

Approved 3/9/10

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

March 2, 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 6:35 pm.

Guests: Ed Gorski, Tyler Witkop, Wilbraham-Hampden Times

5 Mountain Road: Resident Noreen Moran requested an appointment with the board, but did not show for the appointment.

Police Chief: Jeff Farnsworth met with the board for his department's budget review as well as the following items:

Policy Review: The following new policies were reviewed:

- A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the Rules and Regulations policy as presented by Chief Farnsworth for the Police Department, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
- A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the Search and Seizure policy as presented by Chief Farnsworth for the Police Department, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
- A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the Response to Calls policy as presented by Chief Farnsworth for the Police Department, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
- A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the Breaking and Entering policy as presented by Chief Farnsworth for the Police Department, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Budget Review:

Revolving Accounts: The first item discussed pertained to revolving accounts that are within the general budget. The board agreed that the three accounts would remain as is. They are for Police Off-Duty (for outside detail jobs), the next for Gifts to Police (for donations made to the department and used for needed equipment) and the last for Alarm Fees (for false alarm calls).

Reserve Salaries: The board asked that Jeff footnote an increase for these members as well as part time dispatchers so the discussion will be had with Advisory.

Fleet Addition: Jeff has recommended that with the changes in car productions that a full size Crown Vic be put into the budget to replace the one we have now, at a cost of \$32,500.

Election Account: The proposed budget is higher than last year due to additional elections to be held.

Salary accounts went up by \$30,675 due to a mid level jump as well as negotiated increases for officers and dispatchers.

Training increased by \$440.

General expenses increased by \$833.

New equipment has increased by \$276.

Status of Radio Upgrade: Jeff talked with Chief Gorski about keeping paging as is, as it currently works for both departments. There will be further discussion regarding narrow banding, versus low banding which will be reviewed by Vinnie, Rick and Jeff tomorrow.

Connect CTY: It was determined that the board will not offer an opt out form to residents since this system will be used for emergency announcements for the town. We will however announce the parking ban once at the beginning of the snow season and then post the ban on television stations for the rest of the year.

Accident Report: Copy of report on town property being damaged.

Jacques' Holiday Time: The Chief will pay for the time earned.

Repeater Alarm System: The repeater at the Transfer Station was not in service when the site was opened on Tuesday. When Jane B. investigated it was determined that the repeater for the radio system was off line. The circuit was reconnected and Jeff noted that the "alarm light" in the police station was on, but they were unaware of what the problem was at the time.

Quinn Bill Update: There continues to be discussion about the funding for the Quinn Bill this year and for coming years.

Other:

Minutes of February 22, 2010: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve as presented, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

COA Revised Budget: The board will request that Becky redo her budget as originally submitted, as that was what Advisory requested. The board will discuss prior to submittal to advisory.

Town Hall DEP Review: A site review was done by the DEP and our water operator, Mike Framarin. The board received a Notice of Non-Compliance and will wait to receive a proposal from Mike Framarin for the requirements noted.

Housing Authority: The Board received a Housing Market Study completed by D&V Associates, funded by the Community Preservation Commission. The board will invite the Housing Authority members into a meeting to discuss possible housing opportunities.

Discuss Warrant: The board discussed a possible warrant article pertaining to the condition of the roads during winter and the costs incurred for the clean-up. There was discussion about a possible warrant article regarding same. The board will speak with Dana Pixley and Jeff Farnsworth about safety issues, costs

Water Operator Proposal for Landfill Environmental Monitoring: Framarin submitted a proposal for our April monitoring of the landfill. A motion was made by Rick Green to accept the bid for laboratory fees in the amount \$8,227.00 and the consultant fees in the amount of \$3,800, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

SVRHT Rates for 2011: The Scantic Valley group initially proposed a 12-13% increase for the coming year and after further discussion Rick Green suggested that the trend of the past years be studied, as they have been in the 2-3% increase. The increase will be in the 2% range. A vote was taken it was approved.

Town Hall Energy Discussion: Rick Green contacted a representative from Northeast Utilities who will help us look into being part of a collaborative.

Town Report: The board did a review prior to the report going to print.

Park and Recreation Carpet Quote: The board received a revised quote from Joe Bonavita, which included freight charges. Rick Green will contact Joe Bonavita to discuss the change.

- Discussion of Appointment for new Zoning Board Member: The board will advertise for a vacancy on the board.
- Planning Board Minutes of February 17: The Board reviewed without comment.
- Job Grade: The board discussed the plan of the assessors to raise the job grade for their assistant. The request will be made through the Personnel committee, but was evaluated in 2008 and raised from a grade 7 to grade 8.
- Bulk Pick Up Day: The board agreed with Jane's recommendation to have the Bulk Pick Up Day at the transfer station on April 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 2 pm.
- Bottle Bill Support: A motion was made by Rick Green to support and sign a bottle bill, allowing juice and water bottles to become a part of other bottles which will have a cost added to assure proper disposal, second by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
- Adopt-A-Road Date: The board will work on setting a date and recruiting new volunteers to help in the clean up.

Veterans' Benefits: The town has added benefits for another veteran and our current balance for the year will run short. The board will ask Advisory for a transfer request in the amount of \$4800.00 from the Reserve Fund to finish the year out. These monies are partially reimbursed to the town from the State upon proper submittal from the Veteran's Agent. A motion was made by Rick Green to transfer \$4,800 from the Reserve Fund to the Veteran's Benefits line item, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

With no further business a motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn at 8:06 pm, second by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc