

Approved 1/05/10

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

Town Hall, 625 Main Street, Hampden, MA 01036

December 16, 2009

MEETING MINUTES

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

Guests: Norman Charest, Stanley Witkop, Robert Makuch, Board of Assessors and Dawn Barnes, Clerk, Cliff Bombard and Eva Wiseman, Sherry Himmelstein Tim Evans, Andrew Netherwood, Harold House, Matthew Loveling, Michael Hatch and Larry Hatch, Fire Department Committee

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

Tax Classification Hearing: The Board of Assessors was in attendance to set the tax classification. The Board of Assessor's recommended a residential factor of one which mandates that all properties (commercial, industrial and residential) will be taxed at the same rate.

A motion was made by Rick Green to set the tax rate at a residential factor of one, as recommended by the Board of Assessors, and seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The Boards discussed the large debt exclusion: the DE1 Form, the Green Meadows debt along with the highway infrastructure. Cliff Bombard told the Board the recommendation from the auditors was to be very conservative in the estimates for local receipts. The town's estimated receipts are low and the tax rate will be set at \$15.84. The Selectmen will draft a letter for the Wilbraham-Hampden Times to explain the new tax rate to the residents.

Conservation Restriction: Richard Green made a motion to endorse the Conservation Restriction brought forth by Sherry Himmelstein in favor of the Minnechaug Land Trust, John Flynn seconded it. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Fire Department: Representatives from the Fire Department were present to start to create description of duties for each position held in the Fire Department. The Selectmen had several models from other departments around the state. Tim Evans mentioned the Fire Department has guidelines and that along with what the Selectmen provided may be a very good starting point. A copy of the guidelines from the Hampden Fire Department

BOS 091216

was not available at this meeting. A copy will be provided to the Selectmen and reviewed before the next meeting. The next meeting was set for Sunday, Jan. 3, 2010 in the Fire Department Building.

John Flynn left the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Vinnie Villamaino left the meeting at 7:40 pm, returned at 7:50 pm and left at 8:00 pm.

A motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Budynkiewicz, Board of Health Coordinator