

Approved December 17, 2012

**HAMPDEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2012
TWB School**

Called to order at 6:30 pm.

Members Present – Doug Boyd, Carol Fitzgerald, Jamie Collins and Rick Rubin.
The minutes from October 15th, 2012 public hearing and regular meeting were reviewed. Rick made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as written. Jamie seconded, all in favor, 4 to 0.

Votes on Recommendations for Warrant Articles:

Article 1 – Town House Improvements - \$30,000 requested for the on-going maintenance to the Town Hall and the replacement of the ADA transport system. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 2 – Employee Benefits – \$20,000 requested to restore line item 7.2. This will be used for increases in health insurance costs and upcoming retirees. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 3 – Police Department – \$15,000 requested to fund a proposal for a new police station. A discussion followed the presentation of this article on the feasibility of the police station remaining in its current location with the construction of an addition. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 4 – Town House Records- \$5000 requested for the management and storage of records. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 5 – Community Preservation Committee – The CPC recommended to fund the rebinding, digitizing and conversion of the town's vital records, and to put into place the means for future records management, in the amount of \$2376.

Article 6 – Town Clerk Records Management Consultant- \$2376 requested for the rebinding, digitizing and conversion of the town's vital records, and to put into place the means for future records management. Advisory recommended no action.

Article 7 – Fire Department Equipment – \$9600 requested to purchase three new hoses for the fire apparatus. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 8 – Fire Department Equipment – \$14,000 requested to purchase a thermal imaging camera. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 9 – Council on Aging – \$396 requested to cover an error in the calculation of the pay rate of a COA clerk. Advisory recommended favorable action

Article 10 – Office Supplies – \$1,000 requested to increase the line item 29.3, Office supplies due to the increase in toner prices. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 11 – Temporary Help – \$7500 requested for temporary clerical help for the cemetery commission. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 12 – Highway Dept Underground Storage Tank Management – \$5,250 requested to fund a DEP mandated underground storage tank Operator and training. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 13 – Town Hall Phone System – \$9000 requested for the purchase and installation of equipment. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 14 – October Storm Reimbursement – \$187,294.20 requested to be borrowed by the Treasurer to cover the non reimbursed costs of the October 2011 snow storm. A discussion followed clarifying that the authorization to borrow will protect the tax rate. Dana has applied to FEMA for reimbursement as well. Rick made a motion to recommend favorable action. Jamie seconded. The vote was unanimous, 4 to 0.

Article 15 Hampden Heights Road Clarification – Attorney for Michael Cimmino presented a plan to expand the cul-de-sac at the end of Highland Circle granting land back to the town to increase the circumference of the cul-de-sac so that the adjacent parcel owned by Mr Cimmino could be divided into three distinct parcels. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 16 – Abandon Portion of Hampden Heights – This article is a reaffirmation/amendment of a 2002 action. Advisory recommended favorable action on the amendment.

Article 17 – Land Conveyance – This article is a reaffirmation of a 2002 action. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 18 – Fire Truck – \$150,000 requested to transfer from un-appropriated funds to cover the un- borrowed balance for the new fire truck. Advisory recommended favorable action.

Article 19 – Reducing Tax Rate – Advisory recommended no action.

Article 20 – Stabilization Account – Advisory recommended favorable action.

Doug made a motion to adjourn at 7:55pm. Jamie seconded. The vote was unanimous, 4 to 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindi Connors, Clerk