

Approved 6/23/08

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

June 16, 2008  
6:00 pm

625 Main Street  
Town House

Board Members: Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn

Advisory Committee: Transfer Requests previously signed by the Board were reviewed and approved by Advisory.

Hampden Arts Festival: Patricia Pomeroy and Dorothy Fitts were in to discuss The Big H Arts Festival scheduled for September 20 and 21<sup>st</sup>, Saturday 9-4 and Sunday 12-4. It will be much like last year with the art displayed in the Town Hall auditorium, food served at the Federated Church and Town Hall and local artisans, musicians and artists showing their talents. The group is looking for paintings done of Hampden by Hampden artists for showing.

The group requested the same assistance they received last year, police crossing, no parking signs, help with trash disposal, etc.

Chief Farnsworth:

Employers Support of the Guard and Reserve: Earl Bonet who volunteers for this group came in with Chief Farnsworth to present a letter of support for employers who support Reserve and Guard members who serve in the military. The Board has always been supportive of those serving, and understands that regardless of anyone's position on the war, the support of those serving remains strong. Rick Green made a motion to authorize the Police Chief to sign the letter of support for the ESGR, which was moved by Vinnie Villamaino, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Outside Details: The Board received a letter from the chief asking for authorization to work details that are not taken by the Police Officers. A motion was made by John Flynn to approve the chief's request to work outside details, as long as they don't interfere with his regular duties, second by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Contract Clarifications: The Chief will schedule time in the near future to review the contract clarifications/date issues he wishes to make.

Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent:

As a way of review, Dana explained the salary funding of his department.

The Highway Department salaries are funded in the budget for approximately 42 weeks, and Dana funds the other 10 weeks out of Chapter 90 money or Snow and Ice and this year he funded some from the Green Meadows parking lot project.

2008 Road Projects: Dana reviewed the list of projects pending for this year's construction projects. They are as follows:

Chapin Road Bridge: The bridge work has started on the repair/renovation of the bridge on Chapin Road at a cost of \$1.2 million.

The town will receive \$196,991 in State Aid this year. The Allen Street paving project will use the entire amount of state money with the additional sum to be paid out of the bond money. From time to time, there is supplemental money given to some towns and the possibility exists that additional Chapter 90 money may be available.

Baldwin Tract Intersection Modifications: Dana submitted a letter to the Board regarding proposed modifications to roads within the Baldwin Tract. His plan is to change the roads to incorporate 90 degree intersections to better define travel lanes. This will result in increased property frontage of those residents on corner lots. The Board is in support of the plans. In support of the Superintendent's request, a motion was made by John Flynn to narrow the roadways to create safer and more defined travel lanes at intersections, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Town Hall Parking Lot: After some discussion, the Board voted a plan to replicate the parking as it currently exists. The Board then reviewed the recommendation made by Dana Pixley to award the bid. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to award the parking lot bid to Alton Gleason, Co. as the lowest bidder for the amount of \$35,938.06, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Allen Street and Baldwin Tract Paving: The Board reviewed the recommendation made by Dana Pixley to award the project bid. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to award the project to Palmer Paving as low bidder in the amount of \$456,160.56, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Policy on Tree Removals: The Board received a new policy written by the Highway Superintendent regarding the removal of trees on wires at the request of Verizon or National Grid. Dana has been concerned with the safety of his department members.

Wilbraham Road Patching/Paving: Board members have all been asked by residents about the condition of Wilbraham Road and the need for patching. Dana explained that due to inclement weather conditions, the normal patching had been delayed. He did ask that Palmer Paving give him an estimate to shim Wilbraham Road like Main Street, done approximately 10 years ago and has lasted very well. It appears that it would cost near \$70,000, and recommends that with the patching that has taken place, we should let it go for one year and look at it next year.

Mill Road: The condition of this road was also discussed and further discussion will be had to determine the best course of action.

Drainage on Allen Street: Many homes have an issue with drainage after a particularly heavy rain, but until pipe is laid along the road, not much can be done to alleviate the situation. In the past, we have allowed the work to be done, if paid for by the resident.

Gasoline Account: Additional funding to this account will be looked at again at the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Transfer Station Building: The Board will meet with Dana Pixley on 6/23 to discuss the location of the bldg. at 6 pm.

Summer Music Program: Kathy Foster and John Foster came before the Board to discuss a multi-generational music program for the summer. They were looking for available space in the Town Hall to use. In response, Rick noted that part of the program was to provide lessons for a fee, and that was immediately an issue. There is no way the town could sponsor such a program when profit was a part of it. The other issue involved leaving equipment on site in this building. There is no way to secure equipment since the auditorium is available for a number of civic organizations to use, as well as town boards. John suggested that they contact Park and Rec and/or the Cultural Council for assistance. It was then suggested that perhaps the school would have availability during the summer and the Federated Church might have space available as well.

MIA Quotes: Police and Fire Policy: The Board reviewed the two quotes received for the Police and Fire Coverage (Injured on Duty Renewal, including McNamara coverage). A motion was made by Rick Green to award the quote to the Chubb Group, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Bleachers for Memorial Park: The Park and Rec Commissioners are awaiting the arrival of the bleachers purchased with CPC funds granted to them some time ago. The bleachers will be installed at Memorial Park.

Library Carpet Quote: The Board reviewed the three bids received for new carpet installation in the library. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino, to award the bid to IFD, Inc. for the library carpeting in the amount of \$8,231.41 IFD Inc., seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission: The Board received a proposed Mutual Aid Agreement from PVPC for Hampden County Health Coalition Public Health Emergency Preparedness. The Board of Health agent, Lorri McCool will review and advise the Board.

Retirement Funds Decision: The Board will continue to hear presentations from groups interested in offering Deferred Compensation plans for town employees.

Country Club Cart Path: The Board discussed the next step for the Hampden Country Club and their plan for a new cart path. They are to submit a plan to the Planning Board showing the exact location and details of the path for an approval. Minutes re:

Employee Assistance Renewal: The Board reviewed and signed the renewal for the employee assistance program offered through the year.

Bylaw Changes: The bylaw changes voted as approved at annual town meeting have been approved by the Attorney General and need to be posted by a Constable in all five locations in town. They will also be put on the website for additional access as well as available to view in the Town Clerk and Board of Selectmen's offices.

Town Hall: Rick has called Hurley and David for engineering services for the HVAC installation.

Transfer Switch Quote: Gary Courtney is seeking quotes on a new transfer switch for the generator, which had not been part of the original generator work.

Veterans' Agent Meeting: Rick Green will attend a meeting regarding reimbursements due Hampden from the State for veterans benefits on the June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Bill Olmstead was present at the meeting and asked that he be given an opportunity to find volunteers interested in serving on the COA Board.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc