

**HAMPDEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
October 20, 2014
Hampden Town House**

Approved October 27, 2014

Hearing opened at 7:10pm.

Members Present – Carol Fitzgerald & Doug Boyd, Co-Chairs, Jamie Collins

Members Absent – Rick Rubin & Jeff Smith

Also Present – none

Doug Boyd opened the public hearing for the Special Town Meeting next and told the attendees that it was a short warrant prior to starting the reading and review of the warrant articles. Questions/concerns/comments regarding the warrant articles are noted below:

Article 1

This article was requested by the school committee. Doug asked if there was any downside to changing the start date of the school committee elected personnel and Selectman John Flynn said there was not, and that Wilbraham planned on making the same change. Richard Patullo commented that we should think about changing all of the elected positions this way as well.

Article 2

This article was brought forth by the police department and concerns mutual aid with regards to the police department; there is the potential for reimbursement for mutual aid.

Article 3

Selectman Flynn noted that this is the last location to come before the Board of Selectmen for action. There still has not been a settlement with one of the owners Main street property. The new well will be located on town property, (Academy Hall, possibly) with water being piped to the Federated Church, the parsonage and to the house at 10 Riverside drive. This will be full and final. Doug asked whether a backup generator was going to be needed and Selectman Flynn told him no.

Article 4

The Assessors need to upgrade two computers to be compliant with DOR regulations

Article 5

The police department had an unexpected failure of their base station.

Article 6

Selectman Flynn is hoping for closure on some of the current litigation and \$20,000 is needed in the law and claims fund for the current fiscal year

Article 7

An additional appropriation of \$20,000 to the reserve fund is being requested. This is basically a housekeeping issue as only \$5,000 was appropriated at the ATM instead of the intended \$25,000.

Article 9

Discussion between Advisory Committee, Treasurer Richard Patullo, Town Accountant Cliff Bombard and Selectmen John Flynn and Norman Charest in regards to the amount of money to apply to reduce the tax rate. The Advisory Committee would like to apply the majority of funds towards this.

Article 10

The amount of money available will be dependent upon article 9

Richard Patullo stated that with the exception of the Assessors article, the rest could be raise and appropriate motions or transfer motions and that it might be 'cleaner' to raise and appropriate.

Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindi Connors, Clerk