

**TOWN OF HAMILTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 25, 2010**

The Board of Selectmen met at the Hamilton Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 25, 2010 with William Bowler and Jennifer Scuteri present. Finance Committee Co-chair Arthur Oberheim, Police Chief Russell Stevens, Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena and Town Administrator Candace Wheeler also present.

FinCom and Police Chief Russell Stevens re: cruiser

The Town has undertaken a lease/purchase to replace one of the police department's cruisers. For the first year of the three-year lease, half of the \$10,000 cost was paid for from the police department budget and half from a reserve fund transfer. For the next two years, the \$10,000 annual payments will come from the police budget. There were sufficient funds in the reserve fund for this purpose.

The police department has six vehicles. Police Chief Russell Stevens is managing the fleet to maximize efficiency and life of the vehicles.

Discuss possible warrant articles for May Town Meeting

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will be invited to an upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss possible warrant articles related to future downtown development including parking and building height restrictions. The ZBA is working on the sign by-law.

Zoning articles would have to be completed by March for the annual Town Meeting warrant.

Sign Entertainment License for American Legion

Dick Messina of School Street, an abutter to the American Legion building, expressed concern about entertainment at the post hall. The Legion has not applied for a change in its entertainment license to include live entertainment.

William Bowler entertained a motion to approve granting the American Legion's jukebox license for Monday through Saturday. Jennifer Scuteri so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Update from MMA

Town officials described MMA Convention workshops they attended on Jan. 22 and 23.

Discussion was on state money being available for green energy initiatives.

Discussion was on the importance of events such as the recent sled dog race as a way to bring money into Hamilton.

Discussion on funding strategies for difficult times including permit management and aggressive use of grants. The state's structural deficit is expected to be \$2.4 billion. This could make it difficult for the commonwealth to level fund local aid.

Discussion on a statewide group of cities and towns that said unanimously unfunded mandates were very costly for municipalities.

Boston College MBA students project update

Five Boston College MBA students are beginning work with the Town on marketing for the landfill and practices/procedures for the financial area of Town government. The course work has to be completed by May.

Bowler entertained a motion to go into executive session at 7:51 p.m. not to return to open session to discuss non-union personnel and litigation strategy. Scuteri so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Clerk