

MINUTES
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2010

A Special Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Hampton, Connecticut was held at the Hampton Town Hall, 164 Main Street, on Monday, January 20, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. First Selectman Kate Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm (item 1). Following are the minutes of the business transacted.

- 2. To elect a moderator for said meeting:** Ed Burchfield nominated Gary DeCesare and then Gordon Hansen both of whom declined. Harry Baum nominated Ed Burchfield who declined. Maryellen Donnelly nominated Bob Grindle. Ed Burchfield moved to close nominations. First Selectman Donnelly called for the vote and Bob Grindle was elected Moderator unanimously. Moderator Grindle read the call of the meeting as published in the Willimantic Chronicle.

- 3. To discuss and act on the following question: “Shall the Town appropriate up to \$55,000.00 for the acquisition of a backhoe, of which \$45,573.00 is funded by a State grant?” Ed Burchfield/Roger Dionne moved/seconded to discuss the question as read.** Discussion ensued. Ed Burchfield provided background stating that the existing backhoe at the transfer station is in serious need of replacement and is no longer worth attempting to repair. Selectman Chapel agreed and explained that the grant received from the State is to be used for improvements at the transfer station and that the Office of Policy and Management has approved of the expenditure and that it is felt the purchase of a backhoe is the best use of the funds. Additionally, town auditors approve the purchase and use of funds. First Selectman Donnelly explained that approving this purchase will allow the selectmen to act immediately when a good piece of equipment is located. Several citizens asked about whether the cost could be shared with Scotland. The Board of Selectmen stated the grant belongs to Hampton, the backhoe will be used by the Hampton road crew when not in use at the transfer station, and Hampton would be better served to be the sole owner. The issue of a maintenance plan for the new equipment was discussed as well. With the backhoe garaged at the town garage facility, the Hampton road crew will be able to maintain the equipment properly. The present applicability of the agreement between Hampton and Scotland for the use and management of the transfer station was questioned and it is clear it needs to be reviewed. It was suggested that a portion of the Hampton road crew’s time could be budgeted for

maintenance of the transfer station equipment and billed through the shared expense agreement. Ed Burchfield/Roger Dionne amended their original motion to be to “discuss and approve the question as read.” **Moderator Grindle called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

4. **To discuss and act on the following question: “Shall the Town expend up to \$9,100.00 (received from the State Justice Assistance Grant) from the Capital Non-recurring account, for security system upgrades on Town properties?”** Ed Burchfield/Mike Chapel moved/seconded to discuss and approve the question as read. Kate Donnelly explained the grant had been applied for by the previous administration, but had been rewritten to focus on newly uncovered problems. The funds will be used primarily for replacing the defective fire and burglar alarms and replacing unsecure (and perhaps looking at ADA compliance) doors at the Town Hall. Discussion ensued with citizens asking about security at the transfer station and lower level windows. **Moderator Grindle called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**
5. **Informational review of plans for the new Town Garage.** Fred Marzec, architect from Marzec & Associates of Norwich, and Bob DeLuca, lead project engineer, presented an overview of the site plan and building for the new Town Garage. Questions were answered by the two experts, and Town Garage Committee chairman, Dan Meade.
6. **Adjournment:** Moderator Grindle asked for a motion to adjourn. Bob Burgoyne/Ed Burchfield so moved/seconded and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Wertam, Town Clerk