

Approved 6/29/09

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

June 22, 2009  
6:30 pm

625 Main Street  
Town House

Board Members: Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green  
The meeting was called to order by Vinnie Villamaino at 6:30 pm.

Account Status: The Board reviewed the status of all accounts and discussed the end of the year transfers.

Board of Health: Lorri McCool, BOH Agent was in to discuss a complaint from a resident about his neighbor's residence. Rick Green and Lorri will do a site visit at River Park Drive to evaluate the concerns.

Farmer's Market: Lorri McCool discussed her visit to the Farmer's Market on Saturday and wants to ensure all vendors who are dealing with food have the necessary permits.

A motion was made by Rick Green to go into Executive Session with return to Open Session for contract negotiations with the dispatchers at 7:32 pm, second by John Flynn. VOTE: Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

A motion was made by Rick Green to leave Executive Session at 8:10 and return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

Town Accountant: Cliff Bombard was in to discuss the status of all accounts. It will be a tight year end, but Cliff is reasonably certain we will be okay. The following accounts were discussed relative to their being overdrawn at this time:

- Legal Advertising: A reimbursement is due the town for an ad placed for the Veterans' Agent in the amount of \$458.73 from the Hampden District.
- Reserve fund transfer for \$822.
- Cemetery: During conversations with the Cemetery Commission last fall, they were informed that additional clerical money would be available to allow the clerk to input information into their new software. Cemetery is overdrawn at this point and Cliff will revise the books to show the money coming from the Temporary Help line.
- Town House Custodial: We are currently overdrawn by \$316. When fiscal 09 started, we were in arrears and so the trend continues.

- Senior Center Utilities: There was discussion about the need to properly budget for these utilities; given the population served, it is impossible to regulate to a lower temp or in the summer, a higher temperature. It is necessary to look at this year's budget, and add to it the final dollars transferred and use that as a starting point for next year's budget.
- Fire Department: The Chief will be asked for a recap of recent expenditures to ensure everything is covered.
- New Equipment: The Police Department purchased a new server with the Board's support. A transfer will be required to cover the cost.

Property Taxes: The Board was asked to give an opinion on outstanding personal property taxes and whether the monies should be pursued. Cliff explained that there is no avenue to recoup this money and added that he had conversation with the Board of Assessors about using the Overlay Account to settle some of this debt. The Board suggested a meeting with the Tax Collector, Board of Assessors and Town Accountant to arrive at a settlement.

GASB 45: A discussion about quotes received to have the GASB 45 completed. This will show the potential liability of employee/retiree benefits for sick pay buy back, and other benefits owed. We have 2 quotes and have appropriated \$4,000 for the study. Cliff will contract for the work to be done.

Note: Water District expense: The Board will research an invoice to pay for a failed pump for the Water District. Town Accountant, Cliff Bombard will make the change in the ledger so it comes out of the Capital account which has \$29,975.

Police Negotiations: Brett Purchas and Bill Joy came in to discuss the one final issue left regarding Article 18 and sick days. The issue was resolved and it was agreed that the contract was ready to be reviewed by attorneys.

A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the IBPO contract presented, pending approval from both sets of attorneys, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Sign Request: Bill Joy returned his recommendation for the sign installation on St. Germain and a note will be sent to Dana Pixley asking that a sign be installed at his earliest convenience.

Police Chief: The Board will invite Jeff Farnsworth into our next meeting to discuss Gasboy, traffic control and Cooney payout.

October Town Meeting agenda item: Maintenance agreement for fire department fleet.

#### Highway

- Transfer Request: A request was made to transfer \$536.84 from Building Utilities into the Gasoline Account to cover the increase in gasoline cost. A motion was

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

- Transfer Request: A request was made for the transfer of \$1,710 from Building Utilities into General Highways, to help offset the payout for Pat Markham's retirement in July. A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the requested transfer, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
- Retirement Buy-out: The Board reviewed Dana Pixley's report regarding Pat Markham's buy out. The Board determined that any necessary money will come out of 2010 funds.
- Mountain Road water issue: The Board reviewed a resident's issue and the resolution by Dana Pixley.
- Chapin Road bridge completion: The timeframe for completion is anticipated to be 2-3 weeks.
- Detour of Lower Hampden Road: The Town of Monson will be doing construction work and the detour plans were forwarded to Highway who forwarded a copy to the Police Department.
- Traffic Study Discussion: The Board reviewed an existing traffic study done by PVPC for the Allen Street/Wilbraham Road/East Longmeadow intersection. The Board will contact PVPC about another study to include the Main Street/Somers Road intersection and the Meadowbrook Lane/Somers Road intersection.

Municipal Permit Tracking System: The State has a new system to track the various permits issued in the town and the Building Department will research it for viability.

Police: To be reviewed with the Chief at the next meeting.

- Safety Officer Recommendation
- Unregistered Car List
- New Pay Rates

#### School Information

- Minnechaug – MSBA letter: A letter was sent with the requirements necessary for the school project to go forward.
- School Committee Minutes: Reviewed without comment.

Alarm Testing Proposal for COA: The Fire Chief responded to a proposal received and the COA will have to seek quotes for the alarm testing at the Senior Center.

Scantic Valley Regional Health Trust Minutes: The minutes were reviewed without comment.

Minutes of June 15, 2009: The Board reviewed the minutes and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

#### Other

- Outstanding Personal Property Taxes: A meeting will be scheduled with the Assessors, Town Accountant and Tax Collector to determine how the issue may be resolved.
- Fire Department and Truck Maintenance budget
- Conservation Commission Minutes
- Neighborhood Meeting at 71 Old Orchard Road, Karen Chapin, re: Western MA Electric plans – Vinnie will attend.
- Release Notification: Glendale Road
- Farmer's Market sign at intersection
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade
- Casino Task Force Meeting

The Planning Board's computer expired and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve a partial portion of the cost out of our Equipment Acquisition Account, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn at 9:55 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc