

Approved 6/7/05

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

May 17, 2005
7:00 pm

Town House
625 Main Street

Present: James D. Smith, Duane E. Mosier, John D. Flynn

James Smith called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

7:00 pm Walk-Ins

7:30 pm Transfer Station Use Proposal:

Due to the large turnout the Board had in response to the notification sent to abutters, the meeting was moved to the Auditorium.

Mr. Art North, President of the Springfield Area Radio Controllers came in with a proposal to lease space at the transfer station so his group could fly remote controlled airplanes. The abutters had been notified and were present for his presentation. After his presentation and the Question and Answer period, it was clear that the residents were concerned mainly about noise pollution, wildlife preservation, and the safety of children who might go on site to see the planes when they flew. There was no interest from any resident in allowing the Radio Controllers use of the property. It was suggested by John Flynn that the group might contact Park and Rec regarding the use of school properties for their purposes.

Returned back to Board of Selectmen's office at 8:00 pm.

Minutes of May 3, 2005 and April 30, 2005:

Motion by Duane Mosier to approve minutes of May 3, 2005 as presented. Second by James Smith. VOTE: Duane Mosier yes, James Smith yes, John Flynn yes.

Motion by Duane Mosier to approve minutes of April 30, 2005 as presented. Second by James Smith. VOTE: Duane Mosier yes, James Smith yes. John Flynn abstained from vote as he was not yet in office.

Department liaisons were discussed. A motion was made by John Flynn to accept the designations as discussed. Second by James Smith. VOTE: All in favor, and so voted.
See List

Committee/Board	Current Liaison	New Liaison
Advisory	Mark	John
School Committee	Jim	Duane
Green Meadows	Duane	Duane
Storm Water Phase II	Duane	John
Personnel Policy Committee	Duane	Jim
Capitol Planning	Duane	John
Scantic Valley Health Trust	Pam	Pam
Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	Doreen Fadus	Doreen Fadus
Emergency Management	Mark	Jim
Fire Department	Mark	John
Police Department	Mark	Jim
Highway Department	Mark	Jim
ADA	Becky	Duane
GSSSI	John Shay	John Shay

Goals and Objectives of the Board and Administrative Assistant were discussed. Continue to look for an event committee, to free up the Selectmen's office of that charge.

James Smith:

Meetings:

Optimize organization/preparation

Keep to schedule. 10:00 pm adjournment except in extraordinary circumstances.

Keep a running calendar at least 90 days in advance.

Keep a running "to do/responsibilities" list. Review, update and print the list at the end of each meeting prior to adjournment.

Maximize our use of technology to reduce effort.

Communications:

Provide public "press releases" on important developments. Create internal "press Releases" as necessary.

Resume the inter-department staff meetings.

Get Town Meeting and other communications out on a more timely basis.

Other:

Get Proposition 2 ½ legislation to require regional school district assessment increased greater than 2 ½ plus new growth to be subject to a joint town override.

Pursue legislative relief from expensive mandates.

Partner with the Regional School District in pursuing full funding of Regional School Transportation as promised.

Duane Mosier:

Finish the Green Meadows project, work on Thornton Burgess improvements, continue working on the generator starter, and Academy Hall.

John D. Flynn: As the role of the Selectmen constantly evolves, it is ever more important to keep the community aware of the challenges facing the town.

Line of Sight Letter: This issue brought forward by Dana Pixley regarding a sight line impediment was discussed. Duane will review the situation with property owner, Bill Gouzounis.

Vote on Highway Department bids: A motion was made by Duane Mosier to accept bids as recommended by the Highway Superintendent as stated in his seven letters dated May 4, 2005 with the typographical error corrected on the winter salt bid. Seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Those bids awarded are as follows:

3/8" trap rock	John's Trucking of Agawam	\$14.68 per ton
Catch basin cleaning	JR Sweeping Service	\$98.50/hr
Liquid Asphalt	All States Asphalt	
MC cutback		\$ 1.85 gallon
Emulsified		\$ 1.70 gallon
Street Sweeping	JR Sweeping Service	\$98.50/hr
Bituminous Concrete		
FOB at plant	Berkshire Asphalt	\$39.75 ton
Rolled in place	Palmer Paving	\$42.95 ton
Recycled Base material	Berkshire Asphalt	\$ 4.45 ton FOB

Memorial Day Parade and Hot Dog Social: Plans and preparations were discussed for the upcoming events.

South Ridge Road condition: Patching has been done by the Highway Department and the top coat is peeling off. John Flynn went back through Planning Board notes and reviewed tonnage reports with Tighe and Bond which were correct, some saw cutting had to be done, but the road was constructed according to specifications. Tony DaCruz from Tighe and Bond, our town engineer has inspected the road recently and said swales on upper properties had been blocked, water from the developed land ended up in the road, dirt went into catch basins which are now blocked. We are awaiting report from Tighe and Bond. Property owners will be notified that they are responsible and must dig out the swales in front of their property.

Contractor is using cul-de-sac as a staging area for material. He has been told by the Police Department that material must be removed.

Police Chief's position: Jeff Farnsworth has been appointed until the end of the fiscal year. There are three ways to proceed that are being considered and will be discussed at the meeting of June 7, 2005:

1. committee to review qualified applicants

2. the Board to take the task on themselves
3. consider extending appointment of acting chief

Layoff Information: Invite bargained units in to discuss that layoffs are pending, and possible consequences. Meeting to be scheduled for May 24, 2005.

Regional Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for June 16th.

Round table discussion: James to speak with Dana Pixley regarding use of funds before June 30th

IBPO negotiations: The proposal worked on in mediation session has been rejected by the Police Union. We are back to square one, which means we can open negotiations again. As a result of the failed Proposition 2 ½ override, current financial conditions will change the tone of the negotiations.

Stan Weinberg to be contacted to schedule another meeting date.

Motion to adjourn by Duane Mosier at 10:15 pm, second by James Smith. VOTE: Duane Mosier yes, John Flynn yes, James Smith yes.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc