Hampton Beach Area Commission
100 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, New Hampshire 03842
Selectmen’s Meeting Room – Town Hall
Monthly Meeting – September 22, 2016
7:00 PM

MINUTES

In Attendance:
John Nyhan, Chairman, Town of Hampton Representative
Fran McMahon, Rockingham Planning Commission
Michael Housman, DRED Operations Supervisor
Bob Preston, Hampton Chamber of Commerce
Chuck Rage, Hampton Beach Village District
Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District

Excused: Bill Watson, Dean Merrill, Rick Griffin
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. There was a moment of silence for Mariam Watson, wife of Bill Watson, HBAC Vice Chairman, who passed away this past week.

Introduction of Commissioners.

Public Comments related to Agenda Items. Ed McDonald, 25 Epping Avenue, Hampton questioned when the final alternatives for the transportation project would be complete and presented. He spoke of the recommendations and options he presented to the Commission in October of 2015, which Mr. Nyhan had received and forwarded along to the Commissioners. Mr. McDonald spoke of the one alternative he has not seen as part of the recommendations and that is eliminating the U-turn at Dustin and Dover Avenue. Also, he noted he had not seen any discussion on the traffic tie-ups and confusion by the opening to the State Park. He stated that the traffic data being provided does not hold together, and not mentioned were a few places where there is major traffic congestion. Also, that O Street is missing from the traffic counts. He asked, further, if traffic engineers had reported to the Commission with their findings. Mr. McDonald is of the opinion that making Ashworth Avenue a two-way is ludicrous and making Ashworth one lane south bound does not make sense. Safety, he feels is more important than
revenue. Mr. MacDonald also questioned if the state pays the Town for the sewage along the beach, and also for trash pickup.

Mr. Housman stated that the State does pay the Town for both the trash and sewage.

Mr. Nyhan stated that the notes provided by Mr. McDonald in October of 2015 were forwarded to all, and he will ask the VIIB to review the information once again. He also said the VIIB did use traffic engineers, and Mr. McDonald was sent a copy of that report. Mr. McDonald requested that the traffic engineers involved come to a future HBAC meeting to review their report. Mr. Nyhan will look into this. Note: Mr. McDonald commented, before close of the meeting, that the plan to rebuild the 4-lane bridge across the river would not be necessary if Boulevard/road options were put into place.

**Appointments.** No appointments this evening.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Review and Approval of May Regular Meeting Minutes and June Special Meeting Notes.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. McMahon seconded by Mr. Preston to approve the Minutes of the May 19, 2016 Meeting as presented.

**VOTE:** 6 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 3 Excused

**MOTION PASSED**

**MOTION:** It was moved by McMahon, seconded by Mr. Houseman to approve the Notes of the Special Meeting of June 16, 2016 re the Transportation Grant as presented.

**VOTE:** 4 In Favor, 3 Excused, 2 Abstain (Mr. Rage and Mr. Preston)

**MOTION PASSED**

The Secretary was requested to forward the Notes of the June 16, 2016 Special Meeting to the individuals from the public and Town Boards who were present at the meeting.

**Chairman’s Report.**

1. **Transportation Grant Updates/scheduled organizational meeting and recent meeting with Mr. Rose.**

Mr. Nyhan stated there are four areas that have become “topics” – Ashworth Avenue, Ocean Boulevard South, Ocean Boulevard North, and Great Boars Head. However, the objectives to be accomplished were not completed this summer. As of today, meetings have been scheduled with various organizations to discuss the four areas and get the final input. Meetings have been held with the Planning Board with some members making recommendations. Additional recommendations will be channeled through Mr. Bachand to the HBAC. Meetings have also been held with the Rockingham Planning Council’s Technical Advisory Committee, which also provided interesting comments which will be channeled through the RPC and include comments addressing the four areas, focusing on bike paths. Mr. Nyhan will forward the report to the HBAC Commissioners for review.

A meeting has been scheduled with DRED on October 4th at 10:00 am in Hampton; the HBVD on October 12; and, Chamber of Commerce Executive Board on October 27th. He is also proposing a meeting with the Board of Selectmen on either October 17th or 24th to provide them with an update. It is anticipated that all the meetings will be complete before the next HBAC Meeting.

Mr. Nyhan also noted that there were comments and suggestions presented at the first two public meetings and there are several comments worth being presented to VHB for incorporation into the existing plan. He specifically reported that in the plan, Ocean Boulevard North did not address bike baths from the Seashell Stage to Boar’s Head. This, he said, should be looked at while including a bike path. He also noted the width of the road being proposed in the northern part of Ocean Boulevard is 12 feet wide, but lower Ocean Boulevard is not as wide. He questions if there should be a minimum standard of sidewalks, bike paths, etc.
Mr. Nyhan is calling VHB and asking that they take more time to reevaluate to see if the four areas can be better enhanced before taking a vote by the Commission. A vote to recommend will take the Commission to the next step which is technical design and cost factors. The date for decision by the Commission will be left open until all input from the other meetings has been received.

Mr. Nyhan reported that Gordon Leddy has left VHB; however VHB is still the contractor as it is their responsibility to provide services on this Grant. Further, Mr. Rose has assured Mr. Nyhan that Mr. Leddy will continue as a consultant on this Grant. [Edited 10/27/16 – Mr. Rose has assured Mr. Nyhan that Mr. Leddy will continue as a consultant on this Grant up to the engineering and design phase.]

Mr. McMahon commented that taking 30 or 60 days longer than anticipated is well worth the time spent as this is a 50-year project and doing the best job we can in the time we have is important.

Mr. Nyhan suggested that a group from the HBAC meet with VHB and Mr. Rose and alert them to the comments that have been received most recently. It is within HBAC rights to make modifications as they are received.

Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Housman reported there is currently a balance of $10,863.43

**MOTION:** It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the Treasurer’s Report as submitted.

Mr. Nyhan explained that the HBAC voted to contribute $625.00 toward the $2500 cash match for the FEMA Community Rate Program match if the Grant is received. Mr. Bachand stated that the work must be done by October 1st and there was a good effort working with the Rockingham Planning Council and the HBVD. Application will be filed for the Community Rate in order to be in the system which provides discounts in Flood Insurance Premiums. He stated it makes good sense to be a part of this program and all materials are in place for filing. He commented that this program is worth the time an effort; however, there are no guarantees and are now tallying the points to see where the town is potentially in the program.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Preston, seconded by Mr. Ladd to approve payment to the Town of Hampton in the amount of $625.00, for the FEMA Community Rate Program Grant match.

**VOTE:** 6 in Favor, 0 opposed, 3 Excused.

**MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Nyhan received an invoice from the Town of Hampton for $244.00 for Secretarial services through the end of the year.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Rage, seconded by Mr Preston to approve the Town invoice in the amount of $244.00 for secretarial services.

**VOTE:** 6 in Favor, 0 Opposed, 3 Excused

**MOTION PASSED**

Old Business:

1. **Meeting Request – Hampton Police Department - Summer Traffic Control Ideas.**

Mr. Nyhan reported that, for special events, the HPD has put guard rails along Ocean Boulevard between D and C Streets and this has proven to be a factor in keeping people within the railings, not out in the Boulevard. Nashville Tennessee has barriers which are decorated with covers used for marketing and advertising. He noted it would be worthwhile to have a conversation with the Chief at a future meeting and have him come before the HBAC as an appointment in the near future to discuss the above.

New Business:

1. **Commission approval – latest Transportation Grant In-Kind report.**

Mr. Nyhan stated that he owes Mr Rose an In-Kind Report for the 2nd and 3rd quarters of this year. This will be submitted by the first week in October, as of September 30th. He will send an e-mail to Commissioners and have an electronic vote on submission of the report.
2. **Discussion on any additional Commission objectives for the coming session.**
Mr. Nyhan requests the Commissioners to send him an e-mail with above objectives which will be discussed in October.

3. **Commission - resident request for crosswalk across from Little Jack’s.**
Mr. Nyhan commented this is an FYI and stated that a resident has asked for a crosswalk that goes from the end of the street at Great Boars Head across from Little Jack’s. He explained that this is not an HBAC responsibility and called the traffic bureau of DOT who will look into this and judge whether it would be worthwhile to put in a crosswalk. He also mentioned this to the Town Manager and will discuss further with Mr. Watson. The resident offered to pay for the crosswalk.

4. **Commissioner appointment schedule for 2016/2017.**
Mr. Nyhan reported that Mr. McMahon is up for reappointment this year. Dean Merrill is also due for reappointment. Mr. Nyhan will check with Mr Merrill to see if he is interested in continuing on the Commission.

5. **2017 Town Warrant Articles impacting the beach area.**
Mr Nyhan spoke to Warrant Articles that may be beach related and noted it is important to stay abreast of these articles. Mr. Bachand will keep the HBAC informed. There is a $2 million Warrant Article do sewer piping from the beach down into the treatment plant. This is a DPW Warrant Article. Also, Mr. Bachand reported there will be Warrant Articles on various zoning issues including Accessory Dwelling Units which are related to the beach area.

Mr. Preston would like to know how much sewage is coming off the beach and how much money the beach is responsible for. [Edited 10/27/16: Mr. Preston would like to know how much in **taxes** is coming off the beach and how much money the beach is responsible for.]

Mr. Nyhan stated there are two major sewer projects – the beach and Lafayette Road, and Mr Preston said both Warrant Articles should be supported.

Mr. Bachand reported that Wednesday 9/28 there is a Flood Preparation Workshop which is related to the Community Rating Plan and will explain how property is affected by flooding and there will be a question/answer period on Flood Plain Regulations. People are encouraged to attend.

Mr. Nyhan reminded people that Senator Stiles is retiring in October and noted how hard she has worked for the benefit of the HBAC. She will be recognized for her service as a good friend of the Commission.

Mr. Rage stated that the HBVD will be honoring Senator Stiles on 10/12 at 4:30 pm.

**NEXT MEETING – The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2016 – LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED. The Selectmen’s Meeting Room is not available for HBAC on that date.**

**Adjournment.**
**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Housman, seconded by Mr. Ladd to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm.
**VOTE:** 6 in Favor, 0 Opposed, 3 Excused  
**MOTION PASSED**

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Marchand, Secretary

**Thank you Channel 22**