

Approved 8/10/09

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

July 20, 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 at 6:30 pm by Vinnie Villamaino.

Bob Nelson, Dog Hearing: Hearing was incorrectly scheduled.
Bob Grossman, Dog Hearing: Hearing was incorrectly scheduled.

Town Accountant: Cliff Bombard came in to discuss the status of the accounts at year end. The town is short about \$ 90,000 in revenue but ahead in the funds available from 09 accounts that were returned to the town's coffers in the amount of \$137,000, which will go towards our free cash. Uncollected real estate taxes are up about \$60,000 more than last year and we have approximately 800k in stabilization account right now. The revolving accounts are being left untouched right now (totaling about \$30,000) that could be used if need be. We were shorted \$80,000 in FY09 in funding from the state. All in all, we ended fairly well for the year.

Dispatcher Candidate: Jeff Farnsworth introduced Timothy Andre to the Board as a candidate for the position of part time dispatcher. Tim is a Hampden resident and has received his 911 certification from the State 911 Department. The board expressed their views on community policing and the emphasis on getting to know our residents to promote a comfort level on both parties part.

Based on the recommendation made by Jeff Farnsworth, a motion was made by Rick Green to appoint Timothy Andre as a Part-Time Dispatcher for the Police Department for a 60 day probationary period, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The Board then discussed the issue of defibrillators in house and in the cruisers. Jeff explained that he has a maintenance contract on those and suggested that Becky Moriarty enter into a maintenance agreement on the one at the Senior Center as well. The Chief will contact Becky via email.

Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Shelter: The Board received a letter from the Mayor of Springfield inviting participating municipalities to meet and discuss possible changes to the funding for the services provided. The Board wants to investigate a sole proprietor to act as the Animal Officer on a per diem fee schedule. The current Animal Inspector,

BOS 090720

Shelly Sears will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the position.

HWRSD revised budget: The revised budget letter is in from the district, which coincides with the budget number used in our green sheets.

Conservation Commission: The Board received a letter from an applicant (Dan Burack) before the Conservation Commission whose approval has been appealed by a resident in town. The applicant has requested a meeting with the Board, but the Board prefers that the applicant go through the next meeting with the Commission before inviting him to a meeting. His hearing with the Commission is scheduled for July 27th.

Town Counsel, Dave Martel: Atty. Martel sent a letter requesting a rate increase from \$150 to \$175 per hour. Given that our budget has already been set at town meeting, it is late in the year to try to accommodate his request. Vinnie will contact Dave to discuss the issue with him.

Department of Local Services: Sent a notice regarding an upcoming meeting in September to discuss the regionalization of specific job functions.

Commonwealth Capital Policy: The State has a plan that affords particular points for a community's involvement and puts the community in better standing to receive grant monies. The information has been forwarded to Planning and it will be suggested that they contact Melissa Reeve for some background information.

Minutes of July 13, 2009: The minutes of July 13th were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The board would like to have the Cemetery Commission come in to discuss a number of items.

Other:

PVPC Request to contract with an Energy Service Company (ESCO)

Main Street Culvert Update: Rick made contact attempting to go through a grant process, but learned that we do not qualify for this use.

A motion was made by Rick Green to go into Executive Session at 7:20 to discuss contract issues, with return to Open Session seconded 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 8:20 with return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

A motion was made by Rick Green to go into Executive Session without return to Open Session to finalize contract issues with the IBPO at 8:30 pm, seconded by John Flynn.
VOTE: Rick Green yes, John Flynn yes and Vinnie Villamaino yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant
/pbc