

THE EASTERN HAMPDEN COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Members Present: Chairman Michael Valanzola; Mary McNally; Ken Geromini

Chairman Valanzola called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted via remote means. Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so by following the Zoom instructions below. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of East Longmeadow, Town of Hampden and Town of Wales municipal websites an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting."

INTRODUCTION

Ken Geromini, Town of Hampden representative (RG): Chairman Valanzola welcomed Mr. Geromini to the board. Mr. Geromini provided board members with a brief personal history including his professional and educational credentials, his status as a disabled Vietnam War veteran and his ongoing efforts to support the local veteran community.

FY 2024 BUDGET

Chairman Valanzola provided an overview of the proposed budget.

Motion by Ms. McNally; seconded by Mr. Geromini; to approve the FY 2024 budget as presented. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – yes; Chairman Valanzola – yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and vote to approve the December 12, 2022 Regular Session Meeting Minutes: Action postponed.

Review and vote to approve the February 14, 2023 Regular Session Meeting Minutes: Action postponed.

Review and vote to approve payroll and accounts payable for December 2022

Motion by Ms. McNally; seconded by Mr. Geromini; to approve payroll and accounts payable for December 2022 as submitted by the District Treasurer. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – abstain; Chairman Valanzola – yes.

Review and vote to approve payroll and accounts payable for January 2023

Motion by Ms. McNally; seconded by Mr. Geromini; to approve payroll and accounts payable for January 2023 as submitted by the District Treasurer. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – abstain; Chairman Valanzola – yes.

Review and vote to approve payroll and accounts payable for February 2023

Motion by Ms. McNally; seconded by Mr. Geromini; to approve payroll and accounts payable for February 2023 as submitted by the District Treasurer. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – abstain; Chairman Valanzola – yes.

Jerry Rathe, Veterans' Service Officer: VSO Rathe did not attend the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Valanzola provided an update as to outreach efforts related to the potential expansion of the district. He was able to make initial contact with the towns of Brimfield and Holland, at which time he offered to meet with their boards of selectmen at a future date for a more detailed discussion about the current operational status of the district as well as the financial information needed prior to any serious deliberations on the subject by either community. He also advised that the Town of Holland has since reached out and indicated that they are interested in further conversation.

Chairman Valanzola suggested that Mr. Geromini meet with Ms. Leduc and Mr. Kincaid to obtain an overview of the district's operations.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. McNally; seconded by Mr. Geromini; to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 am. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – yes; Chairman Valanzola – yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Leduc

District Coordinator