

TOWN OF HAMILTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
OCTOBER 19, 2011

Board of Selectmen met at Hamilton Town Hall at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 with Jennifer Scuteri, Jeff Stinson, David Carey, Marc Johnson and Jeff Hubbard present. Town Manager Michael Lombardo and Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena also present.

Accept minutes (October 3, 2011)

Board clerk Jeff Hubbard entertained a motion for the Selectmen to accept the October 3, 2011 BOS regular session minutes. Jennifer Scuteri so moved. Jeff Stinson seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Public Comment

Resident Betty Gray mentioned that there was a recent meeting of Triad Council, a partnership of law enforcement, senior citizens and support/protective services in the community.

She also mentioned the late arrival of the Special Town Meeting warrant at residences prior to the upcoming STM on Saturday. Town Manager Michael Lombardo explained that the Town Hall staff had to repackage warrant two times to comply with post office requirements for a bulk mailing. He suggested that after STM the process of producing warrants should be revisited to address mailing, ongoing printing problems and how to get the information out to the public in a timely, cost-effective manner.

Town Manager's report

Disaster declaration has been issued for Essex County and fact sheets on available damage assistance are on the Town's website for homeowners and businesses effected by the October 4 weather incident (i.e., flooding or weather damage that occurred in Essex County).

In response to Lombardo's suggestion, the Board agreed to a joint meeting with Wenham selectmen on Monday, October 24 at 7 p.m. at Hamilton Town Hall.

Selectmen will have a regular Board meeting following the joint meeting to take action on a liquor license request.

Lombardo noted that a tri-board meeting with Wenham selectmen, the HW Regional School Committee and Hamilton Selectmen has been tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 6 p.m. at the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library.

#### Chairman/Selectmen reports

Selectmen suggested reports be done later on in the meeting during the BOS Goals and Objectives discussion.

#### Appointments to HW Cultural Council

Scuteri entertained a motion to appoint Anne Carmichael Babcock and Kerri Kinch to the Hamilton Wenham Cultural Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2014. Hubbard so moved. Stinson seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

#### Request for Signage for Gabe's Run on November 25, 2011

This request was not ready for Board action.

#### Sign Conservation Restriction for Donovan Fields

Conservation Restriction with Hamilton Wenham Open Land Trust for Donovan Fields acquired by Town allows recreational use on low land part of parcel as a condition of sale. Town did not receive any state grants for this parcel.

Scuteri entertained a motion to sign Conservation Restriction for Donovan Fields. Stinson so moved. Marc Johnson seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

#### Disposition of Town Owned Land

Lombardo said holdings mostly taken in tax title have been approved for sale at Town Meeting and by Selectmen's discretion. He noted that there are no properties similar to recently sold Hatfield Road parcel that are buildable due to wetlands or other problems.

Lombardo recommended parcels be put out to bid with descriptions of land and information that Town has to date.

Discussion about whether or not Town would assist neighbors interested in submitting a bid for Town-owned land within land acquisition structure to increase number of potential bidders, and if neighbors would pay for a betterment over time. Lombardo agreed to investigate with Town Counsel Donna Brewer who would hold financing in such an arrangement.

### SMART Program

Discussion on proposed SMART program for Hamilton and Wenham that would trade off cost savings with the delivery of services by incentivizing recycling. It would consist of weekly single stream and organic recycling, and every other week solid waste trash pick up with one free barrel. Plastic disposal bags would still be available for purchase by residents.

Proposed two-town program would encourage more aggressive recycling and could save Hamilton an estimated \$80,000 to \$140,000 a year in collection costs and there would be additional savings in reduced tipping fees for solid waste burned at an incinerator.

For the existing organic recycling program, the Town only has the resources to continue the program until the end of the month. It would continue town wide in Hamilton and Wenham if the proposed SMART program was adopted. The SMART program is also impetus for municipality to move forward with an anaerobic digester at landfill but a fatal flaw study has to be completed first.

Lombardo is pricing bins for additional recycling pickup days. Cost of bins would be built into SMART program and not be an out-of-pocket cost for residents. Grants to pay for this cost are being investigated.

Discussion focused on whether or not there should be weekly single stream and organic recycling as well as weekly solid waste trash pickup or weekly single stream and organic recycling and bi-weekly rubbish collection. It was noted that the cost of blue bags purchased by residents, less inclined to recycle, to dispose of solid waste beyond one free barrel a week could offset some trash removal costs.

Selectmen presented their viewpoints on proposed SMART program. Hubbard was in favor of recycling weekly and having bi-weekly solid waste pickup

emphasizing need for Town to find ways to save money. He stressed that the schools need to actively participate to increase recycling and that children should be educated about cost-effective, environmentally conscious trash disposal.

Johnson has been working closely with Lombardo doing the research and financial analysis for the SMART program. He noted that the Town's potential savings would be offset by the cost to cover new trash bins. In addition, he believes that the bi-weekly solid waste pickup option would generate real savings even after paying for new trash bins. Johnson concurred with Stinson that homeowners' current trash bins could be re-tasked toward recycling. The state has indicated it would substantially fund compost bins through their grant. Johnson was in favor of weekly recycling and bi-weekly solid waste pickup as a way for the Town to realize cost savings.

Stinson said focus has to be on costs, he wasn't sure if new single stream recycling bins should be provided to residents although he is in favor of composting. He advocated for weekly recycling and solid waste collection.

David Carey favored all forms of weekly recycling with the new single stream barrels and composting bins and bi-weekly solid waste pickup. He noted that the economic incentive could motivate residents to change how they dispose of trash, which could lead to a broader plan for the Town (i.e., anaerobic digester at landfill).

Scuteri noted that the SMART program would be another shared service with Wenham. She outlined the responsibilities of Town Meeting and the Selectmen as governmental bodies relative to trash pickup and that the Board had the authority to make a decision about rubbish collection. She too was in favor of weekly recycling, single stream and organic, and bi-weekly solid waste pick up.

Residents Betty Gray, Bill Dery, Bruce Wadman, and Duke Seaver presented their viewpoints on the SMART program that ranged from interest in weekly recycling and trash collection to disinterest in recycling and they questioned why Hamilton wasn't taking this decision to a Town Meeting vote as Wenham was doing. Residents Rick Mitchell and Barbara Lawrence were in support of weekly recycling and bi-weekly rubbish pickup.

Resident Peter Britton of Brick Ends Farm mentioned the reasonable rate he is providing the Town at his composting facility as part of the organic recycling program and how the Town is being fiscally responsible.

Carolyn Dann of the Department of Environmental Protection said her agency encourages the bi-weekly solid waste pickup initiative and expanded weekly single stream recycling. DEP does not support the once a week pickup for recyclables and solid waste since the economic incentives do not exist. She noted that DEP has found that the public responds to financial and structural incentives. The agency is considering Town's grant application for compost bins. It may also consider providing some funding if the Town pursues bi-weekly solid waste collection.

Scuteri entertained a motion to approve a change in the delivery and collection of trash options in Town such that Hamilton is going to a program with weekly single stream recycling, weekly organic composting and bi-weekly trash removal. Carey so moved. Johnson seconded motion. VOTE: The motion passed 3-2. In favor were Carey, Johnson, Scuteri; opposed were Stinson, Hubbard.

Lombardo will work with the waste hauler on the 90 to 120 day lead-time to prepare bins and structure SMART program to start in February timeframe. He will begin getting information out to residents.

#### Old Library Naming Contest submissions

Selectmen narrowed down submissions to two entries and the winner will be announced at Special Town Meeting on Saturday, October 22.

Submissions included: The Annette Janes Center, The Annette Janes Civic Center, The Annette Janes Life Center, Larry Lamson Municipal Building, Larry Lamson Center, Ed Howard Life Center, Joanne Patton Life Center, Ye Olde Hamilton Library, Old Hamilton Library, Old Library in Hamilton, 1891 Building, Senior Center, Hamilton Senior Center, Hamilton Council on Aging, Hamilton Citizen Center for Fellowship and Learning, The Hamlet, Hamilton Haven, Old Hamilton Center, Hamilton Annex, Hamilton Civic Center, Hamilton House, Hamilton Variety Center, Hamilton Village Center, Hamilton Meeting House, Neighborhood House, Village Meeting House, The Meeting House, The Public House, The Public Meeting House, Bay Road Meeting House, Bay Road Activity Center, 299 Bay Road, Friends Neighborhood Club, Brick Building Report, Brick Bay, Shangri La, Searching for Advance Civilization and New Beginnings.

Board members decided on two choices each that were put into an envelope to be opened at Special Town Meeting.

Schedule date for Selectmen Retreat

Lombardo suggested the Board schedule a work session in the next week or two to focus on and discuss Selectmen's goals and objectives. Selectmen agreed on Saturday, October 29 at 8:30 a.m. for a retreat. Location to be determined.

Board Goals and Objectives

Stinson and Johnson will collectively take action to improve cell service in Town.

Other business

MPO Elections

Board decided it could not make an informed vote since it was not familiar with candidate from Arlington.

It was reiterated that a joint Selectmen's meeting will be held with Wenham on Monday, October 24. Next regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting is Monday, November 7.

Scuteri entertained a motion for Board to adjourn open session at 6:45 p.m. to go into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.39, Section 23B(3) for the purpose of Union and Non-Union Contract Negotiations, not to return to regular session, Roll call vote: Hubbard, yay; Stinson, yay, Scuteri, yay, Carey, aye, and Johnson, yay.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk