

**HAMPDEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2015
Hampden Town House**

Approved February 23, 2015

Called to order at 6:05 pm.

Members Present – Doug Boyd, Carol Fitzgerald, Rick Rubin and Jamie Collins (6:12pm)

Members Absent – Jeff Smith

Also Present – Eva Wiseman, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Board of Registrars, Selectmen Vinnie Villamaino, John Flynn, and Norman Charest, Jeff Farnsworth, Chief of Police, and police Sgt. Michael Cooney

Minutes:

Rick made a motion to accept the January 26, 2015 meeting minutes with corrections, Doug seconded. All in favor, 4-0

FY15 Budget Process –

Board of Registrars:

On target for town election

Tax Collector & Town Clerk:

Eva is asking for the current (+5) hours that were allotted for FY15 for both the assistant Town Clerk and assistant Tax Collector positions to be included in the respective salary lines permanently.

Rick asked Eva if the department would ever be online or if the bills legally have to be mailed. Eva replied that people can sign up to receive online and pay online but that they would still have to be mailed

Doug asked if Eva were anticipating any major expenses. Eva explained that there are new expectations in regards to elections that will need to be implemented over the next few years.

Cemetery:

Cemetery asked to be rescheduled. Admin to ask them to bring in maintenance contracts

Police Department:

Jeff presented a budget with an overall increase of 2.2% with the removal of the cost of the new facility. Doug asked Jeff how the new Fords were working out – Jeff replied they had some headlight issues and that there would be a new law enforcement specific edition coming out. John Flynn reminded the committee that this is a contract year for the Chief, Patrol Offices and Dispatchers.

Discussion followed in regards to how to utilize the Town House once the PD has moved to their new facility. A monitoring system where each department chair would have access was discussed as was software monitoring module with key card access.

John Flynn spoke to last year's purchase of defibrillators and the \$3300 maintenance contract for the three departments, (COA, PD and FD). The bill is due and he does not want it to slide over into the next fiscal year. This may be a warrant item to spend out of reserve.

John also mentioned that Cliff had told him that the revenue was coming in over what was expected.

Norm spoke of the Hampden Country Club being at 50% completion and that it will be taxed as of how it was standing on January 1, 2015. He is also hoping for a resolution on salary contract negotiations prior to town meeting.

Operating expenses are conjecture based on the Senior Center. Even though the new Police Department will be more energy efficient, it will be open 24/7

Rescheduling of Departments:

Rick asked why the school was scheduled so early when numbers still unknown. Doug replied that it is an ongoing discussion with the school prior to final numbers.

Admin will reschedule and notify departments from meeting cancelled due to weather

Next meeting scheduled for February 23rd, 2013 at 6pm in the Melville room.

Jamie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11pm. Doug seconded. All in favor, 4 to 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindi Connors, Clerk