

**TOWN OF HAMILTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OCTOBER 20, 2014**

The Board of Selectmen met at HWRHS at 6:16 p.m. on Monday, October 20, 2014 with Scott Maddern, Marc Johnson, Jeff Hubbard (arrived at 6:20 p.m.), David Neill, Jennifer Scuteri present. Town Manager Michael Lombardo, Fire Chief Phil Stevens, CATV Attorney Bill August, and HWCAM Supervisor Bill Melville also present.

Call to order

Scott Maddern called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Maddern read items on Consent Agenda.

- Vote to include revisions to STM Fall 2014 Appendix A – Compensation/Classification Table to reflect labor negotiations.
- **Friends of Cutler** seeks permission to hang a banner from the poles at the Senior Center from Nov. 8 to 16 to promote its annual Ski, Skate, Board & Ride Event on Nov. 15 & 16.
- Approve **Hamilton Development Corporation** Annual Plan
- **Approve Minutes** – September 8, 2014, September 15, 2014, September 29, 2014 and October 2, 2014.

Maddern entertained a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Marc Johnson so moved. Jennifer Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

The changes to the compensation table are related to the recent agreement reached with AFSCME Administrative unit on their union contract.

AGENDA

Board of Selectmen to vote position on purchase of new fire apparatus (Article 2-5)

Discussion ensued about if there is a less expensive option than the quint truck. A separate ladder truck could be purchased for \$800,000 plus and the Town is scheduled to replace the pumper truck in a couple of years so the cost to replace both trucks would

be upwards from \$1.5 million versus one apparatus for \$950,000 with annual maintenance costs reduced, better capability on scene and 25 years of expected use. Town officials have looked for used ladder trucks and discovered those available are at end of life (i.e., 20 years old). Discussion addressed how insurance costs could go up if the Town does not have a ladder truck in its fleet to address public safety needs in Hamilton especially a truck with a 100' or more ladder to reach houses and three story buildings in Town.

Maddern entertained a motion. Scuteri moved for the Board of Selectmen to recommend favorable action on STM Article 2-5 (purchase of new fire apparatus). David Neill seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Comcast Renewal – Attorney Bill August will update the Board on HWCAM’s license renewal process with Comcast and Department of Telecommunications and Cable

Discussion ensued with Attorney Bill August and HWCAM Supervisor Bill Melville about contract negotiation with Comcast since the company’s cable television license expires on March 1, 2014 and informal renewal process is going well. The Selectmen are the licensing authority. The Town cannot regulate rates or commercial channels.

The highlights of the negotiation process are that a third channel will be added to the existing two local access channels, and 5% of gross annual revenues will support HWCAM. August summarized the option of pursuing the formal negotiation process. In addition, there is also a lump sum payment of \$57,500 coming from Comcast to be used for equipment, expansion of studio and staffing for Hamilton and Wenham. The length of the renewal term is not to exceed 10 years. It was noted that the Verizon license is up for renewal in six plus years.

Maddern entertained a motion to authorize the informal process for the contract negotiation with Comcast. Johnson so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Other Business

Discussion ensued with Jeff Hubbard’s statement that the BOS could not accept the HDC’s 2014-2015 annual plan as the HDC had not yet approved the plan. The HDC minutes and an email from the Chair of the HDC were then reviewed and it was determined that the HDC had approved their 2014-2015 annual plan on Wednesday,

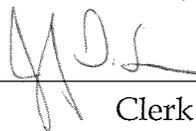
October 15. The HDC's approval was with no changes to the plan after the HDC's presentation to the Board on Tuesday, October 14 so the BOS accepted their plan.

Also, Scuteri inquired if the Board was going to continue with its process at STM where any Selectman who is taking a position contrary to the Board's majority vote that the Board member speak from the microphones on Town Meeting floor. Maddern concurred with this approach.

Maddern entertained a motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Johnson so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST:



Clerk

