

## **HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT**

### **MEETING**

**February 8, 2023**

#### **Present**

Chuck Rage, Chairman & Commissioner  
Maureen Buckley, Commissioner  
Robert Ladd, Commissioner  
Carson Miller, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Rage said various department heads would explain the warrant articles going before the March ballot.

#### **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Michael McMahon discussed the Fire Department's warrant articles.

Article 11 – Fire Engine. Chief McMahon said he hoped the voters will approve this purchase of another fire engine which is sorely needed. One engine which was previously approved will be here in the spring of 2024 at which time hopefully there will be two new engines.

Article 30 – Fire Fighters Turnout Gear/PPE. This is important because it will provide protection for our fire fighters and also the public.

#### **Police Department**

Police Chief Alex Reno discussed the Police Department's warrant articles.

Chief Reno said they have two articles. 17 and 18, which are intertwined. Article 17 is for Police body cams. Article 18 is for an additional Lieutenant to run this program. In 2020 the Governor created a commission to deal with law enforcement measures and these articles are a result of this. Commissioner Ladd asked if this additional Lieutenant would have other duties. Chief Reno replied that this would be correct. Chief Reno noted that many other towns are using programs like this and are using a Lieutenant to head the program. This program will provide transparency and evidence protection for the officers and the public.

Hampton Beach Village District

February 8, 2023

Page 2

### **Public Works**

Jen Hale, Director of Public Works discussed their warrant articles.

Article 9 – Bicentennial Sea Wall. This will be for the last few hundred feet off of High Street. This is a bond article. If it is approved, there will be permitting review and it will go out to bid.

Article 12 – Kings Highway Flooding/Drainage Improvement. In 2018 the voters approved a study which resulted in recommendations. This will alleviate, not eliminate the ongoing flooding that is in this area. The most important part of this article is that a grant for \$2 million has been received and an additional \$800,000 is now being requested. Chairman Rage asked if the grant is state or federal. Ms. Hale said it is federal.

Article 13 – Road Improvement. This will come from the Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 14 – Roadway Paving.

Article 15 – Vehicles. Ms. Hale said their sludge truck will not move. They are now paying \$200,000 per year to have someone else take care of this. Commissioner Ladd asked how long it would take to get a new sludge truck. Ms. Hale said at least a year. This will come from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

Article 23 – Debris Pile at Transfer Station. This will come from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

Article 24 – Sewer Manhole Rehabilitation – There is a grant for the first phase.

Article 26 – Compactor Replacement – Cost is \$85,000.

### **SAU 90**

Dr. Lois Costa, Superintendent, came forward and introduced Mariah Curtis, Business Administrator.

Article 1 – Operating Budget - Dr. Costa said their Operating Budget is \$26,541,165 which represents about 1% over the default budget. They have tried to be very mindful of the taxpayers.

Article 2 – Maintenance – They are looking at a separate entrance for the SAU office. They are in the process of replacing lights and installing LED lighting. This will go for ongoing roof repairs and also improvement of the playground at Centre School.

Article 3 – Retention of Fund Balance – This is just a way to retain money left over at the end of the year. Ms. Curtis said this can only be used for unusual emergencies. It has to be recalculated every year. Annual reporting must be done.

Hampton Beach Village District

February 8, 2023

Page 3

Commissioner Ladd asked what the maximum amount would be. Ms. Curtis said the maximum amount would be 5% of the net assessment.

Article 4 – Child Benefit Services – This is for Sacred Heart and any other private schools that may be within the District. The amount is \$57,503. This has always been approved by the voters. Commissioner Ladd said this is a good return for the money. Dr. Costa said there is a non-binding Citizens Petition which is only for raising awareness of Article 4.

Ms. Curtis said SAU 90 has an open-door policy. Please contact them with any questions.

### **Recreation Department**

Rene Boudreau, Director, discussed his department's warrant articles.

Article 19 – Recreation Infrastructure – This article allows for many small projects such as the downtown electrical lights for the holiday season, the replacement of windows and trim at the Tuck Building, wooden guardrail fences, and landscaping of the ball fields.

Article 21 – Mr. Boudreau said this is an article for \$165,000 between the Rec Department and the Library for a study focused on what is needed to get a community center in Hampton.

### **Lane Memorial Library**

Amanda Cooper, Director, said the library is in need of funds to replace the software that runs the library. Also, the main entrance way roof needs to be repaired.

Ms. Cooper discussed Article 21 noted in the Rec Department's request to form a study regarding a community center. Commissioner Ladd said community centers are a necessity, not a luxury.

### **Entertainment**

Amanda Momeault, Entertainment Director, said she is considering a Disney performance after Children's Week. It would be on Sunday, August 20th from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Chairman Rage said that would be fine if money for this is in the Budget.

Ms. Momeault said Kevin White will be back for Country Week. Polka Day, August 13<sup>th</sup>, is on track. Ms. Momeault said she is looking for sponsors for Country Week.

Hampton Beach Village District

February 8, 2023

Page 4

### **Marketing**

Denise Brown, Co-Director of Marketing, said everyone has been working on the newsletter. They want to send it to all residents. Chairman Rage said he would like to add something about volunteers for the different events. Ms. Brown agreed to do this.

### **Annual Meeting**

Chairman Rage discussed the Annual Meeting which will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, at the Brown Ave. Fire Station. Voting will be from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. when the meeting begins.

Open positions include:

Commissioner	3 years
Treasurer	1 year
Moderator	1 year
Clerk	1 year
Sup. of the Checklist	3 years

Filing for positions may be done on 2/15 and 2/24.

Last day to accept voter warrant articles is 2/28.

Last day to post the warrant is 3/16.

Last day to accept absentee ballots is 3/31 until 5:00 p.m.

The checklist is posted at Patriots Corner and the Lighthouse Market.

Correction or Registration is Tuesday, 2/14, from 7:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. and Saturday.

3/18, from 12 noon until 1:00 p.m. at the Brown Ave. Fire Station.

Any questions, contact Ute Pineo at 603-394-5234.

Proof of residency within the Hampton Beach Village District

Photo ID – This can be driver’s License. non-drivers ID, passport, any other  
Photo ID acceptable to election officials  
Gas bill, rent bill, etc.

Required for registration:

Chairman Rage noted that if a person is registered in Town, that person must still register in the HBVD.

Hampton Beach Village District  
February 8, 2023  
Page 5

### **Old Business**

There was no Old Business.

### **New Business**

Commissioner Ladd said he felt it is important to vote for many of these warrant articles. If we wait things will get worse and more expensive to fix. Also, the fund balance is misunderstood and it is important that people do understand.

Chairman Rage said the Town has a parking machine. This is something the Village District should look at. Discussion followed. It was decided this should be explored.

Chairman Rage said the boat at the entrance to the playground is missing. To replace it is around \$20,000. Chairman Rage said he would like to have a warrant article for this out of the fund balance. All Commissioners agreed.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Moved** by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve the Minutes of December 14, 2022.

**Vote:** 3 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved** by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Chairman Rage, to approve the Minutes of January 11, 2023.

**Vote:** 2 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Buckley). Motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

Ute Pineo said that it was necessary to find someone to act as Moderator at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Chairman Rage said they will take care of that.

### **Closing Comments**

Commissioner Ladd encouraged everyone to vote and to do their homework.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Rice  
Secretary