

Approved 3/3/08

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

February 25, 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 at 5:30 pm by John Flynn.

5:30 pm      Dana Pixley, Tree Warden: Dana came before the Board to discuss the situation of trees scheduled to come down through the tree cutting program instituted by National Grid. Trees located at 375 Wilbraham Road are marked to be cut due to their condition as they are diseased and pose a safety hazard. Ray Andree wants to have an arborist view the trees to give his opinion on the condition of the trees. Dana stated that he understands the aesthetic value of the trees, but cannot dismiss the information given from an expert as to the potential hazard of these trees. There could be personal injury, loss of life and even damage to the lines on the road causing possible electrical outages.

Ray will have an arborist view the trees on Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and come back to the Board with the arborist's opinion.

Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of February 21, 2008. A motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Transfer Request: The Board reviewed a transfer request for the gasoline account and a motion was made by Rick Green to transfer \$455.17 from the Reserve Account into the Gasoline Account, and was seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. The request will be forwarded to the Advisory Board for approval.

At 6:00 pm, Becky Moriarty was scheduled to meet with the Advisory Committee to discuss the Council on Aging budget. Rick Green excused himself to attend the review of the budget.

Gasboy Fuel System: Dana Pixley was before the Board on a number of issues; one of which was an inspection on the Town's fuel system recently performed by the State Fire Marshall. The Town must ensure full tracking compliance with all users of the system. The Board will send a memo to the Fire Department regarding fueling of equipment.

Mass. Interlocal Insurance Association: There was discussion about an accident in town involving a basketball hoop and a town truck and the status of the claim made with our

insurance carrier. Since the hoop was in the town's right of way, we are seeking reimbursement through the owner's homeowner insurance.

Funding Issue: The Board discussed the need for funds to be allocated in the annual budget for frequent beaver and dam removals that could impact the roads in town. Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent has handled the permitting process for these removals in the past and projects that a budget in the amount of \$2500.00 be added as line item 50.4 Wildlife Control. The Board will add the line item to the budget.

Snow Removal: The Board will attend a Regional Selectboard Meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup> in Longmeadow and has requested that town's snow removal policies be an agenda item for that meeting.

At 6:30 pm, the Board moved to the Melville Room with Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent to review the Highway budget with the Advisory Committee. After the initial review, the Board moved back to their office to continue the Selectmen's meeting.

Drainage Issues: The Board will ask that Mike Gorski attend a future meeting to discuss possible drainage remedies with the Scantic River.

Cemetery Commission: The Board will invite the commission to their March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to discuss various items; from procurement of services, to assistance with the budget process, as well as a request for new fencing at the Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Future Schedule:

Monday, March 3, 6:00 pm - Selectmen meet with Advisory and Police for budget review

Monday, March 3, 6:30 pm – Town House Building Committee, 7:00 pm Cemetery Commission

Monday, March 10, 9:30 am – Exit Interview with Auditor and Town Accountant

Thursday, March 13, 10:00 am – Preconstruction Meeting for Chapin Road Bridge

Thursday, March 13, 7:00 pm – Regional Selectboard Meeting, Longmeadow Police Station, Community Room

Seeing no further business, a motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc