

HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 17, 2009

Budget Committee Members Present

Mary-Louise Woolsey, Chairman
Michael Plouffe, Vice-Chairman
Jerry Znoj, Selectman Representative
Pat Collins
Victor DeMarco
Brian Lapham
Eileen Latimer
Jack Lessard
Michael Pierce
Richard Reniere
Larry Stuker

Excused

Dick Hansen
Peter Traynor

Chairman Woolsey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Woolsey introduced the members of the Committee. New members are Brian Lapham and Richard Reniere. The new Selectman Representative is Jerry Znoj. Chairman Woolsey congratulated all who ran in the recent election.

Approval of Minutes – February 17, 2009

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Ms. Latimer, to approve the Minutes of February 17, 2009.

Vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 5 abstentions (Collins, DeMarco, Lapham, Reniere, Znoj). Motion passed.

Chairman Woolsey said this was the reorganization meeting for the Committee and asked for nominations for Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the coming year.

Moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Ms. Latimer, to appoint Mary-Louise Woolsey as Chairman and Michael Plouffe as Vice-Chairman of the Hampton Municipal Budget Committee for the coming year.

Vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions (Plouffe, Woolsey). Motion passed.

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Chairman Woolsey said this was the beginning of the 2010 budget season. She asked for guidance in scheduling the April, May and June meetings. She said she planned to have the school district in September. She said she would also like to schedule the state reps for either May or June. It will also be necessary to have one of the meetings attended by Mr. Welch and Mr. Schwotzer. Chairman Woolsey asked if there were any other suggestions. Ms. Latimer suggested a work session before the budget season begins comparing prior years and to decide what the Committee wants to see from each department and how they want to see the reports. Chairman Woolsey said the Committee should ask Mr. Schwotzer to do a full printout in May and also in September.

Chairman Woolsey discussed *Town and City Magazine*. She said Committee members are not picking up the magazines. It is time to renew. She said this is a very valuable resource and everyone on the Committee should read it.

Moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to order one subscription of *Town and City Magazine*, which would be kept in the Town Manager's office.

Amendment made by Mr. Reniere, seconded by Ms. Latimer, to order one subscription of *Town and City Magazine*, which would be kept in the Town Manager's office and that there should be a second copy at the Library which will be donated by Mr. Znoj.

Vote: 11 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Woolsey reviewed the annual balloting. She said the results were not unexpected. She said the fact that the warrant article for the salt shed did not pass is a worry. If the EPA comes in there could be a possible fine of \$25,000 per day. She said the pumper is also a worry.

Mr. Znoj said he felt the request for the salt shed needs to be repackaged. The cost was too high with no indication of return on investment and the pumper truck was just too expensive.

Chairman Woolsey shared letters written to Maury Friedman and Norman Silberdick thanking them for their service on the Budget Committee.

Selectman's Report

Chairman Woolsey said that the Budget Committee has 12 members at large and three appointed members – Selectman Representative, School Board Representative and Precinct Representative. The appointed members are not held to the same standards of

attendance as members at large. She told Mr. Znoj that he was now a member of this Committee and decisions should be predicated on what he hears here.

Mr. Znoj said he was very happy to be on the Committee and felt it would be a positive experience.

Chairman Woolsey indicated that 9AM to 4PM hours for the transfer station would be preferable to 8AM to 3PM. Mr. Znoj said the Public Works Director said they will be trying to cover the Saturday and Sunday hours and should be able to accomplish this without overtime.

Chairman Woolsey said she did not like to see the Town Office closed at lunch time. Mr. Pierce said someone should be available from the time the office opens until closing time. Mr. Znoj said he would look into this.

Chairman Woolsey said she was reconstituting the Sub-Committee for the Schools and members should be on a rotating basis. She asked Ms. Latimer, who was on the Sub-Committee last year, to take on the job as Chairman. Any members who would like to volunteer to be on the Sub-Committee should contact Ms. Latimer.

Chairman Woolsey said the annual meeting for the Precinct is on Friday, March 27th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Beach Fire Station.

Mr. DeMarco asked if there were any warrant articles for the Precinct. Mr. Reniere responded that one article is the budget and the other is for the new contract agreement for the leasing of the Fire Station between the Precinct and the Town.

Chairman Woolsey mentioned that the article to release the money for the lighting at the Precinct did not pass. Ms. Latimer said the wording was not good in the article and was misunderstood by many voters.

Chairman Woolsey said the Board of Selectman should make sure that the sponsor of a private petitioned article is designated on the article. Mr. Znoj said he would bring this to the Board of Selectman. The public needs to know who is asking for money.

Mr. DeMarco suggested having a separate meeting with the Fire Chief to start the planning for getting the plans for the fire station in motion. It was the consensus of the Committee to invite Chief Silver for a presentation on the fire facilities, probably at the June meeting.

Ms. Latimer said she felt anything said or written in the name of the Budget Committee should be discussed at a meeting of the members first.

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Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Lessard **moved**, seconded by Mr. DeMarco, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary

Mary-Louise Woolsey, Chairman