

Approved 9/3/08

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

MINUTES

July 21, 2008
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Board Members: Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn
Guests: Katie Breault, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, Ed Gorski

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Isaac Seigel, VP Financial Advisory Services for Monson Savings Bank:

Isaac Seigel is the third representative to present ideas for retirement services for the town employees. He is an independent broker/dealer and works with Monson Savings Bank helping its customers with retirement planning. He helps select funds based on what the customers needs are and does work with ING. He has plans for a group of 8 to 12 people and other groups of 30 to 40 people. Isaac Seigel would be our direct contact.

His associate, Mimi Franklin works for NRS Trust Product Administration and her company serves mainly as the record keeper for people's investment plans. She can make changes as requested by the customer or people may access the web site to manage their accounts.

NOTE: There is a possible conflict of interest with Rick Green serving on the Board for Monson Savings Bank. This will be discussed with Town Counsel.

The Board will meet with Brian Hill from Northwest Financial at the meeting on August 4th and will render their decision within two weeks of that date.

Security Camera Discussion: The Board met with members of the Park and Rec Department and the Police Department for an update on the installation of a new camera system for the police and a security camera at Memorial Park that will be monitored by the Police Department. It was determined that the funding available is sufficient for this stage of the purchase and installation and additional funding will be required for any additional work.

The proposed second phase will include the camera to be installed at the front of the building as discussed with Ellen Bump, Library Director during the budgeting process. A Special Town Meeting vote will be necessary for the funding for the camera here, as well as any that might be placed for Green Meadows, etc. Costs would include the purchase of the equipment and installation costs.

The equipment that for the first phase should be here within two weeks and the installation will begin then.

Memorial Park Hours: Because one of the park commissioners was here for the meeting, Rick Green wanted to let them know of concerns that residents had voiced about the park not being available for their use during camp hours. Huck House explained the decision made by the commissioners was based on the safety of the children attending the day camp. He welcomes any comments or concerns anyone may have regarding the policy and invites them to either call the park department at 566.2151 ext. 108 or attend a Park and Rec meeting which is held on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

Police Department: The Chief and Sgt. Henry introduced two candidates for positions as a dispatcher and as a reserve officer. Sgt. Henry did the background checks and spoke with current employers and both candidates come highly recommended for the positions.

Part Time Dispatcher Interview: Michael R. Meaney from Wilbraham was introduced as a candidate for the dispatcher position. He graduated from Minnechaug and would like a career in law enforcement, and will start as a dispatcher.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Michael R. Meaney as a Part-Time Dispatcher for the Police Department for one year, subject to a 90-day probationary period, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Police Reserve Officer Interview: Timothy Gerry has a Masters Degree in Education, and is a coach in East Longmeadow and is interested in the position as a Reserve Officer.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Timothy M. Gerry as a Reserve Officer for a period of one year, subject to a 90-day probationary period, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Note of Recognition: The Board received copies of letters sent to the Police and Fire Departments from the Casey family thanking them for their quick response to a fire emergency and the top notch quality of their departments.

Police Department: Vinnie Villamaino made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiating a contract issue with the Police Union, with return to Open Session, at 7:45 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Vinnie Villamaino yes, Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes.

The Board did not continue in Executive Session as one the Police Officers was out on a call for service.

Vinnie Villamaino made a motion to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session pending the availability of the Police Officer, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Vinnie Villamaino yes, Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes.

Town Accountant, Cliff Bombard: Cliff was approached by Dick Hatch as to how Cemetery Commissioners might get paid for their services. Cliff suggested he meet with the BOS and ask the question. Cliff's opinion is that revolving funds should be demand driven. Rick's response is that this would require a town meeting vote, rather than the Board approving a process for payment.

Cliff would like to separate the fire department funds out of the building inspector's revolving account where they don't belong. Cliff would like to start the practice now, for the beginning of the new fiscal year. The Board will ask that Cliff, Peter Hatch and Lance Trevallion come in to discuss this on August 4th.

Community Preservation Account: The Board discussed the account balance and want Cliff to meet with Doug Boyd prior to fall town meeting. There should be 10% reserved in each fund; Affordable Housing, Historic Preservation, limited Recreational Use and Open Space.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to go into Executive Session at 8:10 for the purpose of negotiating contract issues with the IBPO with return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

Entertainment Permits: The Board received a request from the Hampden Country Club to expand their entertainment permit to allow outside entertainment from 6 to 10 pm on Friday evenings. The Board will seek an opinion from Dave Martel, Town Counsel and ask about abutter notification and/or the need for a public hearing.

Minutes: The minutes of July 7, 2008, and Executive Session Minutes of July 7, 2008 were reviewed. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the minutes of July 7, 2008 and the Executive Session minutes of July 7, 2008, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Board of Health Variance - 58 Bennett Road: A variance has been requested due to a septic system being less than the required 100' from the well location, but more than 50'. A motion was made by John Flynn to grant a variance for the installation of a septic system which is less than 100' from the well based on the recommendation of the Board of Health Agent, Lori McCool, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Police Department: Vinnie Villamaino made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiating a contract issue with the Police Union, with return to Open Session, at 8:10 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Vinnie Villamaino yes, Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to return to Open Session at 8:27 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Vinnie Villamaino yes, John Flynn yes, Rick Green yes.

Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: The Board received results from the bids received by LPVEC for our gasoline and diesel fuel for the new fiscal year. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to award the bid for our Unleaded Gasoline to Dennis K. Burke, Inc. and to F.L. Roberts & Co. Inc. for Diesel Fuel. The motion was seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

PVPC Assessment: The town received its annual assessment from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission that amounts to \$775.65.

Charter Cable Meeting: The Board will schedule a meeting with the Charter Cable representative, Tom Cohan to finalize a contract extension on August 18th.

Hazardous Mitigation Plan: The Board received a copy of the final plan prepared by the PVPC with the assistance of Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent, John Flynn, Selectman, Kathy Foster, Planning Board Clerk, Deb House, Planning Board Clerk, Melissa Lail-Trecker, resident, and Kevin Hinkamper, resident. The Board will hold a public hearing on the plan on August 18th to answer any questions from the public. Once voted and approved, this plan will put Hampden in a better position to receive grant funds.

Council on Aging: The Board will speak with two board members whose terms are up for this year. Bill Olmstead will also be invited to speak to the board about his interest in serving on the COA Board.

Police Department: Brett Purchas and Tawrin Seega came back into the meeting to discuss the road detail work they think should be offered to them, rather than being done by Highway Department members. We will research road projects done last year and determine the criteria followed with those jobs. We will then have a meeting with the Police and Highway to determine the needs for this year's projects.

Division of Capital Asset Management: The State issues a form for completed capital projects to determine the level of satisfaction received by the owner. The Board will sign the form, noting their overall satisfaction with the generator installation project for Town Hall and the Senior Center. A letter will be drafted noting the dissatisfaction the board has with the sub-contractor/manufacturer of the generators who had not checked all fluid levels at the time of installation.

Seeing no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant