

Approved 2/12/07

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

January 22, 2007
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Present: Duane E. Mosier, John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green
Guests: Ed Gorski

6:30 pm Board of Assessors: The Assessors came before the Board to discuss the possibility of a job review being done by Tabor Associates. The Assessor's clerk position currently holds a grade 6 level. The Board of Assessors stated that the current clerk/assistant essentially runs the operations of the Assessor's office on a day-to-day basis and they want to ensure proper compensation is given for the responsibilities expected. They also mentioned the need for additional hours in the office and propose increasing hours from 20 to 28 a week. Diane Hildreth, Assessor listed the expectations of the clerk which include:

- A working knowledge of MA General Law
- Assessment experience
- Understanding new legislation
- Maintenance of the Town's database so the proper information is conveyed to the Tax Collector so taxes can be levied properly

John Flynn responded that the request had two components to it; both a change in grade and a request for additional hours. He stated that it is a lot to consider getting approved in one budget year. He suggested that the same process be followed as had been done with the Library Trustee's request; that the Personnel Committee be asked their opinion, and should they approve, that Tabor be contacted to review the job description and grade level.

The Board of Assessors will get information to this office which will be forwarded to Personnel to get their opinion.

John D. Flynn left the meeting to attend the Advisory Board meeting.

6:45 pm Chief Farnsworth: The Chief came before the Board to recommend the appointment of Julie Zimmerman as a full time dispatcher for the Department. She is currently a full time dispatcher in Longmeadow, and carries the necessary credentials to

be a good addition to the department. The Board is in support of the Chief's recommendations.

A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the recommendation of Chief Farnsworth to appoint Julie Zimmerman to a full time dispatcher's position, on a probationary basis, effective January 29th, seconded by Duane Mosier. VOTE: Rick Green yes, Duane Mosier yes. John Flynn was not in the meeting at the time of the vote.

- Minutes of January 2, 2007: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, seconded by Duane Mosier. John Flynn was not present at the vote. VOTE: Rick Green yes, Duane Mosier yes.
- Minutes of January 4, 2007: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve with corrections, seconded by Duane Mosier. John Flynn was not present at the vote. VOTE: Rick Green yes, Duane Mosier yes.
- Minutes of January 16, 2007: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve with corrections, seconded by Duane Mosier. John Flynn was not present at the vote. VOTE: Rick Green yes, Duane Mosier yes.
- Minutes of Executive Session January 16, 2007: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, seconded by Duane Mosier. John Flynn was not present for the vote. VOTE: Rick Green yes, Duane Mosier yes.

John Flynn returned to attend the public hearing in the Auditorium.

7:00 pm Public Hearing - Outdoor Wood Furnace

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF HEALTH/BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE HEARING
JANUARY 22, 2007**

Board of Health/Board of Selectmen: Duane E. Mosier, John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green

Pamela Courtney, Administrative Assistant
Jane Budynkiewicz, Board of Health Coordinator

Attendees:

Michael MacGregor

Shirley Gouvan

Anne MacGregor
Susanne Simon
Janet Plumb
Marie McQuillan
Bruce Glover
Brian McQuillan
King
John Angelica
Michael C. Moauro
Gina Moauro
Michael R. Moauro
Dave Crobmie
Jim Kibbe
Robb & Lynne Wallace
Paul & Andrea Stolar
Dale Hatch
Dick Harris

Dick Gouvan
Albert Ouimet
Mary Malinski
Peter Hatch
Karen Leger
Deanna Vermette
Rita Vail
James Paull
Ralph DeLullo
John Matthews

PUBLIC HEARING – January 22, 2007

The Public Hearing was opened by Board of Health Chairman, John D. Flynn at 7:00 pm.

The hearing notice was read as having been publicly noticed in The Reminder Publication on January 8th and January 15th.

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Board of Health of the Town of Hampden will conduct a public hearing in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 31C on January 22, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Hampden Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room, 625 Main Street, Hampden, Massachusetts to receive public input and comments regarding proposed regulations and/or ban of outdoor wood burning stoves within the Town of Hampden.

John D. Flynn, Chairman

Duane E. Mosier, Selectman

Richard R. Green, Selectman

John Flynn explained that the hearing was meant as an evidentiary hearing, held to gather information and allow residents to voice their opinions and concerns about the use of outdoor wood furnaces in the community. The Board's intent is to discuss possible regulations and/or banning of the use of these furnaces given the recent and much publicized reaction from surrounding communities on the subject.

A number of residents spoke on behalf of the use of these furnaces and stated that if they were used properly, according to manufacturer's specifications, there is a reduction in the use of fossil fuel, that they reflect the rural character of the community. A number of users of the heating system were supportive of instituting certain regulations, such as regulating the height of the chimney, allowing for winter use only, and a requirement for a certain setback between properties.

Other residents spoke of the conditions they have lived with having these outdoor furnaces operating near their homes. They mentioned improper burning procedures, such as burning plastics, and garbage in them rather than wood alone. People also spoke of a health concern related to the possible toxins in the air, and the offensive odor from smoke that permeates the air everywhere, including homes and cars. There was also discussion of a possible reduction of property values if a home were located near a working furnace.

It was noted that the Department of Environmental Protection is currently considering a ban and/or regulations on the operation of the furnaces.

The Fire Chief, Peter Hatch spoke of his experience with wood stoves and stated that even wood stoves, under certain weather conditions, result in the smoke "hanging" in the air, rather than dissipating easily. He suggested that they be only allowed if located 75' from a home, if the stack height were 20' and that they have a burning season from November 1 to March 1.

The Board heard all remarks from those wishing to speak and the hearing was then closed for public comments until February 12th at 7:00 pm. The Board will continue their discussion on February 12th, a decision will be rendered and announced at the hearing.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES

8:00 pm The Board reconvened the meeting in the Board of Selectmen's office after the public hearing in the Auditorium.

8:00 pm Becky Moriarty, COA Budget Review: Becky and the COA Board met to discuss the proposed budget for 2008.

The Board is seeking an additional \$1,000 for building maintenance. Rita Vail feels the shortfall is felt on an annual basis. Monies are used for water testing, grease trap cleaning, and septic tank pumping. Additionally supplies for re-opening were purchased from this line item.

Becky remarked on the services provided by the Outreach Coordinator, Sue LaMondia and would like increased funding for her positions. Sue currently is paid through a grant now. She puts in extra hours, without pay, and provides service not only to seniors but to those needing assistance with fuel or other emergency needs.

The Center is open 24 hours a week, and Sue works 12 hours. Becky and the COA Board would like to increase her hours to 16-17 hours a week. Sue currently makes 13.99/hour. With additional hours on the job, she would expand the services she provides. She now works with a resource officer, and with additional hours she could go to Centennial Commons more often, and do more home visits. An increase of \$5,000 in the budget would serve to allow an increase in hours as well as give Sue a raise in pay. The entire Board spoke of the terrific job Sue does now, how conscientious she is and how committed she is to those needing assistance.

The Formula Grant is used for the activities director and is a lump sum grant as opposed to Sue's grant which is a monthly reimbursement.

The last item discussed was the status of the Building Use Policy. Both Boards would like to ensure that it is in final form.

- Warrant Review: The Board will review during the week.
- General By-Law: A hunting bylaw is currently in place, but concerns have been expressed by residents about approvals from landowners being in effect for one year only. The Board will request that Chief Farnsworth and Environmental Police Officer, Tony Traghese come to the next board meeting to discuss.

At 9:00 pm a motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting, and was seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
/pbc