

**TOWN OF HAMILTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SEPTEMBER 8, 2009**

The Board of Selectmen met at Hamilton Town Hall at 7:02 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 with David Carey, William Bowler and Jennifer Scuteri present. Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena, Treasurer Collector Cheryl Booth, Finance Committee Co-chairman Bob Bullivant, Board of Health Chairman Lindle Willnow, DPW Director John Tomasz, Town Counsel Donna Brewer, Town Moderator Bruce Ramsey and Town Administrator Candace Wheeler also present.

Consider continuing closing Town Hall offices to public on Friday mornings

Town Hall offices will continue to be closed to the public on Friday mornings since employees are getting a lot of work done without interruptions.

Water Quality: Lindle Willnow, Board of Health Chairman

Discussion was on two water samples that contained coliform at Town Hall and Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. Water systems were flushed and chlorine increased to correct the problem. Notices written in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection were mailed to Hamilton residents.

Lindle Willnow, Board of Health chairman, said in this type of situation the immune suppressed would minimize contact with the water.

DPW Director John Tomasz said the organic water filters at the water treatment plant would be changed and easier to control. This will help keep the THM numbers within the acceptable range.

Brief discussion on health agent working with school department in preparation for swine flu cases. School-aged children are the target demographic for the H1N1 vaccine. State policy will drive whether or not schools are closed. Recommendations are for hand washing and use of hand sanitizers. A parent signature would be required before children are vaccinated. Partners Health Care is conducting seasonal flu clinics in Hamilton. A H1N1 flu mist is under consideration. Senior demographic is not confirmed for H1N1 vaccination.

Appoint Russell Stevens as police chief, ECO board member

David Carey entertained a motion to appoint Russell Stevens as the chief of police for the Town of Hamilton, a member of the ECO board, harbormaster and constable for the Town for the term of September 14, 2009 until June 30, 2012. Stevens will be sworn in on September 14. William Bowler so moved. Jennifer Scuteri seconded the motion. The motion was amended to say this is contingent upon the physical and psychological examination.

After discussion, Carey said the motion is to appoint Russell Stevens as chief of police for the Town of Hamilton effective September 14, 2009 until September 13, 2012 contingent upon his successfully passing the physical and psychological examination. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

The Board deferred a decision on appointment to the ECO board and harbormaster until they have more information on terms and expiration dates. There is a formal application process for constable. Bob Poole is currently a constable in Hamilton.

Approve Final STM warrant

Town officials discussed the Special Town Meeting warrant in preparation for signing the final version.

Bowler moved that Article 4-4 be amended to be limited to 25% of the Town Meeting that can vote in the affirmative in response for a motion for paper ballot with respect to capital overrides and debt exclusions over \$250,000. Carey so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. This would include overrides, debt exclusions, and capital outlay expenditure exclusions in excess of \$250,000. Non-financial would be beyond the scope of the article (although this could be moved with a majority vote). VOTE: Unanimous.

Also discussed was an article that addressed the need for a Home Rule petition to increase the number of Selectmen from 3 to 5. The Attorney General's office says this is necessary. The Town Meeting voted in May 2009 to increase the number of Selectmen but according to the AG, a by-law change is not enough to accomplish the goal. If the Town had a charter this would be a charter change.

Carey entertained a motion to authorize the Selectmen to sign the warrant tomorrow and approve it in the current form with the amendment voted on earlier tonight. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Minutes Approval

Carey entertained a motion to approve the August 3 and 10, 2009 regular session minutes. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Carey entertained a motion to approve August 17, 2009 regular session minutes. Scuteri so moved. Carey seconded the motion. VOTE: 2 in favor. 1 abstained since Bowler didn't attend.

Carey entertained a motion to approve the August 10 and 26, 2009 executive session minutes. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Carey entertained a motion to go into executive session at 8:16 p.m. not to return to open session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation, collective bargaining and non-union negotiation. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. Members raised their hands for a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Clerk