

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

October 18, 2010

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hampden Town Council was held on Monday, October 18, 2010. The meeting was held at the municipal building council chambers and was called to order by Mayor Arnett at 7:00 p.m.

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

Town Manager: Susan Lessard

Town Counsel: Thomas Russell

Department Heads/Staff: None

Mayor Arnett noted that Councilor Brann was unable to attend the meeting and asked for a motion to excuse him. Councilor Cushing so moved; seconded by Councilor Lawlis – unanimous vote

A. CONSENT AGENDA

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

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

C. POLICY AGENDA

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. APPLICATION FOR VICTUALERS LICENSE RECEIVED FROM HANNAFORD BROS. CO. d/b/a HANNAFORD SUPERMARKET & PHARMACY #8417 at 77 WESTERN AVENUE

Mayor Arnett explained the public hearing process and then opened the hearing. There were no proponents, opponents and no one with general questions or comments. The hearing was closed.

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

b. GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE – ADOPTION OF
APPENDIXES A, B & C FOR 2010/2011

Mayor Arnett opened the hearing. There were no proponents, opponents and no one with general questions or comments. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Lawlis to adopt Appendixes A, B & C – unanimous vote in favor.

2. NOMINATIONS-APPOINTMENTS-ELECTIONS

a. APPOINTMENT OF SARAH REINHART TO HISTORIC
PRESERVATION COMMISSION – PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Councilor Hughes reported that the Planning & Development Committee had interviewed Ms. Reinhart and recommends the appointment. She then moved to appoint Sarah Reinhart to the Historic Preservation Commission; seconded by Councilor Lawlis – unanimous vote in favor.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. HAMLIN'S MARINA LEASE AMENDMENT – SECTION 4.A re
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Councilor Hughes informed the Council that a full service restaurant has approached Hamlin's Marine and expressed interest in occupying the building at the marina and that they would want to serve alcohol. The current marina lease prohibits the sale of alcohol on the leased premises. The Planning & Development Committee has met with Dan Higgins of Hamlin's Marine and it is the recommendation of the Committee to remove that provision from the current lease.

Motion by Councilor Hughes, seconded by Councilor Lawlis that the line "No alcoholic beverages shall be sold, served, or consumed on the leased premises" be stricken from the lease for the purposes of developing a restaurant on the waterfront – unanimous vote in favor.

b. PENOBSOT COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD
MITIGATION PLAN

Manager Lessard noted that the plan has not been published and recommended that the Council table this item.

Motion by Councilor Cushing, seconded by Councilor Hughes to table this item indefinitely – unanimous vote in favor.

4. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

D. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Shakespeare reported that the Infrastructure Committee will meet on October 25th at 6:00 pm.

Councilor Lawlis reported that the Services Committee met on October 12th but there wasn't a quorum. The only item on the agenda had been a report from SAD #22 regarding the proposed joint trail project and it appears that in the grant process, the financial obligation has shifted to the Town. It was recommended that we wait until the next round of grants.

Councilor Cushing reported that the Communications Committee is awaiting delivery of the new digital system for use with the cable Channel 7 programming.

Councilor Hughes reported that the Planning & Development Committee is currently working on the medical marijuana ordinance and will have a recommendation for the Council in November. The next meeting of that committee is November 3rd at 6:00 pm.

Manager Lessard reported that the Finance Committee met earlier and signed the loan documents for the Mayo Road reconstruction project and reviewed the Town's compensation structure and how it compares to communities of comparable size.

E. MANAGER'S REPORT

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

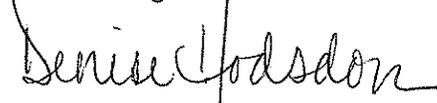
F. COUNCILOR'S COMMENTS

Councilor Cushing commented that the Town has been proactive in improving the Mayo Road and adding the sidewalk, which enhances the ability of people to walk, run and recreate around the Four-mile Square. He noted that in the original discussions about the plans for the new school, there were advocacies for a sidewalk to be included in the plan and he expressed disappointment in that there was no communication with the Town when the sidewalk was removed from the plan. We are now faced with the need to play catch-up to try to get the sidewalk instituted before there is an increase in traffic.

Mayor Arnett encouraged everyone to attend the Hampden Academy Re-use Committee meeting on October 20th.

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Denise Hodsdon
Town Clerk

MANAGER'S REPORT
October 18, 2010

3 Community Meeting – A reminder that the next meeting of Hampden, Winterport and Newburgh municipal officials is Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Victoria Grant Center in Winterport.

SAD #22 Ad-hoc Re-use Committee Meeting – A reminder that the Planning and Development Committee meeting for Wednesday, October 20th has been cancelled to allow Committee members and other Councilors to attend the SAD #22 Ad-hoc Re-use Committee Meeting on Wednesday, October 20th at 6:00 p.m. at Reed's Brook Middle School.

Ray Pipes Going Away Luncheon – A going away recognition luncheon was held for Ray Pipes who is leaving Hampden Public Safety to accept the position of Fire Chief with the Town of Hermon. It was well attended - Ray will be greatly missed.

Staffing – Public Safety – Firefighter/Paramedic Dan Pugsley has been hired to replace former Fire Inspector Keith Barnhard who resigned effective September 30th. Firefighter/paramedic Jared LeBarnes has been hired to fill the firefighter/paramedic post vacated by Dan Pugsley, and Public Safety is in the process of hiring a paramedic/firefighter from Hancock County to replace Ray Pipes. Applications for the lieutenant position in the department closed October 15th. Testing will be done on applicants and the Public Safety Director will make an appointment to that position following candidate interviews.

Implementation & Strategy Meeting – Councilor Brann has requested a meeting of the Comprehensive Planning Committee and councilors for Thursday, November 4th at 6 p.m. to begin discussions of the next steps for the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

Resignation from Conservation Commission – I am sorry to report that Donald Katnik has tendered his resignation from the Conservation Commission due to personal reasons. He has served as the Chair of this committee and his input and work will be greatly missed.

Hampden Academy Construction Report – Attached is a copy of the Hampden Academy construction report for the period covering 9/18/2010 – 10/1/2010.

Employee Handbook – The final draft of the Employee Handbook has been reviewed by Department Heads. Janie Pitcher has spearheaded the efforts on this project and done a great job. In the process of developing the book it has come to light that there are a number of policies related to employees that are outdated and which need amendment to comply with current laws. A list of the impacted policies/ordinances and suggested language changes for conformity will be provided to the Administration and Finance Committee for consideration prior to review of the Handbook by the Town Council. The book is not an ordinance in itself but a compilation of all rules, regulations, ordinances and policies regarding employees for the Town of Hampden.

Council Goals and Objectives – The Council has discussed the idea of a planning retreat for some time now and to date have made no definitive plans to hold one. I would suggest that some time after the election when the 7th council seat is filled and before the end of the calendar year that we hold a session to begin goal-setting for the 2011 year.

Tax Collections – I am pleased to report that as of one week after the due date for 50% of taxes, we have collected 48.31 % of Real Estate taxes and 45.3% of personal property taxes. This is an outstanding collection rate!