

Approved 9/17/07

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

September 10, 2007
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Present: John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino
Guests: Art Booth, John M. Flynn, Chief Farnsworth, Sgt. Henry, Chief Hatch, Mike Gorski

6:30 pm Public Safety Complex: Art Booth, John M. Flynn, Jeff Farnsworth, Joe Henry, Peter Hatch, and Mike Gorski came before the Board to discuss next steps in proceeding towards a proposal for a complex housing both Police and Fire Departments. At the last meeting, the Chiefs were asked to compile a list of their needs both now and in the future. Jeff submitted his list which included garage space for four cruisers. There are a number of room uses that can be shared by the two departments, (training rooms, etc.)

Gary Weiner from Ecotec has the deeds for the town owned property and will work on a plot plan for a better idea of a possible layout.

The real focus will be funding capabilities. Art Booth spoke to Rep. Rogeness asking about possible grants, who said she would look into it.

He was also told that all grants emanate from the State, and although the money is Federal, it comes through the State.

Jeff mentioned a newly released grant, through the USDA funding grants for communities with a population of 20,000 and less, for rural development, with a priority for communities of 5,000 residents or less. The maximum reimbursement is 75% , but would probably be 50%. The money can be used for construction and facility design. Jeff and Art will follow up on the grant. Gina Kahn from the School District has also offered her help in grant writing.

The group then discussed visiting a community similar in size to Hampden for a site visit, to see what has worked for them, and what has not. Jeff mentioned that Hadley would be a good choice.

We will start with a plot plan, and then coordinate a field trip for those who can attend.

The group has scheduled their next meeting for Tuesday, October 9th at 6:30 pm.

A motion was made by Rick Green to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing possible litigation, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: Rick Green yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes, John Flynn yes.

A motion was made by Rick Green to leave Executive Session at 7:27 pm, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: Rick Green yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes, John Flynn yes.

Police Issues:

Policy Reviews: The Chief brought forward two policies for review by the Board which are updates to existing policies.

The Board reviewed the Order-In Policy and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve the policy as recommended by Chief Farnsworth, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The Board reviewed the Arrest Policy and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve the policy as recommended by Chief Farnsworth, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Parking Issue: The Board discussed the issue of a truck parking on the sidewalk on Main Street and asked the Chief to ensure the owner(s) discontinue the practice.

Snow Removal: The Board discussed the issue of snow being plowed into the road by residents and left there. The safety concern is that should the snow freeze it could pose a hazard to drivers.

The Board has requested that the Chief put something together to be used as a warrant article at Annual Town Meeting in April and prior to that a reminder will go in the papers notifying people of the town's prohibition against it.

DARE Program: The Board requested an update on the DARE program. Sgt. Joy will be going for training shortly and will work with schools to schedule time with them.

Connect-CTY: The "All Call System" currently available to the Town and being used by the Police Department already will be rolled out for the other department's use. Bret Purchas is back from leave and will schedule that training session soon. The Chief stated that up to 20% of the population may be targeted by each department for their use. The Chief stated that there is an annual fee for the use of the system, not a call-by-call fee.

The Big H: The Police will patrol the arts festival for a 4 hour shift.

7:30 pm Outdoor Wood Burning Furnace Regulations: Lorri McCool came before the Board with a draft of regulations for review for the coming burning season. Once final, copies will be made for distribution to residents. There was discussion about permitting prior to installation, both for electrical and plumbing needs. There will be a few revisions made and Lorri will review those revisions with Rick Green for final approval.

Green Meadows Septic Installation: The Board questioned whether the final sign off had been done for the septic installation. Lorri responded that all she needs is a Certificate of

Compliance from both the designer, Civil Engineering and the contractor, Langone Pipeline and Utility. The Town received a final bill that included an extra cost for the backfill. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino that contingent upon receipt of the necessary documentation, the invoice for the original contract price still owed, (\$19,246.50) will be processed for payment, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Hazardous Waste Day: Annual collection of hazardous waste was held on Saturday, September 8 at Minnechaug and community response was good. The Board then talked about the possibility of having an annual bulk collection day at the Transfer Station and asked the Board of Health Coordinator, Jane Budynekiewicz to look into organizing the day.

Minutes of September 4, 2007: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, second by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Generator Bid Recommendation: A reading will be done at the Senior Center to check the amperage and the generator size will be determined after that reading. As a cost savings measure, it was suggested by the Electrical Inspector to locate the generator closer to the power source, rather than bear the expense of wiring to the generator in its current proposed location.

Casino Informational Meeting: The Board was invited to attend a meeting on September 12th at the Monson Library along with other surrounding communities to discuss possible effects from a casino opening in Palmer. John will attend that meeting.

School Committee Meeting: John will attend the SC meeting on Tuesday evening and will serve as the Hampden representative during the teachers' contract negotiations.

Cable Committee: John spoke with a representative from Charter Cable and a new rep will be starting mid-September and will contact the Board to set a date for an Ascertainment Hearing.

Conservation Meeting: The Board will attend the Conservation meeting on September 9th at 7:00 pm regarding Fernwood Drive.

Town Building Improvements:

Rick Green received a quote from Gilles Tanguay to replace the cupola windows for \$950. Vinnie Villamaino made the motion to accept the quote for \$950.000 and proceed with the window work, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Rick Green received a quote from Marty Artioli for painting the stage wall in the Town Hall in the amount of \$250.00 for labor only. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino

to accept the quote in the amount of \$250.00 and proceed with the stage work, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Academy Hall: Rick Green received a quote from Marty Artioli for painting the porch of Academy Hall in the amount of \$250.00 for labor only. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to accept the quote of \$250.00 and proceed with the painting, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm and was seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc