

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, August 1st, 2016

MINUTES – DRAFT

Hampden Town Office

Attending:

Mayor David Ryder

Councilor Ivan McPike

Councilor Mark Cormier

Councilor Terry McAvoy

Councilor Dennis Marble

Councilor Stephen Wilde

Councilor Greg Sirois, Chair (arr. 6:25)

Town Manager Angus Jennings

Public Safety Director Joe Rogers

Fire Lt. Jason Lundstrom

Mayor Ryder called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

- 1. Meeting Minutes – July 18th, 2016** – *Motion by Councilor McAvoy seconded by Councilor Marble to approve the minutes as written. Approved 6-0.*
- 2. Review & Sign Warrants** – *Warrants were reviewed and signed by Committee members.*
- 3. Old Business**
 - a. Request authorization to use public works equipment reserve funds (03-717-00) in the amount of \$36,500.00 for the purpose of purchasing a public works plow truck** – *Mayor Ryder reported that this item was discussed in detail at the July 25 Infrastructure Committee meeting. Motion by Councilor McPike, seconded by Councilor Marble, to recommend Council authorization of \$36,500 from the Public Works Equipment Reserve for the first installment of a five-year financing agreement for the purchase of a plow truck. The motion passed 4-2, with Councilors McAvoy and Cormier opposed.*
 - b. Work plan and priorities for FY17** – *Manager Jennings said that he was still working to summarize the four Committees' discussions of*

priorities and said that the discussion of priorities would continue to the August 15 meeting.

4. New Business –

- a. **Recommendation of Chief Joe Rogers for the turnout gear cleaning/drying system as bid by Industrial Protection Services, LLC on July 28th, 2016 and request authorization to use Matching Grant reserve account funds in the amount of \$818.00 for its purchase** – *Chief Rogers summarized the grant received and commended Lt. Lundstrom for his success in securing this and other grant funds. Lt. Lundstrom said that the grant will support purchase of a gear extractor which gets cancer causing chemicals out of gear after a fire. Councilor McPike asked whether this equipment extends the useful life of gear and Lt. Lundstrom said yes, but even with the extractor the maximum life of gear is ten years. Councilor McAvoy asked what happens to the residue, and Lt. Lundstrom said it is expunged through a separate drain that is treated. Motion by Councilor McPike, seconded by Councilor Marble, to recommend Council authorization of \$818 from the Matching Grants Reserve for the purchase of the equipment. The motion passed 6-0.*

- b. **Discussion of the timeline and process for the anticipated local referendum during the November 8th, 2016 election** – *Manager Jennings summarized the process that would precede the placement of an article on the November 2016 ballot for referendum. He said that there are up to five items for potential borrowing including two Sewer items and three roadway and sidewalk articles. He said that each potential borrowing item would be summarized in the August 15 meeting packet when the Council would be asked to refer an ordinance authorizing the referendum to public hearing. He noted that one of the potential sewer borrowing articles – to get current on past due charges to Bangor for wastewater treatment and pump station maintenance – would likely not be eligible for tax exempt borrowing. There was discussion about the potential difference in interest rate between tax exempt and non-tax exempt borrowing. Councilor McPike and Councilor McPike both agreed that we should get current with Bangor even if it means borrowing to do so. Councilor McAvoy suggested the potential for the sewer to borrow funds to pay back the full amount of interfund transfers from the General Fund. Manager Jennings said that due to the amount of interfund transfers due the interest costs may be prohibitive. Mayor Ryder asked whether borrowing would be necessary for the Sucker Brook culvert and Manager Jennings said he would*

report on the strategy to finance this work. [Councilor Sirois arrived at 6:25]. The Committee asked Manager Jennings to look at different amortization schedules and how this would affect interest rates and costs. He was also asked to report on how the Town's share of the Western Avenue sidewalk would be financed. Manager Jennings said that the Council in 2014 had authorized the local match to come from the Host Community Benefit account, but that he would also include a profile of this project in the August 15 meeting packet. He is also working with Bangor to firm up costs for amounts due for the wastewater treatment plant work.

5. Public Comment – None.

6. Committee Member Comments – None.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted –
Angus Jennings, Town Manager