

**TOWN OF HAMPTON
ANNUAL [SPECIAL] TOWN MEETING
JUNE 9, 2011
MINUTES**

The legal voters and those qualified to vote in Town Meeting assembled in town Meeting at the Hampton Town Hall, Lower Level, 164 Main Street in Hampton, Connecticut on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 7:00 pm and the following business was transacted:

Item #3 adjourned to referendum on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 from Noon to 8:00 pm.

1. **Call to Order.** First Selectman Kate Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.
2. **To elect a moderator for said meeting.** John Rodriguez/Renee Cahill moved seconded to nominate Dick Brown. Hearing no other nominations, Ms. Donnelly called for the vote and Mr. Brown was unanimously elected Moderator.
3. **To hear discussion on the General Government Budget for FY July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012** as submitted by the Board of Selectmen, and to appropriate sums of money as required. First Selectman Donnelly reviewed the changes that the Board of Selectman made following the defeat of the previous budget, including all raises being eliminated, a 10% contribution now required of insured officials, a decrease to the assistant budget for the town clerk and tax collector, 10K reinstated for open space acquisition, a new 6K line item for a bookkeeping position, and full time benefits with a 20% contribution for the first selectman position. The floor was opened to citizens for questions and comments. Many concerns were raised by several citizens regarding:
 - Road crew losing their raise
 - First selectman position being considered full time and cost associated with providing 80% of full insurance
 - Insurance benefits for part-time elected officials
 - The 6K line item for bookkeeping
 - Youth sports level of funding (see attached letter from Mr. Gorman)
 - Paid officials for youth sports events rather than volunteers

A few questions were asked (and then answered by the First Selectman/Treasurer) regarding:

- How many checks are written a month (200)
- How much the 10% insurance contribution would save the town (\$73/month/person)
- How much the first selectman's proposed insurance would cost the town (\$1891/month)
- Whether Scotland was directly billed for their portion of the Transfer Station contracted costs (Yes. Scotland reimburses Hampton only for the administrative costs associated.)

Tax Collector Harry Baum presented a chart of local municipal government costs per capita.

Some citizens expressed support for:

- Bookkeeper position
- The effort and transparency with which the budget was compiled
- Youth sports funding.

Adjournment. Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Brown called for a motion to adjourn. Gay Wagner/Sue Hochstetter moved/seconded to adjourn at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Leslie Wertam, Town clerk