Hampton Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday, November 7, 2024 Hampton Town Hall Community Room

The regular meeting of the Hampton Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:30 PM by First Selectman Allan Cahill. In attendance were Selectmen Bob Grindle and John Tillinghast, members of the public, and Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant.

- 2. Audience for Citizens: None
- 3. Acceptance/Approval Minutes of October 10, 2024: **Selectman John Tillinghast moved to approve the minutes of October 10, 2024. Selectman Bob Grindle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**
- 4. Additions to Agenda: None
- 5. Communications:

Diane Gagnon resigned her seat on the Hampton Elementary Board of Education. The local board has 30 days to fill the vacancy.

The election effort was seamless including all early voting and in person voting on election day. The board discussed the early voting efforts, the registrars' roles, and expenses associated with the early voting.

Other communications with Homeland Security include drought and red flag warning due to absence of any notable rainfall.

Public Works have done a great deal of heavy cutting. They've finished West Old Route 6 and are moving on to East Old Route 6.

Selectman Cahill also wanted to emphasize the dryness that has been exacerbated by the lack of rainfall, and to caution all residents to remain vigilant.

The paving prep for the outdoor tennis court area will be completed tomorrow.

Route 97 will be opened for 2-way traffic in the next few weeks. Selectman Cahill also got the final contract for the Trails Grant from the DEEP, and they can start spending to award of \$219,200.

Mr. Waite thanked the BOS for the proclamation provided for Al Ameer.

6. Financial Report: The selectmen questioned various items that appeared over budget. The treasurer will work with the auditor to assign expenses to correct fiscal years since Eversource billed for numerous months that covered two fiscal years. First Selectman Cahill also discussed

the repairs that will be needed at the Transfer Station which will be split with the Town of Scotland.

7. Tax Collector Report: The report hasn't been delivered yet, the Board of Finance meets later in the month.

Selectman Bob Grindle moved to approve the following Tax Refunds:

Ally Financial: \$120.29

Jean Burdick: \$ 15.80, 24.70, 69.30

Selectman Grindle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- 8. Appointment(s): Garry Brown, a resident of Pomfret, offered to serve Hampton as Veterans Advocate. After a brief discussion, **Bob Grindle moved to appoint Garry Brown as a Veteran Advocate for Hampton veterans. John Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.** Mr. Brown will serve similarly as Jane Cornell does as advocate for the elderly, and will be at the town hall once per month. The schedule and access will be finalized and advertised in the coming weeks.
- 9. Board/Committee/Commission Minutes/reports for review: None
- 10. Old Business
 - A. Award Recreational Court Paving Contract: Selectman Grindle moved to approve the Recreational Court Paving Contract for Pinecroft Paving and Landscape of \$49,870. Selectman Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- 11. New Business
 - A. 2025 Regular Meeting Dates: **Selectman Grindle moved to approve the 2025 Regular Meeting Dates, as presented. Selectman Tillinghast seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**
 - B. Holiday Happenings 2024: The selectmen discussed their effort to provide town hall staff with a holiday luncheon to celebrate December.

First Selectman Cahill noted he will act as clerk of the works for the Oil Tank removal and replacement at Hampton Elementary School. Money was approved at the Annual Town Meeting for the school Capital Improvement. Mr. Cahill signed a contract with Hometown Oil in Providence to purchase an oil tank for the school. A 50% down payment was made today, Nov. 7th, for the tank today.

12. Audience for Citizens: Mark Samios asked when the Route 97 construction will be completed. Selectman Cahill was told it would be done in 2 weeks.

Jessica Samios asked how many people voted in town? The selectmen responded there were 1100 for the presidential election out of a possible 1300 voters. It was close to 80% turn out.

Early voting accounted for close to 35% of the electorate voted early.

Town Clerk Kaye Johnson wanted to add that free dump stickers were well received in town. The selectman also discussed the dump sticker distribution since November 2, 2024.

Selectman Bob Grindle moved to adjourn at 7:20 PM. First Selectman Cahill seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson Administrative Assistant