

**TOWN OF HAMILTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
OCTOBER 25, 2010**

The Board of Selectmen met at Hamilton Town Hall at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, October 25, 2010 with William Bowler, David Carey, Jennifer Scuteri and Jeff Stinson present. Town Manager Michael Lombardo, Town Clerk Jane Wetson, Planning Board Coordinator Marcie Ricker, Planning Board member Peter Clark, Town Moderator Bruce Ramsey, Police Chief Russell Stevens, CPC chair Tom Catalano and CPA Coordinator Christine Berry and Finance Committee member Laurie Wilson also present.

**Jack Akin: Wreaths Across America 2010**

Wreaths Across America event will occur in Hamilton on Monday, December 6 at 11:30 a.m. One hundred wreaths will decorate graves in Town. Also mentioned were the Veteran's Day events that will take place on November 11.

**North Shore United Way request for sign at Old Library**

Jennifer Scuteri entertained a motion to approve a request from the North Shore United Way to hang a 4' by 8' wooden thermometer sign from the first week in November until December 31. David Carey so moved. Jeff Stinson seconded the motion. VOTE: 3-0-1. William Bowler abstained and expressed concern about the proliferation of signs at the intersection of Asbury Street and Bay Road.

**HWRSD Operational Audit Status Report**

Discussion with representatives from Enough Is Enough about approximately 50% of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District teachers taking the anonymous survey related to the HWRSD operational audit. This percentage is considered by some to be substantive data.

Status reports for the audit are being posted on Patch online newspaper and EIE websites. Audit fieldwork is being done now and the completed audit report is due on January 3. So it is premature for external questioning on the audit.

**Request from Ed Fund for Christmas tree sales**

Scuteri entertained a motion to approve a request from the Ed Fund to sell Christmas trees on the lawn area by the parking lot near the Patton Park tennis courts from December 2 to 12, 2010. Carey so moved. Stinson seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

**Discuss COA Shared Services**

Discussion on Town Manager Michael Lombardo and Wenham Town Administrator Jeff Chelgren working out details about shared Council on Aging services including senior van and programs.

Proposed scheduling and costs need to be defined for a shared COA director for Hamilton and Wenham. This would be a departure from past practice where a lead town runs a shared program. Wenham is ready to move forward on this.

**Warrant Hearing for STM October 30, 2010**

*Article 2-1:* Donovan Fields. Community Preservation Committee Chairman Tom Catalano will make the motion. Discussion on Town not receiving any state grant money for the recreation field purchase and that \$733,000 will come from Community Preservation Act undedicated and Open Space and Recreation reserves, 50% bonded borrowing and private donations. The source of repayment for borrowed money will be CPA funds.

Not much property tax revenue would be lost with the sale of Donovan fields since the property is already being taxed as Chapter land.

The upland part of this property could be used for multiple forms of recreation. Sale price for the land is the same as what the Donovan family paid 10 years ago and the family invested \$200,000 in part of the property for use as playing fields.

A two-thirds vote is required to pass this article since it involves land acquisition and borrowing.

*Article 3-1:* Estate Overlay District, Peter Clark will make the motion. Article requires two-thirds vote to pass.

Article 3-2: Willow Street Overlay District, Peter Clark will make the motion. Article requires two-thirds vote to pass.

Article 4-1: Quinn Bill revocation, William Bowler will make the motion. Educational incentive has been built into police union contract.

Article 4-2: Changes to Town Bylaws, Jennifer Scuteri will make the motion.

Article 4-3: Municipal Affordable Housing Trust, Fred Mills will make the motion. Revised draft of Appendix D with substantive changes related to the wording that describes the powers that will remain with Board of Selectmen will be handed out at Special Town Meeting.

Article 5-1: Affordable Housing Restriction, David Carey will make the motion. Article requires two-thirds vote to pass.

There will be a non-official discussion on the senior housing abatement with Bob Bullivant after the close of Special Town Meeting.

**Discuss Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Appendix D for Warrant**

Discussion on advisory powers that will remain with Board of Selectmen, Town manager as board member and voting power, rental property, low to moderate income, P.I.L.O.T. payments and residency requirements for other trust members associated with Municipal Affordable Housing Trust. Revised Appendix D will be handed out at Special Town Meeting.

Scuteri entertained a motion for the Board to accept the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Appendix D for warrant. Bowler so moved. Carey seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

**Discuss slides for PowerPoint presentation at STM**

Discussion on PowerPoint presentations being 10 minutes maximum and that Lombardo will review all slides prior to STM.

**Ratify Police contract**

Lombardo and Police Chief Russell Stevens discussed the draft police union contract for 2010 through 2013. Some wording changes in the police union

contract will be addressed in future contract negotiations. The police union contract to be ratified by the Selectmen did not require mediation or arbitration.

What was bargained for in the 2010 to 2013 police union contract included:

1. No cost of living percentage increase for three years,
2. Longevity pay as an add-on percentage has been eliminated and steps were built in as part of wage and classification system,
3. Quinn bill will no longer exist as part of the contract and educational incentive percentages will be added to weekly pay,
4. EMT compensation – \$65.75 weekly add-on was reduced to \$59.50 and is no longer added on and built into base pay,
5. \$1,500 annual EMT stipend on proof of certification. The Town no longer pays for the officers training time or courses
6. Holiday “me too” clause eliminated with one additional personal day added,
7. Compensatory time has 240 hour limit,
8. Cleaning allowance: \$620 up from \$450 (more reflective of actual costs),
9. Uniform allowance: \$525 increased to \$870 (more reflective of actual costs and more oversight by police chief as to when officers can buy new uniforms and guns),
10. Vacation: Reduction for new hires on or after July 1, 2010 instead of having a seven-day vacation week there will now be a five-day vacation week,
11. Sick time: Agreed to partial use of reserve officers to cover sick time, previously this was done exclusively with over time,
12. Quinn payback: Town has not received all funding from the state it once did for Quinn bill but officials decided not to ask officers to repay Quinn

bill payments received to date. Since contract is balanced with educational incentive other than Quinn and provides for long term cost management.

*Note: we did not discuss the rates*

Lombardo said there are two AFSCME contracts for two of the Town's unions that Selectmen to will likely ratify, according to the Special Act, next Monday, November 1. Another of the Town's union contracts has to be completed in the near future. Hamilton is in mediation with the fire union.

Scuteri entertained a motion to ratify the collective bargaining agreement with the Hamilton Police Benevolent Association for July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012. Stinson so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

The police union contract is now a public record.

### **Sign Special Town Election Warrant**

Scuteri entertained a motion for the Board to sign the Special Town Election Warrant that will be voted on November 9, 2010 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Bowler so moved. Stinson seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

### **Accept Minutes: Regular Session: October 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>**

Carey entertained a motion for the Board to accept the Board of Selectmen regular session minutes for October 7 and 12, 2010. Bowler so moved. Stinson seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

### **Other business**

Discussion was on the proposed change in the state sales tax from 6.25% to 3% if Question 3 on the November 2, 2010 state election ballot passes and the correlation between state funding that the Town and school district receives.

Marc Johnson had reviewed revenue data for the past 10 years and determined the reduced sales tax would truly impact the amount of local aid Hamilton would receive for the Town and school district.

Discussion was on holding next Board meeting on November 1 that will include an executive session.

Scuteri entertained a motion at 8:46 a.m. to adjourn. Bowler so moved. Stinson seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

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