

*Board of Selectmen Minutes*  
*Regular Board Meeting of March 7, 2011*  
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**DRAFT to be approved at the April 4, 2011 meeting**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, March 7, 2011 at the Town Office Building.

**Present for the Board:** First Selectman Kate Donnelly, Selectman Roger Dionne, Selectman Mike Chapel.

1. **Call to order:** First Selectman Donnelly called the meeting to order 7:30 at p.m.
2. **Audience for Citizens:** Kathi Newcombe spoke regarding Selectmen's salaries and how they are determined. She inquired as to if/when there would be a meeting of the Selectmen's Salary Committee. She spoke regarding employees hourly wages and health benefits. She asked what had become of the Trash Options Committee.  
Marcia Kilpatrick spoke regarding single stream recycling, and was unsure if that worked for our Town.  
Linda Gorman noted that she works more than the 16 hours per week her position is allotted.  
Gay Wagner spoke regarding the Recreation Commission and Youth Sports budget.  
Dayna McDermott-Arriola spoke regarding Youth Sports and their delivery mode regarding notice of Youth Sports activities.  
Marcia Kilpatrick asked about Agenda Item 10F, and inquired as to which Town property was for sale.  
Tara Murphy spoke regarding money allocated to Youth Sports by the Recreation Commission, and the modes of outreach Youth Sports Committee has been utilizing.  
Juan Arriola spoke regarding the vote that allocated funds to Youth Sports.  
Doug Stewart inquired as to whether or not the funds for Recreation and Youth Sports can be separated in future years. Selectman Chapel noted this could be reviewed during the budget sessions.

**Communications:** E-mails sent to First Selectman Donnelly regarding allocation of funds to Youth Sports, attached herewith.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** Regular meeting minutes of January 3, 2011

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to accept the minutes as written; all in favor; motion carried.

4. **Liaison Reports:**

**D-11 Board of Education:** George Askew reported that this is the 5<sup>th</sup> year of a 0% budget increase. Teaching staff have had no salary/step increase, nor has the administration. Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, is Empty Bowl. There will be a 26 student increase for the 11-12 school year. A proposed State bill will allow 3 year averaging by towns for financial equity of school budgets; board.

**Hampton Board of Education - John Burnham -** Mr. Burnham reported that the budget process is underway; a draft budget was prepared at the last meeting. There is still more work to do, and it will continue at this week's meeting.

**Fire Department: No report this month.**

**Ambulance Corp:**

*(Note: this report was submitted in January for the February Board meeting which was subsequently canceled.) The Hampton-Chaplin Ambulance responded to 30 calls for service during the month of January. We have seen an increase in the number of fall related injuries including outside falls related to the winter weather conditions. We would like to remind people to keep driveways and walkways as clear as possible. Also, please clear any snow from 911 emergency signs and/or other house numbers. The Town of Pomfret has resumed ambulance coverage of their own. We would like to recognize the efforts of our Town Crew members, especially Daryl Christadore and Brad Waite. They have provided assistance above and beyond anything we expected during several storms. I would like to call attention to their efforts on a call that occurred at 2:00a.m. and 1/27/11. This was during the height of the last significant snow. Without their efforts which included plowing a path in front of us to the call and then back to Route 6 we would not have made it. No one asked them to do this, they jumped in and did it in the best interest of the care of our patient. Thank you both. Respectfully submitted, Ben Brackett, Chief.*

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5. **Financial Report for the months ending January 31, and February 28, 2011.** The Board reviewed the monthly financial statement provided by Treasurer Ellen Rodriguez.

**JANUARY TRANSFERS:**

1. \$520.00 from Town Hall telephone #6013-06 to Solar Energy System #6016-01
2. \$300.00 from Building Inspector Clerk #6100-10 to Building Inspector Supplies #6100-08.

**FEBRUARY TRANSFERS:**

1. \$1,000 from Town Hall telephone #6013-06 to Town Hall Oil #6013-04
2. \$900.00 from Tax Collector Assistant #6001-02 to Tax Collector Computer #6001-06
3. \$100.00 from Conservation #6010-05 to P&Z Mileage #6010-03
4. \$700.00 from Building Inspector Clerk #6100-10 to Building Inspector Training #6100-09

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to approve the transfers recommended by Treasurer Rodriguez; all in favor; motion carried.

6. **Tax Collector Report** - For the months ending January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The Board reviewed the reports submitted by Tax Collector Baum, the texts of which are included herewith.

**JANUARY:** "We received and deposited \$3,556,275.34 through February 1, 2011 for a current collection percentage of 89.24% YTD. Through the end of January last year we received \$3,537,017 for a current collection percentage of 92.79%. We are slightly ahead of this time last year in revenue, behind in %age, however we received over \$100,000 on Feb 3 that was postmarked by the first. That puts us at 92% year to date. Current taxes are slightly behind last year, and prior years are ahead."

**FEBRUARY:** "We received and deposited \$3,859,775 through February 28, 2011 for a current collection percentage of 96.33% YTD. Through the end of February last year we received \$3,622,483 for a current collection percentage of 94.94%. We are significant ahead of this time last year in revenue, and in %age and should easily exceed the 97% budgeted revenues."

**6A. REFUNDS:** There were three refunds for the Board to approve. Two are overpayments by escrow companies for a total of \$5,052.94 and an Assessor Correction of \$288.84. Tax Collector Baum recommended approval for the total of \$5,341.18.

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel motioned/seconded to approve the refunds as recommended by Tax Collector Baum; all in favor; motion carried.

**6B. Act on Credit Balance Refund Request:**

There were two credit balances that exceed the three year statutory limitation to request a refund. Tax collector Baum noted that it is now appropriate for these funds to be returned to the General Fund and requested same.

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to approve returning the two credit balances, one for \$893.78 and one for \$12.73, to the General Fund; all in favor; motion carried.

**6C. Act on request for abatement from Clark Woodmansee**

Tax Collector Baum recommended the Board approve the request for a Dairy Farm Abatement from Mr. Woodmansee, at the same rate as in the last fiscal year, 25%.

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to approve Mr. Woodmansee's abatement as noted above; all in favor; motion carried.

7. **Appointments/Terms:**

1. Susan Crawford, Green Energy 2 yrs 3/7/11 through 3/7/13
2. Marlene Aulten to IWWA for a term of one year 3/7/11 through 3/7/12
3. Matt LaFontaine Recreation Commission two years 3/7/11 through 3/7/13

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to appoint each of the individuals listed above to the committees they desired to serve on; motion carried; all in favor.

8. **January and February Minutes/reports for Review:** The Board reviewed minutes and reports from Committees and Commissions.

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**9. Old Business**

- A. Discuss and Act on Town Hall heating system John Berard provided an extensive overview of the project, the pros and cons of several options, and the best course of action at this time.

**MOTION:** Selectmen Chapel/Dionne moved/seconded to proceed with Town Hall heating system and accept the proposal presented by Building Inspector John Berard.

- B. **Garage update** - project will resume on March 15, 2011.

- 10. Review Budget process:** Budget workshop sessions are scheduled for the following dates: Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 1:00p.m., Tuesday, April 6 at 1:00p.m. and Thursday, April 21 at 7:30p.m.

**11. New Business:**

- A. **Approve Resolution for Elderly Transportation Grant**

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to approve the following resolution:  
*Resolution authorizing first Selectman Kate Donnelly to negotiate and execute all necessary Agreement/Contract documents on behalf of the Town of Hampton with the Department of Transportation of the State of Connecticut, and to affix the corporate seal.*

- B. Senior Report - Elderly Service Provider: A State mandate requires that the Town have an elderly service provider. Mario Fiondella has been kindly volunteering in this position. First Selectman Donnelly will request that \$1,000 be added to the 11-12FY budget to provide for this position, and that hopefully someone from the ambulance corp would fill the job.
- C. Set meeting date for Town Meeting for HES roof: A meeting date of March 29, 2011 was set forth. A discussion with Board of Education member Doug Stewart ensued.

**MOTION:** Selectmen Chapel/Dionne moved/seconded to approve the meeting date of Tuesday, March 29, 2011.

- D. Discuss Deed Researcher Presentation - Chaplin's First Selectman, Bill Rose, hired Gerald Stefon, a deed researcher, to investigate the status of old town roads, abandoned roads, and dirt roads. First Selectman Donnelly will schedule a presentation by Mr. Stefon for our Town.
- E. Approval of Job Descriptions -  
Administrative Assistant

**MOTION:** Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to adopt the revised administrative assistant job description; all in favor; motion carried.

- F. Discuss and act on Town property sale (Executive Session anticipated)

It was decided to allow Agenda Item 12, Audience for Citizens to take place prior the Executive Session to accommodate audience members.

**Audience for Citizens:**

Gay Wagner asked that the document regarding the distribution of recreation funds she submitted earlier be included with the minutes.

Dayna McDermott-Arriola spoke regarding the review of the Elementary School Teacher's contract by the Board of Selectmen. Discussion ensued with commentary/clarification by John Burnham and Maryellen Donnelly.

Marcia Kilpatrick spoke regarding the Parish Hill budget and asked how to obtain information regarding increases and decreases.

Juan Arriola voiced the opinion that the First Selectman curtails citizen commentary.

First Selectman Donnelly thanked 3 Committee Chairs, who have recently resigned, for their service to the Town. IWWA Chair Heather Bonnekson, Library Chair Jim Ryan, and AgVocate Chair Bruce Kittridge.

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**MOTION:** Selectman Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to enter Executive Session at 8:55p.m. Selectmen returned from Executive Session, and regular meeting resumed, at 9:27p.m. at which time a decision on the sale of 366 Hartford Turnpike was put forth.

**MOTION:** Selectmen Chapel/Dionne moved/seconded to proceed with auction sale of the property located at 366 Hartford Turnpike; all in favor; motion carried.

**12. Adjournment**

**Motion:** There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectmen Dionne/Chapel moved/seconded to adjourn at 9:30p.m.; all in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marlene B. Aulten  
Recording Secretary