

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

November 15, 2010

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hampden Town Council was held on Monday, November 15, 2010. The meeting was held at the municipal building council chambers and was called to order by Deputy Mayor Andre Cushing at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: **Councilors:** Deputy Mayor Andre Cushing, Thomas Brann, William Shakespeare, Jean Lawlis, Janet Hughes and Kristen Hornbrook; Mayor Matthew Arnett was excused

Town Manager: Susan Lessard

Town Counsel: Thomas Russell

Department Heads/Staff: Economic Development Director Dean Bennett; Public Works Director Galen 'Chip' Swan; and GIS/IT Specialist Gretchen Heldmann

Capt. Dan Scott of the Maine Warden Service; representatives of Maine Dept. of Conservation, Goodwill Riders Snowmobile Club and Penobscot Valley 4-Wheel Drive Club; Jim Kiser and Stan MacMillan; and citizens

The first order of business was the swearing in of Councilor At-Large Kristen Hornbrook. Deputy Mayor Cushing welcomed Councilor Hornbrook and presented her with Hampden seal and "key to the city" lapel pins and a Hampden Volunteer coffee mug.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Hughes, seconded by Councilor Lawlis to accept the Consent Agenda – unanimous vote in favor.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

C. POLICY AGENDA

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

2. NOMINATIONS-APPOINTMENTS-ELECTIONS

a. OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES – NOVEMBER 2, 2010 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Town Clerk Denise Hodsdon reported the results of the November 2nd Municipal Election. The Official Return of Votes was circulated for signatures of the Council.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. MAINE WARDEN SERVICE – LANDOWNER APPRECIATION DAY REVIEW

Captain Dan Scott of the Maine Warden Service explained the history of how Landowner Appreciation Day came about. He noted that the public relies on private landowners for recreational activity and one of the things that landowners find most upsetting is the illegal dumping that takes place on their properties. Capt. Scott explained that the Warden Service identified several dumping sites, including the Diconzo and Hydro sites in Hampden, and reached out to users to help clean them up. This also led to the cleanup of the former L.L. Bean parcel currently owned by the Town. He praised the work of GIS/IT Specialist Gretchen Heldmann who served as the local site coordinator for the project. He presented Gretchen with a certificate of appreciation and a framed wildlife print.

Captain Scott also recognized the volunteer efforts of members of the Goodwill Riders Snowmobile Club, 4-Wheel Drive Club, local Boy Scouts, the Department of Conservation and Maine Game Wardens and presented certificates of appreciation to those who were in attendance.

b. HAMLIN MARINA/TOWN – LAND DISCUSSION

Economic Development Director Dean Bennett reported that at its special meeting on November 10th, the Council voted to sell the town-owned marina parcel to Hamlin Marine and to purchase the abutting property from Hamlin once they have exercised their option to purchase that parcel. Manager Lessard reported that the Finance Committee had discussed this at its meeting earlier and recommended that it be referred to the Planning & Development Committee to work with the Town Attorney and come back to the full council with a recommendation.

Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Lawlis to refer negotiations of how the transfer will occur to the Planning & Development Committee – unanimous vote in favor.

c. LOADER BID RESULTS – INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Councilor Shakespeare reported that the Infrastructure Committee had reviewed the bid results with the Public Works Director and recommended acceptance of the bid from Nortrax (Option #1) with a total bid cost of \$55,000. The price of the new loader after the trade-in allowance will be \$72,000, with a guarantee buy back in five years of \$72,000.

Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Brann to accept the Option #1 bid from Nortrax as recommended – unanimous vote in favor.

d. SEWER EASEMENT ACCEPTANCE – WESTERN AVENUE –
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Public Works Director Chip Swan explained that this easement is for the sewer manhole on Western Avenue that is part of the Katahdin Trust development.

Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Hughes to accept the sewer easement; vote was 5-0-1 (Hornbrook abstained)

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. SEWER COMMITMENT – 07/01/10 to 09/30/10

Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to accept and sign the commitment – unanimous vote in favor.

b. REVISED COMMITMENT – 10/1/09 to 3/31/10 – CHARLES CLARK,
III

Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Hughes to accept and sign the revised commitment – unanimous vote in favor.

c. MUNICIPAL REVIEW COMMITTEE – BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BALLOT

Upon the recommendation of Manager Lessard, motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Lawlis to cast a vote for Dennis Cox of Millinocket; vote was 5-1 (Hornbrook)

d. PERKINS DRIVE ACCEPTANCE

Public Works Director Chip Swan informed the Council that the developer has met all the criteria for road acceptance.

Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Hughes to accept Perkins Drive – unanimous vote in favor.

e. RANDALL ARENDT WORKSHOP

This item was informational only relative to a workshop the Council will have with consultant Randall Arendt on December 14th regarding implementation of the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan.

- f. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE RECEIVED FROM COUNTRYMEADOW, INC. d/b/a PIZZA GOURMET, 60 MAIN ROAD NORTH

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

D. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Hughes reported that the Planning & Development Committee will meet on November 17th at 6:00 pm.

Councilor Lawlis reported that the Services Committee met on November 8th and heard updates from the Tree Board, Friends of Dorothea Dix Park and the dog park group. The Services Committee also reviewed a map of all town-owned property and identified some parcels as future park areas.

Councilor Shakespeare reported that in addition to the items already discussed by the Council this evening, the Infrastructure Committee discussed the condition of two properties – one at the corner of Kennebec and 1A that formerly housed the Town Office and one at the intersection of Western Avenue and 1A. Both properties are in disrepair and the Town Manager will contact the owners to find out what their plans are for the properties.

E. MANAGER'S REPORT

A copy of the Manager's Report is attached hereto.

F. COUNCILOR'S COMMENTS

Councilor Shakespeare commented that speeding has been a problem with the completion of the Mayo Road reconstruction and asked if the Police have increased monitoring in that area.

Councilor Lawlis commented that she has been walking at Dorothea Dix Park as it is a safe place to walk during hunting season. She did note however, that now that the entrance to the park has been closed off, people have been parking in the grassy area. She pointed out that the town doesn't have an easement over that land for vehicles and stated that we need a recommended safe parking area.

Councilor Brann said he has heard from residents regarding the lack of streetlights at Papermill and Coldbrook Roads. He has also heard complaints that the stop line at the end of Mayo Road is too far back and is causing visibility problems.

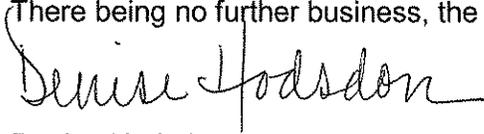
Councilor Hornbrook thanked everyone who voted for her and said she appreciated the opportunity to serve the community. She thanked the Council and Town Manager for answering all of her questions.

Councilor Hughes welcomed Councilor Hornbrook.

Deputy Mayor Cushing informed the Council that he and the Library are honored to have the Maine State Librarian attend the Library's breakfast tomorrow morning.

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Hodsdon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Denise Hodsdon
Town Clerk

MANAGER'S REPORT
November 15, 2010

Municipal Review Committee – The Town received the fourth quarter distribution for the difference between the guaranteed tonnage disposal price at PERC of \$45 per ton and the current per ton price of \$73 per ton. The amount of the check was \$24,139.41.

Hampden Academy Re-use – The SAD #22 Reuse Committee is holding a workshop on November 30th at 5:30 p.m. at the Hampden Academy Library regarding current laws and regulations governing reuse options. This workshop will be conducted by School Attorney Rob Nadeau of Drummond Woodsum. RSVP's must be made to Gloria Aurelio by November 24th. Please let me know if you plan on attending and I will notify Ms. Aurelio. The District Reuse Committee has also scheduled a public forum for community members on Tuesday, January 18, 2011.

Strategic Planning Session – Mayor Arnett is hoping to get a strategic planning 'day' scheduled for the Council during the month of January. He suggested either Saturday January 8th or Saturday January 22nd as potential dates.

Bond Anticipation Note – The Town received its General Obligation Bond for the Mayo Road on October 28th and paid off the Bond Anticipation Note to Key Bank on the 29th. The Total interest on the temporary borrowing (\$1.2 million) was just a little over \$3,000. We were fortunate to obtain the 1.4% interest rate.

Flags & Decorations – The American Flags that have been up since last May will be taken down tomorrow and the Christmas decorations will be put up on the poles.

Kiwanis Christmas Party – The annual Kiwanis Christmas Party will be held on Sunday December 4th at 4 p.m. in the Community Room of the Municipal Building.

State Senator and State Representative – Congratulations to Representative Cushing and Senator Plowman for being selected by their Caucus for the position of Assistant Majority Leader in both chambers of the Maine Legislature. It is an honor for them and for their constituents to have been selected for these leadership positions.