

Approved 3/22/10

**HAMPDEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2010**

Meeting called to order: 6pm

Members Present – Jamie Collins, Acting Chair, Carol Fitzgerald, Doug Boyd and Jeff Smith.
Absent – Timm Marini

Minutes – The minutes from March 1st and March 8th were reviewed. Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes from both meetings as written. Jamie seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Transfer Request – The Board reviewed the transfer request received for Veteran's Benefits. Carol made a motion to approve the transfer of \$5500 from the Reserve Fund to the Veteran's Benefits account #015170. This is for the addition of one veteran and the reassessment and increase of another veteran's benefits. Jeff seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Library – Ray Andree, Kathy Hutchison and Ellen Bump attended the meeting. Ray noted that circulation and attendance has increased a lot. The Library is open 25 hours per week. The Friends of the Library are reorganizing and anticipated funds are uncertain. In the past the Library has relied on the "Friends" a lot. It was originally intended to enhance the Library and not to be used in the budget. The Advisory Board suggested slowly weaning off of the "Friends" money and also the trust fund money. The budget does not reflect the true cost of running the Library which is \$94,084. The Town is being asked to fund \$86,084. The MEG state aid is used to supplement the technology line item which is only \$500. There is also a small revolving account. Over \$2000 was raised recently through memberships.

Cemetery – Ed Norman attended the meeting. He noted that at last year's town meeting when the FY10 budget was approved, \$1500 was appropriated for their clerical account but they only received \$1200. For FY11 they are requesting \$1500. They will have a maintenance fee of \$450/year for their new computer system. The Advisory Board suggested using the Expense line item account #015212 for this. This account was previously funded with \$100; the \$450 maintenance fee was added for a total of \$550. The lawn maintenance goes out to bid each year and is working well per Norman. The fence repairs have been started and will be finished when the weather gets better.

Other items – The Personnel Committee has to act on the request from the Assessor's Office for the Administrative Assistant position. Advisory needs to budget for the increase in case this position is approved for FY11.

Mail reviewed

Doug made a motion to adjourn at 7:05pm. Carol seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Submitted by: Deborah House, Clerk