

I. Call to Order

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Selectmen Gould and Salomon, Interim Town Administrator Philip Munck and members of the public. Mr. Munck served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

II. Selectmen Items

a. Channel 22. John Anthony Simmons, chair of the Channel 22 Committee, reviewed the issues of how the programming of the channel can be maintained in the future. He discussed the current use of the channel as a bulletin board and the desires of the community to be able to record and broadcast meetings of Town boards and commissions. Up to now, he said, the effort had mainly been sustained by the efforts of Laurel Pohl whose employment situation has changed making her less available to maintain the site. He said that the time has arrived to consider using cable funds to hire a person to do this work.

Ms. Pohl said that recent problems with the system were partly work related and also that a drive in the system (which has no backup) failed and required a week and one-half to be replaced. She estimated that she averaged about ten hours per month maintaining the bulletin board. She said that the next step up in capability would be to enable the Police and Fire Departments to post messages on the bulletin board and that training in that area was part of the purchase price of the equipment but has yet to be scheduled.

Chair Creighton said that one difficulty is that the warrant article appropriating funds to capital reserve limits their use to the acquisition of equipment.

The Board discussed the cable channel problem in the context of the larger issue of how the increasingly important telecommunications and computer systems of the Town which are largely maintained by employees with other primary duties. It was suggested that one possibility was the joint employment of an Information Technology person by the Town and the School.

School Board Chair Mary Pat Dolan said that the idea has not been discussed at the School Board level.

The Board determined that the priority of work on the issue would be to get the training needed to allow public safety announcements on the bulletin board, developing a job description for a Channel 22 support person and checking on whether the capital reserve funds could be spent on personnel.

b. School Security Improvements Update. Mrs. Dolan updated the Board on the use of the security warrant article funds at the North Hampton School. She said that acquisition of hardware was on track. She expressed concern about the

ability of the School and Town to test the lock-down procedure with staff prior to the beginning of school now that the Deputy Fire Chief's position is vacant. The Board asked the Town Administrator to coordinate Town staff's efforts to make sure the procedure is tested.

c. Budget Committee Meeting with DRA. Mr. Gould reported that the Budget Committee had a very productive meeting with representatives of the N.H. Department of Revenue Administration to review the roles of the Committee, the Board of Selectmen and Town staff in preparing budgets.

d. Route 111 Sidewalk and Bikeway Projects. Robert Landman described the work accomplished to date on the bikeway/shoulder project. He said that there was a neighborhood meeting scheduled for Thursday for the abutters of the sidewalk project. The Board authorized him to work with Mr. Salomon to develop an acknowledgement form that requests a non-binding approval of the planned work.

Mr. Landman repeated comments made by N.H. Department of Transportation Commissioner Charles O'Leary at the annual meeting of the Rockingham County Planning Commission at which Mr. O'Leary said that the current 10-year highway construction plan could not be completed in less than 28 years at current levels of funding. Mr. Landman said that Mr. O'Leary told the group that the present \$3 billion plan would have to be trimmed to \$1.3 billion which means that all future projects in North Hampton would be unlikely to be scheduled.

e. Continuing Appropriation. Mr. Munck told the Board that the only funds that needed to be encumbered are from the warrant article for the construction of a cemetery shed.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that \$1,176 be encumbered from Warrant Article 15 of the 2006 Town Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Pea Patch Property. Mr. Salomon said that he had hoped to have a date for closing when he asked to have this item on the agenda but that we are very close to completing the land swap.

g. Chipper Bids. Road Agent Bob Strout recommended that the Town accept the bid for a Bandit 1590 drum chipper because the unit best meets the bid specifications and employees are thoroughly familiar with its operation.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the Town accept the bid of \$37,878 from Hawkensen Equipment Company for a Bandit 1590 drum chipper. Motion carried unanimously.

h. Statistical Revaluation. Mr. Munck give the Board the Assessor's recommended Request for Proposals for a statistical revaluation of the Town. He said that the Town has budget funds for this work in FY 2008 and that the values would be effective for the April 1, 2008, tax date to be used for calculating the FY 2009 property taxes. The Board discussed the need for publicizing the revaluation and allowing adequate time for property owners to present their concerns about their property descriptions and valuations. The Board asked to have DRA review the RFP and if they have no objections to publish it.

i. North Hampton Forever Acquisition Status. Chris Ganotis, Phillip Wilson and Robert Field of the North Hampton Forever Committee presented the status of the land acquisitions to date and several acquisitions on which agreements have been reached. Mr. Ganotis said that to date the Town has over 1,000 acres of land in conservation and that the Committee expects to obligate the balance of the \$4,000,000 bond authorization by the end of the year.

The Board discussed with the Committee whether interest payments on Bond Anticipation Notes should be capitalized in the final bond issue or be expenses of the General Fund. The Board expressed concern about whether interest payments on BAN's yet to be issued could be included in the tax rate.

III. **Non-Public Session**

Moved at 9:05 p.m. by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the Board enter non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A to discuss pending land acquisition. Roll Call: Yeas: All; Nays: None.

The Board discussed land acquisitions still in negotiation with Mr. Ganotis and Committee members Phillip Wilson and Robert Field. Mr. Munck was also present.

Moved at 9:42 p.m. by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the Board return to public session. Motion carried unanimously.

III. **Administration/Business**

a. Mr. Munck presented a request from Mrs. Amanda Hartford asking for the refund of her application fee for a Zoning Board of Adjustment hearing that she was unable to have held. He said that without objection he would authorize the refund.

b. The Board received a letter from Verizon commenting on the recent meeting on Distributed Antenna Systems for wireless telephony and that they would only consider building a tower in North Hampton. Mr. Munck will forward copies of the letter to the Planning Board, Jon Rineman and Denis Kokernak.

c. Chair Creighton reminded the Board that the deadline for the fall newsletter was August 3. Mr. Gould volunteered to begin the draft.

d. Minutes of Past Meetings.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the minutes of the meeting of March 12, 2007, be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2007, be approved showing that Chair Creighton arrived after the group oaths and that her oath was administered by Town Clerk Susan Buchanan. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the minutes of April 9, 2007, be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Ms. Creighton that the minutes of May 4, 2007, be approved. Yeas: Creighton and Gould; Abstain: Salomon (who was not at that meeting).

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the minutes of June 1, 2007, and June 11, 2007, be approved.

IV. Adjournment

At 10:20 p.m., moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Munck
Interim Town Administrator