

Approved 3/16/09

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

MINUTES

March 2, 2009
5:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

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

Chief Farnsworth, Police Department:

The Board met with the Chief to review his budgets prior to going before the Advisory Committee. A number of items discussed were:

The Dare Program: Jeff will get a number for Sgt. Joy as to what funds are necessary for the program on an annual basis, for books and salaries, since the officer is already trained in the position.

Regional Dispatching: Jeff has talked with two other communities (Monson and Palmer) about seeking a grant to regionalize the dispatching responsibilities.

Patrolmen's contract: There is a salary amount that needs clarification prior to a contract being signed.

Ticket Implementation: The Board will forward the parking bylaw and fines associated with enforcement to Jeff Farnsworth. There was also discussion of the status of the IBPO contract. The School Resource Officer will be discussed further.

6:10 pm Police Budget Review with Advisory Committee

Tabor Review of Building Clerk: Tabor has assessed the clerk's position at a grade 6. We will review salary schedule and determine the salary amount.

Arbitration Information: The Board will submit their preference to AAA as recommended by our Labor Counsel, Stan Weinberg.

Minutes: The minutes of February 10, 2009 were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. The Executive Session Minutes of February 10, 2009 were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. The minutes of February 17, 2009 were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. The minutes of February 23, 2009 were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

IBPO Contract Status: Make change to contract status.

Warrant Review: The Board wants to ask an opinion of Dave Martel, Town Counsel relative to possible conflict of interest for the proposed rezoning warrant articles for Annual Town Meeting.

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Budget Review: The Board reviewed the budget as well as the Revenue Sheet generated by the Town Accountant.

HWRSD Prior Assessment: There was discussion about a prior assessment that may not have been paid by Hampden. There is a school budget meeting on March 10 and this issue will be discussed at that time.

Fire Department's Clerk: Jane Budynkiewicz will serve as the department's clerk and her pay will come out of the revolving fund.

Stormwater Committee: The Board wants to know the status of the Stormwater Account and what plans are proposed for the upcoming year. A memo will be sent to the committee.

Fire Department: The department's siren, housed at the Highway Garage needs some repair work done at a cost of approximately \$1200. It is one of two located in town.

SVRHT Meeting: Rick attended the last Scantic Valley Health Trust meeting. There is a surplus in revenue that will allow the Health Trust to give a premium holiday for members as well as the town's in which they work. The exact timeframe will be discussed further. The other plan is to keep the increase relatively low for the coming year, perhaps as low as 4%. If both plans are approved, the cost will be approximately \$700,000 each.

Highway Department: There was further discussion about the possibility of putting a warrant article on for Special Town Meeting to replace a 2001 pick-up. Dana Pixley will be notified.

Board of Assessor's: The Board will check with the assessors to determine what they need to keep in the overlay account.

TWB Middle School: The group reviewing needs of the school continue to meet to come up with a list of priorities requiring improvements.

Correspondence:

- Planning Board Minutes: Reviewed without comment.
- MSPCA letter: A letter will be sent to Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control asking how their desire to go non-profit might affect our costs as well as level of service.
- TWB Alarm Invoice: Jeff Farnsworth will track the reimbursement of invoice as half of the cost is to be reimbursed to the town with the other half being paid by the school.
- Street Lights: John has contacted National Grid relative to some lights that have been out.
- COA Director: The Director submitted a letter to the board requesting a leave of absence at the end of this year.
- Town Hall Public Water Supply Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by our Water Operator, Mike Framarin that gets submitted to the DEP.
- History of Salt Usage: Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent submitted an historical review of the salt usage by the highway department over the last years and the associated increase in cost.

Upcoming Dates:

- Casino Meeting: The next meeting will be held in Monson on March 4.
- Advisory Review with Council on Aging on March 9.

- School Budget Hearing at TWB: March 10, discussion of assessment.
- Hazardous Waste Day: September 12.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc