

Town of Hampton



*Department of Resources and
Economic Development*



**Hampton Beach Area Commission
100 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, New Hampshire 03842
HBVD Meeting Room – Beach Fire Station
Monthly Meeting – May 19, 2016
7:00 PM**

DRAFT MINUTES

In Attendance:

John Nyhan, Chairman, Town of Hampton Representative
Bill Watson, Vice Chairman-NH Department of Transportation
Fran McMahon, Rockingham Planning Commission
Rick Griffin, Town of Hampton Representative
Michael Housman, DRED Operations Supervisor
Bob Preston, Hampton Chamber of Commerce
Chuck Rage, Hampton Beach Village District
Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District

Excused: Dean Merrill, At Large

Absent: 0

Other: Jason Bachand, Town Planner

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence. A moment of silence was held for Firefighter Kyle Jameson.

This meeting was recorded by Channel 22.

Public Comments related to Agenda Items. No public comment this evening.

Appointments.

1. Senator Nancy Stiles provided a brief update on the Ten Year Transportation Plan. She stated lapse money for engineering costs for Ocean Boulevard have been moved back to the year 2020 for the study and engineering. She said she will protect this project, and it will be voted by both Houses by June 1st and go to the Governor for signature in mid-June. This will become a public document. Senator Stiles noted that this plan is also reviewed

every two years and the total package is \$8 million. She also spoke on the bridge project as coming in with \$43 million proposed. Once the engineering is done, there will be a second look. Dates for the bridge look to be 2022 – 2026.

2. William Rose, DOT Project Director, stated he has kept fully abreast of the project process and previously provided a report for the March 1st Meeting (See Page 4, March 1, 2016 HBAC Meeting Minutes) on Task Order #1. He commented there is a time line for each task. Task #2 concerns the expansion of the scope to Winnacunnet Road on Route 1A. The progress is in study with transition of the design soon to be available. The HBAC, he said, needs the feedback for discussion. A special meeting will be held in June with VHB present for discussion. Following this meeting, the HBAC can come back with their comments, etc., in September.

Mr. Nyhan asked that each HBAC Commissioner go back to their organizations for agreement. He also requested the Commissioners be prepared in September to discuss alternatives.

Mr. Rose stated there is a hard end date of 2018 with no extensions. He recommended the above June special meeting to inform the public. This will not be a final draft, but will be headed in that direction.

With regard to In-Kind, Mr. Rose stated that is on schedule and going according to plan. The next In-Kind Report is due in July. Mr. Griffin asked if there is an estimate as to completion. Mr. Rose stated the construction is corresponding within the Ten Year Plan. 2018 is the hard deadline for this portion of the project. Mr. Nyhan stated he would like a clear selection of alternatives in September with a jump study to engineering/design or as far as funding allows.

Mr. Nyhan asked, if all the engineering and design work is done, is it possible to go for the Tiger Grant. Mr. Watson said it depends on Tiger constraints and construction must be ready to begin by September 2019. Mr. Nyhan pointed out that he has not seen reports on Task #2, and Mr. Rose said a copy will be provided for the special June meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Review and Approval of April Minutes.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Ladd, seconded by Mr. Watson to approve the Minutes of the April 21, 2016 Meeting as presented.

VOTE: 8 In Favor. 1 Excused

MOTION PASSED

Chairman's Report.

1. Planning Board Meeting Update. Mr. Nyhan reported there will be quarterly (or other time-period) meetings with the Planning Board. Unless there are changes in the project, the HBAC can move forward. If changes to the Master Plan are recommended, the Master Plan will have to be amended. Lastly, the Planning Board is very interested in the project and being updated on a regular basis by Mr. Bachand.

2. Upcoming Hampton BOS Meeting. Mr. Nyhan spoke of the meeting with the Board of Selectmen on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm. The HBAC, at that time, will present their Annual Report. Mr. Nyhan noted that all Annual Reports have been provided from 2003 to 2015. Commissioners received copies at this meeting.

The second portion of the HBAC meeting with the BOS will be the discussion of going forward to have the Town accept the maintenance of sidewalks from Ocean Avenue/Ashworth Avenue to Winnacunnet Road. He requested the Commissioners to attend this meeting. He feels it is the HBAC's responsibility and is appropriate to bring this subject forward to the BOS and request a recommendation. After Mr. Nyhan read the proposed recommendation, he asked for comments, edits, additions, etc. Discussion on the recommendation ensued. Following this discussion, recommendation was made as follows:

MOTION: It was MOVED, SECONDED and VOTED 8 in favor, 1 excused to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the following:

After careful review and consideration and wanting to continue the transformation of Hampton Beach, the Hampton Beach Area Commission is recommending to the Hampton Board of Selectmen that once the Ocean Boulevard Reconstruction Project has been funded without any case match requirement from the Town of Hampton and the work has been completed (new roadway, new sidewalks, and new drainage) that the Town will take over the responsibility of maintenance of the sidewalks on the west side of Ocean Boulevard from the intersection of Ashworth Avenue/Ocean Boulevard (South End) up to the corner of Ocean Boulevard and Winnacunnet Road (North End.)
MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Rage spoke to the Motion made at the Hampton Beach Village District May 11, 2016 meeting. This is as follows:

The Hampton Beach Village District supports the Hampton Beach Area Commission recommendation to the BOS that they accept the responsibility of the sidewalks on the west side of Ocean Boulevard only when the DOT secures federal and state funding and completes the Ocean Boulevard reconstruction project. Note, there would not be any cash match by the Town required in securing those funds.

This motion was unanimously approved at the May 11th HBVD Meeting. The Commissioners and constituents are all in support of this motion. The following arguments were made in support of this motion.

- 1. The road as it currently exists presents a significant hazard to both people and property. There is no definition between road and sidewalk causing pedestrians to walk in the road.*
- 2. There is significant flooding to the businesses and properties on the west side of Ocean Boulevard;*
- 3. Support of the project would bring to conclusion and enhance all of the work the Town of Hampton has done in upgrading the sewers, sidewalks, drainage, and streets; and,*
- 4. Because of all the work the state and town have done so far at the beach, this project would further encourage the development of the west side of Ocean Boulevard, the side streets, and Ashworth Avenue producing significant tax revenue to the Town.*

The Commissioners of the Hampton Beach Village District feel strongly that acceptance of this project would support the already positive relationship which exists between the state, town, and the village district.

2. Intermodal Center/route 101 Interchange Update. Mr. Nyhan reported that the Intermodal was voted by the Board of Selectmen; however, support for the bus station was removed. The interchange remains on the table. The door may be open for future uses and later consideration for remote beach parking. Mr. Ladd suggested that the BOS continue to look for a pilot project for use of public property, not necessarily the 101 interchange, for remote beach parking.

Treasurer's Report. Mr. Housman reported there is currently a balance of \$11,351.43.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Preston, seconded by Mr. Watson to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

VOTE: 8 in Favor, 1 Excused

MOTION PASSED

Mr. Nyhan stated he had received an invoice in the Amount of \$488 from the Town of Hampton for Administrative Services for the months of January through April 2016.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. McMahon, seconded by Mr. Griffin and voted unanimously to approve payment of the invoice to the Town of Hampton in the amount of \$488.00 for Administrative Services.

MOTION PASSED

Old Business:

1. Fall Fundraising Ideas. Mr. Nyhan indicated that the fall may be the best time for HBAC fund-raising efforts. This item will be included on the September meeting Agenda.
2. Other Old Business.

>Mr. Preston commented on his walk on South Beach at Dover Street at the entrance to Hampton Beach, and noted that the road is in bad condition and, with the dense population in that area, it is a safety issue in that people are walking in the road or on the side of the road. He suggested people speak up at the BOS meeting on Monday regarding this situation. He stated this is the area with the biggest impact of the upcoming project. Mr. Housman said that, working in that area, he is aware that it is not the best of walking conditions.

>Mr. Griffin encouraged people come to the BOS Meeting on Monday night to comment on their concerns. It is important for people to realize the project(s) and financial impacts under discussion will not happen for some time. He noted that this past winter, little funding would have been spent on clearing sidewalks and the cost for snow removal for the whole Town was under \$500,000. He noted that if the Town were to be responsible for sidewalk maintenance, the Town's insurance coverage will not change; it will not cost more; it is not something that cannot be handled and; lastly, to improve Hampton Beach as it will be a benefit to the whole Town.

>Mr. Watson stated that the State DOT is committed to working with the Town of Hampton; and, having a conversation with DOT Commissioners, no one is looking to impose costs to the Town before the actual project is complete. He will submit a letter of support to the Town regarding the Town taking over maintenance of the sidewalks.

>Mr. Nyhan reported he had asked a number of questions of the DPW, and Jen Hale, Deputy Director of the DPW, responded. Mr. Nyhan also stated he drove from Ocean Boulevard/Ashworth Avenue to Winnacunnet Road and it is approximately 2.5 miles. This is in terms of sidewalk. The Town of Hampton currently owns 21 miles of sidewalk and he would encourage the Town taking over that small 2.5 mile portion as well. He also reported that all the "lettered streets" off Ocean Boulevard are not maintained by the Town in the winter. Further, taxes are being paid to the Town by the owners on the "lettered streets" but the streets are not maintained by the Town. He encouraged people to attend the BOS meeting and express their opinions.

New Business:

1. Meeting request – HPD – summer traffic control ideas. Mr. Nyhan spoke of the pilot project last summer with the Hampton Police Department and traffic control. He will meet with Chief Sawyer to see if there are any suggestions for a partnering program again this summer with regard to traffic control, now and in the future. He will report to the Commission in June.
2. State Park Spring Meeting (Mr. Housman) Mr. Houseman reported the Spring Meeting was at 5:00 this evening at the Seashell and approximately 25-35 people and staff were in attendance. He noted there was over an hour of good conversation and new ideas. He spoke to the projects undertaken this year including landscaping at the entrance, renovating the exteriors of the Bath Houses, Parking Lot drainage issue completed, Parking lot hours, and items such as railing replacement at the Main Beach. The beach grading is complete and raking has started. He spoke of ways to let people know the hours of the parking lot which may include electronic boards. Also, parking was free for April and a portion of May; however, the

machines are now in place and money is being collected. He also stated that some of the shade structures may be removed from the front of the Seashell to improve the views from across the street. These shade structures will be placed elsewhere on the beach. Lastly, Mr. Housman stated that the new "Park Plate" now will allow free parking on week days from September 15th to June 15th.

Mr. Nyhan commented that the State Park has progressed over the years and is now receiving more positive comments and recommendations.

Discussion was held on a Special Meeting to be held in JUNE , date and location to be determined and announced. This will be a one-item Agenda meeting dealing with the Transportation Report from VHB and DOT and vote on the In-Kind report. (See below)

3. Transportation Grant In-kind report due in July. Mr. Nyhan stated that at the Special meeting held in June, he will have the In-Kind Report prepared for that meeting in order for the Commission to review and approve.
4. May Meeting Agenda Items – September Meeting Consideration. Mr. Nyhan encouraged the Commissioners to contact him should they have any reports, suggestions, or recommendations for the September and future meetings/agendas.
5. Emergency meeting plan for summer months. Should an emergency arise, Mr. Nyhan will contact the Commission if a Special Meeting needs to be convened.
6. Other New Business. Mr. Preston commented on Experience Hampton and their fund raising efforts noting that Ocean Gaming will be benefitting Experience Hampton on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. He encouraged people to stop in.

Mr. Rage reported that the WHS Junior Prom Promenade will be at the Seashell at 5:30 on Friday evening. There will also be Concert Music. Also, the Tow Truck Parade will be held this weekend.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Mr. Preston, seconded by Mr. Housman to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION PASSED

JUNE SPECIAL MEETING – Date and Location to be Announced.

**Transcribed by:
Anne Marchand, Secretary**

THANK YOU CHANNEL 22 for RECORDING THIS MEETING.