

Approved 9/24/07

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

September 17, 2007
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Present: John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino
Advisory Committee: Doug Boyd, Timm Marini, Carol Fitzgerald

6:00 pm Massage Therapist Application: David Gregoire came before the Board to meet and discuss his proposed application as a massage therapist. The BOH Agent has reviewed and approved the application and the Board will proceed with permitting once a CORI check has been done.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the license for David Gregoire as a massage therapist, pending a favorable CORI check, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

6:15 pm Beautify Main Street Campaign: Resident Carrie Polci came before the Board to discuss the possibility of placing barrels filled with flowers along Main Street. Private residents will supply topsoil, fabric, and rock. She would like to locate the barrels in front of businesses, as well as private homes. The Board suggested that once permission was granted for all locations, the barrels could be placed from Hampden Hardware to the Town Hall. She is also interested in getting people together to work on repairing existing sidewalks, perhaps getting funding through a grant.

6:30 pm Advisory Committee: The Board invited Advisory in to start fiscal year planning earlier than has been done in the past. They also discussed the vacancies on the Committee and the letters of interest received. Advisory will invite those interested parties to come in to determine suitability for the position.

During the budget process, departments that submit budgets to BOS will be reviewed and then sent on to Advisory. As in the past, all elected official's budgets will go directly to Advisory.

Advisory will send out a memo to each department requesting their list of proposed capital expenditures, etc. in preparation of inclusion in the warrant.

There was further discussion about the \$15,000 owed to the School District that was a result of an error made at Town Meeting. The approved assessment (voted at Town Meeting) was not the revised number from the District. Town Accountant, Cliff

Bombard will pursue the correct way to pay this through his state contact, Jim Pedulak and get back to the Board.

Town Accountant, Cliff Bombard: Cliff will continue to enter the warrant as he has always done in the past. The monthly reporting is back on track. Expenditures are current, but receipts are not up to date. Cliff is comfortable where we're going with the new system, but not where we currently are.

Cliff then mentioned the reimbursement due from MEMA for the October storm event in the amount of \$14,000. He wanted to make sure the Board was aware of the outstanding debt. John noted that Wilbraham has failed to be reimbursed \$200,000-300,000 that it was seeking. The reimbursement continues to be pursued by Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent.

Rick stated he is meeting with MEMA next week and will ask about the reimbursement as well.

Cliff then stated that a police grant has been overspent by \$17,000. This was a Local Preparedness grant which allowed for a communications upgrade over a 2 year period. The first year we received reimbursement due, but the second year nothing came in.

There was discussion about inviting Senator Candaras and Representative Rogeness to a Selectmen's meeting. Rick and John will extend invitations over the phone.

7:30 pm The Big H, Arts Festival: Patricia Pomeroy and Dorothy Fritts came before the Board to go over final preparations for the weekend event.

Barrels will be put out, Vinnie will have a truck at the church by noon on Saturday, the art work will be hung on Friday afternoon. D. Fritts will contact the Town Clerk for permission to use voting booths for exhibiting purposes. The barn raising will be on Saturday, on the North Road side, library tent, music in the tent outside, block off side driveway from car traffic.

Wood Stove Furnace Regulation: The Public Hearing is scheduled for October 1, at 6:30 pm. Rick Green, Lorri McCool and Jane Budynkiewicz met to discuss some revisions to the proposed regulations. There is still discussion about the distance and plot plan requirements. The regulations will go into effect on October 1. The burn season has been proposed as October 15 to April 30.

VFW Permits: The VFW has requested permits for the pavilion use for the following dates:

A motion was made by Rick Green to grant a one day license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages at the VFW Pavilion on Wednesday, September 19, 2007 for a Lion's Club Steak Roast, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by Rick Green to grant a one day license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages at the VFW Pavilion on Saturday, October 6, 2007 from 12:00 pm to 12:00 am for a retirement party, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Rumplik Drainage Decision: The Board reviewed a letter from the Highway Superintendent, Dana Pixley regarding the drainage project Scott Rumplik recently completed. There was additional drainage ready to be connected to the approved system by S. Rumplik that had not been approved as part of the original scope of work. Although Dana is not opposed to the additional drainage, he requested the Board's opinion on allowing the additional drainage being tied in to the system.

Minutes of September 10, 2007: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve with correction, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Executive Session Minutes of September 10, 2007: The Executive Session minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Hazard Mitigation Report Comments: Comments were received and will be incorporated into our final report by PVPC.

Special Town Meeting: The need for a Special Town Meeting was discussed and it has not been determined if one will be held.

Cable Ascertainment Hearing Date: Our previous contact at Charter has left the company and we are waiting for contact from the new representative. At that time, a date can be set for an ascertainment hearing. Rick Green had contacted a number of carriers, (Time-Warner, Comcast, Cox Cable and Verizon) all of whom stated the same thing. If they came in, they would have to run all new cables (an overbuild) at such an enormous cost, that in the end it would be cost prohibitive.

Generator Bid Recommendation: The amperage of the Senior Center will be checked for a possible downsizing. We anticipate an 18 week lead time prior to delivery.

Connect CTY Training Date: The Police will hold the training for the CTY.

Hunting By-Law: Tony Tranghese, Environmental Police Officer will be asked to come to the next meeting to bring bylaws from surrounding communities so this Board can review. The Board and Police Chief would like to get away from an "authority to hunt" lasting indefinitely. They would like to stagger the renewal timeframe and make it mandatory every two years or so.

Snow and Ice Removal: A notice will be sent to local papers prohibiting homeowners from plowing snow into the street, or plowing onto someone else's property prior to the passing of a bylaw.

Police Chief:

Chief Farnsworth discussed a grant application the Chief is submitting. The department could receive \$31,583 for school safety use. It would allow for digital readers for entry, additional locks, more training, etc.

A motion was made by Rick Green to authorize the Chair, John D. Flynn to sign the grant application, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Board of Health: The Board received a notice that the Town is eligible for 100 recycling containers for household use. The Town Hall will receive enough for town offices and others will be given to the public on a first come, first serve basis.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc