

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS**

**OCTOBER 05, 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, Assistant Administrator
GUESTS: T. Healey-Beattie, Historical Society; Bateman Landscaping;

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

OLD BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: Monthly Financial Reports of Bookkeeper, Treasurer, Tax Collector:
K. Anderson reported the General Fund Balance and stated that Cash Flow is going well right now.
Financial Reports: General Fund Balance: \$1,655,818.37

Executive: Payroll Warrant, Accounts Payable, Escrow Warrant:

K. Anderson presented the Payroll Warrant #584 dated September 28, 2022, in the amount of \$27,968.12; Accounts Payable Warrant #823 dated September 28, 2022, in the amount of \$73,560.44; and Escrow Account Warrant #17 dated September 28, 2022, in the amount of \$ 4,487.76

MOTION: To approve payroll warrant #584 dated September 28, 2022, in the amount of \$27,968.12; to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #823 dated September 28, 2022, in the amount of \$73,560.44; and to approve Escrow Account Warrant #17 dated September 28, 2022 in the amount of \$ 4,487.76

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

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

EXECUTIVE: Tiger Trot Permit:

K. Anderson presented the Permit Application for the LAS PTO's Tiger Trot road race– use of Town Common on November 18th from 3:00 – 7:00 PM for registration, and on November 19th from 9:00 AM – Noon for the race and awards afterwards.

MOTION: To approve the use of the Town Common by the LAS PTO for the Tiger Trot road race on November 18th from 3:00 – 7:00 PM and November 19th from 9:00 AM – Noon.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

TOWN BUILDINGS: 2023 Mowing Contract Extension:

K. Anderson stated that the 2022 mowing contract, for all Town properties (except for the Library and the Cemeteries) allowed a one-year extension and the contractor, Bateman Landscaping, has agreed to an extension at the same rates. The Cemetery mowing vendor is also willing to extend his contract, but the Town has not yet received the paperwork. The Library mowing vendor is M & M Landscaping, and

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they are willing to extend their contract for an increase of \$5.00 per mow for 2023. K. Anderson described the Bateman contract as mowing the Town Common for \$4,875 annually or approximately \$700 monthly for the seven months of mowing; and the Governor Weare Park (GWP) for \$14,625 annually or approximately \$2,090 monthly for the seven months of mowing. Bateman's mowing prices will be the same for 2023 as they were for 2022. The mowing rate increased in 2022 to reflect the increase in mowing frequency requested for GWP at twice per week during soccer season

MOTION: To extend the mowing contract with Bateman Landscaping for the 2023 season.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

UNANIMOUS

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: Timber Tax Warrant:

K. Anderson presented a Timber Tax Warrant for trees removed at 10 Sanborn Road in the amount of \$11.07. She added that the trees were not of quality, so they were assessed as chips for biomass rates.

MOTION: To issue the Timber Tax Warrant in the amount of \$11.07 for Map 4-32-05.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: CURRENT USE RELEASE:

K. Anderson reported that during the title search work for the sale of the Dumont property on Exeter Road, it was discovered that when the town purchased Governor Weare Park in 1995, a Current Use release was not filed with the Registry of Deeds. This is a housekeeping act, to clear the title on the Dumont property. There are no funds to be collected. The release needs to be signed and recorded at the Registry of Deeds

MOTION: To sign the Current Use release for Map 8 -37 for the 14.692 acres purchased by the Town.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

UNANIMOUS

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: FRYING PAN LANE FUND UPDATE:

K. Anderson stated that she has reviewed all the Frying Pan Lane funds now that the majority of the Tricentennial expenses have come through, and she has updated the balances. Frying Pan Lane funds (held through the NH Charitable Foundation) have specific criteria for types of projects on which funds can be spent, namely: conservation, literacy, historic preservation, and recreation. Available for allocation in 2022 is \$42,389.61. K. Anderson requested from the appropriate Departments, Boards and Historical Society their project requests for 2022. There will be another allocation in early 2023. The Town Clerk requested \$8,175 for the preservation of two (2) historical records books, the Library requested \$1,200 for the Hoopla literacy program they used previously, and the Recreation Commission is discussing some lighting for GWP (but an estimate is not yet available). An additional project for consideration for funding with Frying Pan funds is the Museum Window Restoration project, estimated at \$25,000. This project had been discussed at the recent Capital Improvement Committee meeting to propose as a Warrant article in 2023, with the Town Hall Window Restoration project to follow in 2024. Funding the Museum Window Restoration with Frying Pan Lane funds would eliminate the need for a

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Warrant article for a \$25,000 deposit to the Government Building fund for 2023. The current balance in the Government Building fund is approximately \$50,000 because projects done this year were completed utilizing ARPA funds.

Chairman Lane said that during these inflationary times, that one less warrant article is a good idea. E. Beattie said that if the Selectmen could eliminate a warrant article for 2023, and still be able to do some work, then he would be in favor of that idea, and L. Gargiulo agreed.

L. Gargiulo asked if there is a bid on the Town Hall Windows, and K. Anderson said yes, \$23,000. Chairman Lane asked if the Frying Pan Lane funds are not spent in 2022, do the funds carry over, and K. Anderson responded yes, that the Trustees of the Trust Funds hold and invest the funds, and then in March the Town will receive the 2023 payment. Chairman Lane said that the Frying Pan Lane funds could be used in 2023 to complete the Town Hall window restoration project, and L. Gargiulo said that it would be done with no direct impact to the taxpayers. E. Beattie agreed saying that priorities could change, but these windows have been on the list and waiting for some time.

MOTION: To allocate \$8,175 for the Town Clerk's preservation of two (2) historical records books; to allocate \$1,200 for the Library's Hoopla program; and to allocate not-to-exceed \$25,000 for the Historical Society Museum's Window Restoration project.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

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HIGHWAY: WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACT SIGNING:

K. Anderson prepared the Winter Road Maintenance Contract for signing, based on the prior contract, and adjusted it to the terms the Board agreed to with the vendor. She reviewed the contract with the vendor for the payment terms: for September to December 2022, it is smaller payments to match what is available in the Budget at \$25,000 monthly, then \$50,000 monthly starting in January 2023, and then in 2023 it would be paid in even payments.

MOTION: To sign the Winter Road Maintenance Agreement for 2022/2028.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

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OTHER: OTHER SELECTMEN'S NEW BUSINESS: There was no Other Selectmen's New Business.

NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dennis Blair of South Hampton, Chair of Budget and Chair of the Trustees of the Trust Fund, introduced Liz Kostas of Plaistow, running for State Representative for District 36 that includes Hampton Falls.

MONTHLY REPORTS: SELECTMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Planning Board, Library Trustees: E. Beattie reported that the Library Trustees have a new Library Director. As Selectmen he stated that there is a shift in focus from the Library building (managed by the Library Trustees) to the land outside the Library building (managed by the Town Selectmen). Examples

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of this shift are that the Road Agent is addressing the curbing issue in the Library parking lot, and the Town will be managing the Library's mowing contract moving forward.

The Planning Board, at its September meeting, had a Design Review proposal for a major mixed-use development at 12 Lafayette Road, that is the location of the former Faro Gardens. E. Beattie said that the proposal has the potential to change the dynamic of the town. The developer plans to return to the Planning Board in November, after listening to the input of the Planning Board members. Sewer provided by the Town of Seabrook is a requirement for this project to move forward. E. Beattie encouraged people to view the recording of the Planning Board meeting on Town Hall Streams from September 27th, and to read the newspaper article by Seacoast Online published September 30th. The project is proposed by Joe Faro Sr. as a mixed-use development with businesses, a restaurant, and multi-level residential for elderly on 12 acres.

L. Gargiulo asked if it was factual that if the developer proposed five-stories building height that they offered to purchase the Town of Hampton Falls a ladder truck, and E. Beattie confirmed that the comment was made that the Town of Seabrook has a very large ladder truck, and the location is so close to the town line that perhaps that resource could be utilized. E. Beattie said that even if a ladder truck was given to Hampton Falls, where would it be stored? Additionally, E. Beattie commented that that is not, traditionally, the way Hampton Falls has done business; we are concerned with the way that the town looks, and don't want to see the town change a great deal. The Planning Board gave the message to the developer that five-stories is too high, where thirty-five-feet (35') is the height limit specified by zoning. He concluded by saying that Planning Board members are always interested in hearing people's feedback.

Recreation Commission, LAS: M. Lane reported about the Recreation Commission, that the Selectmen heard at their Budget meeting this morning that the Recreation Commission has been working with K. Anderson and some of the concerns that the Board of Selectmen have expressed are being addressed. He said that it is going to be great to better define how the monies flow into and out of the Recreation Revolving Fund dependent on the program type and the facility use. Chairman Lane reported that there are three (3) new members on the Recreation Commission who are high energy and who are discussing new recreation program ideas, so that is great.

The Lincoln Akerman School (LAS) has started school, and are off to a good start, according to the Principal's Report. The School Resource Officer is still under discussion with the Police Chief, and at some point, the LAS will discuss specifics with a proposal to the Selectmen. One of the issues that gives people anxiety is the issue of Gender Identity and the school policy changes, the school is satisfied with the State and Federal regulations regarding Gender Identity. Chairman Lane said that the current total student population at LAS is 189 students, an increase from last year at 182. He said that at one time it was as high as 260, and when he was on the School Board that it was in the range of 215/220 students. This sparked a discussion of the number of home-schooled students in Hampton Falls, in addition to the local choices families have of Sacred Heart and Heronfield Academy private schools. L. Gargiulo said that there is a new private school that has opened in Exeter recently, and E. Beattie said that it might prove to be competition with LAS. Chairman Lane stated, in his opinion, that LAS is an incredibly successful school. Looking at how LAS students perform at Winnacunnet, he described the top ten of

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each graduating class has many Hampton Falls students. L. Gargiulo reported that the LAS fixed the edges of the recently re-paved parking lot.

Heritage Commission, Conservation Commission: L. Gargiulo reported that the Heritage Commission is going to do a Barn Survey. The Conservation Commission does not have any land acquisitions available. They have been working on Invasive Species.

OTHER: OTHER SELECTMEN’S NEW BUSINESS: There was no Other Selectmen’s New Business.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: September 21, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes of September 21, 2022, as written.

MOTION: E. BEATTIE

SECOND: L. GARGIULO

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PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no Public Comment.

Next Selectmen’s Meeting is Wednesday, October 19, 2022 8:00 AM

K. Anderson made the request to enter into Non-Public Session with the Board of Selectmen to discuss Personnel, specifically as per RSA 91-A:3 Personnel.

MOTION: To enter into Non-Public Session, for reasons of RSA 91-A:3 Personnel, at 6:40 PM.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

Roll Call

Ed Beattie-----YES

Lou Gargiulo-----YES

Mark Lane -----YES

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MOTION: To close the Non-Public Session, and to return to the Public Session at 7:10 PM.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

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ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM.

MOTION: L. GARGIULO

SECOND: E. BEATTIE

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Board of Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes prepared by Rachel D. Webb, Assistant Administrator.