

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

March 27, 2006
7:00 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Present: James D. Smith, Duane E. Mosier, John D. Flynn
The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.
Guests: Cindy Bailey, Beth Burger, Ed Gorski

7:00 pm Walk-Ins

The Board started by discussing the placement of specific expenses for the coming year to ensure they are covered within the Town Warrant, the Budget as a line item, or within the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

James wants to get a commitment from the Board to look long term at the budget before he changes his position on an override vote. He mentioned the need to look long term for road maintenance, and the need for repairs/renovations at TWB.

John has heard from Advisory that if additional money comes in from State aid, advisory would put it into Stabilization.

James wants a commitment from the School District that they will stay within a 2.5% increase plus new growth over the next few years before he agrees to go forward with restoring services.

James will try to attend the School Committee meeting on Tuesday evening, the 28th to present the Board's position on an override vote.

1. Police Award's Policy: The Board reviewed and approved the non-monetary award policy presented by Chief Farnsworth.
2. Minutes of March 13, 2006: The minutes of March 13, 2006 were reviewed. A motion was made by Duane Mosier to approve as corrected, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. The Executive Session Minutes of 3/13/06 were reviewed. A motion was made by Duane Mosier to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
3. Minutes of March 20, 2006: The minutes of 3/20/06 were reviewed. A motion was made by Duane Mosier to approve as corrected, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

4. Ballot questions: The Board discussed the possibility of having two ballot questions for the town election held on May 1, 2006. One would be related to the Community Preservation Act and the revocation of same and the other is related to the bonding issue for Infrastructure work. A motion was made by John Flynn to add Community Preservation Article and Infrastructure Article for the Town Election ballot on May 1, 2006. It was seconded by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
5. Warrant Review: The Board reviewed the warrant for Town Meeting and the warrant for a Special Town Meeting to be held within Town Meeting on April 24, 2006.
6. Infrastructure Presentation: Dana Pixley and the Infrastructure Committee will meet on April 10, 2006 immediately following the Advisory Hearing to present information to the voters on April 24, 2006 at Town Meeting.
7. Zoning Bylaw: Dave Martel, Town Counsel responded to a question posed relative to enforcement of zoning bylaws and the responsibility for payment of legal fees. It is his opinion that the existing bylaw does not allow the Town to collect attorney's fees for a zoning violation.
8. Health Insurance Plan Offerings: The Board reviewed the various health plans available to town employees and discussed the need to cap our contribution rate. We currently offer Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Health New England and Tufts.

Green Meadows Field: Jerry Talbot from Excavation Plus will be working on leveling the soccer field.

John Flynn noted that RAH is going in to Park and Rec with a proposal to rebuild baseball field at TWB and is getting a quote from Bill Wilson for the work.

Green Meadows bond: John Flynn contacted Maureen Pacella from Eastern Bank in an effort to better understand the bonding process for the school. She is available on April 10th to give a presentation to the Board. The Board will invite the School District Treasurer, Donna Easton-Vicalvi, and Paul Gagliarducci, School Superintendent and Business Manager for the School District, Steve Nembirkow to attend that meeting.

A motion was made by Duane Mosier at 9:50 pm to adjourn the meeting, and was seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant
/pbc