

Approved 5/8/07

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

April 23, 2007
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

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

6:30 pm John Matthews: A resident from North Monson Road came before the Board to discuss the businesses being operated at 42 North Monson Road. Duane Mosier has spoken to Lance Trevallion, Zoning Enforcement Officer who is in the process of proceeding with plans to shut down any non-permitted businesses.

NIMS Training: Rick Green noted that NIMS training for levels 200 and 700 will be on May 21, at Redikers Software. Fire, Police and Highway Personnel will attend the classes. Rick Green will check with Chief Farnsworth on possible reimbursement from Western Regional MEMA.

7:00 pm Adopt-A-Road: The Board invited participants who have been involved in prior years with the annual road clean up in the spring. Peggy Golden from St. Mary's Church and Dale Hatch from the Boy Scouts attended and offered their group's support. A memo with details will be sent to all involved with the scheduled date of May 12th, and a rain date of May 19th.

Spray Park: The Board mentioned the status of the spray park, fixtures are installed and the former fence has been replaced with a lower one. Rick will attend the Park and Rec meeting this week to get a status on the project.

7:30 pm Sara (Morton) Weichselbaumer: Ms. Weichselbaumer requested a meeting with the Board to discuss filing a complaint against the Police Chief, Jeff Farnsworth. The Board stated that the Open Meeting law requires a 48 hour notice in writing, to notify the Chief that a formal complaint has been filed. Sara responded that she had met with the Chief on April 20th and expected that he would be at this meeting.

Ms. Weichselbaumer asked about the release of information to the media and stated that she had been told that the directive had come from the Board of Selectmen to release the information. All Board members stated that they had not directed anyone to disclose information to the public in any format.

Ms. Weichselbaumer stated that she had been told not to contact the Chief directly, and that any questions could be answered by this Board. She stated her concern with 911

calls being responded to and the Board assured her that any emergency calls would always be handled in the most appropriate and professional manner. Ms. Weichselbaumer also inquired about the Chief's qualifications and resume. The Board responded that she could request that information in a letter to the Board.

7:45 pm Library Trustees: Kathy Hutchison, Beth Burger: The Trustees were before the Board to discuss to use the Homework Center Room (formerly the "Sessions Room") by private groups (when the library is open). There is some concern that people are letting themselves in to use the space, when in fact the space is designed to be available for those students needing the workspace and computers for homework projects. It is open Tuesday and Thursday evenings (until 8:00 pm, when library is open).

Further discussion centered on occasional use of the Homework Center during busy times in the Town House, and only as a last resort, when all the rooms in the Town House are booked. There was agreement that it only be used by elected and/or appointed boards and the Trustees would be notified of the room's use.

8:15 pm Bob Richards: Highway Negotiations: A motion was made by Rick Green to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing highway department member's contract. Seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes, Duane Mosier yes.

Union Members Present: Bob Richards, John Ouellette. Nadine Kennedy was present as the new Union Representative.

At 8:45 pm, a motion was made by Rick Green to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session. Motion was seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Dave Markham came before the Board requesting that the Police patrol the road, in response to vandalism on Howlett Hill Road at Fred Markham's property. The Board requested that Fred Markham report the incidents to the Police, and the Police Chief would then respond appropriately. The Board will ask Town Counsel to give his opinion of the request.

8:45 pm Lorri McCool, Board of Health Agent: Lorri discussed again with the Board a need she sees for someone in the health field to work with those reports sent to the Board of Health of communicable disease issue, getting a nurse or someone who can handle the reporting and communication with the doctors, etc. Lorri will get additional information as to what the job entails and get back to the Board with the name of someone who might be interested in the job.

Board of Health Agent, Alternate: Lorri also discussed the alternate to be named for her when she is unavailable, particularly this summer when on vacation. She intends to work to help train Joshua Matthews over the next few months. The Board supports her recommendation.

1. Minutes of 3/26/07: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
2. Minutes of 4/9/07: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as corrected, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
3. Review of Drainage Plan for 102 South Road: The Board reviewed the plan proposed for drainage at 102 South Road, which has been reviewed and approved by the Highway Superintendent, Dana Pixley. Rick Green made a motion to accept the drainage plan presented for 102 South Road, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
4. Ambulance Contract: East Longmeadow Administrator has sent out requests for bids for ambulance contractors.
5. Green Meadows Update: Lorri checked on the location of the new system and determined that the present location is the best place for the system. PRESBE system is not pressurized necessarily. Lorri will ensure that certificates on each load of Title V sand are verified. Lorri will check with DEP to ensure they can review whenever they need to. Lorri will be gone the first two weeks of August.
6. Minnechaug Air Quality Update: Minnechaug has made some changes to the HVAC system to remediate some of the issues found in the initial quality testing.

A motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm and was seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc