

**HAMPDEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 5th, 2012
Hampden Town House**

Approved March 12, 2012
Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

Members Present: Doug Boyd, Co Chair, Carol Fitzgerald, Co Chair, Jeff Smith, Jamie Collins and Rick Rubin

Members Absent:

Also present: Rick Green, Jay Ray, Neil Flynn and Sherri Himmelstein

Minutes: The minutes from the February 27th regular meeting were reviewed. Jaime asked for a correction to be made. Doug made a motion to accept the minutes with that correction. Carol seconded. The vote was unanimous, 5-0.

Budget Discussions:

Board of Selectmen: Rick Green attended on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Budget sheets were submitted for FY13. County Retirement is up again. A PVTA assessment was mentioned and the board asked for clarification of the account it is being paid from. Insurance 7.1 is up due to newer vehicles, with an anticipated transfer of \$1800 as well. An increase is requested in 12.5 since legal advertising 'always runs short.' A slight increase of \$100 was requested for 23.2 due to an increase in testing costs. Increases were also requested in 27.0 \$200 for town events, 29.4 \$2000 for postage, and for 52.2 \$200 for increased deer disposal costs. All salary lines 12.1, 12.2, 50.1, 56.1 and 56.2 were static awaiting advisory opinion.

Parks & Recreation: Jay Ray presented an overview of income and expenses from the programs run by the department outside of the budget line items. He is requesting an increase of \$ 1495 for 015309 due to the increased cost of electricity and items associated with both the maintenance and the operation of the spray park. An increase of \$275 was requested for the expense line item 015302. The board is looking to have electric hand dryers installed in the restrooms to offset the cost of paper towels. For the salary account 015301, there is a requested increase of \$2935. This will cover hiring a maintenance person from April through October with expanded duties such as field maintenance and lining in addition to the current duties at the spray park, and a step increase for the clerk. The gym attendant position remains unchanged. There is a potential for capital improvement request once the spray park has been opened and the leak tests have been completed.

A discussion followed with regard to income, parking at the park and concessions.

Planning Board: Neil Flynn submitted a budget request sheet for FY13 with increases for requests to both the 015102 clerical line and the 015103 expense line. He explained that there is a potential for an increase in hours due to home occupation paperwork and processes and the GIS implementation and training. The increase in expenses is an estimate to cover the new zoning maps.

Carol asked if there is a listing of all home occupations in town.

Minnechaug Land Trust: Sherri Himmelstein attended and presented the parcel of land that the trust is trying to purchase north of and abutting Memorial Park. This land would expand the trails of the park and would be the only existing town owned property with water frontage. This will require a warrant article of \$38,200.

Rick made a motion to adjourn at 7:40pm. Doug and Jeff both seconded. The vote was unanimous 5 to 0. The next meeting will be held on March 12th, at 6pm in the Building/Planning Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindi Connors, Clerk