

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

December 7, 2009

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hampden Town Council was held on Monday, December 7, 2009. The meeting was held at the municipal building council chambers and was called to order by Mayor Arnett at 7:02 p.m.

Attendance: Councilors: Mayor Matthew Arnett, Andre Cushing, Thomas Brann, William Shakespeare, Shannon Cox, Jean Lawlis and Janet Hughes

Town Manager: Susan Lessard was absent

Town Counsel: Thomas Russell

Department Heads/Staff: Town Planner Bob Osborne

Glacial Energy Representative Joe McErlain

Mayor Arnett noted that Manager Lessard was absent due to having surgery earlier today and wished her a speedy recovery.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no Treasurer's Warrants for Finance Committee review. Motion by Councilor Cushing, seconded by Councilor Hughes to accept the balance of the Consent Agenda – unanimous vote in favor.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

C. POLICY AGENDA

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF A VICTUALER'S LICENSE RECEIVED FROM CARROLL CREW, LLC d/b/a PAT'S PIZZA AT 662 MAIN ROAD NORTH

Mayor Arnett explained the procedure for the public hearing and then opened the hearing.

Proponents – none; Opponents – none: General Questions or Comments – None. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Hughes to approve the application – unanimous vote in favor.

b. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF A VICTUALER'S LICENSE
RECEIVED FROM KLITON XHEMALI d/b/a ANGELO'S PIZZA AT
102 MAIN ROAD SOUTH

Proponents – none; Opponents – none: General Questions or Comments
– None. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Hughes to approve the application – unanimous vote in favor.

2. NOMINATIONS-APPOINTMENTS-ELECTIONS

There were none.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. SHORELAND ZONING DRAFT – INTRODUCE FOR PUBLIC
HEARING ON 1/4/2010

Councilor Cushing introduced the proposed ordinance for public hearing on January 4, 2010.

b. GOALS & OBJECTIVES DRAFT

Councilor Lawlis requested that the following items be added to the current list:

- Green Energy Alternatives
- Increase Recycling and Implement Composting Program
- Development of a Dog Park

Councilor Cushing noted that the next step would be to prioritize the items and create a working plan for short-term and long-range objectives. He also thought it would be helpful to have cost estimates for some of the items on the list.

It was the consensus of the Council that this would require another work session and Mayor Arnett will work with Manager Lessard to set a date for the special meeting as soon as possible.

c. VFW BINGO & GAMES OF CHANCE LICENSE AUTHORIZATION

Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Cox to authorize the Whitcomb-Baker Post 4633 to operate bingo and games of chance – unanimous vote in favor.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. STREET LIGHT LOCATIONS:
- DUNTON CIRCLE/WESTERN AVENUE
 - DUNTON CIRCLE/SILVER DRIFT TRAIL

Councilor Brann noted that the recommendation from Public Safety is not necessarily for safety purposes – it is for convenience in identification of where the road access is. He feels that this could set a precedent and could lead to an increase in the number of street light requests all over town.

Councilor Hughes recommended and it was the consensus of the Council that this item be referred to the Infrastructure Committee for review and recommendation.

- b. GLACIAL ENERGY – INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE TOWN MANAGER TO
SWITCH FROM STANDARD OFFER (See Infrastructure Committee
Minutes of 11/23/09)

Councilor Brann reported that the Infrastructure Committee reviewed information related to the alternative supply offer from Glacial Energy for the Town's small electric meters. He noted that there would be considerable cost savings and there is no cost to participate in the program nor is there a commitment to remain in the program for any length of time. It was the recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee that the Town Manager be authorized to transfer electric suppliers from the Standard Offer to Glacial Energy.

Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Lawlis to authorize the Town Manager to manage the Town's electrical power through Glacial Energy – unanimous vote in favor.

- c. VIVIAN GRESSER'S RETIREMENT RECEPTION

This item was informational only. Mayor Arnett informed everyone that a reception honoring long-time Tax Assessor Vivian Gresser will be held from 5:00 to 7:00 pm on Monday, January 4, 2010 in the Community Room. All are welcome to attend.

D. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Cox reported that the Services Committee has not met since the last Council meeting, but the Appointments sub-committee has interviewed most of the applicants for Friends of Dorothea Dix and will interview the remainder tomorrow evening. Once the interview process is complete, the Committee will bring recommendations to the Council. The next meeting of the Services Committee will be at 6:00 pm on Monday, December 14th.

Councilor Cushing reported that the Communications Committee met last week. Newsletter Editor Annie O'Reilly has a full slate of articles for the January edition of the

newsletter. There was discussion about the Cable TV station and a few new shows have been taped for broadcast this month. The Committee also discussed digitizing the cable recording and broadcast system and will be bringing a recommendation to the Council in the near future.

Councilor Cushing further reported that the Committee on Committees also met last week and has narrowed down its emphasis on the citizen-level committees. The Committee expects to have a report and recommendations for the Council within a couple of months. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 23rd.

Councilor Brann reported that the Infrastructure Committee met on November 23rd and the minutes of that meeting were included in the Council packet. He noted that planning for the Mayo Road project is underway and Manager Lessard is working on a presentation for the replacement of the boiler in the Municipal Building. The next meeting will be at 6:00 pm on December 28th.

E. MANAGER'S REPORT

Due to Manager Lessard's absence, there was no Manager's Report.

F. COUNCILOR'S COMMENTS

Councilor Lawlis noted that the Dog Park Committee will be meeting at 7:00 pm on Thursday, December 10th in the Community Room.

Mayor Arnett thanked everyone who was involved in the Christmas Tree lighting this past weekend.

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.



Denise Hodsdon
Town Clerk