

HAMPDEN TOWN COUNCIL  
HAMPDEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
**MINUTES**

MONDAY

MARCH 18, 2013

7:00 P.M.

*Attending:*

*Mayor Janet Hughes  
Councilor David Ryder  
Councilor Jean Lawlis  
Councilor Tom Brann  
Councilor Bill Shakespeare  
Councilor Carol Duprey  
Councilor Shelby Wright*

*Town Manager Susan Lessard  
Town Clerk Denise Hodsdon  
Recreation Director Kurt Mathies  
Sergeant Chris Bailey, Police Dept.  
Eric McVay  
Members of the Press  
Citizens*

**A. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Mayor Hughes requested that Items A.2.b. and A.4.c. be set aside. Motion by Councilor Lawlis, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to accept the balance of the consent agenda. Unanimous vote in favor.*

1. SIGNATURES

2. SECRETARY'S REPORTS

- a. March 4, 2013
- b. March 9, 2013 – Goals & Objectives Meeting – *Mayor Hughes explained the purpose of the goals and objectives meeting and reviewed the priorities set by the Council for the upcoming year.*

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Victualers License Renewals:
  1. Bangor Tennis & Recreation Club, Inc.
  2. Dysart's Travel Stop
  3. McK's Variety
  4. Pizza Gourmet
  5. R & K Variety
  6. Best Western White House Inn – Filibuster Lounge
- b. James Feverston - Application for Reappointment to Pool Board – Referral to Services Committee

4. REPORTS

- a. Services Committee Minutes – 3/11/2013
- b. Library Board Meeting Minutes – 1/9/2013

- c. *Manager Lessard's Testimony re Governor's Budget Proposal – Mayor Hughes urged residents to visit the Town's website to read Manager Lessard's testimony regarding the impacts the proposed budget will have on property taxes.*
- d. *Pool Board Meeting Minutes – 2/12-13*

*Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Brann to accept Items A.2.b. and A.4.c. Unanimous vote in favor.*

- B. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – *Eric McVay of 23 Cottage Street referenced the potential impacts of the cuts in the Governor's proposed budget and urged the Council to oppose those cuts.*

C. **POLICY AGENDA**

- 1. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** – *There were none.*

- 2. **NOMINATIONS – APPOINTMENTS – ELECTIONS**

- a. **Warrant & Notice of Election – SAD #22 Referendum Election on 4/9/2013 – Council Signatures** – *Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to approve and sign the Warrant and Notice of Election for the SAD #22 District Referendum to be held on April 9, 2013. Unanimous vote in favor.*

- 3. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. **Report on Public Safety Survey Results – Sergeant Chris Bailey** – *Sergeant Bailey reported the results of the survey conducted by the Public Safety Department in 2011 and what the Department is doing with those results. After evaluation of the results, a list of strategic goals has been developed and the Department has begun implementation of those goals. A copy of the report is attached and made a part of the minutes.*
- b. **Disposition of Fire Department Jeep** – *The Fire Department has expressed its desire to dispose of the old Jeep brush truck and the Infrastructure Committee has recommended putting it out to bid. A former Hampden firefighter has advised Manager Lessard that his recollection is that the Jeep was acquired from US surplus and was essentially "on loan" to the Fire Department. As such, it would need to be returned to the federal government in the event the Department was no longer using it. He has offered to garage and maintain the Jeep as a parade/museum piece for the Department. Following discussion, Councilor Brann moved and Councilor Shakespeare seconded to postpone this item until the Town Manager has the opportunity to investigate the Town's obligations regarding disposal of the Jeep. Unanimous vote in favor.*

Hampden Public Safety  
Satisfaction Survey

Police Synopsis

**How much of a problem are the following issues in Hampden?**

- Speeding (84.9%-moderate/big problem)
- Distracted Driving (73.6%-moderate/big problem)
- Drug Usage/Trafficking (72.4%- moderate/big problem)
- Underage Drinking (61.9%- moderate/big problem)

**What police services do you feel are important to Hampden?**

- Crime prevention programs (91.5%-important/very important)
- Checking on the welfare of senior citizens (91.5%-important/very important)
- Criminal investigation (91%- important/very important)
- Education programs in grades K-12 (90.8%- important/very important)
- Traffic enforcement (85.2%- important/very important)
- Drug enforcement (84.2%- important/very important)

**How much impact do you think the following have in reducing crime around your property?**

- Reduced availability of illegal drugs. (56.3%-big impact)
- More visible police presence. (47.4%-big impact)
- More cooperation from citizens in reporting crimes. (41.9%-big impact)

**Based on your personal experience with Hampden police officers, how would you rate them in the following categories:** follow-up, courteousness, response to initial call, knowledge, professionalism, respect for citizens, problem solving and appearance.

- All categories above 60% for good.
- Professional appearance was the highest at 79.6% for good.

**How would you rate the overall performance of the police department?**

- 74% for good

**Do you feel the police department is helping to raise the quality of life?**

- 73.7% for yes

## Fire/Ambulance Synopsis

**Based on your personal experience with Hampden Fire/EMS, how would you rate them in the following categories:** follow-up, courteousness, response to initial call, knowledge, professionalism, respect for citizens, problem solving and appearance.

- All categories above 69% for good.
- Response to initial call was the highest at 81.5% for good.

**Which fire/ems services do you feel are important?**

- Educational programs in grades k-12 (96.5%- important/very important)
- Community relations (96.5%- important/very important)
- Fire Extinguisher training (95.8%- important/very important)
- Fire prevention programs for adults (91.9%- important/very important)
- CPR/AED courses (91.9%-important/very important)
- Chimney inspections (90.4%- important/very important)
- 40% of respondents felt walk-in blood pressure checks were not important.

**How would you rate the overall performance of the fire/ems department?**

- 89.3% for good

**To what extent do you know the firefighters/ems providers?**

- 13.1% know them by name
- 35.7% know them by face
- 51.2% don't know them at all

**Do you feel the fire/ems department is helping to raise the quality of life?**

- 80% for yes

**All things considered, I am happy with Hampden Public Safety**

- 78.5% agree
- 10.1% slightly agree
- 5.1% slightly disagree
- 6.3% disagree

## HAMPDEN PUBLIC SAFETY SURVEY

### Time Line

- The survey was announced to the public in October of 2011 and was available for several months.
- A Public Safety Survey Committee was formed in September of 2012 to evaluate the results. The committee also reviewed the current public safety vision, mission and statement of values to determine if changes should be made.
- Strategic goals were developed by public safety personnel in January of 2013.

#### **1. Traffic Enforcement**

- The Hampden Police Department will increase enforcement during commuter traffic. Traffic contacts (summons and warnings combined) will increase by 10% from 2012.

#### **2. Education programs in grades K-12**

- Hampden Public Safety will develop a comprehensive educational program to be administered in the schools by the fall of 2013.

#### **3. Crime reporting**

- Establish a public safety tip line. The information received will be aggressively followed up on and used for the appropriate public safety purpose. The tip line can also be used to offer a suggestion on a desired public safety service.

#### **4. Checking on the welfare of senior citizens**

- Establish an Alzheimer's and related dementia registration program for the citizens of Hampden. The voluntary program will be used to identify, monitor and assist families with the safety of their loved one.

#### **5. Public education programs**

- Conduct a public safety open house one time a year.
- Create four 1-2 minute public safety videos to air on the cable access channel. The videos will focus on the services provided by Hampden Public Safety.

**VISION:** To enhance the quality of life for all citizens.

**MISSION:** The Hampden Public Safety Department is committed to creating a safe environment for all citizens. This is done by working in partnership with the community to identify and resolve public safety concerns. All Hampden Public Safety employees are devoted to providing professional and progressive fire, medical and police services.

### **Statement of Values**

Hampden Public Safety employees will:

- Recruit and retain the highest quality employees.
- Display a high level of integrity in the performance of their duties. Personnel will be honest, sincere and compassionate.
- Work cooperatively through training and on-scene emergency response.
- Provide safety education to all segments of the community.
- Promote an atmosphere that encourages and recognizes continuing education and training.
- Work cooperatively with citizens to address public safety concerns.

---

### **Statement of Values**

Hampden Public Safety employees will:

- Be accountable and responsive to the public.
- Display a high level on integrity in the performance of their duties.
- Be honest, sincere and compassionate.
- Strive for excellence.
- Treat citizens and co-workers with respect.
- Promote safety in all aspects of the job.

- c. **Councilor Ryder – Committee Assignments** – *Councilor Ryder was appointed to the Services Committee and the Planning & Development Committee.*
- d. **Recreation Department’s Use of Skehan Center – Services Committee Recommendation** – *Services Committee Chair Lawlis reported that the Committee has reviewed the operating costs for the Recreation Department’s use of the Skehan Center. She said the Rec Center has been a great success and that revenues have exceeded expenses. The Recreation Department is now at a point of having to make decisions relative to future plans for recreational programs and the Services Committee has recommended the continued use of the Skehan Center until further notice. Motion by Councilor Lawlis, seconded by Councilor Brann to authorize the Recreation Director and Recreation Department to continue operating, under the direction of the Town Manager and reporting on a quarterly basis, until further notice. Unanimous vote in favor.*
- e. **Old Hampden Academy Phase II Environmental Review – Credere Associates Proposal – Recommendations of Planning & Development Committee and Finance & Administration Committee** – *Mayor Hughes gave a brief history of the environmental assessment that was completed, which identified the presence of PCB containing paint on some of the floors in portions of the buildings. She explained that the purpose of this review is to take more samples to define and determine the extent of the contamination and get an understanding of what the cost would be to remediate that. Now that a developer is interested in the property, we need to determine what those costs will be in order to continue with negotiations. She indicated that this assessment would need to be completed even if the buildings were to be demolished. The total cost for the review proposed by Credere Associates is \$23,950.00. Planning & Development Committee Chair Brann reported that the committee has recommended proceeding with the review immediately. Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to authorize the Town Manager to instruct Credere Associates to continue with the Phase II Environmental Review with funding to come from the Host Community Benefits fund. Unanimous vote in favor. Mayor Hughes added that it is the intent of the Council that the Host Community Benefits fund be paid back from the proceeds of the sale of the property, if there are any.*
- f. **Old Hampden Academy Property – Proposal\*** - *This item was moved to the end of the meeting after Councilor Comments. Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to enter into executive session to discuss a real estate matter pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(C), to include the Council and Town Manager. Unanimous vote in favor.*

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Request for Sponsorship – National Disability Conference – Eric McVay** – *Mr. McVay informed the Council that he has been elected as an alternate representative to the national organization known as Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE). He will be required to attend board meetings four times a year and must raise approximately \$4,000 for travel and lodging expenses. He asked the Council if the Town would be able to help with this funding. Resident Kristen Hornbrook spoke in opposition to the request. Mr. McVay was advised that his request does not meet the criteria of the Town's Non-Municipal Organization Funding Request Policy, but this does get the word out to the public. Anyone interested in helping Mr. McVay was encouraged to contact him at 207-852-4322.*
- b. **Request from Bangor YMCA to hold 2013 Souadabscook Stream Canoe Race** – *Manager Lessard explained that the Bangor YMCA has taken over management of the race this year and that the Town needs to grant written permission for the race to take place in Hampden. Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to grant permission to the Bangor YMCA to hold the 2013 Souadabscook Stream Canoe Race. Vote was 6-1 (Ryder) in favor; motion carried.*

#### D. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Infrastructure Committee** – *Councilor Wright noted that there is no meeting this month.*

**Planning & Development Committee** – *Councilor Brann – the next meeting is at 6:00 pm on March 20<sup>th</sup>.*

**Services Committee** – *Councilor Lawlis – the committee met on March 11<sup>th</sup> and had a good discussion about the financial aspects of the Recreation Department's use of the Skehan Center and discussed options for streaming video of Council meetings.*

**Finance & Administration Committee** – *Mayor Hughes – the committee met earlier in the evening and discussed expired lease agreements that the Town has with the Kiwanis Club and Goodwill Riders Snowmobile Club; and discussed the possible adoption of a resolution in opposition to the Governor's proposed budget.*

- E. **MANAGER'S REPORT** – *A copy of the Manager's Report is attached and made a part of the minutes.*

#### F. COUNCILORS' COMMENTS

**Councilor Hughes** *noted the passing of Harold Bouchard and offered condolences to his family and to everyone at H.O. Bouchard; congratulated the Hampden Academy Boys' Basketball team on their State Championship.*

- G. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *Motion by Councilor Lawlis, seconded by Councilor Brann at 10:28 pm to re-enter regular session. Unanimous vote in favor.*

MANAGER'S REPORT  
Monday, March 18, 2013

VFW Auxiliary President – I attended a reception for the National President of the VFW Auxiliary that was held at the VFW on Canoe Club Road on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. It was a lovely event and Leanne Lemley, the National VFW President was visiting from Iowa. Senator Cushing presented her with a State Flag that had been flown over the State Capital.

Tax Due Date Reminder – Second half of 2013 property taxes are due by Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> in order to avoid interest.

PVRDD – The Penobscot Valley Refuse Disposal District Board met again on March 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss return of the funds from Eastern Maine Development Corporation. The Board voted to give EMDC until the end of March to return the funds in total. Despite being asked, EMDC has not provided full documentation of the chain of events that led to the appropriation of those funds in the first place.

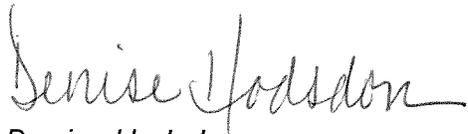
Special Appropriations Committee Hearing – On Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 3-8 p.m. the State Appropriations Committee of the Legislature will be holding a special hearing at Jeff's Catering in Brewer for the purpose of hearing from Municipal Officials on the potential impacts to communities from the Governor's Budget proposal. This is the first time in memory that the Appropriations Committee has gone offsite outside of Augusta for testimony. I would encourage any Councilor who has concerns about the impacts of the proposal to attend this meeting.

Newsletter – The newsletter will be going to the printer at the end of this week. Now that the Council has held its goals/objectives meetings, the final questions for the survey can be completed.

Budget Hearing Dates – I will be providing a tentative schedule for budget hearing at the next Council meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Hearings will be held during the month of May and the first week of June. We generally keep them to Mondays and Wednesdays throughout the month – avoiding planning & Development Committee meetings on the first and third Wednesdays. If any Councilor has conflicts for the months of May and June on any dates – if you could let me know if would be helpful.

Special Finance & Administration Committee Meeting – Reminder that there will be a special meeting on Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 to discuss possible changes to the Town Charter.

H. **ADJOURNMENT** – *The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Hodsdon".

*Denise Hodsdon*  
*Town Clerk*

\* Due to the nature of this item, portions of the discussion may be conducted in Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405 (6)(C) (Real Estate)