

Minutes of the November 9, 2023, Hingham Town Council Meeting

The November 2023 Hingham Town Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas Peterson on November 9, 2023, at 7:30 am. Present at the meeting were Thomas Peterson, Sandi Peterson, Dave George, Roger Haas, and Dan Horinek. October 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: NA

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.

NEW BUSINESS:

Thomas covered the report from PACE cleaning sewer lines to half the town. He also discussed that we had one complaint of a possible blow back from the pressure putting sewage into a house. He will talk with PACE about it. Thomas also informed the council that PACE can now make repairs to sewer lines not just line the pipes if we have a small area needing repairs. Sandi talked about putting money into money markets. She will increase the amount in Wells Fargo money market to \$245,000.00 and open a money market in Altana with \$250,000.00. Mike at Spencer's Bar would like to do a turkey raffle for Christmas to raise money for a digital "Your Speed Is" signs on the highway on the west and east ends of town. Thomas will talk with Jake Strissel and see what needs to be done then call Mike. The decals for the Dodge and the snowplow need to be put on, so the council will try to do that over the next few weeks. Thomas and the council met October 13th and discussed the new shed for the pumphouse, and it was determined that it needs to be 6'x7' with door facing the east. It will be built in Roger's shop and then moved into place. Probably won't order materials from Western Lumber until closer to spring so we do not have to store the materials. Thomas talked about the gravel brought in from Patrick Construction for HCWD road repair. These 2 loads were from our previous purchase and that Partick Construction told us we have 7 more loads that include delivery. Dan brought up that the grader will need fuel and that we should replace the blades. Thomas asked Dan that if we brought in gravel for the road to the dump and in the dump area, could he grade the road to prepare for the gravel? Dan said yes, he could do that. Thomas will call Patrick Construction and see when we can get some delivered, possibly 4 loads. We also discussed the amount of Gas tax we will receive this year and the council talked about maybe replacing some of the culverts and ordering more gravel.

DELINQUENCIES/NOTICE TO DISCONNECT: 3 will get a notice to disconnect.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Thomas discussed the call about HB355:

Copied from Bear Paw Development information: *Each Montana town has received an allocation based on its population, and Hingham's allocation stands at \$22,238. It's important to note that this grant isn't automatically awarded and must be applied for.*

To apply for the allocated grant, follow these steps:

- 1. Solicit project ideas by December 31st, 2023, which can involve collecting input from residents or consulting with City/Town staff to create a list.*
- 2. Conduct a public meeting to prioritize these project ideas.*
- 3. Utilize the prioritized list to select a project to apply for.*
- 4. Submit the grant application by March 30th, 2024.*
- 5. Allocate and spend the funds by December 31st, 2027.*

Please be aware that these grants have a matching requirement of 25% of the total project cost. Eligible matching funds include tax revenue, ARPA LFR funds, and loans that will be paid off by tax revenue. Other grant funds or in-kind contributions do not qualify as matching funds.

The council discussed some possibilities, new heaters and/or garage doors for the fire hall. Thomas will check into the cost for each so we can decide. Thomas also talked about Ray helping so much in the park this summer and the council agreed to ask Ray if he is interested in continuing next year. The council agreed to \$25 a week. Thomas will talk to Ray.

Claims for October- #6128-6139 were read. Dave made a motion to accept the claims, Dan seconded the motion, motion carried. Next meeting is December 14, 2023 @7:30pm. Roger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk

DRAFT