

Approved 12/11/07

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

November 26, 2007
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Present: John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green

Absent: Vincent J. Villamaino

The meeting was called to order by John Flynn at 6:30 pm and the Board moved immediately to the Auditorium for the Advisory Hearing for the Special Town Meeting.

6:30 pm Advisory Hearing: The Advisory Committee called their meeting to order and deferred the explanation of the warrant article to Rick Green, Chairman of the Board of Health. The warrant article offers further clarification requested by the State for the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund, voted at last year's Annual Town Meeting. This will become a boiler plate warrant article every year with rough numbers. At the end of the third year, the town could vote a sum of money out of this account to be used for a general purpose. The hearing was adjourned at 6:40 pm and the Board returned to their office to continue their meeting.

Mill Road: A number of residents have called to ensure the tree being gnawed by beavers is being monitored. Dana Pixley, Tree Warden has contacted property abutter, Russ Morton regarding the situation and has gone in to tie the tree off to ensure it doesn't fall onto the bridge or the road. The situation has gotten steadily worse and after speaking with a tree removal service, the decision has been made to take the tree down and transfer necessary funding later.

Cemetery Commission: The Board has had further discussion of not only the mowing maintenance of the cemeteries but the plowing needs as well. If the cemeteries are in need of plowing services during a snow storm, it has been suggested that an independent contractor be brought into service so any urgent matter can be handled in a timely fashion. It has been the practice of the Highway Department to sand and plow the cemeteries after all town roads have been properly plowed/sanded or salted. A memo will go to the Commission with the Board's recommendations on these matters with an invitation to come to a Board meeting to ensure a smooth transition.

7:30 pm Dick Jones: Dick Jones came before the Board with a list of zoning infractions around town, some related to prohibited signage and others related to commercial use of properties in residential zones. The Board will forward a copy of the list to Lance Trevallion, Building Inspector and ask that he follow up on these infractions. The Board then discussed funding for the Zoning Officer.

On-Going Matters:

Stanley Wisenburn: Rick Green will respond to Mr. Wisenburn's suggestion of a hydroelectric plant be built on the Scantic River to generate electricity.

Stormwater By-law: The last revisions have been made to the by-law and Dave Martel, Town Counsel will give his final opinion as to it requiring further approval at an Annual Town Meeting.

Auditorium Painting: The Board will ask Marty Artioli to do a walk thru of the entire building and give his recommendations as to painting needs.

Generator Pad quotes: A few contractors are looking to quote the concrete pads needed for the new generators. The job needs to be awarded shortly to ensure construction soon as the generators are scheduled to arrive January 1, 2008.

Posting Board at Village Mart: Dave Markham is getting a quote on a glass front box, to be mounted at Village Mart, to be used strictly for the posting of town meeting business, etc. by the Board of Selectmen.

Outdoor Wood Furnace Regulations: The DEP has responded with comments and the issue is being reviewed by Dave Martel, Town Counsel as to our next steps.

Hollow Road Status: The Board will get further update at the School's budget meeting on December 6th when they next see the Wilbraham Selectmen.

Cupola Rebuilding: The Board is waiting for 2 other quotes on the cupola rebuilding. There is the immediate need for replacing a missing pane of glass in the front of the cupola. Once quotes are in, the job can be awarded.

Library Wiring: A motion was made by Rick Green to appropriate \$600 from Town House Maintenance to share in the cost of wiring done in the Library, Children's Room and the Computer/Sessions' room.

A motion was made by Rick Green to appropriate \$600 from town house maintenance for wiring in the library, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Transfer Station Holiday Hours: The Board discussed hours of operation for the Transfer Station. A motion was made by John Flynn to close the transfer station on 12/25 and hold regular hours on Wednesday, December 26th from 1:00 – 4:00 pm, to close the transfer station on January 1, and hold regular hours on Saturday, January 5th from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

- Casino Meeting 11/28
- Bulk Day 12/1
- Budget meeting 12/6

- Tree Lighting 12/2

A motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc