

I. Call to Order

Selectwoman Emily Creighton, with the endorsement of Selectman Rineman, served as the Chair for this meeting due to the excused absence of Selectman Gould. Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. There were also present, Jon Rineman, Selectman and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Upton & Hatfield Engagement Letter Re: Cell Tower Issues

Ms. Creighton referenced that following the Board's meeting of July 25, 2005, ZBA Chairman Simmons and ZBA Vice-Chair Peckham interviewed various attorneys in an effort to bring forward a recommendation to the Selectmen for an attorney to represent the ZBA in cell tower matters.

Mr. Simmons, via an email transmission to Town Administrator Pardue, offered the Board his recommendation of Attorney Russell Hilliard, of the law firm Upton & Hatfield, to serve in as legal counsel to the ZBA.

It was noted that Mr. Hilliard is the same attorney recommended by the Board of Selectmen's legal counsel, Robert Ciandella, to represent the Town's Land Use Boards on cell tower matters.

Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to engage the services of Attorney Russell Hilliard of Upton & Hatfield for the purpose of representing the ZBA in cell tower related matters. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 2-0.

B. Bandstand Parking Discussion

The Board, along with Town Administrator Pardue, Chief of Police Page and Road Agent Strout discussed the public safety issues associated with the crowds and vehicles being drawn to the bandstand area during the summer concert series performances. Chief Page discussed in-depth his concerns related to pedestrians in the street and vehicles parking haphazardly along the streets adjacent to the bandstand are on the evenings concerts are held. Chief Page produced approximately 14 photographs depicting the parking problems referenced. Chief Page also cited that just a few days earlier he had personally witnessed a "near-miss" of two vehicles, created in-part to the

parking of vehicles encroaching on the intersection(s) adjacent to the bandstand. He further cited that Fire Chief Tom Lambert had expressed concerns related to the traffic conditions during bandstand performances, conditions that greatly inhibit the ability of fire apparatus to traverse the roads around the bandstand.

Chief Page emphasized that it is not his desire to “ticket and tow” offenders but that the poor parking situation has simply grown to a level that he and his staff must now attend to. Further, Chief Page stated that he is very concerned about the liability exposure associated with the Town having knowledge of this situation and due to that knowledge, feels it is imperative that the police department take the necessary action to improve the situation.

The Board agreed that it is incumbent on all parties to address the situation at hand in an effort to improve the parking and traffic / pedestrian flow.

The Board asked Mr. Pardue to bring together the Bandstand Committee Chair, Delores Chase and the public safety officials in an effort to remedy the cited problems.

Much discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of setting-up satellite parking location(s) and shuttling attendees in via bus or trolley.

Ms. Creighton voiced a need for a designated area for the parking of responding emergency vehicles.

Discussion included the possibility of positioning a police officer in the area in question to ensure the smooth flow of traffic and pedestrians. Chief Page spoke of the costs associated with a special assignment (detail) officer. Chief Page also advised the Board that there is little hope that a duty officer could spend much time in the area due to the number of calls for service that routinely occur nightly.

Mr. Rineman reiterated that the Bandstand Committee is appointed by the Board of Selectmen and are therefore responsible to the Board. He expressed his hope that the Bandstand Committee would pay careful attention to this matter and work with Town officials to immediately remedy the voiced concerns.

Mr. Pardue advised the Board that he would work to bring Ms. Chase and public safety personnel together within the next few days to address this matter, seeking both short-term and long range solutions.

All in attendance agreed that the problems being addressed stemmed from the success of the concert series.

C. Question and Comments on Above Topics

Mr. Rineman referenced a letter that was received by the Board from a resident who's home was recently struck by lightening. The letter cited the fact that the telephones in the home were rendered inoperable. The resident stated that they tried to use their cell phone to no avail, due to the lack of service coverage. Thus, the homeowner was forced to drive to the fire station for assistance. Mr. Rineman cited the fact that this type of action by people in distress is unthinkable in today's modern world of technology.

Mr. Dennis Kokernak was in attendance and was afforded the opportunity to address the Board regarding cell tower / service issues and his desire to see the Town actively pursue a Digital Antenna System (DAS) architecture for the distribution of cellular service in lieu of cell towers. Mr. Kokernak cited his belief that cell towers will soon become extinct as opposed to the newer DAS technology. Mr. Kokernak pointed out that it is his belief that the two companies currently pursuing the construction of a cell tower in North Hampton would likely be opposed to the DAS approach as they are "tower" builders, especially GridCom.

Mr. Kokernak suggested the Town needed to be aggressive in cell service distribution and that to actively pursue a DAS architecture would, in his opinion, be the best approach.

Ms. Creighton expressed that the BOS understands the importance of considering all applicable technologies to avoid a solution that is antiquated in 5-10 years.

Chief Page stated that his department is continually encountering communication problems in the areas cell tower service is being proposed. He stated that if the DAS is evaluated, it be done with public safety communication in mind too.

Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion to temporarily adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. for the purpose of entering into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A:3 II (a) for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. A roll call vote of the Board was taken. Motion passed unanimously 2-0.

III. Non-Public Session RSA 91-A: 3 II (a)

Motion / Vote: Ms. Creighton made a motion to reconvene the public portion of the meeting at 9:55 p.m. Mr. Rineman seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

IV. Administration/Business

1. REC – Last week of summer camp. Upcoming events include Water County, last day carnival, white water rafting outing etc.
2. REC – Men's league basketball concluding with playoffs / tournament play

3. REC – Sharon met with Mike Carron of NHS to discuss cooperative effort in program offering / sharing of facilities etc. G & O of this effort is to not duplicate services being offered as we serve many of the same “customers”
4. PWD – Road line painting to be performed this week – weather permitting
5. PWD – Highway staff have rebuilt the picnic tables as opposed to buying new ones in an effort to save funds – nuts and bolts donated.
6. FD – Conditional offer has been extended to a FF candidate – background review is underway at this time
7. FD - Chief Lambert attending national fire chiefs conference in Denver from 8/10–8/14
8. FD – Rescue truck will be in for recall service beginning 8/15 – out for approximately 3 days
9. PD – Conditional offers have been made for two new police officer positions. Backgrounds continue
10. PD - Serious Car vs. Ped. Accident on Rt.1 at Hampton town line on Friday
11. PD – Stats show that at the end of June, PD was 40 arrest behind when compared to the same period last year ('04). At the end of July, PD was only 12 arrest behind when compared to the same time last year ('04). A very busy July and August shows little sign of letting-up
12. CEO – Has increased enforcement of code violations. Contract CEO has been on-site the past four Fridays – please refer to Red's memo dated 8/8/05
13. TA – Department Heads have drafted warrant articles for 2006 – 2007 budget effort. CIP forms are complete and forwarded to Ms. Pohl as the Chair of the CIP Committee
14. TA – Compiling contracted services information as BOS requested
15. TA – Administrative Secretary position to be advertised ASAP
16. TA – Oil RFP's have been sent out and advertised. This effort marks a joint venture between the Town, School and Library with goal being to secure the best pricing / service level possible for each entities needs

B. Correspondence

Mr. Pardue provided the Board with a draft Recreation Department survey slated to be sent to North Hampton residents. Mr. Pardue provided the Board with a progress report citing the actions taken the past few weeks by the Code Enforcement Officer as he and his staff have worked to bring code violations into compliance.

C. Property Tax Abatements

None

D. Cemetery Deeds

The Board signed four (4) cemetery deeds.

E. Approval of Minutes

July 25, 2005 – Open Session

July 25, 2005 – Non-Public Session

July 26, 2005 – Public Session

Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes of July 25, 2005 (Open Session), July 25, 2005 (Non-Public Session) and July 26, 2005 (Open Session). Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 2- 0.

F. Payroll

The Board reviewed and signed two weeks of payroll forms.

G. Manifest

The Board reviewed and signed two manifests.

H. Other Business

None.

V. Adjournment

Being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Rineman made a motion to adjourn at 10:14 p.m. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pardue
Town Administrator