last time Hampton Falls sent this out was 2018, which correlated with the last revaluation. K. Anderson recommends that the town send out the PA28 in 2023 to once again correlate with the revaluation and collect the data. She estimates it will take 6-7 labor hours to complete, as well as postage costs of \$600. A sample of the form was provided to the Selectmen. M. Lane asked if there was a penalty for non-compliance, and K. Anderson responded that she thought the fine was \$35. There was some discussion among the Selectmen, and there was a consensus that they did not see the benefit to completing the PA-28 form.

MOTION: To notify the Department of Revenue that the town will not be using the PA-28 form in 2023.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

EXECUTIVE: Acceptance of Retirement: Barbara Tosiano, Library Director, submitted her letter of retirement. Her last day of work will be August 31, 2022.

MOTION: To accept the retirement of Barbara Tosiano with an effective date of August 31, 2022, and thank her for her years of service to Hampton Falls.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

K. Anderson said that she was invited to participate in the recruitment and selection of a new Library Director, and, to date, the Library Trustees have an excellent response of applicants.

EXECUTIVE: Zoning Board of Adjustment Alternates: The Zoning Board of Adjustment has requested additional Alternate members to be available to cover members who are unable to attend a meeting. The request for Alternates was sent out on the list-serve and the following three (3) residents have volunteered to be Alternates: Jude Augusta, 29 Old Stage Road; Louise Vance, 211 Exeter Road; and Jim Manna, 7 Fieldstone Circle. In accordance with RSA 673:6, the Board of Selectmen appoint the Alternates.

MOTION: To appoint Jude Augusta, Louise Vance and Jim Manna as Zoning Board of Adjustment Alternates for three-year terms – to March 31, 2025.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE: Cardboard Baling, Recycling, Trash Collection: L. Gargiulo said that J. Ziolkowski had spoke to him about the current **cardboard baling machine** and how it is taking more manpower and labor than it needs to. He said that J. Ziolkowski is willing to put in a high-capacity cardboard baler at his expense. The Town would sell back the current baler for a price of \$7,500 and the Town would increase J. Ziolkowski's labor fee by \$300/month. The town would recapture that money through the sale of the baler, and the town would no longer have the responsibility or maintenance of the equipment. L. Gargiulo described the proposal as a "win win" for both. J.

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Ziolkowski can get a more efficient machine, and the town can process more and receive the revenue from more cardboard monthly. K. Anderson stated that the quantity of cardboard being recycled and sold has increased each month. She described that the current container at the brush dump gets filled within a few days, and that she frequently receives emails from residents informing her that the cardboard collection container is full and needs to be emptied, so she calls J. Ziolkowski, he processes it and then the container is full again in two days. L. Gargiulo asked J. Ziolkowski if he could provide a larger container, and he responded that with the change to more efficient equipment that should address that issue.

L. Gargiulo described to the Selectmen another change that is happening is that the trash vendor that processes the town's trash, Covanta, cannot take plastic and glass anymore, due to enforcement by Mass DEP. He said that the town will need to embrace a new structure and reindoctrinate residents to new practices in terms of processing their trash and recycling. J. Ziolkowski explained further that November 01, 2022 is the deadline for full compliance with the Mass DEP's new rules, and currently, up until that deadline Covanta is doing pre-inspections of trash. After November 1st if glass or plastic is found in the waste stream, then Mass DEP will fine the Town. What this means is that the town's trash hauler, ELM, can no longer pick up the "extras" they used to pick-up on the side of the road, such as a stroller, a chair, or a table put out on trash day, since some of those these items contain plastic. Residents will need to more effectively use the Town's twice annual Bulky White Goods Day, and/or find other ways to recycle those items. M. Lane asked how much the fines from Mass DEP are going to be, and J. Ziolkowski responded that there is a ten-percent (10%) tolerance for non-compliance, and he did not state the fine amount. L. Gargiulo described other town's approaches, such as Exeter, to handling the "extra" trash items as implementing a "tag" system where residents would purchase a five-dollar (\$5.00) tag from Town Hall to dispose of an item like a car seat, for those "extra items" not eligible to be collected at curbside.

K. Anderson said that she has drafted a notice that would be sent to residents to notify and educate them about these Recycling and Trash Collection changes, to remind residents that even though some may have already been recycling, that the town is now required to comply, and the contractor cannot collect the items are not household trash. She stated that the ordinance would not need to be changed because it states that the town already prohibits these specific items. M. Lane questioned a sentence in the draft notice to residents that stated: "glass is, once again, to be recycled", and asked if it will be collected as recycling and then dumped, but K. Anderson said that glass will be collected with recycling and brought to a recycling facility. Recyclables will be sorted at the recycling facility, and if there is a market for that product that month, then it will be purchased for recycling, and if not then it will be dumped. The market for glass is improving. J. Ziolkowski said that overall, the summer trash volume is increasing approximately two (2) tons per month, and the school trash has dropped off for the summer months.

MOTION: To authorize the change to the cardboard recycling contract with ELM.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

MOTION: To authorize the recycling of glass in Hampton Falls.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

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UNANIMOUS

TAX COLLECTOR: Abatements: There are two (2) tax abatements for units at Wakeda Campground, which were legally registered prior to the April 1st date, and were incorrectly billed.

1) Abatement # 763 in the amount of \$182 for Map 06-039-D-51.

2) Abatement # 764 in the amount of \$110 for Map 06-039-B-10.

MOTION: To approve abatement #763 for Map 06-039-D-51 in the amount of \$182; and, to approve abatement #764 for Map 06-039-B-10 in the amount of \$110.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

TAX COLLECTOR: Overpayment: The Town received an overpayment of taxes that needs to be refunded. Overpayment # 765 for Map 02-008 in the amount of \$1,600. K. Anderson explained that this happens sometimes with a property transfer, when the Closing Attorney requires the Buyer to pre-pay their real estate taxes at closing, and it equates to an overpayment of real estate taxes.

MOTION: To approve the refund due to overpayment #765 for Map 02-008 in the amount of \$1,600.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

OTHER: Other Selectmen's New Business: There was no Other Selectmen's New Business.

NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no New Business Public Comment.

MONTHLY REPORTS: Selectmen's Representative Reports:

Planning Board, Library Trustees, Tricentennial Committee: E. Beattie reported that the

Tricentennial Committee is plowing ahead, and plans are on schedule. The books are printed and will be delivered next Monday. There was an over-run of 74 books, so there will be a total of 2,074 books to sell. When the books are delivered to Town Hall, they will be stored in the Selectmen's office, and will need some assistance off-loading the boxes of books into Town Hall (at 14 books/box, that's 148 boxes of books). E. Beattie said that the book printing cost is estimated at approximately \$37,000 for which the Town will receive an invoice thirty (30) days from the date of delivery.

M. Lane had some questions about the Tricentennial Opening and Closing Ceremonies and his participation, and said that S. Porcelli and he had a chance to speak about it before the start of tonight's meeting. He said that there was also a letter received by Ward Dilmore regarding concerns of the closing ceremonies, but M. Lane said that the Selectmen do not have those concerns. E. Beattie asked M. Lane if he was all set with the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and he responded that he was not yet, and looked to S. Porcelli for clarification. She asked about the concern from Ward Dilmore, and E. Beattie responded that it was about lining-up the horses at the conclusion of the Closing Ceremony.

E. Beattie continued with his update about the Tricentennial Committee saying that they met on Monday night this week. They are hoping for good weather and appropriate parking for the week of July 31 to August 6, and the Committee has all of the permits that they need. The books are coming, and that was the last thing with which he was concerned. S. Porcelli asked how the sign-ups were going, and E.

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Beattie responded that registrations and sign-ups for events are through the Historical Society's website at www.hamptonfalls300.com, and that typically people wait until about a week before to actually sign up, but there are no issues currently. M. Lane asked if things can get "sold out", and the response was yes, but that has not happened yet. At some of the events space is limited so it is suggested that people sign-up asap. S. Porcelli reported that the publicity is positive. There is a 150-person capacity at the Fire Station BBQ event, for example, that currently has registrations approximately half-filled.

K. Anderson said that Police Chief Veno and she had a recent conversation about locations where Police would be needed during the Tricentennial, and it is very minimal. She said that she is now the Licensed Liquor Representative for the events requiring that license. The Police will be present at some of the events anyway, and at others they will check-in or stop by. At the BBQ at the Public Safety Building the Fire Department will be handing out things to the children such as Fire Hats, etc, and if any are left over, then the Police will distribute them at the Kids Day on the Common.

The biggest news with the **Library Trustees** is the Director, Barbara Tosiano's resignation and the ongoing search for a replacement. The Library Trustees will be meeting at the end of the month.

Planning Board has quite a bit going on, with significant discussion about the proposed Rails to Trails project both in the region and in Hampton Falls. He said that he attended the meeting Monday night this week, as also did M. Lane. He said that the Depot Road Sub-committee of the Recreation Commission attended the prior Planning Board meeting and urged members to attend the meeting this past Monday.

There are several other issues regarding illegal signage on Route 1, and other enforcement inquiries and issues in process regarding approved plans compared with the current use of properties. There was a very large tract of land that went on the market and sold in one day in Hampton Falls last week. Another large piece of property, that is a pre-approved site, may be also coming on the market soon, and lead to significant building as a result.

Recreation Commission, LAS: M. Lane reported that the **Recreation Commission** hosted the second Castleberry Fair event of 2022, which was successfully held on the Hampton Falls Town Common the weekend of July 2nd and July 3rd, and the Recreation Commission looks forward to the two additional weekend dates scheduled in the Fall. The Recreation Commission co-sponsored (with LAS PTO) five (5) scheduled Movie Nights on the Town Common, which have begun successfully, with two having been held already, and three more to go.

The **LAS School** Board had a couple of teacher retirements this year with one of those being a Science teacher position. For the first time in a couple of years, due to the Pandemic, the LAS experienced a back to normal Graduation, after reviewing the events leading up to the end of the school year and festivities for the students.

Heritage Commission, Conservation Commission: L. Gargiulo reported that the **Heritage Commission** is meeting tomorrow by Zoom.

L. Gargiulo presented some feedback he has received regarding the **Conservation Commission** that was initiated by discussions around the large (130-acre) piece of property that was recently for sale. He said

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

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that some people think that the Hampton Falls Conservation Commission should not acquire more land because they cannot control the lands that they have, between the mowing, haying, and the invasive species not being well-maintained. The Conservation Commission is a group of volunteers who hire a couple of Interns in the Summer to manage the properties. He questioned whether the Conservation Commission wants to acquire more properties. M. Lane asked if the Conservation Commission has identified certain parcels they are interested in, and L. Gargiulo responded that he was not aware of that if they do.

K. Anderson said that she passed along to the Selectmen an invitation from American Legion Post 35 to attend the rededication of the “Lady of the Sea” Marine Memorial at the Ashworth Hotel at Hampton Beach on Saturday August 6, 2022 at 8:00 am.

NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC COMMENT There was no New Business Public Comment.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: June 22, 2022, and July 7, 2022.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of June 22, 2022, and July 7, 2022 as written / as amended.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no Public Comment.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

Next Selectmen’s Meeting Wednesday, AUGUST 10, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

Board of Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes prepared by Rachel D. Webb, Planning/Zoning/Town Secretary