

# Town of Hampden

## SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 11, 2019

6:00 P.M.

HAMPDEN TOWN OFFICE

### AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. January 14, 2018 Meeting
2. Committee Applications & Citizen Initiatives – None
3. Unfinished Business
  - a. Western Avenue Municipal Properties Stormwater Permitting – *Progress Update from Plymouth Engineering Staff & Manager*
4. New Business – None
5. Staff Updates & Manager Items
  - a. Vafiades Landing – Update on Acquisition Activities by Volunteer Community Members – *Manager*
  - b. BACTS/City of Bangor Transit Regional Study Discussion – *Manager*
6. Public Comments
7. Committee Member Comments
8. Adjourn

# Town of Hampden

## SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 14, 2019

6:00 pm

HAMPDEN TOWN OFFICE

### MINUTES

#### Attending:

*Chairman Marble  
Councilor McAvoy  
Councilor Ryder  
Councilor McPike  
Councilor Wilde  
Councilor Jarvi*

*Town Manager – Jim Chandler  
Shelley Abbott – Recreation Director  
Chris Packard – Citizen*

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Marble at 6:01pm

#### **1. MINUTES**

- a. **November 13, 2018** – *Councilor McAvoy made a motion, seconded by Mayor McPike to accept the minutes as written. Unanimous vote in favor, 6-0.*

Chairman Marble took item 5c first due to citizen Chris Packard being in attendance for this item.

#### **2. COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS & CITIZEN INITIATIVES**

#### **3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. **BACTS transit -2018 Ridership Report & 2019 Regional Study Discussion – Manager**

Town Manager Chandler updated the Committee on the BACTS/City of Bangor Regional Transit Study to take place this year, and the ridership on the bus route in Hampden.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS - None**

#### **5. STAFF UPDATES & MANAGER ITEMS.**

- a. **Western Avenue Municipal Properties Stormwater Permitting – Progress Update from Manager**

Town Manager Chandler updated the Committee on Plymouth Engineering progress on the stormwater permitting of the Western Avenue Municipal properties and recent pre-application meetings held by the Plymouth Engineering consultants with the Maine DEP staff.

**b. Update on Skehan Center Maintenance Concerns & Winter Operations – Manager**

Town Manager Chandler along with Director Abbott discussed the HVAC issues, the scope and cost of having localized hot water units at the Skehan Center.

**c. Vafiades Landing – Update on Acquisition Activities by Volunteer Community Members – Manager**

Chris Packard updated the Committee on the acquisition of efforts. An appraisal of the property has been funded. Landmark Heritage Trust is having a meeting on January 16, 2019 at 7 p.m. in Newburgh.

**d. Spectrum Cable Actions & Maine Legislative Response – Update from Kyle Severance, GIS-IT Technician**

A review of the attached correspondence from Kyle Severance to Hampden's Legislative Delegation was provided by Manager Chandler.

**e. Citizen Rental of Skehan Center Space & Gym Time Reservations – Recreation Director Shelley Abbott**

The practice of renting out gym time was explained by Director Abbott.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

**8. ADJOURN**

*With no further business, the meeting adjourned  
Respectfully submitted,  
Rosemary Bezanson and Jim Chandler*

Jan 9, 2019, 10:12 AM

From: Kyle Severance

To: Representative David Haggan, Senator Stacey Guerin

SUBJECT: Upcoming Legislation RE: Public Access Cable and Cable Franchise agreements

Dear Representative Haggan and Senator Guerin,

The purpose of this email is to seek your support on an upcoming bill regarding the discrimination of public access TV channels by Charter Communications (DBA Spectrum).

The Town of Hampden's ability to communicate and provide services to residents and businesses is continuously hindered by Charter's actions.

I am attaching a draft of the bill that has been submitted to the Revisor's office to address a number of non-compliance issues that have come up since Charter acquired Time Warner. It is designated as LR130 and sponsored by Senator David Woodsome (R) York.

If passed, a section of the bill will also enhance broadband expansion in rural communities. This will be accomplished by lowering the number of homes per mile that the cable operators are required to install and maintain in each town as each franchise is renewed. There are currently over a hundred expired franchises in the State (Hampden being one).

Serving on the Penobscot Cable Consortium, we have tried to renew agreements for many years and are simply ignored. Charter doesn't seem interested in cooperating with the local municipalities which granted them use of the Town's right of way in the original agreement. Now we are stuck and need the help of the State legislature.

This legislation is based on successful initiatives in Illinois and California and has received extensive review by notable cable law attorneys both here in Maine and in Washington, DC, so we are confident that it will pass any legal challenge from the cable industry.

Please consider these important updates to the Maine cable franchising statutes in Title 30A as we will need your support in the coming months. The bill contains a non-technical summary at the end for your reference.

Thank you very much for your service to our community. Your commitment to televised municipal meetings, open government and the enhancement of the culture of the community through the coverage of local events on a local television channel is appreciated!

Sincerely,

Kyle Severance

GIS/IT Specialist

E911 Addressing Officer

Town of Hampden, Maine