

**TOWN OF HAMILTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2013**

The Board of Selectmen met at Hamilton Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 9, 2013 with Marc Johnson, Jeff Hubbard, David Neill, Jennifer Scuteri, Scott Maddern present. Town Manager Michael Lombardo and Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena also present.

**Call to order**

Chair Marc Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Town Manager's report**

Town Manager Michael Lombardo asked the Board to amend the Consent Agenda to accept a donation from HWCAM to pay for attorney fees for the upcoming cable television contract renegotiation in the amount of \$12,500. Johnson entertained a motion to add the topic to the Consent Agenda. Jeff Hubbard so moved. David Neill seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Lombardo mentioned that a 9-11 service would be held at the public safety building on Wednesday, September 11. Also, that the state would be holding Open Meeting Law training on October 24 at North Shore Community College from 6 to 8 p.m. and he explained that a year ago there were substantive changes to OML so he recommended Town boards and committee members attend.

Also, Lombardo has scheduled a meeting to discuss possible grant funding for LED retrofit of the Town's street lights which could save Hamilton money. He also suggested that a discussion occur with Police Chief Russ Stevens about street lights that could be shutoff in Town.

He added that he needs a representative from Town to join him in attending Regional Energy Committee meetings where the collaboration of five towns discusses energy strategies. Jennifer Scuteri offered to participate.

In response to Hubbard, Lombardo said he would ask Recreation Director Sean Timmons if thank you notes went out to the Patton Pool Committee. Also, that he and Interim DPW Director Dave Hanlon have a strategy for the construction of the Model T fire truck building that will go before the Zoning Board of Appeals and he mentioned possibility of some site work occurring this fall.

The Board agreed to discuss soils being trucked from Boston to cap the landfill during New Business discussion later in meeting.

### Chairman/Selectmen reports

Scuteri said she had recently helped clean up two traffic islands in Town assisted by others including Administrative Assistant to the Town manager Maureen Hickey. Discussion ensued about how Hickey had investigated and identified that the Town does not currently have a policy about who maintains Hamilton's traffic islands.

Hubbard mentioned HW Merchants Association was holding its fall festival on September 21 and Myopia Hunt Club would hold a hunt parade on Town land and streets that morning. He anticipated that the hounds as well as horses and riders would participate this year.

Scott Maddern updated Board on his priorities for Hamilton including the anaerobic digester and his interest in becoming more involved with process so he plans to speak to cohort communities about how public outreach was done. He is also working on public outreach for Patton Park pool relative to fund raising, and signed up for class about how to be a better selectman given by Mass. Municipal Association on October 5.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Johnson read the items on the consent agenda.

Accept \$12,500 from HWCAM for legal fees in advance of contract renegotiation.

**Permission to Myopia Hunt Club** to hold a hunt parade on Town land and streets as part of the Fall Festival Celebration on Saturday morning, September 21, 2013. Finance Director Deborah Nippes mentioned how the certificate for insurance from Myopia Hunt Club just lists horses and riders not hounds that would participate in the parade.

**Liquor Licenses:**

**Gourmet Delights Catering** for an event at the Community House on Thursday, September 19, 2013; for an event at the Community House on Thursday, October 3, 2013; and for an event at the Community House on Saturday, October 5, 2013.

**Approve Minutes** – August 12, 2013 – Regular Session.

Johnson entertained a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Scuteri so moved. Maddern seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

**AGENDA**

**North Shore Coaching Weekend**

Mark Johnson, Bay Road, president of Myopia Driving Club, and Harvey Waller of Stockbridge presented information to the Board about North Shore Coaching Weekend event that will have multiple aspects occurring from October 4 through 6 where horses, coaches and drivers will meet at Myopia Schooling Field, Appleton Farms, Bradley Palmer State Park (tailgate picnic) and Myopia Hunt Club.

Waller noted that the event has been discussed with Lt. Scott Janes of the Hamilton Police Department and police escorts would be located in front and back of the coaches when they are briefly on the Town's roads. The coaches are licensed to be on the road, but consideration will be given to not hold up traffic.

Waller added that information about the event will be posted on the Town's website with a schedule as to when the public could view some of the event. He said these events are known to draw as many as 1,000 to 2,000 people. Also, the event will be conducted if there is light rain but cancelled if there is a downpour. Discussion ensued about etiquette for the public at the event including no balloons and waving rather than use of voices when horses and coaches are passing by spectators.

**Review Warrant Articles for Fall Special Town Meeting**

Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena summarized the proposed warrant articles for STM. There will be reports so the Finance & Advisory Committee can address HWRSD reducing its budget. There is no change in the Classification/Compensation table article as previously discussed by Town

officials since money has been budgeted for public safety and fire union personnel as the result of contract negotiations and corrected calculation of overtime pay according to FLSA.

Also addressed in the draft warrant was a transfer from the Council on Aging Revolving Fund to the General Fund for the Senior Center building improvements, and water rate increases as part of Water Enterprise budget related to water distribution system infrastructure improvements.

In addition, there are two articles that address budget increases including a range for the HW Library in anticipation of raises in employee salaries and FLSA changes in DPW budget to resolve back pay that will be paid for from Free Cash.

Other warrant articles included increase in Health Agent hours and Health Department training, travel and wage for the Public Health Nurse. Additionally, the warrant will have two articles on debt borrowing for the HWRSD with related ballot questions for the MSBA project-related funding and Buker School sprinkler system.

Two more warrant articles will focus on use of Community Preservation Act funds for Patton Pool improvements and cost of pool where language for these articles will be written by bond counsel. Recreation Director Sean Timmons and the pool design consultants will host a series of public informational meetings beginning September 23 at the next Selectmen's meeting. A second meeting will be scheduled for all Town officials, boards and committees on September 30, followed by one on October 9 for the general public. Discussion ensued about how the Selectmen can vote and make their recommendation on the pool warrant articles as late as at Special Town Meeting. The design consultant will attend the STM on November 4 to assist with presentation.

An additional article addresses need for \$100,000 more in funding required for the Howard and Linden Street culvert to improve water flow. It was noted that work on the Bridge Street culvert would occur next year where FEMA funding is available and this would be discussed at the Annual Town Meeting in the spring.

Also, a housekeeping action warrant article will assign the Council on Aging bylaw into the Town bylaws. The original bylaw language applies today as it did when the bylaw was created decades ago. As well as a septic system easement warrant article for 367 Lake Drive.

Discussion ensued about warrant article that speaks to developing an area of Patton Homestead property, 12 houses per the gift agreement where the Town would convey the land to a developer for this development through a Town Meeting vote and this would be done through the RFP process. Hubbard suggested that a lot of public education would be needed and said the community should be made aware of financial impact of several options for the Patton Homestead property including selling the property.

Some Board members said the intent is to authorize the Town manager to speak to developers and issue an RFP that would be addressed at ATM and development contract would be executed by a developer. Maddern mentioned that a strong message came from the Town's vote on the Pirie property which was for the Town to get going with the Patton Homestead property.

Another warrant article is related to extending a trail easement that is part of the Britton property relative to the Discover Hamilton trail system. Town Counsel Donna Brewer and other attorneys are researching if previously adopted easement can be expanded.

Two new articles are from HWRSD. The first proposes an amendment to the HWRSD agreement where candidates for the School Committee would submit nomination papers to the School Committee rather than town clerks in the supporting communities. The second suggests amending the School Committee composition from 9 to 7 members. Discussion ensued where Board members and Town manager expressed their and school district administration's support for this second article. Hubbard moves that the Board recommend favorable action on this article for the School Committee to amend its composition from 9 to 7 members. Scuteri seconds the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Also mentioned were placeholder articles for amending the cell tower bylaw and possibly the Town's zoning bylaws.

### **Review HW Public Library fees with Wenham**

Johnson noted that this topic was not ready to be discussed since the matter still needs to be resolved with Wenham.

**Set date for next Board of Selectmen meeting**

The Board had previously set September 23 as its next meeting date and it agreed to October 7 and October 21 as its next regularly scheduled meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Lombardo updated the Board about negotiation underway relative to 50,000 tons in soils needed for DEP approved soil cap at the landfill. He noted that the soils would be tested for acceptability by DEP and that there is a glut of soils on the market that the Town could pursue for the landfill capping. He added that Hamilton would be paid to take excess soil from a construction project which would bring in revenue and reduce costs associated with landfill capping project. He expects to have an answer on this matter in the next week or two.

The Board also revisited its earlier discussion about Hamilton's traffic islands and if there was a policy for maintenance. Lombardo reiterated that Hickey has not found any such policy.

In addition, Selectmen noted that the existing cell tower bylaw only allows a 55' tall tower in Hamilton and requires a tower to be situated on Town land. Scuteri said she has offered to help the Planning Board with any bylaw revisions.

**Consideration of topics for discussion at future Selectmen's meetings**

Hubbard suggested a discussion on advisory committee policy for the Board of Selectmen and recommended such a policy should be approved unanimously by the Board. Also, he recommended short term projects for the downtown that do not fall under the Hamilton Development Corporation purview that cost less than \$20,000 such as sidewalks, banners and flower pots.

In addition, Hubbard was interested in reviewing the first quarter projected Town budget versus actual budget and discussion revealed that the numbers would be available in early October and could be possibly be discussed at the Selectmen's October 7 meeting. Johnson suggested this review could be done in a subcommittee meeting with Nippes-Mena, Hubbard, Johnson and a Finance & Advisory Committee member rather than at a Board meeting.

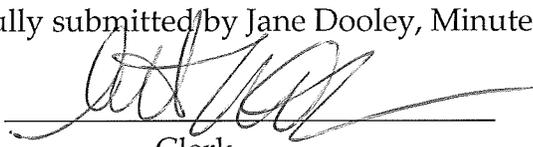
Scuteri mentioned discussion that she and Johnson had with resident Carey Rich who has construction engineering expertise and he said to calm traffic at the

intersection of Route 1A and Asbury Street a roundabout could prove useful. Neill thought a traffic light was the solution. Lombardo offered to investigate possibility of a traffic study at the intersection with Hanlon.

Johnson entertained a motion at 8:26 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Neill so moved. Hubbard seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "A. J. ...", written over a horizontal line.

Clerk

