

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

**SEPTEMBER 07, 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: Jay Denier and Rayann Dionne, SHEA

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Lane opened the Public Hearing to accept unanticipated State Highway Block Grant Funds and Bridge Aid allocated by NH Senate Bill 401. K. Anderson described that the Town received \$59,688.72 in additional Highway Block Grant funds and anticipates receiving \$35,734 in Bridge Aid.

Public Comment:

Bev Mutrie, Brown Rd, asked which bridge specifically, is the Town intending to work on? K. Anderson responded that the funds can be used for any highway amount, and the state has designated it as bridge aid. Every year the Town pays for bridge inspections. B. Mutrie clarified that these funds will not be used for physical/structural work on town-owned bridges in Hampton Falls, but rather on bridge inspections, and K. Anderson confirmed. K. Anderson elaborated saying that the funds were allocated to each town (regardless of the number of bridges), based on the miles of roads in the town. Chairman Lane asked K. Anderson if all \$35,734 is not spent on bridge inspections, then how is the remainder allocated? K. Anderson explained that the Town receives the funds as “unanticipated revenues” so any excess will be used to offset the tax rate. The Town is already spending \$250,000 on Highway projects, and culverts are considered bridges, so as long as the Town is spending more than it receives for funds (\$59,688.72) that is acceptable.

Chairman Lane closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION: To accept the unanticipated Highway Block grant Funds in the amount of \$59,688.72 and Bridge Aid funds in the amount of \$35,734.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

K. Anderson reported that at the next Selectmen’s meeting, September 21st at 8:00AM, there will be another Public Hearing to receive unanticipated funds from the NH Retirement System, giving back to the towns a percentage of all Police, Fire and Teacher payments.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: Monthly Financial Reports of Bookkeeper, Treasurer, Tax Collector:

FINANCIAL REPORTS - General Fund Balance: as of 08/30/22 was \$2,662,983.84.

K. Anderson reported the General Fund Balance. In terms of the August 2022 Financial Report, with a target of 66% spent, the Town is currently at 58% spent so the town is doing well under budget, with the only accounts that are going to go above target and over budget being Electricity and Fuel accounts.

EXECUTIVE: Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Escrow Accounts: K. Anderson introduced the financial warrants needing approval from the Selectmen, as follows:

EXECUTIVE: Payroll Warrant:

Mark R. Lane, Chairman – Edward B. Beattie, Vice Chairman – Lou Gargiulo, Selectman

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Payroll Warrant #581 in the amount of \$33,424.72 dated August 18, 2022, and #582 dated September 2, 2022, in the amount of \$33,427.77.

MOTION: To approve Payroll Warrant #581 in the amount of \$33,424.72 dated August 18, 2022, and #582 dated September 2, 2022, in the amount of \$33,427.77.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

EXECUTIVE: Accounts Payable Warrant:

Accounts Payable Warrant #820 in the amount of \$61,564.66 dated August 18, 2022, and #821 dated September 2, 2022, in the amount of \$966,867.19. This manifest includes all the school payments.

MOTION: To approve Accounts Payable Warrant #820 in the amount of \$61,564.66 dated August 18, 2022, and #821 dated September 2, 2022, in the amount of \$966,867.19.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

EXECUTIVE: Escrow Accounts Warrant:

Escrow Accounts Payable Warrant #14 in the amount of \$4,365.47 dated August 18, 2022, and #15 dated September 2, 2022, in the amount of \$2,983.30 which represents \$2,743.39 from the Tricentennial Account, \$76.74 from the Ambulance Account and \$163.17 from the Town Communication Account.

MOTION: To approve Escrow Accounts Payable Warrant #14 in the amount of \$4,365.47 dated August 18, 2022, and #15 dated September 2, 2022, in the amount of \$2,983.30 which represents \$2,743.39 from the Tricentennial Account, \$76.74 from the Ambulance Account and \$163.17 from the Town Communication Account.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

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:

PRESENTATION: SHEA – Draft Estuary Management Plan, Ravann Dionne and Jay Diener:

Progress update on the development of a Seabrook-Hampton's-Estuary Alliance (SHEA) Estuary Management Plan. Two draft chapters were presented on the subjects of "Vision" and "Management Objectives". *The plan considers collective values and concerns along with the best available science, to recommend a range of approaches and techniques to help preserve and improve important estuary features such as the salt marsh habitat and critical functions like flood control.*

SHEA obtained funding from the NH State Conservation Commission's Moose Plate grant and also from the Piscataqua Region Estuary Partnership. SHEA has contracted with FB Environmental, an environmental consulting firm, for the past ten-months to compile scientific data and public survey

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results. SHEA has assembled a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of the following Federal, State, and local agencies, namely, NHDES, UNH, US Fish & Wildlife, and NH Audubon to provide technical input and to recommend best practices and strategies that can be added to the Estuary Management Plan and to add and/or compliment the town's planning documents/Master Plan.

E. Beattie asked if there was coordination between SHEA and the Rails-to-Trails regarding the Depot Road section of the proposed trail, and R. Dionne responded that the section in Hampton Falls is certainly the most challenging. She continued that the most recent update SHEA received on that proposed project from RPC was approximately eight-(8)-months ago; the environmental impacts have not been fully evaluated, especially looking at the potential impacts of Sea-Level-Rise. R. Dionne continued that while there is a lot of optimism about the project happening quickly, there is still a lot of design and evaluation work that needs to go into the details of the project. According to NHDES the project is still a long way from obtaining the environmental permits needed for the path. Ideally it is an opportunity to provide better tidal flow and to improve the habitat. R. Dionne said that SHEA plans to invite RPC to come back again this Winter to give another update on the project.

E. Beattie said that he hopes that NHDES meets with SHEA. He said that the Depot area is a natural area that has improved since the railroad has left, and with the proposed project, there would be increased activity and it is important to plan for that. Chairman Lane said that he recently saw a change in the Rail-to-Trail project's timetable that the Hampton to Portsmouth section got moved up for completion in 2024, but that is not the Hampton Falls section.

J. Denier presented the "*Management Objectives*" of the draft Estuary Management Plan, including goals and objectives, and next steps. Later this Fall, by Nov-Dec 2022 the environmental consultant, FBE, will finalize the Plan. Formal presentations to the Planning Boards and Conservation Commissions will be scheduled, with a public webinar hosted by SHEA in early 2023. He concluded saying that SHEA sees completion of the Estuary Management Plan as a companion document to the Town's Master Plan, and that SHEA would provide technical support to towns for implementation afterwards. R. Dionne added that this plan will also help SHEA to focus on certain grant opportunities to facilitate implementation of the plan.

EXECUTIVE: Brush Dump Permit Required:

On August 11th, 2022, K. Anderson received a call from the NH Department of Environmental Services reporting that NHDES had received a report that "*the Town was in violation of State Law by operating a Transfer Station without a permit,*" and, requested that the Town Administrator meet the Investigator at the Brush Dump an hour later to view the site. The Investigator explained that someone had reported that the Town was holding Bulky Waste Collection Days without being licensed by the State as a Transfer Station, and, that the Town's Contractor didn't have a Transfer Station permit. After viewing the site, it was clear to the Inspector that the Town was not operating a Transfer Station for regular solid waste, and the Contractor was not in violation of any laws. The curbside waste collected is not brought to the Brush Dump.

After NH DES reviewed how the Town ran the Bulky Waste Days, it was determined that the Town was in violation and a permit has been required. The Town needs a permit whether the waste days are held twice per year, or once a month. The application for a "Limited Permit By Notification" for the Brush

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Dump has been completed and submitted to the State, and it will take NHDES approximately 60-days for review and approval. In addition, the Town is required to have a Licensed Operator on site for the Bulky Waste Days. The Road Agent, Russ Hilliard, has applied to be certified as a Licensed Operator, and he will need to take specific classes (through NH DES) to comply with the permit. The Inspector also noticed the Universal Waste Shed that was in violation because there were empty containers of oil without lids, so there is some housekeeping to complete.

Chairman Lane summarized saying that the Town needs to apply for a permit, with no fee, and the Town also needs to provide a Licensed Operator of the Brush Dump, in order to hold periodic Household Waste Collection/Bulky Waste/White Goods Day events. He asked if there were any fines, and K. Anderson said that there currently are no fines; however, if the Town held an event subsequent to being put on notice, pending receipt of the permit and completion of the Licensed Operator requirements, then there would be fines.

Interestingly, during the Town Administrator's research into the Brush Dump an email was found identifying that the Town was notified by NH DES of the need to permit the site in 2009, although there was no reference in the Selectmen's minutes of 2009 nor documentation that a permit application was submitted.

The permit and certification process required by NH DES will not be completed in time for the planned October 2022 Household Waste Collection Day (White Goods Day / Bulky Waste Day) in Hampton Falls. E. Beattie said that the Selectmen should think about how to approach this topic in next year's budget, specifically how to handle it if it was scheduled on a more regular basis, like one Saturday per month, for example. E. Beattie asked K. Anderson if the Inspector had an issue with the tires stored at the Brush Dump, and she said no, because some tires were roadside trash, and some had been dropped over the fence without paying a fee.

There was discussion by the Selectmen to alert the residents to this postponement of the October 2022 Household Waste Collection Day (White Goods Day / Bulky Waste Day) in Hampton Falls. K. Anderson said that a News and Announcement email blast can go out, and a notice within the September-October Newsletter planned for distribution tomorrow morning. It was also suggested to post a Notice at the LAS school on Election Day next Tuesday to alert residents there as well.

The Household Hazardous Waste collection held in Hampton is scheduled for September 17th 8AM – Noon. Hampton Falls residents need to pre-register and pay at the Town Clerk's Office in order to participate.

EXECUTIVE: Economic Revitalization Credit Program:

K. Anderson presented an explanation for the Board's consideration to have the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:81, that is the *Commercial & Industrial New Construction Property Tax Exemption*, as an economic development incentive. This statute allows towns to extend tax exemptions to commercial or industrial properties as an incentive to construct buildings or expand existing buildings. The presentation would be used at Deliberative Session as well as the Budget Public Hearing. A warrant article is required.

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It is only approved through Town Meeting; the voters have to approve it. The voters can only approve it for a five-year period and then the approval lapses so if the Town wants to do it again there has to be another vote. It will authorize the Selectmen to grant a credit to commercial industrial business owners that either build, remodel, or expand their buildings. The exemption can go up to 50% of the improvement.

The Selectmen determine the length of the term of the exemption up to ten-years. K. Anderson said that most towns have done five-year terms, as that is the same amount of time as the voters can authorize it. Some towns spread out the exemption as 50% in year one, then 10% reduction each year thereafter as: 40% year two, 30% year three, 20% year four, 10% year five, and year six is full tax payment with 0% exemption. Some towns apply 50% exemption for all five years. The applicant has to apply for the exemption prior to starting construction, and they have to show/prove their addition/renovation is a public benefit. The Selectmen decide if the applicants meet the criteria that the Town establishes. K. Anderson explained a hypothetical scenario of a proposed project/applicant and the calculations both with, and without, the incentive. Chairman Lane asked how the numbers would be calculated on new construction that is not an addition nor renovation, and K. Anderson responded that the incentive in the first year would be 50% of the value of the new construction. The whole intent of the proposed program is that it is an Economic Development Incentive. From the RSA: *“The purpose is to give businesses a strong and compelling reason to either start a business, or to expand a business.”* For Hampton Falls, more business will mean more tax revenue to the town as a whole, to offset the residential. There are underutilized properties, and there are vacant properties, so if the town can dangle an incentive in front of a developer or business owner to encourage their expansion or location decision in Hampton Falls, rather than another town, then it will be worth it.

Draft Warrant Article

To see if the Town of Hampton Falls will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:81 and enable the town to grant tax exemptions for new construction performed on commercial or industrial uses. The intent of this exemption authority is to provide incentives to businesses to build, rebuild, modernize, or enlarge within the municipality. The exemption shall apply only for municipal and local school property taxes assessed by the municipality. The exemption will not apply to the entirety of the property value, but only to any increase in assessment which results from the new construction. The period of time for which the property is eligible for exemption is ____ (*maximum 10*) years.

The percentage of authorized exemption is as follows:

Year 1, 50% of the increased assessment value as described above;

Year 2, 40% of the increased assessment value as described above;

Year 3, 30% of the increased assessment value as described above;

Year 4, 20% of the increased assessment value as described above;

Year 5, 10% of the increased assessment value as described above.

BOS determine the percentages – maximum is 50%

For the purpose of this exemption, the term “new construction” shall mean new structures, or additions, renovations, or improvements to existing structures.

For purposes of this exemption, the term “commercial” and “industrial” shall be as defined in the Hampton Falls Zoning Ordinance, as it may be amended from time to time. If adopted, this exemption will become effective April 1, 2023, and will remain in effect for five (5) years.

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If the Board is in favor of asking the voters to approve this exemption, K. Anderson asked the Board to: (1)Vote to move forward with a warrant article to adopt RSA 72:81, (2) decide on the number of years to offer the exemption (maximum of 10), (3) decide on the percentages of the exemption, and (4) determine the public benefit of the exemption.

L. Gargiulo asked what other towns in the region are doing it? K. Anderson responded that neither Seabrook nor Exeter is doing it, and she will check with Hampton, and she also said that she would find out how many towns are doing it. Chairman Lane said that if any seacoast towns are doing this program, then Hampton Falls needs to position themselves competitively in terms of the percent exemption offered. E. Beattie said that the first year has to be 50%, and that he thought that this would be a great way to try to achieve greater equity in the tax base, so that the residential sector does not have to shoulder the brunt of the costs to run the Town. L. Gargiulo said that the whole idea is to attract more of a taxbase so that we can reduce the residential tax base. If the program accomplishes that, and it really does not cost the Town anything (because the town is still going to make more tax on the property than un-improved) then there is no “down side” and should be palatable to the taxpayers. K. Anderson added that this program may help under-utilized properties to sell, by offering this extra tax exemption program, for example, a property that needed a lot of work, the buyer could couch the tax exemption monies into investment in the needed property improvements. Chairman Lane said that eventually if/when water/sewer is available then property owners could use this incentive to connect to those utilities.

L. Gargiulo said the Town may consider building its own sewerage treatment plant. K. Anderson said that there are a couple of potential locations under consideration for siting a sewerage treatment plant. She reported that she had previously applied for a grant of \$100,000 for a planning study for sewer to hire a consultant to look at our sites to look at which direction is the better way to go. That grant application was submitted a few months ago, and the public comment period has ended, and Hampton Falls made the cut. The program is an SRF Loan with 100% loan forgiveness, so that one-year after substantial completion only interest will be due.

K. Anderson summarized that she will follow-up to identify which other seacoast towns (if any) are utilizing the tax exemption program, and what their percentages offered are, and provide the Selectmen with that information at the next meeting September 21st, 2022. The Board was in agreement that the Warrant article should be put forward, and that five-(5)-years was the appropriate term for the exemption program. The percentages will be reviewed after researching what, if any, area towns offer.

EXECUTIVE: Bicycle Race Permit:

This is the annual Kings Challenge Ride that passes through Hampton Falls. It is scheduled for October 15th, 2022, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM. K. Anderson reported that both the Fire Chief and the Police Chief have both signed off on the permit, and that any concerns that they had have been addressed.

MOTION: To approve the Bicycle Race Permit for October 15th, 2022, 9:00AM – 11:00 AM.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

ELECTIONS: Reminder, Primary is Tuesday, September 13th, 2022, at the LAS school:

Mark R. Lane, Chairman – Edward B. Beattie, Vice Chairman – Lou Gargiulo, Selectman

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Reminder that the Primary Election is Tuesday, September 13th, 2022, at the Lincoln Akerman School. Selectmen need to be present. The Moderator can appoint someone to act as a Selectmen for the time that a Selectman may not be able to be present. Selectman Gargiulo, as a candidate on the ballot, will not be participating as a Selectman. Chairman Lane asked K. Anderson if there is anything that the Selectmen need to do to help set-up the Election, and K. Anderson responded that the Town Moderator, J. Pontbriand, has not yet given directions. She stated that all of the election materials are in the trailer, so the trailer will be driven over to the school. The new election booths will be easier to set-up. If the Selectmen are not available for certain parts of the day, then she said that the Selectman should let the Moderator know. Both E. Beattie and Chairman Lane stated that they will both be present for the Election and questioned if there is need for a third Selectman to be present, and K. Anderson responded that that decision is at the discretion of the Moderator.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: MS-1 – Summary Inventory of Valuation:

The MS-1 report to DRA has been completed and outlines the valuation of the Town to be used for the setting of the tax rate. The current valuation of \$503,622,716 is an increase of \$5,695,367 (or +4.4%) over 2021, and primarily represents new buildings, new construction, and renovations. Utilities were offset by a decrease of \$308,400 after breaking out transmission versus generation. Additionally, exemptions and credits decreased, due to older residents passing away. Veterans' Credits decreased due to a clarification in defining the process of granting the Surviving Spouse Credit. The standard "Veteran's Credit" is \$600.

MOTION: To approve the MS-1 for submission to DRA.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: CIP Submissions for Review:

On behalf of the Board, K. Anderson submitted the following CIP projects to the CIP Committee for review.

- Restoration of the windows at the Museum, for 2023.
- Restoration of the windows in the Town Office, for 2024.
- Annual Capital Reserve fund deposits to the Highway Improvement Fund in the amount of \$250,000; and
- Annual Capital Reserve fund deposits to the Master Plan CRF.

There was discussion about how the amount of \$250,000 was derived for the annual amount to fund the Highway Improvement Fund, and K. Anderson responded that the amount refers back to the Axiomatic Report, which is based on the number of miles of roads in Hampton Falls. It was the standard recommended to keep the town's infrastructure up to date. L. Gargiulo said that he felt that the Selectmen have to look at where the accounts are towards the end of the year, and to re-evaluate the amount for Budget purposes based on the monies that have come in during the past year from various funding sources. He said that the Selectmen may want to consider reducing the amount of town funding next year, due to anticipated additional funds expected to be received from outside sources. It may be a good year to eliminate or to reduce the \$250,000 amount, or to skip a year, with the known increases in utility rates coming and the higher Winter Road Maintenance contract known.

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Chairman Lane asked if the proposed project costs for the window projects for the CIP Committee's consideration, if those were actual quotes, or were they estimates, and K. Anderson said that they were actual quotes. He followed up asking if the vendor was the same person who did the windows at the LAS school, and the response was no, but the town is still on that vendor's list to come out and look at the job later this year, and to give the town a quote. She is from Amesbury and her availability to come look at the job was limited.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: Revaluation – Statistical Update Bid:

The Revaluation project was put out to bid, and the Town has been putting aside \$8,000 annually, (through an approved Warrant article, into a Capital Reserve Fund), to fund this project (at an estimated \$40,000) that is done every five-years (last time was in 2018). Current balance in the account is \$24,000. In 2018 the revaluation project cost was \$21,000 for the residential and \$7,000 for the commercial for a total project cost of \$28, 650, which is what was used to determine capital reserve deposits in the amount of \$8,000 per year. Only one bid was received for the required Revaluation statistical update for 2023 and it was from our current contractor Avitar in the amount of \$62,060. K. Anderson said that unfortunately this is not an optional project, because it is mandated by the DRA. Before the Board can vote to sign the contract, it has to be reviewed and approved by DRA, so K. Anderson has sent a copy to DRA for their review. The operating budget for 2023 will need to include the additional \$38,000 for the update. K. Anderson did ask the vendor about the cost increase and was able to reduce it by approximately \$4,000 from the original bid price. L. Gargiulo asked who the vendor before Avitar was, and K. Anderson responded Granite Hill Municipal Services; however, from what she read in the Selectmen's Minutes from 2018 about the revaluation and the equalization rates, the town was not 100% satisfied. L. Gargiulo asked if there were any other companies, and K. Anderson said that the RFP was sent to fifteen-(15)-companies. K. Anderson explained that when DRA established the requirement of the revaluation most towns started that same year, which means that most towns are cycling on their five-year update the same year, which means that all of the companies are extremely busy with this work in the reval year. L. Gargiulo asked if it is possible to ask for an extension of one year, to get off the cycle of being with all of the other towns, and that maybe more companies would be available to bid in an off year. Chairman Lane wondered if the State may welcome a request for an extension, to spread out the revaluations and not have most in the same year; he thought it would be worthwhile to ask the question of DRA.

E. Beattie said that K. Anderson was probably reading his comments in the Selectmen's Minutes of 2018 because he was not happy. The 2018 numbers were not relative to what properties were selling at and now there is an even larger disparity. He said that he disagreed with the formulas used to arrive at the valuations. He cited a constituent's report to him that in 2018, as a result of the revaluation, properties with the least valuation (small, ranch-style homes) experienced the highest impact to their taxes, and conversely, properties with the highest valuation (large mansions) experienced the least impact to their taxes. Compared to the disparity of current sales values with assessments in 2022 however, the issues in 2018 look like "child's play". K. Anderson said that the Town can not change the value of properties between revaluation years, except to add the value of additions. She said that the revaluation is a very statistical process, and when it is done well approximately 75% of the taxpayers' tax bills don't change more than \$100, and then 12% go up by \$400, and 13% go down by \$400. It is from April 01st the year prior to April 1st, 2023, but if there are not enough sales in a certain category,

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then they will go back another six-months to get data. In theory, as the values go up, the tax rate goes down.

L. Gargiulo asked if the Selectmen should request an extension from the DRA of one year for the Revaluation. E. Beattie said that there are costs and benefits of putting it off a year. There might be positive cost savings with the project cost in an off-year; however, there may be negative costs delaying the needed correction in property values since 2018, and catching up with the price structure that has taken place in the past five years. He said that he is not sure which one is most beneficial to the residents.

K. Anderson said that the Revaluation is a mandate from DRA. The benefit of having it done and having the town's valuation increase is that the tax rate will go down. The property tax rate is not based on the value of properties, the tax bill is based on what the voters approve in March at Town Meeting for the Budget. An advantage is that a lot of the State Revenues, such as the Highway Block Grant, and the Education Grant are based on town valuation and the Augenblick formula for apportionment, so the higher the town's valuation the more State revenues will be received.

L. Gargiulo said that the only benefit to take the Revaluation project off of the 2018-2023 cycle, and ask for an extension of one year, is to get more competitive vendors in an off-year. E. Beattie said that it was his opinion to just "bite the bullet" and go forward. Someone in the audience asked if an extension could be sought for only a six-month period of time, instead of a year, and the response was no, that the DRA guidelines and deadlines are very rigid annually, and six-months would not work. L. Gargiulo agreed to go forward, because the town really does not have a choice. Chairman Lane said that he is OK moving forward. K. Anderson said that as soon as she receives the review back from the DRA, that the Revaluation contract will come back to the Board for discussion and approval.

HIGHWAYS: Unitil Storm Resiliency Program:

K. Anderson met with Erin Dancy, from ACRT. She is the contractor for Unitil working on the Storm Resiliency Program for Exeter Road. Exeter Road is a State road, but Unitil notified the Town as a courtesy. This is a different program than the tree trimming routinely done by Unitil. The Road Agent, Russ Hilliard, met with the Unitil representative onsite and identified some trees at intersections that are dangerous and that need to be removed, to add to Unitil's list. She will be talking with residents along Exeter Road requesting permission to trim or remove specific trees in front of their properties that could impact power lines. The residents have the right to refuse to have a tree removed, even though it is on State property. If not removed, it may be pruned. Residents have 45-days from the time they are contacted to make a decision. Erin will be out in the area for the next few weeks, and then back again in approximately 6-weeks. The work is being done in conjunction with Seabrook and is anticipated to take place in 5-6 months, and the work will not be completed before Winter.

HIGHWAYS: Evergreen Road Drainage Project Bid Results:

The RFP went out to bid, and a bid has been received for the Evergreen Road Drainage Project, and it is at Jones & Beach Engineers being reviewed. The Town had estimated the work to cost \$25,000 and one bid was received from Jamco Construction in the amount of \$88,900 without the paving. \$250,000 was designated for 2022 road work. So far, \$127,000 has been spent on the recent paving projects and \$21,264 has been spent on engineering and miscellaneous road work. With the drainage costs alone

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being \$89,000 there will not be enough funds available for the paving without exceeding the \$250,000. If the paving can be accomplished for less than \$75,000 the project can be completed, utilizing the additional \$59,000 in Highway Block Funds recently received. The early estimate for the work was \$73,000 with the paving. The Town does not have the funds to go forward as hoped with this project, in addition to the paving costs which have increased recently in 2022. K. Anderson said that the Selectmen can make it work by juggling things around and putting the new funds just received towards it, or the Selectmen can decide to put it back out to bid and hope that in 2023 the costs have come back down. K. Anderson said that she spoke with the vendor who said that the price of PVC pipe right now is extremely volatile, as it is a petroleum product. He elaborated further that normally he gets a price for PVC pipe that is good for 30-days, but now prices are good for only one-day.

Chairman Lane's inclination was to push off the project to 2023. L. Gargiulo agreed saying that holding off would not be a bad move. The Selectmen reached a consensus to look at this project again in Spring 2023.

TOWN BUILDINGS: Carpentry Work for Stained Glass Panels at Museum:

Tracy Healey-Beattie presented the need for some carpentry work at the Museum to provide wooden frames for the two (2) new stained-glass panels that are being completed. One will be a scene of the Falls, and the other will be a scene of the Marsh. The estimated timeframe for the work to be completed is October. E. Beattie asked if there were funds in the Government Buildings account for this purpose, and K. Anderson responded yes.

MOTION: To allocate up to \$400.00 each, from the Government Buildings account, for carpentry work at the Museum to provide wooden frames for the two (2) new stained-glass panels.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

RECREATION COMMISSION: Recreation Commission Volunteers:

After the Tricentennial, three (3) residents have stepped forward to Volunteer to serve on the Recreation Commission: Colleen Farias, Linda Savoy and Gisela Manna. There are currently five (5) members and the Recreation Commission's By-Laws allow up to nine (9) members. K. Anderson has talked with the Chairman who is in favor of these appointments.

Current members and terms:

Lyn Stan, Chair	Exp. March, 2023
Beth Forgione	Exp. March, 2023
Kathy Dittami	Exp. March, 2024
Karen Sabatini	Exp. March, 2024
Phil Chura	Exp. March, 2025
Pam Fitzgerald	Exp. March, 2025

In order to stagger the terms, K. Anderson recommends that terms be approved expiring March 2024, March 2025, and March 2026.

L. Gargiulo asked if any of the three applicants were here at the meeting tonight, and K. Anderson responded that yes, Linda Savoy was present. L. Gargiulo recommended that L. Savoy be appointed to the three-(3)-year term, for showing up.

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MOTION: To appoint to the Recreation Commission: Linda Savoy to a three-(3)-year term expiring in March 2026, Colleen Farias to a two-(2)-year term expiring in March 2025, and Gisella Manna to a one-(1)-year term expiring in March 2024.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

PATRIOTIC: Rededication of Global War on Terrorism Monument:

The Board has been invited to attend the Rededication of the Global War on Terrorism Monument at the American Legion, 69 High Street in Hampton on September 11th, 2022, at 6:00 PM. L. Gargiulo said that he will be there because he just got inducted into the American Legion.

NEWSLETTER, September-October 2022 Town Newsletter:

Chairman Lane said that he had not yet had the opportunity to read the Draft Newsletter. L. Gargiulo said that he had, and so had E. Beattie and they both said that it looked good.

MOTION: To authorize the Town Secretary to distribute the September-October 2022 Town Newsletter as written.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

OTHER SELECTMEN'S NEW BUSINESS:

E. Beattie reported that he received a Congressional Record from May 24, 2022, congratulating the Town on the Tricentennial. The two documents will be framed together and displayed at Town Hall. L. Gargiulo said that items are being sought for inclusion in the Time Capsule, so perhaps a copy of that document would be appropriate to include. L. Gargiulo asked what the timeframe is for when the Time Capsule is planned to be buried, and T. Healy-Beattie responded the end of September 2022. E. Beattie added that if anyone has anything to add to the Time Capsule, that they should contact Linda Savoy.

NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bev Mutrie, Brown Road, commented about the CIP, in terms of the Museum building. She said that the back siding on the gable end was supposed to have been replaced with Hardie Board and it never got done. Also the South side of the Museum building never got painted and the paint is all flaking off, so she asked if anybody has looked at those issues, as they are fairly large projects. K. Anderson said that those projects were not something that she was aware of, but that the siding project can be brought forward to the CIP. K. Anderson said that the painting project would be considered more of a maintenance project and would not meet the definition of a capital improvement project. K. Anderson said that the Building Inspector can take a look at it and report back to the Selectmen. E. Beattie said that this Board has maintained a Government Buildings maintenance program to take care of issues before they get bad.

B. Mutrie added that the gutter is full of stuff and needs attention to clean out the gutters over the ramp, as the back-up of materials and water is rotting the adjacent siding. K. Anderson said that she would find someone to attend to the gutters. B. Mutrie said, "we need a maintenance person".

FINAL

Regarding the Library, B. Mutrie commented that the edging on the driveway is cracking and should be addressed. E. Beattie said that he already spoke with the Road Agent, Russ Hilliard, about it. R. Hilliard is also looking at some long-term issues behind the Public Safety Building, so the next time he is before the Selectmen he will be making some recommendations.

Chairman Lane asked if anyone knew why there was still a piece of New England Paving equipment at the corner of Blake's Lane and King St, was it to do the shoulder work? K. Anderson said that she would ask R. Hilliard for an update.

Monthly Reports: Selectmen's Representative Reports:

Planning Board, Library Trustees, Tricentennial Committee: E. Beattie reported that the Tricentennial was a HUGE success, and that the town was fortunate that it went smoothly. The many Volunteers deserve all the credit for making the event successful. K. Anderson reported that financially the Selectmen approved \$35,000 for the Tricentennial, and it is currently under budget. E. Beattie said that there are still several *History of Hampton Falls, Volume 3*, books available for purchase (at Town Hall for \$40.00 each hardcover copy), and people should be thinking about purchasing them for holiday gifts, and birthday presents, etc. K. Anderson reported that she has been working with Judy Wilson on an Old Stage Rd Bridge flyer to insert into the History Books. E. Beattie thanked K. Anderson for her efforts, and kudos to Judy Wilson. E. Beattie said that it is his hope that people will understand that the review/editing of the History of Hampton Falls book was done for submission, and not done for omission, and in the end, the Author wrote what he thought was appropriate. E. Beattie said that he is glad for the additional information that will be added regarding the Old Stage Road Bridge.

The Library news is that there is a new Director, Johanna Meighan, as Barbara Tosiano, the former Library Director retired August 31, 2022. Excerpted from the Sept-Oct Town Newsletter: "Johanna has been on staff for five-years and she looks forward to helping the Library adapt and grow its services to better serve the needs of the future. There will be a "Meet the Director" reception on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 6:30 PM. Mark your calendars for the Library's Book, Bake, and Yard Sale on Saturday, September 24th, 2022, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM."

Planning Board activity has been light, but this is temporary, as there are several projects percolating that intend to move forward with plans in front of the Planning Board in the next few months. Specifically, there is a Design Review application on the agenda for September 27 for the vacant parcel at 12 Lafayette Rd for a large mixed-use project. In October the applicants who were previously looking at the Poker Room location at 1 Lafayette Rd may return; there may be a continuation of a three-lot subdivision in the Town Common Business district; and a restaurant proposal.

Recreation Commission, LAS: Chairman Lane reported that there are three (3) new Volunteers who were appointed earlier this evening to the Recreation Commission, so that is great. There are two (2) more Castleberry Fairs scheduled with the last one being in early October.

The Lincoln Akerman School students are back to school this month, with a few new teachers, and maskless protocols, so the LAS is back to normal. Chairman Lane said that the school building is looking great with the newly paved driveway and parking area complete. He was not certain if the driveway edge issues have been addressed yet or not, but he will get some information on that and will be able to see the completed paving on Election Day next week.

FINAL

Heritage Commission, Conservation Commission: L. Gargiulo had nothing to report.

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: August 10, 2022

MOTION: To approve the Selectmen's Minutes of August 10, 2022, as written.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

Next Selectmen's Meeting Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 21, 2022, at 8:00 AM.

Chairman Lane said that he wanted to confirm the meeting schedule during September and October. The next Selectmen's meeting is 09/21 at 8:00 AM. Then the next one after that is 10/05 at 8:00 am for the 1st Budget Review, and the same day 10/05 at 6:00 PM for a regular Selectmen's meeting. Then the next date is 10/19 at 8:00 am for the 2nd Budget Review. K. Anderson said that she had distributed to the Selectmen a draft/proposed schedule for Budget reviews.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

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