

Minutes of the June 13, 2024, Hingham Town Council Meeting

The June 2024 Hingham Town Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas Peterson on June 13, 2024, at 7:30 pm. Present at the meeting were Thomas Peterson, Sandi Peterson, Dave George, Roger Haas, Dillon Lipp, and Dan Horinek. Patron Ray Lipp was also present. The May minutes were reviewed. The treasurer's report was covered. Dan made a motion to approve both minutes and treasurer report, Dillon seconded, and motion carried.

HEARING OF PATRONS:

OLD BUSINESS:

Lagoon Operator – tabled. Refuse Board- tabled. 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. All curb stops need to be located and remapped.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lagoon update-We were given a new RPA engineering estimated cost of \$345,320.00 with all the upcoming increase in work. This will include a geotechnical report and per FEMA an increase of 5' to the lagoon. Roger made a motion to sign RPA's estimated cost, Dave seconded, and motion carried. Sandi let the council know that the geotechnical investigation will take place on June 19th and that Evan Sterner will be here with the excavator to help. Thomas asked about the mowing of the lagoon area. Dave stated he would do it. The council discussed the upcoming increases from HCWD and the overage fees. Lowell had given Sandi a spreadsheet showing the possibility of adding a percentage to each customer's water usage to be fairer. Since Apr 2023 when HCWD started charging water loss fee the town has paid an additional \$1537.54 for water loss and we now must pass that fee on to our customers as other towns have done. The percentage will be set in July after Sandi talks with Tammy Pike. The council asked how this will be added to the billing and Sandi said she should be able to have ClerkBooks add it as a line item. She will send an email asking. Snowplow-Thomas informed the council that he and Sandi added the feet to the plow. He also mentioned that the seat is torn pretty bad and will tear more and more, a motion was made by Dan to purchase a seat cover, seconded by Dillon, and motion carried. Thomas asked about the pedal cover and Dave said he will take care of it. Thomas then talked to the council about the plow running really ruff and asked the council what we should do. It was decided to take it to C&H Tires for a service and see what the issue is. Thomas let the council know that he was unable to put the street signs back up as it needs a bigger pounder than he has. Dillon and Dave said they would take care of them. The council discussed the park bathrooms being used by a resident that does not have water. Do we really want to lock the backrooms since school is out and kids will be using the park more. Sandi will check it at least once a week for cleaning and we can decide next month if we should lock them. HB355 update-Thomas was informed we will get the grant money for the new heaters and new roll up doors for the firehall. Sandi investigated on the website that once we sent the application that we could start the project, so it was decided to pay Cory for the heaters and have them installed. Dillon made the motion to pay Cory, Roger seconded, and the motion carried. Sandi informed the council that we were being charged a service fee on our Independence savings account due to having less than \$5000.00 so she moved \$5000.00 from checking and that she spoke with Chelsea at Independence Bank, and she is going to try to get us a refund for the fees. Dillon will order lumber for the pumphouse. Speed limit sign update- waiting to hear from Commissioner Strissel. Dump graffiti- Dillon has a sprayer and he and Dave will get together to get the graffiti covered. Budget will be started next month. Sandi informed the council of the 3 certified letters that were sent out, 1 was for delinquency, 1 about the old liquor store, and 1 to resident on dog fine. The one on delinquency is the only one not picked up so far. No response from the other 2. The council discussed the fire hydrants needing replaced and as we have had no communication from Chad Hedges we will see if it is something that Milk River Plumbing can do, as we were supposed to have 2 done last year and 2 this year and none have been done.

DELINQUENCIES/NOTICE TO DISCONNECT: We have 2 that will be given notice.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Thomas Talked about the resident that still has not talked to us about turning water on. He has stopped on several occasions and had no luck connecting with anyone. He also let the council know that he spoke with a resident about fence and zoning permit for installing fence. The resident moved his fence back within property lines. Thomas informed the council of the leak above the furnace in the firehall. He will get some flex seal and see if he can stop the leak.

Claims for May 6191-6202 were read; Dan made a motion to accept the claims, Dillon seconded the motion, motion carried. Next meeting is July 11, 2024 @7:30pm. Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Roger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk

DRAFT