

Note: Draft minutes are subject to corrections, additions and deletions.

June 21, 2021

7:00 p.m. Board of Selectmen's Room

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRESENT: Sel. Bridle, Chairman
Sel. Rage, Vice-chairman
Sel. Barnes
Sel. Jim Waddell
Sel. Rich Sawyer
Town Manager Jamie Sullivan

*The pinning ceremony took place for Captain Nathan Denio and Lieutenant Jason Newman.

I. Public Comment [Time limitation of three (3) minutes]

Emma Donnelly, 105 Winnacunnet Road, discussed the Comcast contract renewal and the update given in May. She discussed the laws regarding such. She discussed consumer protection and competition and the contract, as well as senior discounts. She discussed the outside council hired to negotiate the contract and discussed the proposed 10-year length of the contract. She discussed the authority of the local franchise with regard to complaints.

Deborah Parlee, spoke requesting a police detail from 10pm to 2am for L Street. She discussed the businesses there, the safety issue, and congestion. She noted escalation this year and arrests. She describes the nightly activity on the street and a new business that has been approved. She discussed trash and the schedule and noted the speed bump on the agenda.

Cy Bode, 8 L Street, thanked the board for addressing the speed bump. He noted giving credit to the police and fire departments. He discussed the speeding on L Street and noted the risks.

II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Sel. Rage discussed the Sand Sculpture event. He noted the displays are up until June 27th, and noted the camaraderie of the event. He discussed the sponsors, the success of the event, and all working so well together. He applauded everyone involved.

Sel. Barnes thanked the fire and police departments with regard to the fire the previous evening.

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Chairman Bridle reiterated the great program of the sculpting event.
Sel. Rage noted the talent of the sculptors.

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III. Approval of Minutes

1. June 7, 2021

Sel. Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the Minutes of June 7, 2021, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 4-0-1 (Waddell)

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Heritage Commission Alternate Appointment: Erica De Vries
2. One-day Entertainment License: Carol Whalen 37 Briar Road 07/11/2021

Sel. Rage MOTIONED to APPROVE the Consent Agenda, SECONDED by Sel. Barnes. VOTE: 5-0-0

V. Appointments

1. Chief Hobbs, Police Department
 - a. Quarterly Update

Chief Hobbs congratulated Cap. Denio and Lt. Newman. He noted this is the first quarter report and the board should all have a copy. He discussed personnel, it being transitional and noted the changes, highlighting employee retirements, promotions, and military service. He discussed part-time staffing and additions. He noted changes in civilian personnel. He discussed department training and recruitment.

He discussed department operations, noting the assistance of SERT. He discussed officers awarded for assistance in aiding a distressed female. He noted help and the suicide prevention line available to all.

He discussed the activity for the first quarter and compared it to last year, discussing up and down percentages for services.

Sel. Barnes asked how many parking enforcement officers do we have now, and the answer was four. She reiterated the police and fire departments doing a great job and commented on L Street, noting a possible police presence from 10pm to 2am. She noted the speed bump and that it is needed in many places. She discussed the bars there and think police need to see what is actually happening. She noted the increases in calls and thanked them for everything they do.

Sel. Waddell asked about DWI's up 100%, and the chief noted enforcement, and mentioned out of state people due to restrictions there for first quarter. Sel. Waddell noted overdoses being down, and the chief noted still being cautious and vigilante. Sel. Waddell commented they are doing a great job.

Sel. Rage noted great report and great job, and discussed people stuck in traffic being frustrated and police clearing the streets is very helpful. The chief noted it is being discussed and the summer schedule is just starting.

Sel. Sawyer noted good report and discussed the staffing challenges they have and noted it is time to discuss helping the police department. He noted all agencies experiencing staff issues and the beach expanding. He discussed possibly losing part time certification and getting ahead of the curve. He discussed the need for five or more full time officers and a

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possible plan, noting this is the year we need to do something. He reiterated the growth of the beach, it being a destination, and the need for more police.

Chairman Bridle noted great job, good report, and good job at bringing other agencies. He noted agreeing with the need to look at manpower.

Sel. Barnes noted agreeing with the need to add staffing, highlighting the culvert repair and traffic jams. She noted the warrant not passing for Winnacunnet and High streets. She noted her concern of voters approving new police officers, discussing they may think it is to aid the state park. She discussed getting support from the state, and noted the cost of hiring from outside agencies. She discussed public works workload and reiterated the need for state support.

2. Acting Chief McMahan, Fire Department
a Ambulance Replacement

Chief McMahan gave the background information on the need to replace ambulance #2. He noted the age of the ambulance and the process to replace it being hindered by Covid. He discussed the amount of money needed to repair #2, and it not being prudent. He discussed looking at demos. He discussed two bids and needing a waiver to the town's purchasing policy. He noted Sugarloaf Ambulance, Wilton, ME., and discussed recommendations from Dover and North Hampton. He discussed this bid is \$30,000.00 less than the other and the funds will be from the EMS revenue fund.

TM Sullivan noted also a waiver for 718-5-1, in the best interest of the town, and recommended the purchase.

Sel. Sawyer Motioned to Approve that the Board of Selectman grant a waiver of the town of Hampton Purchasing Policy Chapter 718, 3A & 3B, and 718-5-1, for purchase of a Demo Ambulance from Sugarloaf Ambulance, Wilton, ME., SECONDED by Sel. Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Chief McMahan discussed the second piece, the purchase of the Stryker Powerload Stretcher and System. He noted the system saves workforce injury and the system is in the two newer ambulances. He noted the cost at \$53,000.00 and a sole source vendor.

Sel. Barnes Motioned to Approve that the Board of Selectman grant a waiver of the town of Hampton Purchasing Policy Chapter 718, 3A & 3B, and 718-5-1, for purchase of a Stryker Powerload Stretcher and System with sole vendor., SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer.

Chairman Bridle noted the system interchangeable so it can be swapped if needed.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Sel. Rage asked what will happen with the old ambulance. The chief noted it will get traded but a value is not known at this time.

Sel. Barnes asked the status of the engine that got hit. The chief discussed the insurance status and that the vehicle will be repaired.

L Street Speed Bump addressed at this time.

VI. New Business

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1. L Street - Speed Bump Request

TM Sullivan noted Mr. Bode's letter to the board regarding L Street. He asked the board their direction.

Sel. Sawyer noted a speed bump that was able to be moved and where was that. TM Sullivan noted damage to it, and noted staff would be needed if things are being moved around. There was general discussion on the one we have, and costs.

Sel. Sawyer noted a discussion at the budget committee about special revenue funds and how they are allocated and a possible change to that. He noted if one to L Street, everyone else will want one, and offered possible funding using a new fund.

Sel. Rage asked about accepting private funding. TM Sullivan noted a mechanism for donations, and ones that are targeted. There was general discussion on a time frame and supply.

Sel. Waddell asked about liability if a car is damaged. TM Sullivan noted they are nationwide and if installed properly and signed properly there should be no issue. He discussed there are pros and cons. Sel. Waddell asked about effectiveness. Sel. Sawyer noted he could not quote a study, but they work as a calming device, and he discussed a traffic study to change the speed limits.

Sel. Rage noted he would like to see a temporary speed bump on L Street.

Sel. Sawyer noted we would have to buy one.

Sel. Barnes noted she would like it a part of the town wide study to be done on traffic. She discussed the danger of the speed at the Church Street lot.

Sel. Rage MOTIONED to APPROVE the L Street Speed Bump request, SECONDED by Sel. Waddell.

Discussion

Sel. Waddell asked Chief Hobbs for his opinion. Sel. Sawyer offered some pricing. Chief Hobbs discussed using one last year on P Street and noted discussion about one on L Street last year, but there was an issue. Chairman Bridle noted L Street having commercial traffic.

Sel. Waddell discussed speeding all over town and needs to be addressed. Chairman Bridle suggested the need for a traffic study for the whole town. Sel. Rage noted the length of time that will take. Sel. Sawyer asked if they should put a money number on this. TM Sullivan discussed the funding status and suggested 2 speed bump purchases at this time. He noted how much was involved other than just the purchase.

Sel. Barnes asked to check with DPW to see if there is one. TM Sullivan suggested tabling the motion and coming back next week with more information. Sel. Rage tabled his motion and reiterated he would like to start with a few to see if it works.

Sel. Sawyer asked if we do have one, does the chief have discretion to put it on L Street. TM Sullivan noted he didn't see why not and reiterated seeing more information for next week, noting what can DPW do for installation.

Sel. Waddell noted he liked what Sel. Rage discussed about private industry and they could step up.

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Discussion began on Ordinance Amendment at this time.

VII. Old Business

1. Amend Ordinance Chapter §805 Vehicles and Traffic sections: §805-4 Definitions, §805.19 Municipal owned and maintained parking lots, §805.20 No Parking Areas, §805.21 Signage for Parking, add new subsection §805.21.1 defining the streets designated as Hampton Resident Parking by Permit Only May 15 - Oct. 15, §805.25 Parking Fines, §805.27 Towing, §805.41.B Fire Lanes Designated

TM Sullivan noted the board has been emailed the ordinance amendment. He noted it is a change regarding the direction on resident parking. He noted language issue changes, permit qualifications, correction to Mooring Drive and fire lane, signage language, the streets where resident parking will be, language regarding fines, the pay and display program, and towing.

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to APPROVE the Amendments to Chapter §805 Vehicles and Traffic sections, SECONDED by Sel. Barnes.

Discussion

Sel. Barnes asked about towing and Mooring Drive. TM Sullivan noted it is still a tow zone, but not a fire lane. She asked about Kings Highway and no one is supposed to park on the east side. TM Sullivan noted that was correct, it is a fire lane. They discussed resident parking.

Sel. Waddell asked about rentals and TM Sullivan noted we have not addressed yet. Sel. Waddell asked when it would go into effect and the answer was when posted. He asked about the signs and the answer was they are slowly coming in.

Sel. Barnes asked about changing sticker to permit and will we still have stickers, and the answer was yes. She discussed the sticker allows people to go to the transfer station and that is something the taxpayers pay for. TM Sullivan discussed the short term rental would be different, a hanging placard.

Chairman Bridle asked about Smith and Acorn streets. He and TM Sullivan discussed and the town manager said he would look into.

Sel. Rage asked why A – M are not on the list. TM Sullivan noted this is phase 1 and those were not in that discussion. Sel. Rage noted if you have an expired permit, it is a \$5.00 fine. There was general discussion on that.

VOTE: 5-0-0

TM Sullivan discussed short term rentals and a placard system. He discussed eligibility and length of time and residency qualifications. He discussed short term residency, and rental occupancy and noted possible challenges. Chairman Bridle noted how many can be issued and TM Sullivan noted there are many questions.

Sel. Rage asked about costs for replacement placards. TM Sullivan noted a small fee.

Sel. Barnes asked about issuance of the placards, and should they go to the property owner and the answer was that is the guidance. They discussed possible loss of the placard and cost. There was continued general discussion.

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Sel. Rage discussed places to park not guaranteed. TM Sullivan noted there are folks upset by that.

Sel. Waddell asked if there was any data. TM Sullivan noted we do not have, and Sel. Sawyer discussed the rental occupancy certificate. There was general discussion. Sel. Waddell asked if there was overnight parking anywhere and Sel. Rage noted there is, but, it has to be paid for. TM Sullivan reiterate the challenges. TM Sullivan suggested to revisit next week.

Sel. Barnes discussed the many renters and residents, and that some live on North beach. She noted people pay high taxes and hopes we can highly consider next week.

VIII. Town Manager's Report

1. We have been notified the governor has set aside a \$2 million dollar grant to help with security issues and increases in tourists, it is for the entire state with Hampton being a big part.
2. Aquarion continues its work on High Street and they encourage conserving outside water usage.
3. We continue to work on filling open positions, with decisions being made and conditional offers out.
4. We are moving forward on the tower agreement with T-Mobile, it is not 5g, it will not interfere with emergency services, and it needs a bigger area than we anticipated. We are discussing placement in the police lot where there is power and discussing financial compensation.

Sel. Waddell asked about going to zoning for the tower and the town manager didn't think so as it is temporary.

5. The ARPA (federal direct) funding amount has increased to \$1.6 and change. We will be responsible for the paperwork and reporting. There are 5 areas the funding can be used for. We continue to work on and will come back at some point with recommendations.

Sel. Barnes noted the ARPA is based on population and asked what they are using for Hampton. TM Sullivan noted they are using 2019 and it is 15,495. She asked about the \$209 thousand rejected by FEMA. TM Sullivan noted they didn't reject, but with the ruling they made, we had decided not to pursue due to the risk. She asked if any of Dir. Hale's clean water projects will be part of the ARPA funding and the answer was we are looking into it. She asked about the woman who is pepper spraying dogs. TM Sullivan noted he had no idea but has seen social media. Sel. Waddell noted it is being investigated. Sel. Barnes discussed the ordinance of no dogs on the beach and discussed enforcement.

IX. New Business

1. 190 King's Hwy - Parking Request

TM Sullivan discussed the request from Ocean Crest Condos, noting the High Street side, and their concern of pulling out of their driveway. TM Sullivan noted taking a look and looking at the ordinance and he discussed those and the driveway. There was general discussion with consensus.

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Chairman Bridle MOTIONED to DENY the 190 King's Hwy parking request, SECONDED by Sel. Barnes. VOTE: 3-0-2 (Rage, Waddell)

2. L Street - Speed Bump Request completed earlier

Sel. Barnes asked about Ms. Donnelly's comments regarding Comcast. TM Sullivan noted he will pass comments on to council and consensus was that Atty. Gearreald will respond.

Sel. Barnes discussed a letter from Comcast regarding sports fees. TM Sullivan noted it a notification that they are trying to get a rebate. She asked when the Comcast agreement expires and the answer was August. She asked about an update from the attorneys and the answer was there will be one.

Sel. Rage asked about the school community room. TM Sullivan noted he spoke with them today and the school board has not changed their policy. There was general discussion on the use and that being why people voted.

Sel. Waddell noted his support for the school, and we should not be involved in school issues.

Sel. Barnes reiterated seniors voted for the school because of the room, and noted she attended the school board meeting about reopening. She noted there are hopes for a normal opening and at that point maybe the room will open for the seniors. She and TM Sullivan discussed it is a community room, not a community center. There was continued general discussion. TM Sullivan noted ideas and presentations in the works.

X. Closing Comments - None

XI. Adjournment

At 20:41 Sel. Waddell MOTIONED to adjourn, SECONDED by Sel. Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Russell Bridle, Chairman