

**TOWN OF HAMILTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 20, 2010**

The Board of Selectmen met at the Hamilton Town Hall at 7:01 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 with William Bowler and Jennifer Scuteri present. Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena, Government Study Committee member Carin Kale, Town Manager Michael Lombardo and Town Administrator Candace Wheeler also present.

Introduce Town Manager Michael Lombardo

William Bowler welcomed new Town Manager Michael Lombardo.

Appoint Stephen Feron to board of H-W Community Access and Media, Inc.

Bowler entertained a motion to authorize him as the representative of the member to vote in favor of appointing Stephen Feron to the Cable Access Board as the Hamilton member. Jennifer Scuteri so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Update on Fire Department Investigation

A hearing has been noticed for April 30 in regard to an internal investigation being done at the Fire Department involving Deputy Chief Dan Parsons in regard to his handling of money collected during a Muscular Dystrophy Association boot drive.

Vote to accept bid for Town-owned land off Chebacco Road

Bowler entertained a motion to accept a bid for \$23,500 for Town-owned land off of Chebacco Road on Map 72, Parcel 6. Scuteri so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. The Spangs who bid on the land have to close on a date certain in two weeks or less. If they are not able to close within that date, the \$5,000 paid to date is forfeited and the second bidder would be able to move forward. VOTE: Unanimous.

Review Green Communities status

The Hamilton and Wenham Selectmen will meet jointly on April 27 to sign a Green Communities grant application. The goals involved with the application include: rights for alternative energy (i.e., wind energy at Chebacco Road landfill in Hamilton), expedited permitting for alternative energy uses to be approved within a year, energy

baseline study (that has been completed for both towns), fuel efficient vehicles policy and adoption of the Stretch code that will become state law in 2012.

Sign Cemetery Deeds

Bowler entertained a motion to approve cemetery deed #1053 replacing deed #1017. Scuteri so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. More information will be provided for why this deed was replaced before the Board votes.

Discuss possible Meals Tax with Hamilton restaurant owners

Discussion was with restaurateur from the Weathervane Restaurant in regard to the warrant article asking Annual Town Meeting voters to approve a meals tax in Hamilton. If a meals tax were adopted in Town, Hamilton could receive as much as \$48,000 annually. This money would then be dedicated for improvements in the downtown business district.

Restaurateurs were encouraged to send letters to the Town expressing their position on the meals tax.

Discuss participation in MAPC strategic Land Planning study

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) is interested in working with six communities (Ipswich, Hamilton, Wenham, Beverly, Danvers and Salem) on a framework plan that would identify in the regional area priorities for economic or housing development and preservation. Town officials were interested in having Hamilton participate in regional planning but expressed concern about the demand on staff time.

Bowler entertained a motion to go into executive session not to return to open session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss union and non-union negotiations. Scuteri so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST: _____

Clerk