Town of Hampton, Connecticut Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Minutes April 25, 2013

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A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Thursday, April 25, 2013 at the Town Hall.

Present for the Board: First Selectman Allan Cahill, Selectman Bob Grindle, Selectman Mike Chapel

Staff Present: Liz Stillman, Recording Secretary

ITEM 1: Call to Order: First Selectman Cahill called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

ITEM 2: Audience for Citizens

Kathi Newcombe indicated that she thought the Board of Selectmen had acted responsibly in their budget process and that it was a shame that the budget was to be cut even further.

ITEM 3: Budget Workshop

Selectman Grindle spoke about the Ambulance Corps request for \$35,000 for the FY 2013-2014 budget, and asked that they submit financial reports to help the board understand the substantial increase. He also spoke about the good service the Ambulance Corps provides.

First Selectman Cahill agreed, stating that they were not questioning the service, just the financial aspect of the request.

The Board of Finance had directed the Board of Selectmen to add revenue back from eliminating the transfer station stickers and to cut an additional \$15,000 from the budget.

Changes made during the workshop:

- \$5,000 removed from Contingency
- \$10,000 removed from Building Maintenance
- First Selectman salary adjustment removed
- 1% cost of living increase for town employees eliminated
- Added a line item for the future purchase of an ambulance of \$12,000
- \$3,000 from Tax Collector Refund Overpaid Tax removed
- \$2,000 from P&Z Legal & Engineering removed
- \$2,000 removed from Town Garage Maintenance
- \$1,200 removed from Library line item for payroll services
- Adjustments to Social Security/ FICA contributions due to elimination of salary increases

Discussion followed about the Ambulance Corps request and whether a contracted service should be obligated to submit financial records to the Town. The Selectmen agreed that adding a line item in the town's budget for an ambulance was a fair compromise in response to the Ambulance Corps request.

<u>MOTION</u>: Selectman Chapel/ Grindle moved/ seconded to approve the changes as written below. All in favor; motion passed.

ITEM 4: Audience for Citizens

Kathi Newcombe stated that the Gazette, when it received funding from the Town, did not open their books, but did provide a budget past and projected and showed invoices to back up their requests at the end of the year, and suggested that more information was warranted from the Ambulance Corps.

Discussion followed about the budget process of Hampton and other area towns.

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ITEM 5: ADJOURNMENT:

<u>MOTION:</u> There being no further business for the Board to discuss at this special meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Selectman Grindle/ Chapel moved/seconded to adjourn at 3:49 p.m; all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Elizabeth Stillman Recording Secretary