

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Meeting Date: February 5, 2007**  
**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Muriel E. Kramer, Chairman; Mary C. Pratt, Vice-Chairman; Leonard A. Holden, Ronald M. Clark; Michael W. Shepard.

**Others Present:** Robert Falcione, HopNews; John Hilliard, MetroWest News; Rebecca Robak, Chairman of the School Committee; Selectmen's Office: Anthony Troiano, Town Manager, and Geri Holland, Executive Assistant

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**Public Meeting opened:**

**6:05 p.m.** Mrs. Pratt, Vice-Chairman, opened the public meeting. Mrs. Kramer, Chairman, arrived at 6:10 p.m.

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**Accept gift into the Lake Maspenock Dam Account**

Mrs. Kramer read a letter from Dave Gibbs of the Lake Maspenock Preservation Association of the Association's gifts for \$500 as a demonstration of their willingness to contribute towards the purchase and maintenance of the Lake Maspenock Dam.

**Vote:** Mrs. Pratt motioned to accept a gift in the amount of \$500 from the Lake Maspenock Preservation Association. **So moved Mr. Holden. Second Mr. Shepard. Unanimously voted.**

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**Fruit Street H2 Well Engineering Note (\$168,500)/Maureen L. Dwinell, Town Treasurer**

Mrs. Pratt and Mr. Shepard stepped off the Board at this time due to conflict of interest.

**Vote:** Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to approve for the Board of Selectmen's signature the H2 Well Engineering Note for \$168,500 at an interest rate of 3.89% totaling \$173,179.29. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

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**Accept Veteran's Celebration Committee resignation from Evan Brooks**

**Vote:** Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to accept with regret Evan Brooks' resignation from the Veteran's Celebration Committee. **So moved Mrs. Pratt. Second Mr. Shepard. Unanimously voted.**

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**Approve Luis Gonzalez into the Tax Credit Work Program for calendar year 2007**

**Vote:** Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to approve Luis Gonzales' application to the Tax Credit Work Program for calendar year 2007. **So moved Mr. Shepard. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

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**Legal Assistance Request: Planning Board**

**Vote:** Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to approve four hours of legal assistance for Town Counsel advice from the Planning Board to review the Planning Board's Town Meeting articles for the 2007 Annual Town Meeting warrant. **So moved Mr. Shepard. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

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**Appointment of Ann Click as the Town's liaison for the 2010 Federal Census**

**Vote:** Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to approve Mr. Troiano's appointment of Ann Click, Town Clerk, as the Town's liaison for the 2010 Federal Census. **So moved. Second. Unanimously voted.**

**Hazard Mitigation Community Planning Team Appointments:**

**Vote:** Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to appoint Fire Chief Daugherty, Police Chief Irvin, John T. Gaucher, DPW Director, and Brian Main, Facilities Director as the Town's liaisons to Hazard Mitigation Community Planning Team. **So moved Mr. Shepard. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

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**Town Manager's Report: Mr. Troiano**

Mr. Troiano reported that the Town's legal account's budget has no funds; but, all legal bills are paid. The Board discussed projecting future legal bills for fiscal year 2007 and the possibility of preparing a Reserve Fund Transfer. Mr. Troiano also reported that he is working on a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the position of Town Counsel. He said that he continues to work on the town budget with the Town's various departments; and gave an update on the health insurance rates. Mr. Troiano said that once he has more information regarding the rates, he will report back and schedule a meeting with the School Department and Selectmen.

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**School Department's Budget Discussion**

Mr. Troiano began a discussion regarding budget shortfalls that the town is facing for fiscal year 2008 and administrative responsibilities under the new Charter. Mr. Shepard asked why the School Department's budget's increase is 2.1% when the Board of Selectmen voted to limit the budget to 1%. He commented that he does not want someone to go without because someone else received something extra. Mr. Troiano commented that even with the 1% increase on the General Government's budget, there would still be a \$100,000 deficit. He pointed out that at this time there is still \$150,000 left from the snow removal budget that could make up the shortfall. The question came up as to whether or not the Town needs an override or debt exclusion. Mr. Troiano commented that he is hoping to present a budget without an override. There were comments about the importance of receiving revenue figures from the State, and until that time, it's difficult to project the budget. Mr. Clark asked what the Board hoped to accomplish by scheduling this meeting; and stated that it is inappropriate to hold this meeting without inviting the School Committee and believes it's too early to have this discussion. Mrs. Kramer responded that this is a preliminary discussion to discern how to address the issue of this year's shortfall. Mr. Troiano said that he would have the budget figures by the middle of February. The Board agreed to schedule a Selectmen's meeting on Monday, February 26 at 7 p.m. at the main Fire Station's conference room to discuss capital items. The Board would also discuss all town articles at the next meeting scheduled on February 13.

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**Meeting Adjourned:**

**8:00 p.m. Vote:** Mr. Clark motioned to adjourn the meeting. **Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Holland  
Executive Assistant  
Date approved: 2/13/07