

Hunting Advisory Committee  
Town of Hampton, Ct.  
Special Meeting  
**27 March 5:00pm**  
Town Hall Conference Room  
Minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call of Members at 5:05pm – present Ed Burchfield, Jeff Smith, and Ralph Brand; not present Doug Stewart, Rich Schenk.

AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS- Allan Cahill and Mike Chapel in attendance, participation is encouraged during each agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Ralph, seconded by Jeff to approve the Minutes of 13 Feb 2014; all in favor, passed.

COMMUNICATIONS- None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. After discussion with no recommended changes Ralph/ Jeff moved/ seconded to approve and submit the proposal (attached) to allow hunting on town land as presented. All in favor, passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS- None

ADJOURNMENT – at 5:30pm hearing no objection, the Chair declares adjournment.

The Committee recommends allowing the legal residents of the town of Hampton permission to use town owned land for hunting within the following guidelines.

### **General**

1. The specific use of Town owned land for hunting by legal residents (proof of a legal permanent physical address in Hampton, normally a state issued ID requiring notification of change of address within 48 hours) shall be approved using the consent form (appendix A) as authorized by the Board of Selectmen of the town of Hampton, or designated representatives referred to as the Board of Hunting Oversight when established. Applicants for recreational use of town owned property shall not be assessed a tax or charged a fee, for the granting of such privilege.
2. A board of no less than three or more than five individuals (holding a valid Ct Hunting License) shall be appointed to ensure fairness and equal opportunity for all applicants is maintained; and shall have administrative oversight of the process to include additions to or repealing of any aspect of policy, rules or regulation within the purview of the town; the process by which selection of applicants are conducted and permitting authorized; the power to temporarily remove prior authorization until a formal appeal can be completed; the power to enforce all policy, rules and regulations specific to the town, but shall not include the power to tax, fine, levy public service, arrest; or unnecessarily detain participants except to the degree necessary to confirm identity, authorization status and the likelihood of an offense, and if an offense is determined be more than likely having occurred the case may be referred to the appropriate higher State authority, and in all cases the details of which must be reported to the Board of Selectmen. All users must at all times behave in a civil and sportsman like manner or potentially face lifetime revocation of the privilege to use town property for any or all use. The use of Town owned land for other recreational, commercial or private uses is not specifically addressed herein except that all users of such are responsible for being familiar with all rules, policies, regulations, and laws of the town and state as they may apply to hunting; shall be required to wear fluorescent orange during the hunting seasons; and subject to any restriction of motorized and non motorized modes of transportation use herein unless exempted by a selectman for specified projects of an official nature to benefit the town.
3. Appeals of restriction, denial or revocation of authorized use shall be decided by any such body appointed (Ad-Hoc) by the Selectmen to hear such an appeal except that no person involved in the restriction, denial or revocation process may serve on such a body. The composition of such an appeals entity shall be at minimum two thirds of its members licensed hunters within the state; all actions taken shall be final and may be of either a temporary or permanent nature; all actions taken shall be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. Appeals of any case involving conviction of, or pending cases without conviction of any law, rule, regulation, or policy from a higher authority shall not be heard until resolved by the higher authority and only then if found not guilty of the offense, or any lesser included offense.
4. Notification of the citizenry that hunting activity is possible or is in fact occurring on town or private property is not required by statute (**Sec. 7-32k.**) and the act of which must be assumed compliant with all regulation until such time as proof to the contrary can be shown. The town may post season dates and times on the town website or link the information. The state statute referring to hunter harassment applies (**Sec. 53a-183a**). The Board shall maintain a list of all permitted applicants for the current season for use in validating authorization by the board or such other entity tasked with enforcement; and a list of the same for a period of not more than three years solely for the use of selection of applicants to ensure fairness and any other official use determined by law.

## **Rules**

1. All authorized users of town properties are granted use with the understanding and agreement that the applicant will follow all applicable written town and state policies, ordinances, regulation, rules and laws that may apply; and to report all potential hazards and violations of rules, regulation or laws to the Board of Hunting Oversight and Selectmen, or the appropriate state official as soon as possible upon being aware of such.
2. Consent shall be valid for the time frame specified, but shall not normally exceed thirteen months for the purpose of hunting, and all consent shall terminate when the applicant is no longer a legal resident of the town of Hampton, or when any other required permit, certification, license, or requisite for the activity requested is suspended, revoked or expires.
3. No motor vehicles are allowed for use on the premises except for those specifically authorized for use by the handicapped, or use incidental to the activity authorized (farming, firewood/ timbering, Field research, or maintenance operation, etc...) and use that would normally be required to allow (in general, perimeter) access to such property for the purposes of parking. All Motor vehicle use (except for Parking) shall be authorized in writing on the consent form. Motor vehicle use shall only be in such a manner as to have as minimum an impact on the environment as is necessary to complete the task at hand (no recreational four wheeling).  
Non motorized modes of transportation including but not limited to bicycles, horses, dog sleds, etc... that may have a negative impact upon the land may be limited (in writing) or denied for use.
4. No permanent structure/s may be erected or left upon the premises, temporary structures such as ground blinds, tree stands and climbing aids may be used so long as their use is not affixed to a tree with metal fastening devices that cannot be easily removed or with a fastener that may easily shear in such a manner as to leave a part thereof remaining in the tree (no nails), only threaded fasteners or straps (preferred) are allowed. All structures must have the authorized users name attached. Ground blinds when in use, shall have a fluorescent orange flag (400 Square inches, visible from all sides) erected above and within 12 ft of the structure.
5. No dressing of game on the property, and all waste material (including shell casings) shall be removed from the property.

## **Season dates/application process and selection**

1. Season dates and times may vary from year to year, currently they are:

Archery 3 hunters per day for five periods. 15/season.

15-27 Sept., 29 Sept- 11 Oct., 13 -25 Oct., 27 Oct- 8 Nov., 10-18 Nov.

Firearms 3 hunters per day for 6 periods. 18/season.

19-25 Nov., 26 Nov-2 Dec, 3-9 Dec., 10-16 Dec., 17-23 Dec., 24-31 Dec.

The seasons below are specific to Junior Hunters and are restricted to 2 junior hunters per session per day except that Spring Turkey is limited to one session per day.

SPRING TURKEY - SATURDAY, APRIL 19 through SATURDAY, APRIL 26.  
PHEASANT - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11.  
DEER - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 through SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

2. Application to hunt town owned land shall be made using appendix A, and submitted to the Board of Hunting Oversight by 1 March of each year (although this date may change or be modified by the Board as the need arises).

3. Selection of applicants by the board shall be determined by lottery and or such other best practice to ensure fairness in selection of the participants for the year.

Applicants selected may be required to attend a preseason briefing to include review of these rules, safety precautions, ethics, state hunting regulations and any specific data for the unique characteristics of the parcel concerned, to be scheduled by the Board.

Appendix A

Consent to access and use property owned by the Town of Hampton

Name (applicant) \_\_\_\_\_ Conservation ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of property: Address \_\_\_\_\_ Map 3-11  
Lot 28 Block 8 Acreage 160.46  
Type of activity: (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
Motor vehicle use: (Specify) Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_  
Time frame of consent: \_\_\_\_\_ Through \_\_\_\_\_

All users agree by their signature, that it is their responsibility to act in an educated and conscientious manner, to report all potential hazards and violations of rules, regulation or laws as soon as possible upon being aware of such, and that all information supplied herein is true and accurate and subject to punishment under the law for false statements.

Applicants signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations other than specific administrative oversight.

1. Install a central access trail with locked gates at each end. Motorized vehicle access allowed for emergency vehicles, maintenance of property, handicap access, research initiatives and removal of large game.
2. Posting of land not required but may prove beneficial.
3. Provide access and parking area off Parker Road (west end).