



HAMPDEN TOWN COUNCIL
HAMPDEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MINUTES

MONDAY

JUNE 19TH, 2017

7:00 P.M.

6:00 p.m. – Finance & Administration Committee

Attending:

Mayor Ryder

Councilor Sirois

Councilor McPike

Councilor Wilde

Councilor Marble

Councilor Cormier

Councilor McAvoy

Town Manager Augus Jennings

Town Clerk Paula Scott

Office Clerk Gigi Dubey

DPW Director Sean Currier

Lura Hoit Pool Director Darcey Peakall

Library Director Debbie Lozito

Recreation Director Shelley Abbott

Rec. Assist. Dir. Jill McLaughlin

CEO Myles Block

Members of the Public

Mayor Ryder called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

- A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - *Mayor Ryder led the Pledge of Allegiance.*
- B. **CONSENT AGENDA** – *Councilor Wilde made a motion, seconded by Councilor Marble, to accept the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote in favor.*

1. SIGNATURES

2. SECRETARY'S REPORTS

- a. **Minutes for meeting held June 7, 2017**

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. **Notification of 2016 Workers Compensation Audit and return premium adjustment**
- b. **Victualer's License renewal for Erickson's Hardware**
- c. **Letter to Council from Margaret Frazier of Griffin Avenue**

4. REPORTS

- a. **Finance Committee Minutes – May 15th, June 7th, 2017**
- b. **Infrastructure Committee Minutes – None**
- c. **Planning & Development Committee Minutes – None**
- d. **Services Committee Minutes – May 8th, 2017**

NOTE: The Council will take a 5-minute recess at 8:00 pm.

C. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - *No public comments were made.*

D. **POLICY AGENDA**

1. **NEWS, PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS**

2. **PUBLIC HEARINGS – Consideration of the Town Council’s proposed FY18 budget, including Sewer Budget and Capital Improvement Program – referred by Town Council on June 7th, 2017** – *Manager Jennings stated that there were significant changes in this year’s budget. The available handouts explained the changes, including all line items that increased by \$1,000 or more from last year to this year, and all line items that decreased by \$1,000 or more. The information was not by category, but show some of the finer points in the budget that help clarify what is driving the changes in the budget. Some of the key changes reflect the Pool and Rec departments moving away from Enterprise budgeting and using traditional budgeting for those departments. Manager Jennings stated the FY18 budget reflects the added expenses of Rec and Pool to the operational budget as well as the \$500,000 in offsetting revenues to the budget. Other clear changes for the FY18 budget is adding one fulltime firefighter, and the restoration of a 3rd fulltime person in the recreation department. The Recreation Department has not had a third fulltime employee since Shelley Abbott took the Director’s position in 2014. Manager Jennings went on to inform every one of the 12% increase in health insurance. Premiums are estimated to increase from 10% - 15% as of January 2018. This budget factors increases in certain retirement plans under Maine PERS. This is not a discretionary increase. The State Revenue Sharing has increased from \$377,000 (FY17) to \$393,000 (FY18). The State plans on raising the exemptions for the Homestead Act from \$15,000 to \$20,000 of value. The State reimbursement up to 62.5% for FY18 from 50% for FY17. Environmental Trust Funds will offset the Stormwater Management expenditure of \$109,000 as a one-time revenue for the Mayo Road Bond. Manager Jennings projects an increase in Motor Vehicle Excise Tax of \$110,000. He feels that this is a conservative estimate. Manager Jennings stated the Budget before the audience and posted on the website draws \$200,000 from fund balance, but in Finance Committee they recommended increasing it to \$300,000. Manager Jennings believes that is appropriate as the Town will be adding approximately \$380,000 to Fund Balance as we close FY17. The bottom line on the Municipal side increases are \$213,009 or 4.8%, RSU \$257,065 or 4.1%, and County \$42,165 or 5.3%. These increases total \$512,239 or a 4.4% increase from FY17, taking into account the Public Works vehicles voted on in the earlier meeting. At the conclusion of Manager Jennings’ report Councilor McPike motioned and was seconded by Councilor Marble to accept the proposed FY18 budget, including Sewer Budget and Capital Improvement Program as presented to the Council. Councilor McAvoy asked for clarification on when the Public Hearing would begin, and Mayor Ryder opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 pm. Councilor Marble stated for the public that there have*

been different votes by different Councilors over various line items within the past 2 months, but in common is finding as best they can, the balance between reliefs for tax payers and still funding services we feel the community is asking for. At the conclusion of Councilor Marble's comments, Mayor Ryder called for public comment. Hearing no public comment, Mayor Ryder closed the Public Hearing at 7:20 pm and called for a vote on the motion. Mayor Ryder, Councilor Sirois, Councilor McPike, and Councilor Marble voted in favor. Councilor McAvoy, Councilor Cormier, and Councilor Wilde voted in opposition. The motion passed 4-3.

3. **NOMINATIONS – APPOINTMENTS – ELECTIONS**

- a. **Appointment of Steven Brown to the Recreation Committee – referral from Services Committee – Councilor Marble motioned to accept the referral from the Services Committee, Councilor Sirois seconded the motion. Unanimous vote in favor.**
- b. **Appointment of Chief Joe Rogers as acting Town Manager from July 5th – July 16th, 2017 and from August 28th to September 4th 2017 - Councilor Sirois motioned that Chief Joe Rogers be acting Town Manager from July 5th – July 16th and from August 28th to September 4th. Councilor Wilde seconded the motion. Unanimous vote in favor.**
- c. **Return of Votes cast at the June 13th, 2017 State Special Referendum RSU 22 Budget Validation Election – Town Clerk Paula Scott reported the count for the State Special Referendum – 376 Yes, 212 No, and 1 blank. The count for the RSU 22 Budget Validation 272 Yes, 319 No, and 4 blanks.**

4. **OLD BUSINESS - None**

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Request for authorization for the expenditure of \$933.33 from Matching Grant Reserve Account (3-780-00) for the Town's share of a MMA Safety Enhancement Grant for two portable LED scene lights – referral from Finance & Administration Committee – Councilor Wilde motioned to accept the expenditure of \$833.33 from Matching Grant Reserve Account (3-780-00) for the Town's share of a MMA Safety Enhancement Grant for two portable LED scene lights. Councilor Sirois seconded the motion. Town Clerk Paula Scott questioned the amount Councilor Wilde had quoted. The amount was verified with Chief Rogers and it is actually for the \$833.33 quoted by Councilor Wilde. Unanimous vote in favor.**

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- b. Request for Town Council authorization of payment from Environmental Trust Principal and Income for eligible expenses pursuant to the Trust Indenture referred to the Finance Committee by the Environmental Trust Committee on May 18, 2017 – referral from Finance & Administration Committee**
- i. Reimbursement from Environmental Trust, Principal to Host Community Benefit account for payments to Drumlin Environmental, LLC totaling \$108,907.21 from July 2008 through May 2016 - Councilor Wilde motioned and Councilor Sirois seconded authorization for the reimbursement from the Environmental Trust totaling \$108,907.21. Unanimous vote in favor.**
 - ii. Reimbursement from Environmental Trust, Income to General Fund for Stormwater Management and Rain Garden costs totaling \$160,397.08 from July 2009 to September 2016**
 - iii. Reimbursement from Environmental Trust, Income to General Fund for Stormwater Management and Rain Garden costs totaling \$20,385.00 from July 2009 to September 2016**
 - iv. Reimbursement from Environmental Trust, Income to General Fund for Stormwater Management costs totaling \$70,821.55 from July 2016 to May 2017.**
 - v. Reimbursement from Environmental Trust, Income to General Fund for Stormwater Management totaling \$49,307.48 from May to June 2017 - Councilor Wilde made a motion for the authorization for reimbursement from the Environmental Trust in the total amount of \$300,911, which was a block vote for items ii-v. Councilor McPike seconded the motion. Unanimous vote in favor. Councilor Marble commended Town Manager Jennings and his staff with researching and finding these monies that are being reimbursed from Environmental Trust.**
- c. Contract awards for the 2017 Paving program RFP – referral from Finance & Administration Committee – Councilor Wilde stated that this is a two part project and motioned to award the primary project to Wellman Paving. Councilor Marble seconded the motion. Unanimous vote in favor. For the second part of the project, Hopkins Road, Councilor Wilde motioned to award this to B&B Paving in the amount of \$48,634.60, Councilor Marble seconded the motion. Unanimous vote in favor.**
- d. Contract award for the 2017 Pond Road Chip Seal RFP – referral from Finance & Administration Committee – Councilor Wilde motioned to award the Pond Road Chip Seal project in the amount of \$22,230 to All State Asphalt, Inc., Mayor Ryder seconded. Councilor McAvoy, Councilor Cormier, Councilor Marble, Councilor McPike, and**

*Mayor Ryder voted in favor. Councilor Sirois voted in opposition.
Motion carries 6-1.*

e. Contract award for the 2017 Public Works Metal Roof Rehabilitation RFP and authorization for the expenditure of \$41,350 from SW/Garage Reserve account (03-777-00) – referral from Finance & Administration Committee – Councilor Wilde motioned to award Public Works Metal Roof Rehabilitation RFP to Gates Construction, and authorized the expenditure of the \$41,350 from the SW/Garage Reserve account. Councilor McPike seconded. Unanimous vote in favor.

f. Contract award for the 2017 Lura Hoit Memorial Pool Interior Painting RFP and authorization for the expenditure of \$10,000 from the Pool Reserve Account (03-771-00) – referral from the Finance & Administration Committee – Councilor Wilde motioned to award the Lura Hoit Memorial Pool Interior Painting RFP to R & M Painters and authorized the expenditure of \$10,000 from the Pool Reserve account. Mayor Ryder seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. Councilor Marble wanted to verify that \$5,000 was from FY17 and \$5,000 was from FY18. This was confirmed by Manager Jennings.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Services Committee – Councilor Marble reported that this committee met last Monday. The committee discussed the appointment of Steven Brown to the Recreation Committee. The committee discussed the potential budget for the Town to take over the operations and maintenance of the Kiwanis Civic Center. The committee received an update on Children’s Day from Shelley Abbott. Councilor Marble reported that the focus of the meeting was with a representative from Woodard and Curran regarding playing fields and expanded parking at the Pool Site. The committee stated that there is a need for a “real” fair public process to proceed with the project. The Committee received an update on all the work that has been done at the Pink Garden on Patterson Street near the Transfer Station. Councilor Marble commended the volunteers. Another discussion the committee had was regarding the Land from Maine Future Program for the potential of financial support and continued access to the Souadabscook Stream. This will continue as long as that land is still available and legwork for available grants continue.

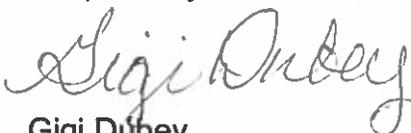
Finance & Administration Committee – Councilor Wilde reported on the June 7th meeting. They discussed the actual 2009 – 2016 RSU increases which were not as much as 2017. The Town budget was discussed. The committee reviewed a tentative Election timeline for the November 7, 2017 Municipal Election. There could be potential bond referendums as additional avenues for things for the town. One thing that needs to be looked at is Schoolhouse Lane. Reviewed the committee’s priorities for the FY18. They discussed the summer schedule for Council and Committee meetings. One specific change is that the July 3, 2017 meeting will be cancelled due to the holiday.

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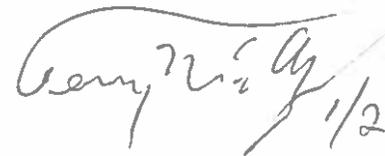
Planning & Development Committee – Councilor McPike reported that the next Planning and Development Committee meeting will be held on June 21st.
Infrastructure Committee– Councilor Sirois reported that the next Infrastructure Committee meeting will be on June 26th.

- F. MANAGER'S REPORT** – *Manager Jennings commented there is a sigh of relief in having the budgeting process complete. Manager Jennings explained that under the Town Charter the Council had to act even though the RSU budget isn't yet finalized. It is hoped that the RSU amount will be known before the Mil Rate is set. The RSU budget process will be played out in the next 6-8 weeks. A School Board meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Anyone interested in the school budget is urged to attend. Manager Jennings thanked the Council for their patience and hard word on the budget. He noted that it is a long process and that the Council gets a lot of paperwork to go through, as well as several meetings with the department heads. Manager Jennings thanked his staff for all their help and cooperation in this process also. Manager Jennings introduced Gigi Dubey. Gigi is training with Town Clerk, Paula Scott to be able to fill in as Clerk at the Council meetings.*
- G. COUNCILORS' COMMENTS**
Councilor McAvoy – See Exhibit A
Councilor Cormier – No comment.
Councilor Marble – Thanked and commended Town Manager Jennings and staff for their hard work and cooperation on the budget process.
Councilor Wilde – No Comment.
Councilor McPike – Thanked and commended Town Manager Jennings and staff for all their hard work and cooperation on the budget process.
Councilor Sirois – No comment.
Mayor Ryder – Thanked and commended Town Manager Jennings and staff for all their hard work and cooperation on the budget process.
- H. ADJOURNMENT** - *With no other business to conduct, Councilor McAvoy made a motion, seconded by Councilor Marble, to adjourn at 7:40 pm. Unanimous vote in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Gigi Dubey
Assistant Clerk

Handwritten signature of Gerry Lyons with a date of 1/2.

6-19-17

THANK YOU MAYOR RYDER

I WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER A SINCERE THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OTHER 318 TAXPAYERS WHO STOOD UP TO RICK LYON'S CHRONICALLY OUT OF CONTROL RSU 22 BUDGET. THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. YOU SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THE SUPERINTENDENT PRESENTS ANOTHER IN-YOUR-FACE BUDGET THAT IS HIGHER THAN THE REJECTED ONE. THAT SCENARIO IS NOT AS FAR FETCHED AS ANY REASONABLE PERSON WOULD THINK.

MY OPINION IS BASED UPON COMMENTS MADE BY MR LYONS AT THE VOTE ON THE BUDGET ARTICLES AS WELL AS COMMENTS FROM A BANGOR DAILY NEWS INTERVIEW. DURING THE ARTICLE APPROVAL PROCESS, ARTICLE ONE WAS DEFEATED. TOO HIGH, NOT AT ALL. TOO LOW. MR LYONS ELIMINATED TWO OR THREE TEACHING POSITIONS AND THERE WERE ENOUGH VOTES TO FORCE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REINSTATE THE HIGHER SPENDING LEVEL EVEN THOUGH MR LYONS MADE IS QUITE CLEAR THAT HE WAS UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO ACTUALLY RESTORE THE TEACHING POSITIONS. MR LYONS SAID THAT ONCE THE DOLLAR AMOUNT WAS SET HE WAS FREE TO ALLOCATE THE RESTORED MONEY TO ANY COST CENTER HE DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

MY QUESTION FOR RICK LYONS IS: HOW MANY COST CENTERS ARE RELATED TO OR IMPACTED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY THE CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VEAZIE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT AND RSU 22?

BASED UPON DOCUMENTATION WHICH I RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDANT EMIL GENEST, MY OPINION IS THAT THERE IS AT LEAST ONE AND LIKELY MORE. TO PARAPHRASE ANOTHER CONCERNED TAXPAYERS RESPONSE TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

Ben King 2/2

PRESIDENT'S QUESTION; ARE YOU AN ACCOUNTANT? NO, I AM NOT AN ACCOUNTANT BUT I CAN READ.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT WE ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE SEVERAL CITIZENS WHO DO HAVE THE EXPERTISE TO RECOGNIZE THE SIGNIFIGANCE OF THIS SORT OF INAPPROPRIATE EXPENDITURE OF RSU 22 TAXPAYER FUNDS. THE BAD NEWS, IS THAT NOT ONE OF THEM SITS ON THE RSU 22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

I HOPE THAT THERE ARE TAXPAYERS OUT THERE WHO HAVE AN OPINION ABOUT MY OPINION AND I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH YOU. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE TOWN MANAGER. UNLIKE THE SCHOOL BOARD, THE TOWN'S CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR DOES NOT CONTROL ITS ELECTED OFFICIALS. PLEASE CALL ME AT 478-2519, 848-9991 OR 862-4895. I SHOULD BE CLOSE TO ONE OF THEM MOST OF THE TIME.

JUNE 13 WAS A DAY MANY OF US ARE PROUD OF AND ALSO DRAW HOPE FROM THE AFFIRMATION THAT YOUR VOTE DOES MATTER.

AS ALWAYS, PLEASE SHOP LOCAL AND BUY AMERICAN. GOOD NIGHT HAMPDEN