

Approved 7/25/05

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

July 11, 2005
7:00 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Present: James Smith, Duane Mosier, John Flynn

Meeting called to order by James Smith at 7:04 pm.

Guest: Cynthia Bailey, resident

7:00 pm Walk-Ins

Becky Moriarty, COA Director: Becky came in to discuss last minute bills to be paid in fiscal year 05. \$5,000 allocated at town meeting is available for bills to be paid for senior center maintenance. Gant money that Becky is currently working under will enable her to give administrative support to the Outreach Coordinator and Senior Aide. Ant control at the center will continue for summer months for the time being until a building maintenance committee is formed to give advice on the situation.

Cynthia Bailey, resident came in to observe the meeting. She is concerned about what is being done now to work on regaining services for the Town.

Peter and Helena Nossal came in to check the status of the street lights being turned off. The Board is currently working with MA Electric to make that happen.

There was a discussion by the Board of the final transfer required from Property and Liability to Employee Benefits. The amount determined was \$7,484.00. A motion was made by Duane Mosier to transfer \$7,484 from Property and Liability to Employee Benefits. Second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

7:30 pm Police Interviews: Acting Chief Jeff Farnsworth and Sgt. Joe Henry came in with a candidate for a full time position in the department and two candidates for reserve officer positions.

Jeff related that Brett Purchas is currently in training at the Police Academy and using his vacation time for that training. Carl Mazzaferro is in training in Connecticut and there is high probability that he will be moving to that department in the near future.

Tawrin Seega, currently a reserve officer came before the Board to be appointed to a full time position to replace one of the two ready to leave.

When asked by the Board what he hopes to gain with this appointment, Tawrin's response was his desire to be involved with the community, work to prevent crime, to work with kids, etc. It was noted by John Flynn that Tawrin's work on the Police Web site has been a valuable tool that he has brought to the department.

Joe Henry added that Tawrin brings stability to the department, and noted his experience with the Town.

A motion was made by Duane Mosier to appoint Tawrin Seega to the sixth patrolman's position on the force when it becomes available, on a probationary basis for a period of one year. Second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The Board was then introduced to Daniel DeVine who is a Springfield resident with extensive police experience. He has worked at the Cape, in various capacities of law enforcement, works in the sheriff's department now, also works in a trucking business.

James Smith spoke of the emphasis for community policing from this department and encouraged Mr. DeVine to be involved and to get out and meet the residents in town. These sentiments were echoed by Duane Mosier. John Flynn remarked on the great experience Mr. DeVine had with dealing with youth on the Cape, and noted that this would be an asset to this community.

There was a motion by Duane Mosier to appoint Daniel DeVine to a one year probationary position as a Reserve Officer for the Town of Hampden, contingent upon completion of training within 60 days. Second by James Smith. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The Board then met with Kevin Carroll who currently works for the Department of Veteran's Affairs. He has worked at Holyoke Community College and Foxboro. He has also worked as a reserve officer. He has credentials that would be a good fit for the community and department. He is currently working 3-11 now, and would be available for 11-7 or 7-3 shifts.

The Board asked if training is required for Kevin Carroll. He must recertify as a First Responder which can be done within 60 days.

Motion by Duane Mosier to appoint Kevin Carroll to a one year probationary position as a Reserve Officer for the Town of Hampden, contingent upon completion of training within 60 days. Second by James Smith. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Richard O'Brien, resident from East Longmeadow Road, came in to discuss a shed built by his neighbor on the corner of Riverpark and East Longmeadow Road. After discussion, it was noted that the Building Inspector has visited the location and that the

shed does conform to the current zoning bylaw. Planning or Building cannot do anything to correct the situation, since no violation exists. Peter Hatch, Fire Chief should be contacted about the possibility of any kind of violation relative to fire safety.

8:00 pm Will Ferrero, Riverside Drive: Mr. Ferrero lives on Riverside Drive and is interested in doing property restoration. He has started work on the garage, which used to be the post office. There is water coming in to his property due to the structure of the road. He is establishing a park by bringing in woodland plants and other improvements. In order to do so the site requires some drainage work. It is his understanding that this is a private way and would not be paved anyway. He has talked with Peter Hatch, Fire Chief who stated that the road size is good as long as fire apparatus can get in, and that requires 12' for fire trucks.

Mr. Ferrero is seeking permission, if all else falls into place, to alter the roadway, and in conjunction with that, he is obligating himself and others to maintaining that road. The Board needs to know if the road is private or public. Mr. Ferrero has talked with Con Comm regarding doing some additional work near the river. The Board is willing to entertain his idea as long as he researches the property ownership, etc. so they may make an informed decision.

Items for Discussion:

1. Police Chief Salary Discussion: To be held in Executive Session.
2. Police Chief Search Information: The posting requests that resumes be returned by the 28th. The Board will get resumes to Personnel and ask for their input in weeding out of candidates by August 15th, check references, package of material on each candidate, Giambetti reference and any other pertinent information. Ask for interviews to be done by Personnel by the 15th, and bring recommendations forward to the Board.
3. School Assessments/Payouts – FYI only – The Board will direct the Treasurer to pay bills to the district on contractual dates, ¼ of assessment on each payment
4. Street Light Shut Off: Get public notice out for townspeople that they may pay to have their lights stay on by calling MA Electric directly.
5. Zoning Enforcement: John Flynn brought the issue forward, suggesting that enforcement does not occur on every occasion. John will speak with Mark Feeney regarding enforcement and bring discussion back to the Board for the next meeting.
6. 2006 Appointments: Motion made by James Smith to reappoint all positions with police and fire positions contingent upon approval by Acting Police Chief, Jeff Farnsworth and Fire Chief, Peter Hatch. So moved by John Flynn, second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so moved.
7. John Flynn discussed an interest on the part of Bonnie Geromini, former Conservation Commission member, to be active again on the commission. John reported that he had discussed this with Charlie Schmitt, who was in favor of the appointment. The Board discussed this and all thought the Board would be well served with the re-appointment of Bonnie. A motion was made by John Flynn to

- appoint Bonnie Geromini, to the vacant position on the Conservation Commission for the remaining term. Second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
8. A motion was made by James Smith to amend Candice Keddy Hunsacker's appointment to an Associate Member of the Conservation Commission, thus allowing a vacancy of an open position for a full time member. Motion was seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so moved.
 9. 2006 Revenue Projection: Free cash number available from Cliff Bombard, Town Accountant within a week or two.
 10. Highway Alternate Workers: A letter was reviewed by Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent relative to a pay schedule for alternate workers for the department. The Board agreed to approve the pay scale, matching that of the full time workers, for this year and review the situation next year.
 11. Library Premium: Insurance coverage will be increased to replacement value of contents.
 12. Cemetery Letter: The Board received a letter from the Cemetery Commission asking that the Board direct the Highway Superintendent to mow the cemeteries on a less frequent basis. The Board will respond to the commission stating that, the Board delegates the management of this responsibility to the Highway Superintendent and that he is in the best position to make these decisions. He will be made aware of your requests regarding Memorial Day and the 4th of July.
 13. Review of minutes of June 21, 2005: Minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by John Flynn to approve as corrected. Second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
 14. A cable committee ascertainment hearing will be scheduled for the public's information on the same night as a Selectmen's meeting. Schedule for 6:30, prior to a 7:00 pm start for the Selectmen' regular meeting.

A motion was made by John Flynn to adjourn the meeting at 10:55, second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: John Flynn yes, Duane Mosier yes, James Smith yes.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc