

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

March 15, 2010

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

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

Town Manager: Susan Lessard

Town Counsel: Thomas Russell

Department Heads/Staff: None

Will Dacey

A. CONSENT AGENDA

The Treasurer's Warrants were reviewed and signed by the Finance Committee at their meeting earlier in the evening. Motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Hughes to accept the balance of the Consent Agenda – unanimous vote in favor.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Will Dacey of 849 Kennebec Road informed the Council that he has called the Maine Department of Transportation about the poor condition of the Kennebec Road, but has not received a return call. He asked if there is anything the Town can do to influence the State to look at it. Manager Lessard said there have been several people who have called about the Kennebec Road and we have talked with DOT. According to them, it is on their plans for paving in 2011, but she said she would contact them again to inquire whether there are any updates to their plan.

C. POLICY AGENDA

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. There were none.

2. NOMINATIONS-APPOINTMENTS-ELECTIONS

- a. Trisha Bruen – Application for Appointment to Friends of Dorothea Dix Park – Services Committee Recommendation

Services Committee Chair Lawlis reported that the Committee unanimously endorsed the appointment. She then moved to appoint

Trisha Bruen to the Friends of Dorothea Dix Park. Councilor Cox seconded the motion and vote was unanimously in favor.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. POLICE UTILITY VEHICLE – BID AWARD

Manager Lessard reported that the Finance Committee met with Public Safety Director Joe Rogers to discuss the six bids for replacement of a police utility vehicle. There were bids for several different vehicles, and after some research, the Public Safety Director felt that a 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe would be the best buy for the community and he requested that the Council accept the low bid for a Tahoe from Pratt Chevrolet in the amount of \$29,260.75. The Finance Committee's recommendation was to endorse the Public Safety Director's request.

Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Brann to accept the lowest bid for a Chevrolet Tahoe in the amount of \$29,260.75 from Pratt Chevrolet – unanimous vote in favor.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. DOG PARK – COUNCILOR LAWLIS

This item was not yet ready for discussion and was postponed until the April 20th meeting.

b. FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST – LIFPAK CARDIAC MONITOR – USE OF RESERVE FUNDS

Lt. Coombs of the Fire Department has requested authorization to utilize funds in reserve account #3-747-00 in the amount of \$5,416.64 to upgrade the LifPak 12 Cardiac Monitor on one of our ambulances to match the capabilities of the monitor on the other ambulance. Motion by Councilor Brann, seconded by Councilor Cox to authorize the request – unanimous vote in favor.

c. PERSONAL PROPERTY ABATEMENTS

1. G.R. ADAMS - \$491.27 PRINCIPAL; \$215.90 INTEREST
2. PUBLIC WORKS SUPPLY - \$125.60 PRINCIPAL; \$32.38 INTEREST

Manager Lessard explained that both of these entities are no longer in business and there is no hope of collecting the outstanding personal property taxes.

Motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to approve the abatements for G.R. Adams and Public Works Supply – unanimous vote in favor.

d. REQUEST FROM ACANE TO HOLD 2010 SOUADABSCOOK
STREAM CANOE RACE

This is the annual request for authorization for American Canoe Association of New England to hold the Souadabscook Stream Race in the Town of Hampden.

Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Cox to approve the request – unanimous vote in favor.

e. APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF VICTUALER'S LICENSES

1. BANGOR TENNIS & RECREATION CLUB, 60 MECAW ROAD

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

2. BEST WESTERN WHITE HOUSE INN, FILIBUSTER
LOUNGE, 155 LITTLEFIELD AVENUE

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

3. DYSART'S SERVICE D/B/A DYSART'S TRAVEL STOP, 366
COLDBROOK ROAD

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

4. RONALD & BARBARA MCKINNON D/B/A MCK'S VARIETY,
995 WESTERN AVENUE

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

5. BRIAN & CINDY CARLISLE D/B/A PIZZA GOURMET, 60
MAIN ROAD NORTH, SUITE A

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

6. KATHY SMITH D/B/A R & K VARIETY, 573 MAIN ROAD
NORTH

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

7. DLLS, INC. D/B/A SUBWAY OF HAMPDEN, 7 WESTERN
AVENUE

Motion by Councilor Hughes, seconded by Councilor Brann to approve the application

D. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Hughes reported that the next meeting of the Planning & Development Committee will be at 6:00 pm on March 17th.

Councilor Cox reported that the Committee on Committees will meet at 6:00 pm on March 23rd.

Councilor Lawlis reported that the Services Committee met last week and heard a report of the first meeting of the Friends of Dorothea Dix Park. The group is planning its first fundraiser with the goal of restoring water service to the park. The Committee also met with the Trail Master of Goodwill Riders Snowmobile Club regarding the network of trail systems and she noted that it is remarkable that the arrangement with all of the landowners is an at-will arrangement. She expressed gratitude to all of those landowners for allowing this network of trails to cross their land. She also encouraged anyone who uses the trails for any recreational activity to join Goodwill Riders, even if they aren't using them for snowmobiling.

Councilor Shakespeare reported that the Infrastructure Committee will meet next Monday, March 23rd at 6:00 pm.

Manager Lessard reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the current financial statements. She noted that the Town is very healthy fiscally. She reported that she has received budgets from all departments and noted that everyone has held the line or brought their budgets in slightly under last year's budget.

E. MANAGER'S REPORT

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

F. COUNCILOR'S COMMENTS

Councilor Hughes commented that she took a drive out Kennebec Road before the meeting to verify the condition as reported by Mr. Dacey. She agrees that it is in very poor condition and hoped that we could get the Maine DOT to address the safety of the road at the posted speed.

Deputy Mayor Cushing commented that Newsletter Editor Annie O'Reilly is looking for material for the upcoming newsletter and if anyone has an interesting article to submit for consideration, they should contact Annie or drop it off at the Town Office.

Deputy Mayor Cushing then closed Councilor Comments. He noted that Mayor Arnett was unable to attend the meeting and said he would entertain a motion to excuse him. Councilor Hughes so moved; motion seconded by Councilor Cox – unanimous vote in favor.

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Denise Hodsdon
Town Clerk