

Approved 2/17/10

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

February 8, 2010
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.

Fire Chief: Mike Gorski came before the board to introduce Matt Lambert who he would like to appoint as a provisional firefighter. The Board supported the Chief's recommendation for appointment and Matt will be appointed as a provisional firefighter as today, February 8, 2010.

The Board was scheduled to meet with the Advisory Committee at 7:00 pm and the following members were present: Carol Fitzgerald, Doug Boyd, Jamie Collins, Jeff Smith. Timm Marini was unable to attend the meeting.

Advisory Committee:

The discussion started about how budgets should be written, whether everyone agreed to the structure of level funded or level service.

Doug's recollection was to work off of the schedule that was drafted by the Personnel Committee.

Rick stated that the budget should be developed by the Advisory Committee, and the revenue sheet comes from Cliff Bombard, rather than the Assessors. He went on to say that the Assessors have the formula, from which the revenue sheets are derived.

Cliff makes some of those assumptions on his own when he does the sheet now.

There are some assumptions that the assessors don't agree with.

The thought was that Cliff Bombard, Town Accountant, and Advisory should work together reviewing the numbers and that advisory should be satisfied first.

The process to determine tax rate should be started earlier in the year with all interested parties meeting. The bulk of the numbers are known in September and October, and the process for the setting of the rate should begin then.

School budget is in flux, which impacts all of us, and there has been no restoration to the departments that were cut some years ago.

Line Item Consistency: The Board will work to restate the green sheet account numbers to conform to the ledger account sheets.

Police Issues: The Board discussed the use of Connect CTY for parking ban announcements and it was determined that the practice would no longer be used. The

parking ban announcement will now be shown on local television stations for the public's information.

Some of the residents have requested an "opt out form" as they have been aggravated by receiving the messages at home.

It was determined that Connect CTY would be used at the start of the winter season to notify the public of the parking ban; but residents would be notified of subsequent storm events by television stations. The officer in charge at the time of the storm event will make the call to the television stations.

A letter will be sent to the chief notifying of the Board's decision.

Town Treasurer: A letter was reviewed by the Board sent to the treasurer regarding dues and withholding correct amounts from union member's checks. Letter from the Union

Police Document Signing: An agreement has been finalized by our attorney that will be signed by interested parties and will bring to resolution a conflict in the Police Department.

Other Items:

1. Warrant Review: Rick Green was approached by Vinnie Mandolini who requested a warrant article to allow television cameras into Town Meeting. This will be added to the warrant. Tax credits for senior and Senior Resource Officer grant will be added as well.
2. Election Schedule: The election schedule will be reviewed along with those offices seeking reelection.
3. Highway Department Contract: The Board reviewed the request made by the Highway Department members relative to wording in the "Sick Time Clause". The Board agrees with the members' argument and will make the changes as requested. A motion was made by Rick Green to revise the contract as discussed, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
4. Cemetery Commission: The Board discussed the origin of the Bumstead Fund and what the background is to how the monies may be used. Rick Green has volunteered to do the research so the Town Accountant and Cemetery Commission can be informed.
5. School Committee Minutes: Planning Board Minutes relative to the review of the meeting at which the Home Occupation Bylaw, and a Large Motor Vehicle Bylaw were discussed.
6. Building Permits: Permits issued for the month of January were reviewed without comment.
7. Minutes of January 27, 2010: The minutes 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.
8. Cummins Maintenance Service Agreements for Generators: The Board reviewed the proposals for the service agreements for the Town House and Senior Center generators and determined that the \$1100 could be saved and better spent in another capacity. The warranty will be checked before the "not to renew" is finalized.

9. Chamber Luncheon: The Board is invited to hear Governor Patrick speak at the annual Chamber luncheon on Friday, February 12, 2010.
10. Radio Transmission: John Flynn was contacted by Kevin Hinkamper regarding some experience he has had with a fleet of transportation vans and the company he runs that cost considerably less than the amount brought forward by the Police Chief. He gave John the gentleman's contact information and John has sent a note to him to establish contact for a future meeting.
11. Town Report Cover: To be determined.
12. Mattress Depository: Jane Budynkiewicz brought forward information about a company who would recycle mattresses at the transfer station. Jane will inquire further and the town will determine if there is adequate space at the transfer station.

With no further business a motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc