

Approved 05/17/05

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH

May 3, 2005
7:00 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Present: James D. Smith, Duane E. Mosier, John D. Flynn
Carrie Fuller, Wilbraham-Hampden Reminder, Doug Farmer, Wilbraham Hampden
Times
Guests: Peter Nossal, Mike Crowley

James Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

7:00 pm Walk-Ins

Duane E. Mosier made a motion to appoint James Smith as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, second by John D. Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Motion to appoint Duane Mosier as Chairman of the Board of Health by John D. Flynn. Second by James Smith. A motion was made by John D. Flynn that in James Smith absence from a Board of Selectmen's meeting, the rotation of the Chair goes to the Chair of the Board of Health. Second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so moved. A motion was made by James Smith that in Duane Mosier's absence from the Board of Health, the Chair rotates to John D. Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. A motion was made by Duane Mosier that in the absence of James Smith and Duane Mosier from the Board, that the Chair of the BOS rotate to John D. Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Abstained from vote: John D. Flynn.
Change votes to reflect those who abstained.

7:15 pm Welcome to New Member: James Smith and Duane Mosier offered his congratulations and welcomed the newly elected John D. Flynn to the Board and they look forward to working with John. John D. Flynn mentioned that he is looking forward to working with the members of the BOS who have the experience and knowledge of the job. John Flynn noted that he is not resigning from the Planning Board immediately, but that he does plan on stepping down as Chairman. He did check with the State, but since there are a few issues that need to be dealt with at the Planning Board, rather than interrupt the review that has been started on a number of projects, he thinks it best to continue on until the review is complete. The Board asked that the representatives from the press put a notice in the paper asking for volunteers who wish to serve on the Planning Board. As an aside, mention was made that the Town is also looking for members of the Cable Committee.

7:30 pm Highway Department Bid Openings: James Smith made a motion to close all bid submittals at 7:30 pm. Second by Duane Mosier. Vote: All in favor and so voted. The results of those submittals are as follows:

John's Trucking of Agawam, Inc.: 3/8" trap rock delivered: \$14.68 per ton, winter road sand, \$10.48 per yard delivered, recycled base material \$8.35 per ton delivered. A check in the amount of \$837.75 was enclosed as part of the bid package, representing a 5% bid fee.

Palmer Paving Corporation: Hard Pack gravel \$11.00 CY FOB, Bituminous concrete binder and top \$42.00 ton FOB, In place 42.95, a bid bond representing 5% of the bid price was included as part of the bid package.

Ondrick Company, LLC: Hard pack gravel \$5.35 per ton FOB and bituminous concrete at \$43.00 per ton FOB. A bid bond representing 5% of the bid price was included as part of the bid package.

Lane Construction Corporation: Bituminous concrete \$48.000 per ton and tack coat \$3.55 gallon. A bid bond representing 5% of the bid price was also included., 3.55 per gallon, 5% bid bond.

Alton E. Gleason: Bituminous concrete \$46.68 per ton, rolled in place, emulsified asphalt, \$3.15 per gallon. A bid bond representing 5% of the bid price was also included with the submittal.

Berkshire Asphalt: Bituminous concrete FOB \$39.75 per ton and hard pack gravel FOB \$4.45 per CY. Also enclosed was a 5% bid bond.

All States Asphalts: Liquid asphalt, \$1.85 per gallon, RSI delivered \$1.70 per gallon, distributor rental \$90/per hour. Also enclosed was a 5% bid bond.

JR Sweeping Services: \$98.50 per hour

JR Sweeping Services: Vacuuming of catch basins, \$98.50 per hour

National Water Main Cleaning Company: Catch basin cleaning \$120 per hour.

A motion was made by John D. Flynn to take the bids under advisement and give the bids to the Highway Superintendent, Dana Pixley. Second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

7:45 pm Acting Chief Farnsworth Budget Discussion: The Acting Chief was asked in to discuss the ramifications to the department should the override fail. There will be a staff reduction of two officers by not filling existing vacancies. The Chief has researched the use of a regional dispatch center and State Police coverage. He feels we have the coverage to provide a level of service we need to maintain for the Town. Should a shift be open during the day, the Chief would choose not to fill it, but rather to work the calls himself. Union issues may arise as a result and he has asked for suggestions and cooperation from both unions. There will be a much reduced level of service if the override fails. Three full time officers will remain on duty for the 2nd shift as the bulk of calls mandate.

Reserve officers will have difficulty maintaining the required 16 hours per months. If we can't give them those opportunities for shifts, they cannot be held to the 16 hour minimum.

We do have time from date of vote to the end of fiscal year before we have to have hard strategies in place.

8:00 pm Advisory Committee: The Board asked that Advisory Committee come in to discuss the actions of the past Town Meeting and any areas for improvement. Peter Nossal, Doug Boyd and Mike Crowley.

There was the recognition that this year was a unique situation. There were a couple items that were overlooked, such as the continued maintenance of the Senior Center and the placement of the highway truck in the debt column. It was acknowledged that given the incredible amount of work to be done in putting this budget together, the time commitment from dedicated members of Advisory, they should be complimented on the level of commitment they give to the job. The Board of Selectmen thanked the Advisory Board for their efforts on behalf of the Town.

It was suggested that the account numbers be reviewed by the Advisory Committee and reviewed by the Board of Selectmen, prior to a next budget review.

Peter Nossal noted the mistake as to how the highway truck was presented, but suggested that the decision to handle it as a line item was a sound decision. In the future perhaps place an expense on a separate line item as a Capital Expenditure so it might be shifted around from year to year as needed. It was suggested that it might be used to fund the stabilization account on a given year.

We have nothing left in stabilization, and a bare minimum in reserve. It is recommended that we have 5% in stabilization which amounts to \$450,000 according to Duane Mosier.

Mike Crowley noted the tireless efforts of Beth DeSousa, and her commitment during her busiest time in her professional career as a CPA.

Moving forward from this point, how can the two groups work to get information out to residents regarding the override.

Mike Crowley suggested a joint letter to the editors of local papers, Springfield, Times, Reminder showing the unanimous support by the Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee.

Mike Crowley suggesting that the committee is a neutral party, not driven to raise taxes, but rather to offer sound advice.

Discussed putting power point presentation from Town Meeting on web page; check with Town Counsel prior to doing so.

Draft one or two page fact sheet – recap of financial statement made at Town Meeting. Make information available to private group supporting override, so they may distribute.

TWB School: Building site committee to compile bid spec's for the work at Thornton Burgess School.

Doug Boyd has the names of those who should be on the committee to work on an RFP for the boiler and bathroom upgrades. Ed Cendella, Mark Feeney, Rick Green, etc.

Becky Moriarty to investigate whether the State will look for reimbursement if the Senior Center closes as a result of the failed override.

Items for Discussion:

1. Highway Department Budget Realignment: A realignment of line items was submitted by Dana Pixley to keep department numbers managed by Highway in the same area. The Board reviewed and with a few minor changes, agree that it can be used for the next budget preparation.
2. Letter from Mary Rogeness regarding municipal relief bill: Mary Rogeness sent a letter to the Board asking if there are State mandates required of the Town that are beyond our scope and suggested she is working on legislation to reduce those types of mandates. The Board will send copies of the letter to all department heads asking for their feedback and will then forward that information to Mary Rogeness with the annual impact from those mandates.
3. Review minutes of April 19, 2005: Motion to approve as presented, by Duane Mosier, second by James Smith. VOTE: James Smith yes, Duane Mosier yes, John D. Flynn, abstained as he was not yet in office.
4. Review minutes of Executive Session March 31, 2005: Motion to approve minutes by Duane Mosier, second by James Smith. VOTE: Duane Mosier yes, James Smith yes. John D. Flynn abstained as he was not yet in office.
5. Review minutes of Executive Session April 5, 2005: Motion to approve minutes by James Smith, second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: James Smith yes, Duane Mosier yes. John D. Flynn abstained as he was not yet in office.
6. Correspondence: The Board received a letter of resignation from John D. Flynn resigning his position from the COA, as an under 60 representative. The COA will bring the names of other candidates forward.
7. The Board received a letter from Bill Olmstead regarding his desire to serve on COA, and soliciting appointment from Board of Selectmen.
8. Calendars: Review of monthly calendars.

A note from John D. Flynn regarding a potential cost next year for the Town's web page. We will need to do something long term and look for an offer from a group to host the site for a 5 year period.

A motion was made by James Smith to go into Executive Session at 9:55 to discuss IBPO mediation session and Executive Minutes of April 19, 2005 without return to Open Session. Second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: James Smith yes, Duane Mosier yes, John Flynn yes.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant