

Approved 2/11/08

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

February 4, 2008
5:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino
The meeting was called to order by John D. Flynn at 5:30 pm.
Guest: Michelle Aveyard, Wilbraham-Hampden Times

5:30 pm Highway Budget Review: Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent came before the Board to review his budget and warrant articles. Vinnie inquired about paving being a part of the budget request, and was told that in the recent past, the funds have been sought through an override process or like last year, were funded through a bond.

The discussion went to increasing the line item for snow and ice, which is an account that can be run as a deficit account and any overage, comes from our free cash at the end of the fiscal year. The Board will discuss this further. Dana stated that today's cost for snow and ice for a season is approximately \$117,000.

The Board is satisfied with the budget presented, and will attend the Advisory review with Dana on 2/25 at 6:00 pm.

Public Grounds: Dana's budget has been reduced by an amount to compensate for the Cemetery Commission handling both the summer mowing and trimming and the snow plowing and sanding in the winter. The Board wants a letter sent to the Commission to ensure they understand the bid process and the need for specs to be drafted and the requirement to get three quotes prior to awarding a contract to a contractor for any work.

Minutes: The minutes of January 28, 2008 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.

Wilbraham Public Hearing: The Wilbraham Selectmen are holding a public hearing to allow the discontinuance of maintenance on Hollow Road, a road that connects Hampden to Wilbraham, and is a road that they closed using barriers some months ago.

TWB Ceiling/Floor: A number of people have been involved in determining the cause of the slipperiness of the gym floor. It was learned that a faint dust was falling from the ceiling leaving debris on the floor, causing it to be slippery. The air quality was tested

and found to be without environmental concern, but the dust will be captured by plastic sheeting that will be installed on February 5th.

The slipperiness was one factor in the condition of the floor, but those familiar with the floor also see the need to replace the floor. That will be discussed further.

Berm Repair: The Board received a letter requesting the replacement of berm that had been damaged by snow plows. After discussion with Dana Pixley, the Board agreed that the berm was placed on town property, without permission from the Highway Superintendent. Since this was installed by a resident, without permission to do so, the town is not responsible for repairing/replacing the berm.

Transfer Request: John Flynn presented a request for transfer to be submitted the Advisory Committee from the reserve account to the Town House maintenance account for recent improvements made to the HVAC system and wiring for the library. A motion was made by Rick Green to approve a transfer in the amount of \$1500.00 from the Reserve Account to Town House maintenance. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The meeting will move to Wilbraham Town Hall for a 7:00 pm Public Hearing on Hollow Road maintenance.

A motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc