



HAMPDEN TOWN COUNCIL
HAMPDEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MINUTES

TUESDAY

APRIL 21, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Attending:

*Mayor David Ryder
Councilor William Shakespeare
Councilor Terry McAvoy
Councilor Dennis Marble
Councilor Carol Duprey
Councilor Stephen Wilde
Councilor Greg Sirois*

*Town Attorney Thomas Russell
Town Manager Susan Lessard
Town Clerk Denise Hodsdon
DCED Dean Bennett
Representative James Davitt
A Member of the Media
Citizens*

The meeting was called to by Mayor Ryder at 7:00 pm.

- A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – *Mayor Ryder led the Pledge of Allegiance*
- B. CONSENT AGENDA** – *Motion by Councilor Marble, seconded by Councilor McAvoy to accept the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote in favor.*
 - 1. SIGNATURES**
 - 2. SECRETARY'S REPORTS**
 - a. April 6, 2015 Minutes**
 - 3. COMMUNICATIONS**
 - 4. REPORTS**
 - a. Services Committee Minutes – 3/9/2015**
 - b. Finance Committee Minutes – 3/16/2015**
- C. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- D. POLICY AGENDA**
 - 1. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS**

State Representative Jim Davitt updated the Council on the State's budget process. He handed out information relative to the Democrats' counter proposals to the Governor's budget and information put together by the Maine Municipal Association indicating the pros and cons of each proposal. Jim indicated that there are some things that the Taxation Committee agrees on and he noted that people on both sides of the aisle are working together, but that neither side is happy with the whole package. They are trying to come up with compromises that will be acceptable to the Legislature and to the Governor. He did note that revenue sharing and funding for education are staying in for this upcoming budget and

nobody on either side wants to see taxes go up. He is hopeful that a budget will be ready for the Governor's signature by June 1st. A copy of his information is attached and made a part of the minutes.

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. **Amendments to Sale of Town Owned Real Estate Ordinance** – *Manager Lessard explained that these amendments allow the Town to sell property acquired through sewer lien foreclosure and to collect all outstanding real estate tax and sewer charges at the time of a foreclosure of either type. Mayor Ryder opened the hearing and no one spoke in favor or opposition and there were no general questions or comments. The hearing was closed. Motion by Councilor McAvoy, seconded by Councilor Duprey to adopt the amendments to the Sale of Town Owned Real Estate Ordinance. Unanimous vote in favor.*

3. NOMINATIONS – APPOINTMENTS – ELECTIONS - None

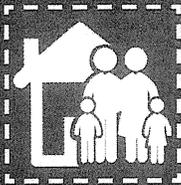
4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Coldbrook Road and Emera Maine Credit Enhancement Agreement – Council Approval** – *Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Sirois to approve the Coldbrook Road and Emera Maine Credit Enhancement Agreement and to authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the Town. Unanimous vote in favor.*

5. NEW BUSINESS

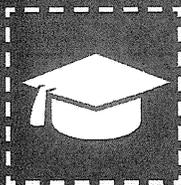
- a. **Connor Roy Eagle Scout Bridge Project – Services Committee Recommendation** – *Motion by Councilor McAvoy, seconded by Councilor Marble to approve the bridge project as presented to the Services Committee. Unanimous vote in favor.*
- b. **Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment re Conditional Lot Dimensions – Planning & Development Committee Recommendation to Refer to Planning Board** – *Councilor Shakespeare noted that the proposed amendments were just received from the Town Attorney this evening and he hadn't had time to review them. Motion by Councilor Sirois, seconded by Councilor Shakespeare to send this back to the Planning & Development Committee for reconsideration. During discussion Attorney Russell indicated that, with the exception of a few minor changes, these were the same amendments that had been reviewed in rough draft by the Committee at its last meeting. Vote on the motion was 1 in favor (Shakespeare) and 6 opposed (McAvoy, Duprey, Marble, Wilde, Sirois and Ryder); motion did not carry. Motion by Councilor Duprey, seconded by Councilor McAvoy to refer the updated version to the Planning Board. Vote on the motion was 6 in favor (McAvoy, Duprey,*

A Better Deal:



for young families and seniors

The LePage budget cuts taxes for large corporations and the wealthy by eliminating property tax relief for young families and seniors. The Better Deal for Maine lowers property taxes for all Maine homeowners by \$120 million per year.



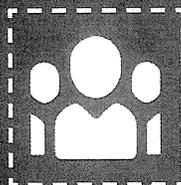
for students and workers

Governor LePage's budget abandons investment in our schools, students and workers. Our Better Deal for Maine invests in public education from pre-kindergarten through high school, college and job training programs, ensuring economic success for our students and workers, and setting the state on the path for a stronger economic future.



for Maine communities

Governor LePage's budget eliminates funding for revenue sharing that supports fire, police, and public works in Maine communities. The Better Deal for Maine keeps the state's promise and increases funding for revenue sharing for local services like police, fire, and public works.



for Maine's middle class

Governor LePage's plan gives the largest tax cuts to Maine's wealthiest residents. The Better Deal for Maine targets income tax cuts to middle- and low-income Mainers. The Governor's plan gives 50 percent of income tax cuts to the top 10 percent. Under the Better Deal for Maine, 98 percent of income tax relief goes to the bottom 95 percent.



is fully paid for

Governor LePage's budget sets Maine up for a fiscal crisis and will leave a \$300 million hole in the budget that will lead to deep cuts in education. Our Better Deal for Maine is fully paid for and is fiscally responsible.

	LePage Plan	A Better Deal for Maine
Income tax relief	50% of income tax relief goes to the top 10%	98% of income tax relief goes to the bottom 95%
Sales tax rate	Increases sales tax rate to 6.5%	Keeps sales tax rate the same at 5.5%
Meals Lodging	6.5% 8%	Keep current rates at 8% Adopts LePage Plan at 8%
Sales tax base	Broadens number of items subject to sales tax	Adopts the LePage Plan
Sales tax fairness credit	Creates a refundable tax credit from \$250-\$500 to offset the sales tax increases	Adopts the LePage Plan
Homestead Exemption	Doubles for elderly. Eliminates for under 65	Doubles exemption for everyone, not just elderly
Property Tax Fairness Credit	Expands credit that offsets high property taxes	Adopts the LePage Plan
Revenue Sharing	Provides \$62 million in revenue in FY16; eliminates it in FY17	Increases funding for revenue sharing to \$80 million in FY16 and FY17
Estate Tax	Increases exclusion amount in 2016 and eliminates estate tax in 2017	No change to current law
Non Profit Tax	Requires municipalities to tax non-profits on property greater than \$500,000	Rejects taxes on non-profits
Corporate Income tax	Reduces rates	No changes to current rates. Closes loophole on offshore tax havens
Pensions	Exempts military pensions from income tax and increases exemptions for non-military pensions	Exempts military pensions from income tax and maintains current law on other pension exemptions
Telecommunications tax	Transfers tax collection to the towns	No changes to current law
Tobacco	No changes to current law	Equalizes tobacco taxes for all tobacco products

Competing Comprehensive Tax Reform Plans on the Tables

Plan Component	Governor's Tax Reform Plan	Taxation Committee Recommendation (unanimous unless otherwise noted)	Democrats' Alternative Plan
Municipal Revenue Sharing	Flat-fund the currently reduced revenue sharing distribution at \$62.5 million for FY 2016 and eliminate entirely for FY 2017 and thereafter.	Flat-fund currently reduced revenue sharing distribution at \$62.5 million for both years of the biennium.	Increase the revenue sharing distribution from flat-funding levels of \$62.5 million to \$77 million for both years of the biennium.
Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Eliminate the \$10,000 Homestead exemption for homeowners under 65 years of age, double the Homestead exemption for homeowners 65 years of age or older to \$20,000.	No change to current law. Retain the current \$10,000 Homestead for all Maine resident homeowners.	Double the current \$10,000 Homestead exemption for all Maine resident homeowners to \$20,000.
Property Tax Fairness Credit	Expand in several ways the value and the availability of the refundable "Property Tax Fairness Credit" now embedded within the state's income tax code (formerly the "Circuitbreaker" program), increasing the overall cost of the program from \$35 million to \$93 million.	Split vote, with 7 members rejecting the Governor's proposal and 6 members supporting it.	Adopts the Governor's proposal.
Taxing Tax Exempt Property	Impose the property tax on 50% of the value of most privately owned tax exempt properties after subtracting the first \$500,000 in value.	Do not impose the property tax on tax exempt properties.	Do not impose the property tax on tax exempt properties.
Transfer Telecommunications Personal Property to Municipal Jurisdiction	Transfer from state to municipal jurisdiction the authority to tax "two-way, interactive" personal property owned by telecommunications companies, shifting approximately \$8.25 million in tax revenue from state to municipal governments.	Accept the Governor's proposal without change.	Reject the Governor's proposal, No change to current law.
BETR-to-BETE Conversion	In four installments between tax year 2016 and tax year 2019, shift all currently taxable property enrolled in the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement program over to tax exempt status.	Committee recommendation is split, with 7 members supporting the Governor's proposal and 6 members opposing.	Not mentioned in the Democrats' plan, so presumably not part of that proposal.
Sales Tax Rate Changes Current law: General sales – 5.5% Meals – 8% Lodging – 8% Short Term Auto Rental – 10%	General Sales – 6.5% Meals – 6.5% Lodging – 8% Short term auto – 8%	By unanimous vote: Meals – 8% Lodging – 9% Short term auto – 10% By split vote: General Sales 7 members 5.5% 6 members 6.5%	General sales – 5.5% Meals – 8% Lodging – 8% Short term auto – ? (Presumably retain the current 10% rate, but not stated in the plan).
Sales Tax Base Changes	Expand the sales tax base by applying the general sales tax rate to the retail value of six categories of services, excluding all "business to business" transactions: Amusement and Recreation services, Installation, Repair and Maintenance services (excluding automobile repair), Personal services, Domestic and Household services, Personal Property services, and Professional services.	Adopt the Governor's proposals with the following exceptions: Exclude professional services entirely, exclude museums from amusement and recreation services, exclude hair services from personal services, and exclude private waste management services from the domestic and household services category.	Adopt Governor's proposals without amendment.
Sales Tax Fairness Credit	Creates a refundable tax credit within the state's income tax code valued at \$250 to \$500 with income limitations in order to offset impact of increased sales taxes on lower-income Mainers.	Adopts the Governor's proposal.	Adopts the Governor's proposal.

Tax Reform Plan (cont'd)

Individual Income Tax Rates. The Democrats' "Better Plan For Maine" document lays out the differences between the Governor's proposal on income tax rate changes with their proposal as follows. To add the Taxation panel's recommendations to the mix, the Committee was essentially

split. Approximately half the Committee's membership supported the Governor's proposal with some modest variation. The other half essentially recommended the 5-bracket plan in the Democrats' alternative, although at the time the rate details were not provided.

	Governor's Plan FY 2016	Governor's Plan FY 2019	Democrats' Alternative Plan
	Bracket/Rate	Bracket/ Rate	Bracket/Rate
	\$0/0%	\$0/0%	\$0/0%
	\$9,700/5.75%	\$9,700/5.75%	\$5,200/6%
	\$50,000/6.95%	\$50,000/6.5%	\$25,000/6.5%
		\$175,000/5.75%	\$50,000/7.5%
			\$150,000/7.95%
Standard Deduction	\$6,200	\$6,200	\$9,000
Standard Deduction Phaseout	None	None	\$50,000 to \$75,000
Personal Exemption	\$3,950	\$3,950	\$3,950
Personal Exemption Phaseout	None	None	\$75,000 to \$125,000
Pension Exclusion	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$10,000
Fiscal Note FY 2017	-\$418 million	-\$489 million	-\$120,000

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Fairness Conundrum

On Wednesday this week, the Taxation Committee held a hearing on LD 94, *An Act To Base the Excise Tax Imposed on the Purchase of a Motor Vehicle on the Price Paid*. Sponsored by Rep. Heather Sirocki of Scarborough, LD 94 would require the excise taxes assessed on motor vehicles to be calculated on the basis of the sale price rather than on the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP), as is currently the case. The bill would also require the state to reimburse municipalities for the excise tax revenue losses attributable to the change in the calculation methodology.

As Rep. Sirocki pointed out in her testimony, the issue addressed in LD 94 is not new. The Legislature is perennially asked to determine whether the law enacted in 1929 – 86 years ago – establishing a value-based assessment method for collecting motor vehicle excise tax is fair and appropriate.

A handful of proponents were on hand to support the bill and to express frustration with a system that assesses a tax using the MRSP, described as a value

"arbitrarily" set by the automobile industry, rather than the actual price paid. One proponent likened the current assessment model to requiring a customer to pay sales taxes on the full price of a discounted meal. Another proponent informed the Committee that he would purchase a new vehicle if it were not for the excise tax assessment process.

From the municipal perspective, however, the issue of fairness is based on the foundation of tax policy that requires all taxpayers to be treated equally. In its opposition to LD 94, MMA pointed out that since an excise tax is collected on motor vehicles in lieu of a property tax, the assessment should be based on value rather than the sale price. The value-based assessment ensures that all persons paying this form of property tax are treated equally, regardless of ability to negotiate a deal on the price of a vehicle.

Although the proposal would require the state to reimburse municipalities for the lost revenues, municipal officials are not convinced that the Legislature will honor the funding commitment for long,

Legislative Bulletin

A weekly publication of the Maine Municipal Association throughout sessions of the Maine State Legislature.

Subscriptions to the *Bulletin* are available at a rate of \$20 per calendar year. Inquiries regarding subscriptions or opinions expressed in this publication should be addressed to: *Legislative Bulletin*, Maine Municipal Association, 60 Community Drive, Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: 623-8428. Website: www.memun.org

Editorial Staff: Geoffrey Herman, Kate Dufour, Garrett Corbin and Laura Ellis of the State & Federal Relations staff.

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (cont'd)

if at all. As a result, if LD 94 is enacted municipal officials will need to determine how to absorb an estimated \$12 million loss in revenue.

MMA's claim that the loss of excise tax revenue would have a direct impact on municipal road maintenance and repair budgets was challenged by one member of the Taxation Committee. He pointed out that there is nothing in state statute obligating municipalities to dedicate those revenues to local transportation programs. He is correct. Since excise taxes are collected in lieu of property taxes, those revenues are available to fund any municipal program.

That being said, municipal officials are using collected excise tax revenues for transportation-related purposes without having to be told to do so by Augusta. On the basis of data provided through a transportation revenue and expenditure survey conducted by MMA in the fall of 2014, it is estimated that municipalities statewide spend \$356 million on roads and bridges annually. In comparison, the data published in Maine Revenue Services 2013 Municipal Valuation Return Statistical Summary show that municipalities statewide collect \$196 million in excise tax.

Based on the Committee's questions and initial conversations there seems to be some level of interest in amending the manner in which the motor vehicle excise tax is assessed. Municipal officials concerned about possible changes are urged to contact members of the Taxation Committee before its meets on Monday, April 27 to vote on LD 94.

The Town of Hampden hereby ordains that the following amendments to the Town of Hampden Sale of Town Owned Real Estate Ordinance be adopted:

Additions underlined
Deletions ~~stricken~~

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN
SALE OF TOWN OWNED REAL ESTATE ORDINANCE**

ARTICLE I - SALE OF TOWN OWNED REAL ESTATE

1.1 AUTHORITY

In accordance with ARTICLE II, Section 212 (b) of the Town Charter the Town Council shall be authorized to convey or lease any lands of the Town within the limitations fixed by the Constitution and statutes of the State of Maine as they now or may hereafter apply to said Town of Hampden.

1.1.1 SALE BY TOWN

Real estate shall be sold by the Town only after the adoption by affirmative vote of a majority of all the members of the Town Council of a Resolution calling for the sale of real estate owned by the Town; the resolution shall contain a reasonably accurate description of the property which is proposed to be sold.

1.2 DISPOSAL

After the Town Council has voted to sell real estate, notices shall be sent to each landowner abutting the proposed parcel to be sold as well as to each landowner within three (300) feet of any property line of said parcel. Landowners shall be considered to be those to whom property taxes are assessed. Failure of any landowner to receive a notice of public sale shall not necessitate another sale or invalidate any action of the Town Council. Notices shall be sent to the previous owner in the case of tax acquired property. In addition, notice of the proposed sale shall be published as specified in Article II, Section 213 (d) of the Charter, such publication to be not less than seven (7) days before the Council's final action on such sale. The notice shall contain a reasonably accurate description of the property to be sold and shall provide for a day and place when and where bids for said property shall be submitted to the Town Office.

Adopted by Town Council 4/21/2015; Effective 5/21/2015

1.3 BID PROCEDURE

All bids shall be submitted in writing and shall clearly identify the purchaser and the price bid for the property. Bids shall be placed in sealed envelopes and given to the Town Clerk who shall hold all such bids until the ~~close of business on the~~ day date and time designated in the notice, when the bids shall be opened by the Town Clerk. The results of the bidding shall then be submitted to the Town Council at its next regular meeting; after proponents and opponents if any, to said proposed sale have been heard, the Council may by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the members of the Council vote to convey the property to the highest bidder. The Council may reject any bid which does not comply with Town's bid procedure guidelines; furthermore, the Council may reject all bids and withdraw the offer to sell the property.

1.3.1. DEED EXECUTION

The Town Treasurer is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the Town of Hampden to make, execute and deliver a Quitclaim Deed to convey title to the purchaser.

1.4 TAX FORECLOSURE ACQUIRED PROPERTY

The Town Treasurer shall give written notice to the prior owner of record of real estate acquired by the Town by way of foreclosure of tax lien or sewer lien mortgage of the Town's intent to sell said real estate at public sale. Said notice shall be given in writing and sent via U.S. mail to the property owner's last known address at least 30 days before notice of public sale is given in the manner specified in Section 1.2 above. Failure of any prior owner to receive such notice shall not necessitate another sale or invalidate any action of the Town Council.

If the prior owner of record makes full payment of all sums due the Town on the ~~said tax claim~~, including but not limited to the amount of any tax and/or sewer liens, real estate taxes, personal property taxes, sewer charges, recording fees, interest and costs, before notice of public sale is given, the Town Treasurer shall release title to said real estate to its record owner.

ADOPTED BY THE HAMPDEN TOWN COUNCIL: November 19, 1979

EFFECTIVE: December 19, 1979

AMENDED: July 6, 1987

EFFECTIVE: August 4, 1987

Marble, Wilde, Sirois and Ryder); and 1 opposed (Shakespeare); motion carried.

- c. **Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment re Industrial District Building Height Standards – Planning & Development Committee Recommendation to Refer to Planning Board – Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor Sirois to forward the text amendment to the Planning Board. Unanimous vote in favor.**
- d. **Public Safety Request to go out to bid for New Ambulance – Finance Committee Recommendation – Mayor Ryder reported that Public Safety Director Joe Rogers had discussed the Department's desire to replace the 1997 ambulance with the Finance Committee and it was the committee's recommendation to authorize the Department to go out to bid. Motion by Councilor Shakespeare, seconded by Councilor McAvoy to authorize going to bid for a new ambulance. Unanimous vote in favor.**
- e. **2016 Budget Presentation and Proposed Schedule – A copy of Manager Lessard's memo to the Council is attached and made a part of the minutes. The proposed budget meeting schedule was approved as presented.**
- f. **Possible Violation of Code of Ethics by a Town Councilor – Requested by Councilor Sirois – Councilor Sirois said that while the item he wanted to discuss does speak to someone's integrity and character, he has determined that it is really not a Code of Ethics violation so he will not be asking to go into executive session.**
 - 1. **Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS Sections 405(6)(A) and 406(6)(E)**
 - 2. **Council Action**

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Services Committee – Councilor McAvoy reported that the Committee met on April 13th and heard the proposal to replace the snowmobile bridge, and discussed continuation of Saturday bus service, Childrens' Day and the Veterans' Memorial. The committee is waiting for further information regarding the Time Warner franchise agreement and disbursement, which will determine how we can proceed with upgrading the broadcast and recording equipment in the council chambers.

Infrastructure Committee – the next meeting will be at 6:00 pm on April 27th.

Planning & Development Committee – Councilor Shakespeare reported that the items discussed at the last committee meeting have already been discussed by Council this evening.

Finance Committee – Mayor Ryder reported that the Committee agreed to go out to bid for a new ambulance and continues to work on Council Rules and the Code of Ethics.

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

TO: Hampden Town Council
FROM: Sue Lessard, Town Manager
DATE: April 20, 2015
RE: 2015/16 Budget

The purpose of this memo is to discuss the 2015/16 budget, including municipal, County, and RSU #22 costs. The proposed budget for review by the Council will be provided by Monday, April 27th, a week in advance of the first budget review date of May 4th for the public safety portion of the budget.

During the Goals & Objectives meeting held by the Council in February, I was asked to provide a budget to the Council that maintained the current mil rate while incorporating all increases from RSU 22 and Penobscot County, any revenue losses for the Town, and any increased fixed costs that the town might have. The budget that is in process accomplishes those things. The budget that you will be receiving by Monday, April 27th keeps service levels as they presently stand. There are no new programs proposed, public safety remains on an every-other-year vehicle replacement policy, public works is funded as currently exists with the plan that a new director will be reviewing operations in order to provide the Council with information for potential changes in the following year. The proposed budget will also include alternatives that the Council can consider if it wishes to look for additional savings.

Non-Municipal Cost Increases:

RSU #22 – As currently proposed, the RSU #22 budget is up \$97,533.50 for Hampden's local share, however, the RSU has budgeted to fully fund the School Resource Officer Position for the 2015/16 year, which means that they will be paying an additional \$36,127 to Hampden this year. The net impact of the increase in local share minus the increase to the Town in revenue from the district is \$61,406.50

Penobscot County Tax – As presented, Hampden's County tax for 2015/16 will be \$768,555.41, which is an increase of \$16,626.41.

The combination of these two items require an additional \$78,032.91

Municipal Revenue Impacts

New Valuation Increases at the present time are estimated at \$ 7,000,000 (not including TIF valuation), which at the present mil rate of \$17.50 per thousand would generate an additional \$122,500.

Revenue Sharing - Although presented in the Governor's budget as being eliminated in 2016/17, it appears that revenue sharing will continue at its reduced funding level for both of the next two years which leaves intact that \$338,000 in revenue.

Excise Tax – Excise tax collections continue to increase and it will be possible to budget an additional \$50,000 from excise in the 2014/15 fiscal year, from a current estimated revenue of \$1,550,000 to \$1,600,000.

Fund Balance Use – The Town has traditionally used approximately \$400,000 per year of fund balance to offset property taxes. That is not possible moving forward because the Town has spent down fund balance to the point where that type of use is not sustainable. I am therefore reducing fund balance use in this budget by \$200,000.

Health Insurance Changes – Potential savings of nearly \$100,000 annually from a possible change in health plans and establishment of a Health Reimbursement Account to offset increased employee deductibles.

Saturday Bus Service Alternatives – The Council Services Committee has begun discussions related to eliminating Saturday Bus Service and perhaps offering some limited alternative for Hampden residents through the Penquis Lynx system. Estimated savings should this move forward would be approximately \$25,000.

Fuel Oil/ Diesel Prices – I was able to lock in fuel and diesel prices for the coming year at a rate of \$2.188. That compares to the budgeted price for 2014/15 of \$3.6 for fuel oil and \$3.43 for diesel fuel. I am also able to lock in propane at .75 per gallon less than budgeted for 2014/15. The total savings from these items is \$35,345 for the municipal building, public works garage, and library which are part of the operating budget. Enterprise accounts for the pool and the Skehan Center should realize an additional savings of \$27,621 based on estimated usage.

Impacts of Changes Made in 2014/15

Public Works Personnel Reduction – The net impact to the 2015/16 budget for the reduction of one person in staffing that occurred in 2014 results in a further reduction of \$33,154.00

Planning Position – The net impact to the 2015/16 budget for the reduction to 28 hours per week for the planning position from the 2014 budget results in a further reduction of \$27,838 if the position remains as it currently stands.

2015/16 Municipal Increases

- Funding 50% of the \$120,000 town share for the Western Avenue Sidewalk
- Rehab/replacement of the trackless sidewalk plow
- Cost of living wages – all employees (1% estimated)
- Wage/Benefit Reserve funded to allow new Manager flexibility in staffing changes that may be necessary

D-5-e

TOWN OF HAMPDEN
2015/16 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE

Budget discussions on Council meeting nights are conducted after the regular agenda. Budget meetings on Committee meeting nights are scheduled at 7 p.m. In consideration of other meetings related to the Manager Search I have attempted to schedule the budget meeting on nights that are already council meeting or committee meeting dates whenever possible.

May 4, Monday (Council Meeting)

Public Safety

Police

Fire

May 11, Monday:

(7 p.m. after

.Services)

Administration

Economic Development

GIS/IT

Assessor/Planning

Communications

Tax Collector

Elections

Town Council

May 18, Monday:

(Council Meeting)

Library

Recreation

Lura Holt Pool

Debt Service

Reserves

TIF

May 20, Wednesday

(7 p.m. after Planning
& Dev.)

The Bus

Public Works

Municipal Garage

Solid Waste

Buildings & Grounds

Marina

Non-Departmental Utilities

Municipal Building

May 26, Tuesday:

(7pm after Infra-
structure)

~~(Council Meeting)~~

Revenues

County Tax

General Assistance

Education

Budget Review

June 1, Monday:

(Council Meeting)

Budget Review - Post for Public Hearing

June 15, Monday:

(Council Meeting) - Budget Adoption

Manager's Report
April 21, 2015

Sewer Liens - Sewer Liens for unpaid sewer bills from two quarters in 2014 that remained unpaid as of April 16, 2015 are being placed this week. There are 68 liens being placed out of a total user base of 1513 accounts, or approximately 4.5 %.

Street/Stream Cleanup – Another reminder that the street/stream clean-up will be on Saturday, May 9th starting at 9 here at the Town Office.

Public Works Director – I am on schedule to have a name for confirmation by the Town Council at their May 4th meeting. Many thanks to Mayor David Ryder and Councilor Terry McAvoy for their assistance in this process in participating in the interviews and providing valuable feedback. We are fortunate to have some excellent candidates for the position.

Cable Consortium Meeting – Time Warner has responded to the requests for information regarding contract renewal and the next meeting will be to discuss what the next step should be in response.

Paving Bids – The Town is advertising for bids for 2015 paving and will have results of those for the Infrastructure Committee meeting in May.

Route 1A/Old County Sewer Line Bid – The Water District received bids on their project and are selecting Gardiner Construction of Hermon. Their price on the sewer line replacement for the Town was \$21,000. This item will be on the Infrastructure Committee agenda for Monday, April 27th.

Codification of Ordinances – I have received the 'book' from General Code in regard to the evaluation conducted related to the codification of our ordinances. I received it Thursday and have not yet had a chance to review it. I have also given a copy to Bob the Planner to review.

G. COUNCILORS' COMMENTS

Councilor Wilde commented that he looks forward to the budget process.

Councilor Shakespeare reminded everyone that there is a public meeting at 7:00 pm tomorrow evening regarding the search for a new Town Manager.

Councilor Sirois thanked Manager Lessard for her work on the upcoming budget. He noted that the Town is lucky is to have someone who knows the ins and outs of this budget like she does and that that talent will be missed.

Councilor McAvoy commented that Mother Nature is relenting and he is fairly confident spring is here. He reminded everyone to shop local and buy American.

H. ADJOURNMENT – *There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.*



Denise Hodsdon
Town Clerk