

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

The Board of Selectmen met at the Hamilton Town Hall at 8:50 p.m. on Thursday, March 25, 2010 with David Carey, William Bowler and Jennifer Scuteri present. Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena, Firefighter Kirby Brand and Town Administrator Candace Wheeler also present.

**Discussion of call firefighter Steve McGinnis and car insurance expense**

Fire Chief Phil Stevens had presented the Board information regarding a tree that totaled call firefighter Steve McGinnis' car when he was responding to a Hamilton call coming into Town from his home in Topsfield.

Town Administrator Candace Wheeler said McGinnis' car insurance would pay for the damage to the vehicle but wouldn't cover the \$5,000 deductible. Jennifer Scuteri suggested someone talk to call firefighters about the problem of being underinsured.

David Carey entertained a motion to authorize the expense to cover the incident. William Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena asked Firefighter Kirby Brand to provide a statement for the expected amount of \$4,110. The expense would be paid in 10 days.

**Sign contract documents for water treatment plant upgrades**

Carey entertained a motion to sign the contract documents for construction of water treatment plant upgrades dated February 2010, approved by Town counsel, with North Atlantic Coastal Region Constructors, Inc. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

**Vote to release executive session minutes**

MIIA Attorney Doug Louison forwarded a letter with his recommendation that the Board approve minutes with redactions shown.

Carey entertained a motion for the Board to release the minutes (for two dates of executive session minutes from June 2008) as redacted. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

**Annual Town Meeting warrant and Town election/voter registration date discussion**

An article will be placed on the Annual Town Meeting warrant asking the voters to authorize the adoption of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Sec. 110 a, so the last day of voter registration before the Town election can be held on a Friday rather than Saturday. This is the result of the Town Meeting being moved to a Saturday and the number of days required before the Town election can be held.

In regard to the Community Preservation Act surcharge on the tax bill, Bowler proposed that it be changed to .1% as the lowest legal amount without repealing it. Scuteri said voters should know that CPA could be repealed. Two articles: a repeal and .1% article for CPA will be put on the ATM warrant.

The Board agreed to address all the details of the warrant at a later date.

**Discussion of furniture to accommodate five Selectmen in Memorial Room**

Bob Timpani will construct a platform to modify the use of two tables in the Memorial Room at Town Hall to accommodate five Selectmen at the Board meetings that will occur after the Town election. There will be a guest and Town manager table. The proposed design works with the cable television cameras located in the room.

The cost of the construction and refinishing of the existing tables is approximately \$1,000. Nippes-Mena said replacing furniture along with purchasing new chairs would cost from \$6,000 to \$10,000. Investigation will be done to purchase new chairs at a reasonable price.

Carey entertained a motion to agree to the concept of the three-part Selectmen's table. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

**Superintendent of Schools search committee**

Town Administrator Candace Wheeler will call Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee member Lauren Prior about why there is no Hamilton Selectman on the search committee for the Superintendent of Schools. A focus group for Town officials will be held Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

Carey entertained a motion to go into executive session at 9:15 p.m. not to return to open session for the purpose of discussing non-union contract negotiations. Bowler so moved. Scuteri seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk