

Approved 11/17/08

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/HEALTH

MINUTES

November 10, 2008
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

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

Guests: Katie Breault, Wilbraham/Hampden Times, Edward Gorski, Lorri McCool
Hampden Board of Health Agent

The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m.

Board of Health

5 Ridge Road Title V Extension: Russell Cable of 5 Ridge Road requested an extension for the Title V Inspection done on November 30, 2006. Lorri McCool explained a Title V is good for two (2) years as long as the septic system is pumped on a yearly basis. The system at 5 Ridge Road has not been pumped in the past two year as there has been no one occupying the residence during that time. The extension will be contingent upon the verification that the water conditioner backwash has been removed from discharging into the septic tank and is shown to drain elsewhere as described in comments from the Official Inspection Form dated November 30, 2006 page 2.

A motion was made by Rick Green to extend the Title V for one (1) additional year for the reason that the residence has been vacant and contingent upon the verification that the water conditioner backwash is removed from discharging into the septic tank and is shown to drain elsewhere as described in comments from the Official Inspection Form dated November 30, 2006 page 2 seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Septic Haulers Licenses:

No violations or problems have occurred over the past year regarding the septic hauler licensed in the town.

John Flynn made a motion to approve all licenses currently held by the Town for septic haulers as long as all applications are complete and fees are paid, Rick Green seconded. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

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Automatic Licenses:

No violations or problems have occurred over the past year regarding the automatic licenses held in the Town.

John Flynn made a motion to approve all Automatic (for games) Licenses currently held by the Town as long as all applications are complete and fees are paid Rick Green seconded. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

No business can receive a license if they owe back taxes to the Town.

Transfer Station:

Vinny reported to the Board that Mansfield Paper Company would store the trash bags for the Town and deliver when needed. The Board asked how many could be shipped at a time. More research will be done.

The sign at the Transfer Station needs to be changed to reflect the hours the recycling center is opened. It should be looked into.

Highway Department:

The question was asked if a person owes back taxes can they still work for the town. Dave Martel sees no problem with it; in the past if someone has owed back taxes payment was worked out with the Tax Collector and Treasurer with money coming directly from the pay check.

Traffic Control- Mass Highway would not give any information on training flaggers. The questions still remain on how to train flaggers and the account for the flagger. Who would oversee the account?

MEMA:

Dana Pixley is still obtaining information regarding the culvert on Main Street. It may have to be a question posed at Town Meeting.

Chapin Road Bridge:

The bridge was discussed at several public hearings for the Townspeople to have input. The project is under construction and no further input is allowed by the public.

Park and Rec:

The Park and Rec department are requesting a maintenance man. This is not under the Selectmen's purview. In the past they have had two (2) different maintenance men; research may show how the account was funded and created.

Work Related Injury:

A highway department employee was injured on the job. He has gone to the doctors and is waiting x rays.

Transferring Money:

Typically an account would be run dry before a transfer would take place but in this instance, the Highway Superintendant is requesting the money be transferred so there is no interruption in the payment processes.

Vinny Villamaino made a motion to request Advisory transfer \$21,800 into Highway's account, John Flynn seconded. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Charter Cable Company:

Charter came back to the Selectmen with a spec on setting up a bulletin board for the town which may include a video feed. The equipment will be free and there will be a five cent (5¢) charge per month for the service for five years. John Flynn will contact the AV department at Minnechaug to see if there are students who would be interested in doing updates under the supervision of Town House employees.

Dogs on School Property:

The Board received an email from Noel Pixley, School Principal asking for help with posting school property to prohibit dogs from the fields. It was an issue in the past and has become one again. The Board will research this issue.

Flags:

The raising and lowering of flags when an elected official in town passes away should be done by the Police Department. All flags should be lowered including the Town Common. Everyone should receive an email including the Senior Center and Schools. The flags should be down until the day of the funeral. If a State Trooper (for example) is killed in the line of duty the Governor sends an email, it should be passed to the Senior Center and schools.

Tabor:

All departments must be careful not to arbitrarily grant a step increase and or increase pay for employees which is contrary to Tabor recommendations. If there is a disagreement about the pay rate, Personnel must become part of the discussion and grant approval to the department head. The Assessors are an elected Board they should come in and talk to the Selectmen regarding steps and raises.

GASB:

The study should be revisited. The Committee should include one (1) Selectmen, one (1) Advisory Committee member and maybe Jay O'Brien. John Flynn will talk to him to see if he has an interest.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission:

A letter will be sent to Tim Brennan at PVPC regarding any help that might be provided for the culvert on Main Street.

Sentry Bill:

The Board ordered and signed a flag to be sent to a soldier serving in Iraq , it will be forwarded to Art Booth and the Veterans will pay for it.

River Park Drive:

Phil Grant came before the Board to discuss issues of concern voiced by Conservation Commission member relative to the use of property behind River Park Drive. As far as the commission is concerned there are no conservation issues with the property.

The Board had requested information from the Conservation Commission asking about ongoing issues from some ago, relative to the status of the property and the use of the property. The Board has asked that the Conservation Commission get back to them with their findings on the property. A reminder was sent to the Committee.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm and was seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Budynkiewicz
Board of Health Coordinator

/jb