

Minutes of the March 14, 2024, Hingham Town Council Meeting

The March 2024 Hingham Town Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas Peterson on March 14, 2024, at 7:30 pm. Present at the meeting were Thomas Peterson, Sandi Peterson, Dave George, Roger Haas, and Dan Horinek. Also present was patron Chris Lavery. The February minutes were reviewed. The treasurer's report was covered. Dave made a motion to approve both minutes and treasurer report, Dan seconded, and motion carried.

HEARING OF PATRONS:

Chris Lavery asked what he could do to have chickens on the back of his property. Thomas and the council expressed to Chris that this is something the council has addressed before and at this time it is not something the council is willing to allow as it is open for other farm animals, and this is just not something that would be good for the town. Chris asked why we could not pass an ordinance/resolution with restrictions for allowing chicken, the council told him at this time it is just not the right thing to do for the town.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lagoon Operator – tabled. Refuse Board- tabled. Gravel/grader - ongoing. Rules and regulations – on going. Revisiting the town ordinances- ongoing. Resolution stating that any vacant property must continue to pay the monthly water and sewer fee or pay for shut off/reconnection fee- ongoing. Street sign replacements- ongoing. Water leak-pumphouse-spring. Park restrooms replace toilets-spring. Lagoon mowing-spring/summer plans. Truck decals-on going. Park water shed-ongoing. Grading/gravel tabled until snow clears. Cycling of fire hydrants and replacement of two.

NEW BUSINESS:

The council discussed the “your speed” signs and decided the town will purchase them and as Mike Spencer raises the money it will apply as a donation towards it. Dan made a motion to purchase the signs, Dave seconded, motion carried. Dan is still working on getting the mower to Gildford for repairs. Sandi talked to the council about investing in a CD. The council discussed and decided on \$120,000.00 for 6 mos. @ 4.89%. Roger made a motion to invest, Dave seconded, and motion carried. Thomas talked about the need to verify all curb stop/shutoffs and the importance. Sandi and Thomas will get with HCWD and locate each one. Thomas talked about the fact that we have a household that possibly needs the second house meter replaced and water turned on if someone is living in the house, this would also mean that sewer is being used. Thomas will get with the resident and Chad from HCWD. Sandi let the council know that she will get the HB355 application completed next week. We have two council positions to reapply for. We had to have a resolution passed and given to the county clerk by 3/11/2024 so the council received the resolution via email and text and the council was asked to respond via email or text. Resolution #211 motioned by Dan, seconded by Roger, and motion carried via text. Dogs-we sent two certified for dog nuisance and the fine should have been paid by March 2nd and have not. Thomas will talk with Jake Strissel and see our next course of action. Waste water update-Thomas and Sandi had two teams calls with Julea at Bear Paw Development and Chris Hayes at RPA about where we stand and what our next steps are. We are still waiting to hear from FEMA about the grant we applied for. We have come to the point that we must proceed or lose the funding we have received. After much discussion it was decided that we will apply for a SRF loan to fund the project. The estimated amount is \$3.161 million. Roger made a motion to apply for the loan, Dan seconded, and the motion carried.

DELINQUENCIES/NOTICE TO DISCONNECT: NA

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Thomas Talked about the need to get the pumphouse built and due to unforeseen circumstances, this will have to wait for the summer.

Claims for March were read. Dave made a motion to accept the claims, Dan seconded the motion, motion carried. Next meeting is April 11, 2024 @7:30pm. Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Roger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk

DRAFT