

Hampton Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 6, 2024
Lower Level

First Selectman Allan Cahill called the regular meeting of the Hampton Board of Selectmen to order at 7:00 PM in the lower level of the Hampton Town Hall. Selectmen Bob Grindle and John Tillinghast, Board of Finance Chair Kathy Donahue, members of the public, and Administrative Assistant Jennifer Nelson were also in attendance.

2. Audience for Citizens:

Diane Meade asked if the town was considering any elderly housing developments or if Hampton had the capacity for something planned for Hampton since the residential population is aging and current housing stock in Hampton is large. First Selectman Cahill responded there were no current discussions. Mr. Cahill does not believe there are support services available in Hampton to create an elderly housing island that would require transportation and other services that would be needed. There are a few towns close to us that do have senior housing, but not Hampton.

Kathy Donahue asked if the selectmen were aware a resident had expressed interest to be appointed to the Board of Finance. Mr. Cahill responded yes, and the appointment would be made under appointments.

3. Acceptance/Approval Minutes of April 1, 2024: **Bob Grindle moved to accept the minutes of April 1, 2024. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

4. Additions to Agenda: **None**

5. Communications:

First Selectman Cahill noted the DPW did a lot of work in preparation of the parking lot paving of the Town Hall and Community Center, the paving is complete, and the Town Hall Campus is greatly improved. The DPW crew also did additional tree work. Mr. Cahill wanted to remind residents Route 97 will be closed by Uteley Road down past the elementary school, so travelers will need to get used to that detour, and will be closed to about mid-August. Mr. Cahill also works on the executive board at NEECOG, and John Filchak has announced his retirement, and it will be a big void to fill. Our webhosting company Quasars is closing, so we are transitioning to a new web hosting company—Windhill from New Hampshire, as recommended by Mr.

Pittman. We also received a large contribution from resident Paul Cichon to put towards the fire truck which will help fund the cost of the truck.

6. Financial Report: No questions

7. Tax Collector Report: **John Tillinghast moved to approve the March Tax collector's report. Bob Grindle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

A. Refunds – **Bob Grindle moved to approve the tax refunds of:**

\$25.00 Jeffery Leo

\$315.12 Jean Wierzbinski

\$30.32 Robert Nadeau

John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Tax Abatements—Woodmansee Trust, Eva South Farm, LLC: The farm dairy abatements were submitted to the revenue collector and she's forwarded to them to selectmen. They've been 25% in past years. **Bob Grindle moved to repeat the 25% tax abatement for Woodmansee Trust and the Eva South Farm, LLC. John Tillinghast seconded the motion and it carried with the following vote:**

YES: B. Grindle, J. Tillinghast

ABSTAIN: A. Cahill

8. Appointment(s): Mr. Cahill invited Ms. Lavoie to address her interest in the appointment to the recreation commission, and she recounted her interest and connection to the elementary school, and desire to provide activities for her children, as well as the greater Hampton community. **John Tillinghast moved to appoint Rachel Lavoie as a member of the recreation commission for 2 years expiring May 2026. Bob Grindle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Regina DeCesare expressed an interest in the Board of Finance. This will be an open alternate position. The appointment will start in June, but this will give her time to become familiar with the inner workings of the board. **Allan Cahill moved to appoint Regina DeCesare for 5 years to the Board of Finance until May, 2029. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

9. Board/Committee/Commission Minutes/reports for review: None

10. Old Business

A. 2024 Budget: The selectmen reviewed the current draft budget proposal issued by the Board of Finance. Chairman Donahue added the BOF will be meeting on Wednesday, and she has requested more information from the school regarding their presentation, and

additional questions to current departments to find out if additional purchases can be accomplished with this year's budget. Mr. Cahill and Mrs. Donahue are considering a town meeting the first or second week of June. There are agreements for a few items so far, but the board of finance will be reviewing additional information in the coming weeks. Health Insurance is currently at a 6.7% increase for next year. **Allan Cahill made a motion to approve the budget as presented to date. Bob Grindle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

11. New Business

A. Community Center Painting: Mr. Cahill received a bid from Silva's Fine Painting, LLC which was several thousands dollars less than other bids. **Bob Grindle moved to approve the bid to paint the community center for \$23,000. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

12. Audience for Citizens: Andrea Kaye wanted to thank the DPW for digging the hole to plant the tree on Arbor Day at the Library, and the Selectmen for reading the proclamation.

Mr. Cahill reminded the audience there was a referendum vote for the RD11 budget in the community room tomorrow (May 7th) from noon to 8PM.

13. Adjournment: **Bob Grindle moved to adjourn at 7:15 PM. John Tillinghast seconded the motion. Mr. Cahill thanked the audience for their attendance.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant