

Approved 3/2/09

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

February 17, 2009
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

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

Guest: Ed Gorski

1. Minutes: The minutes of February 3, 2009 were reviewed. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the minutes as presented, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
2. Executive Session Minutes: The Executive Session minutes of February 3, 2009 were reviewed. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
3. Arbitration Agreement: A letter has been sent to Attorney Jim Simpson requesting follow up on who shall be used for an arbitrator in the Grievance filed by Officer Ely.
4. Snow Plowing: The Highway Superintendent brought forward the issue of plowing and/or sanding private property in the event of emergency situations. There have been times in the past that the Highway Department has been called to plow or sand to allow emergency vehicles the ability to reach a property owner. The Highway equipment is not always the best vehicle for the job and the question has become whether a private contractor would be better suited for the job. The Board has discussed the issue with Dana Pixley and will ask that he submit a list of contractors willing to respond when called by the Police Department. Once done, the information along with the policy will be forwarded to the Police Chief.
5. Hrycay Used Car License: The Board reviewed the license relative to the sale of cars out of the accessory building on the property. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to revise the current license to stipulate that all business to be conducted in accessory building, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
6. Vegetable Stand: The Board received a notice of a resident requesting permission to open a vegetable stand. This office will ask other towns (East Longmeadow and Wilbraham) what permits they require, BOH, traffic, etc. and will check with Chief Farnsworth and his safety officer as to sight line visibility and any other potential issues before signing off.
7. Frozen Dessert Licenses: The Board reviewed the license for the manufacturing of Frozen Desserts and/or Ice Cream Mix for Mountain View Drive-In. A motion

was made by John Flynn to approve the license as presented, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

8. Planning Board Minutes: Reviewed with no substantive comments.

National Grid: Two representatives from National Grid came before the Board to discuss future issues regarding the need to rebuild lines to improve infrastructure, increasing voltage for customer service. Joe Krisiak, Municipal Project Manager outlined the goals of National Grid's plans as follows:

- Partner with municipality
- Minimize disruption to the public
- Ensure proper restoration of area
- Communicate effectively so any questions and concerns of business leaders and neighbors are answered satisfactorily

They are looking for property on which to locate a switching station for their future needs, as there are currently some voltage issues and the need for new/improved infrastructure. The Board will look at our town owned property for the possibility of using that as a location for the switching station. They are also looking for 25 feet of additional property on each side of the existing ROW and most importantly for "danger tree rights" which would allow them to remove and/or trim trees that have a potential impact on their structures. The time frame proposed is 2012 if all goes extremely well in the process. They are dealing with a fair number of municipalities and will have to go before the Sighting Board in Boston before proceeding. Once properties have been identified, National Grid will come back before the Board as well as conduct a public hearing so residents have an opportunity to become informed.

The Board then reviewed the budget and warrant.

Police: Chief Farnsworth will be invited in with the DARE officer to discuss the status of the DARE program and at the same time discuss the School Resource Officer and its funding.

TWB Improvements: The Board is waiting for the full report from Ed Cenedella on the materials and possible replacement of the gym floor at TWB.

Warrant: The draft warrant will be forwarded to all departments with revolving accounts to ensure amounts are satisfactory to them.

Water Testing: The Board will get an estimate from our Water Operator as to our costs for 2010 for budget purposes.

Sumaria: The Board will get the annual cost of the maintenance of the Sumaria program used by our Town Accountant and Treasurer.

Open Trench Law: The Board discussed the new state law relative to open trenches, and the need for the issuance of permits. The Highway Supervisor will be asked if he has any interest in doing to and if not, will expand the search for someone to handle it for the town.

Board of Health: Jane Budynkiewicz noted that mercury light bulbs will be accepted by Home Depot for recycling.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn at 8:26 pm, second by John Flynn.
VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc