

Town of Hampton



*Department of Resources and
Economic Development*



**Hampton Beach Area Commission
100 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, New Hampshire 03842
Hampton Beach Village District Meeting Room
Monthly Meeting – May 23, 2017
7:00 PM**

DRAFT MINUTES

In Attendance:

John Nyhan, Chairman, Town of Hampton Representative
Bill Watson, NHDOT, Vice Chairman
Rick Griffin, Selectmen's Representative (Arrival Delayed)
Fran McMahon, Rockingham County Planning Council
Bob Preston, Hampton Chamber of Commerce
Chuck Rage, Hampton Beach Village District
Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District

Excused: 0

Also Present: Jason Bachand, Town Planner

This meeting was taped by Channel 22.

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

Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of Commissioners.

Public Comments related to Agenda Items. There were no comments

Appointments. There were no appointments this evening. The discussion with Chris Jacobs, DPW Director has been postponed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Review and Approval of the April 27, 2017 meeting.

MOTION: It was Moved by Mr. Merrill, Seconded by Mr. Preston to approve the Minutes of the April 27, 2017 Meeting as presented

VOTE: 6 In Favor, 2 Abstained, (Mr. Merrill and Mr. Housman) (Mr Griffin joined the meeting after vote)

MOTION PASSED

Mr. Nyhan, on behalf of the Commission, thanked Anne Marchand who has been the HBAC Secretary for the past four plus years and who is now moving to Massachusetts to be closer to her family.

TREASURER's REPORT: Mr. Housman

Mr. Housman reported the balance remains at \$9,628.43.

MOTION: It was Moved by Mr. Preston, Seconded by Mr. Rage to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

VOTE: 8 in Favor, 0 Opposed, (Mr. Griffin joined the meeting after vote)

MOTION PASSED

Transportation Grant Discussion:

1. Upcoming Meeting with HPW, NHDOT, and VHB.

Mr. Nyhan reported on his meeting with Town Manager Welch, BOS Chairman Waddell, Mr Griffin and himself. There were two distinct issues for discussion: 1) the drainage issues on Ocean Boulevard in the Boar's Head area and 2) the Transportation Grant and Task Order #3. The drainage issues are not being dealt with under Task Order #3 which concerned Mr. Griffin.

Based on the meeting, above, the two action items were established:

1. Mr. Welch will meet with Mr. Watson and bring together a team of people from the DPW, neighborhood, DOT and talk about what has happened including discussion on drainage solutions which have not worked in the past. The HBAC has had on their agenda an item on Commissioner Objectives. This, Mr. Nyhan said, is a great opportunity to add a project task, being the drainage issue, as part of an HBAC review going forward. It was felt that Mr. Griffin would be the ideal project leader for HBAC given his concerns about the drainage. This project will be called "North of Boar's Head Drain Project", and Mr. Griffin will participate in conversations regarding the project and report back to the HBAC on solutions the group will develop and for which may require financial help from grant sources. There were no objections from the HBAC on Mr. Griffin's leadership with this project.

2. Mr. Nyhan reported that he proposed to coordinate a meeting with Mr. Rose, Mr. Watson, VHB, and Hampton DPW staff in order for all parties to be brought up to date on Task Order #2 and #3. Mr. Nyhan and Mr. Welch agree that the Town of Hampton would like to cooperate, participate and provide input to VHB. This meeting has been scheduled for June 15th at 2:00 pm in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room. Mr. Nyhan invited the participation of any HBAC Commissioner who could attend, but if there are a majority of Commissions, this meeting would have to be posted as a "HBAC meeting".

This, Mr. Nyhan said, would be a step forward and from that meeting, items will be cleared up in terms of drainage vs transportation.

Mr. Watson reported that he met with Mr. Welch on this date, May 23, 2017, and they spoke on both of the above topics. With regard to drainage, Mr. Watson said there will be a meeting to discuss resolution and there will be coordination of Town and DOT staff.

With regard to the Transportation Plan, Mr. Watson said the reconstruction of Route 1 will involve the Town and that there would be discussion regarding Task #2 and #3 with VHB, NHDOT, and the Town DPW and engineers. If this meeting is to be held, all need to be aware of the expectation the work VHB is doing for HBAC. There is a

misunderstanding that there is a design and this is not the case VHB has been hired to do a Master Plan update with transportation goals a focus, and it is important to remember that through the meetings which have been held with public and private officials a lot of input has been generated. Mr. Rose has listened to this input and there are still areas of work that need to be done. There is now, no conversation about Ashworth Avenue or any improvements on Ashworth Avenue. There is no conversation on potential traffic flow or lane configuration for Ashworth Avenue. VHB has been focused on specific areas of Ocean Boulevard, some of this focus may or may not be feasible and, if not, will not be a design product in of on itself on both engineering and input.

Further, Mr. Rose has expressed, and Mr. Welch has agreed, that if a meeting is held on June 15th, people may be expecting specific designs that will lead to construction. This is not, now, happening. Other plans that have been done will be looked at, there will be another set of public meetings, design plans, and there will be a new public involvement process as in any other Ten Year Plan Project. If DPW is expecting to see designs that would be updating the Master Plan, that is good; but, there will not be anything discussed to change construction that has not yet been designed.

Mr. Watson said that at the end of today's conversation he and Mr. Welch, are on the same page. If efforts are not leading to a design that is not going to be constructed, it is premature to get people worked up, but both want to make sure that if there may be things that will not work, and it is important to bring forward what is or is not going to work.

Mr. Watson concluded by saying that all HBAC Commissioners serve on behalf of an organization and now is the time for VHB to focus on input from the HBAC and their represented organizations. It is time to get engineering professionals involved.

Mr. Nyhan noted that it is important to point out that the engineering designs in Task #2 may have been misinterpreted. However, since the Board of Selectmen voted to have a meeting with William Rose to explain Task Order #3, and that the motion passed, what the BOS wants is to have discussion in a subsequent meeting. Perhaps it is not necessary to have Mr. Rose meet with the Selectmen now, but at least people who are working on the Transportation Grant should be talking to people. This is a courtesy to the Town as he wants to make sure folks representing the Town play a big role going forward and be kept up to date with what Task Order #3 is all about. H feels there should still be a meeting out of courtesy to the BOS and Town in order to have further explanation.

Mr. Watson stated this would not be a DOT meeting, but a meeting of the HBAC and the Town. Further, this is not a DOT project and people need to be aware of this. When meeting with the BOS, it is the HBAC representation. Mr. Rose is a conduit to the consultant hired to update the Master Plan.

Mr. McMahon brought up this issue at the last meeting and feels it is essential to have this meeting. It is important to get on board and understand what is to happen in the future. It is important to go ahead with the June 15th meeting as there should be a lots of discussion between now and when the plan is being put on the ground. The points that Mr. Watson has made are important, it is not a set of plans ready to be constructed. DOT has nothing to show the Town right now; but there are focus areas. Mr. McMahon also stated that the improvements to the Boulevard are subject to change and it is important for the Town staff and Selectmen to be involved. Continuity is important even if there may be may changes on the BOS or other Boards.

Mr. Nyhan said that he does not see this meeting going into a lot of detail because there is not a lot of detail; however, there is Task #3 and that should be shared with the Town. He stated the June 15th meeting will move forward.

Mr. Watson sated that this meeting with Mr. Rose and VHB should be posted as an HBAC Meeting regarding Task Order #3.

3. In Kind Contribution Report

Mr. Nyhan stated that is behind on collecting data for the above report. He will provide the Commission with his report which will cover October 2016 through May 2017 for review.

Mr. Griffin joined the meeting.

Old Business:

1. Progress Report – Partnership with HPD. –Pending for May meeting

Mr. Nyhan reported that he has spoken with Chief Sawyer regarding partnering with public safety. Chief Sawyer has ordered 188 barriers for Ocean Boulevard for crowd/traffic control as he explained at a previous meeting. It was proposed that the HBAC provide covers for the barriers to improve appearance. The covers cannot be used as advertisements, however, may contain logos or emblems of various organizations in Town such as HBVD, Chamber of Commerce, Experience Hampton, etc. The plain colored covers cost approximately \$100 a piece and those with logos would cost \$200 a piece. Mr. Nyhan will continue looking at options and report back to the Commissioners. He encouraged reaching out to the various groups to encourage their participation providing permission has been received. Mr. Rage stated the HBVD would participate, and Mr. Merrill will speak with the Chamber of Commerce.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Rage suggested that a meeting be held and motions made to approve the expenditure of funds for the above barrier covers. Mr. Nyhan will report back to the Commission as soon as he has all the information and costs and a meeting will be held.

2. Discussion – any additional Commission objectives for coming season

Mr. Nyhan asked that the Commissioners provide him with additional objectives. See above discussion regarding the North of Boar's Head Drain Resolution Project with Mr. Griffin as Project Leader and HBAC's representative in discussions of the project. Mr. Griffin will report back to the HBAC on these discussions. Mr. Nyhan feels this is an appropriate objective for the coming season.

3. Other Old Business. There was no other old business.

New Business:

1. Meeting Request – RPC – Projects focused on Improving the Beach

Mr. Nyhan reported on the proposed meeting with the RPC to look at other projects and funding sources for the year 2020. Mr. McMahon and Mr. Nyhan will meet with the RPC Chair on June 22nd (not the original date of June 15 as announced) and this will provide a good starting point for discussion at the HBAC meeting as it begins its new session in September.

2. State Parks Operational Meeting. Mr Housman

Mr. Housman reported that the State Parks Operational Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 30th at 6:00 pm at the Seashell. This meeting is open to the public and he encourages beach residents, business owners and the general public to attend the meeting. This is an opportunity for the public to have interaction with the representatives of the State Park. For the record, HBAC was asked to moderate the meeting.

Mr. Merrill thanked the Director for changing the date of the meeting due to a date conflict.

3. Summer Meetings – as required.

Mr. Nyhan said that if any item occurs that will require a special meeting during the summer, he will notify the Commissioners. He also stated (see above) that he will call a meeting to vote on the expenditure of funds for the barrier banners, on recommendation of Mr. Rage.

4. Fall appointments of Commissioners

In October, some members will require reappointment to the HBAC as their terms are ending. He announced that if a member would like to be reappointed, they should go to their various organizations to be recommended to continue and be reappointed to the Commission. It should be noted that Mr. Griffin has been reappointed by the Board of Selectmen for another two-year term to 2019; however, Mr. Preston should go through the Chamber of Commerce for recommendation and Mr. Merrill to the Commission for At-Large. The appointments will be finalized at the October 2017 meeting

5. Other new business.

Mr. Preston stated he has read that there are people who are not happy with the State as far as getting the beach ready for the summer. He does not agree with this in that the beach is clean, sand blown, restrooms are open and clean; and, concluded saying DRED has done a great job in preparing for summer.

Mr. Housman thanked Mr. Preston and spoke of the difficulty finding help as there is a lack of applicants. A few members agreed that the employment issue is difficult this year for restaurants, the Town, the State and many hiring seasonal employees.

Mr. Rage stated that DRED has done a great job, despite shortage of hires. He also noted that the State has been cooperative to work with regarding the State Park.

Mr. Ladd stated that he would like to see a spirit of cooperation, not confrontation, between the Town and State Parks and, further, that the State has been good to work with.

Adjournment

**It was Moved by Mr Rage, Seconded by Mr. McMahon to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.
VOTE: 9 in favor, 0 Opposed MOTION PASSED**

FOR THE RECORD:

I would like to thank HBAC Chairman Nyhan and the Commissioners for the cooperation, consideration, and respect that was afforded to me over the past four plus years as Secretary of the HBAC. The professionalism of the Commission members, and the work they have/and are in the process of doing is, and will be, of great benefit to the Town and residents of Hampton. You are to be commended for your time and efforts. I look forward to watching the progress of your various endeavors and wish you great success. You guys are the greatest!
Thank you. Anne

Transcribed from disk, provided by Channel 22.
Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Marchand, Secretary

Thank you Channel 22.

