

Approved 5/24/10

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

April 20, 2010
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Vincent J. Villamaino at 6:30 pm.

Town Treasurer: Tracy Sicbaldi came before the board with a letter of resignation from her position as Town Treasurer. Others in attendance were Eva Wiseman, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Judy Mikkola, Assistant to the Treasurer, and Dick Patullo, Assistant to the Tax Collector. It was suggested by Tracy Sicbaldi that Dick Patullo be appointed to the position of Treasurer. After referring to the Selectmen's Handbook, it was determined that it is within the Selectmen's authority to appoint someone to this position. After discussion, a motion was made by Rick Green to appoint Richard E. Patullo to the position of Town Treasurer until duly elected, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Minutes: A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the following sets of minutes as presented,

- April 12, 2010
- April 5, 2010
- March 29, 2010
- November 9, 2009

seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Police Policy Review: A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the following policies as submitted by the Police Chief, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

- Auto Theft
- Protective Custody
- Hit and Run Investigation

Unemployment Request: The board received a notice of denial for benefits for an employee.

Open Meeting Law Changes: The board reviewed new directives for posting of meetings. The board will seek alternative posting locations such as outside the Town Hall's back entrance or at the Sr. Center.

Assessors' Overlay Accounts: The Board of Assessors' released monies held from many previous years that can now be transferred into the general fund. The monies amount to \$79,000.

Transfer Requests:

The Council on Aging submitted a request for transfer to their Maintenance Account due to some unforeseen necessary repairs.

A motion was made by Rick Green to approve a transfer in the amount of \$1,800.00 into COA maintenance from the Reserve Account, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A transfer request was submitted for the Dog Damage Fund and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve the transfer of \$100 into the Fund from the Reserve Account, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Town Hall/Highway Garage Air Conditioner: Bowman Engineering had been contacted by Rick to analyze the spaces and clarify what the bid specs should be. Rick will contact Tom Bowman to review what has been submitted.

Return to Work Policy Review: Rick has worked on a "Return to Work Policy" and the board will ask Personnel to review and make recommendations.

School Building Repair: There is \$5000 left to be spent for school work before the year end.

Library Request: The librarian has requested help from the Highway Department in installing a new book drop. The board will suggest that she contact Dana Pixley directly.

4th of July Parade: The Board has been invited to march in the East Longmeadow Fourth of July Parade.

Hampden Housing Authority: Rick attended the recent meeting of the Housing Authority and learned that they are not looking for more units, but have a need for some options such as two bedroom units, handicap accessible. The State has no available funds now, but this is something the town will pursue.

There was also discussion about the road leading to Centennial Commons units and the need for repair work to be done on it. Dana will be asked to assist in drafting their specs, and perhaps coordinating the work along with town road work in hopes of securing a better price.

Plow Truck Sanders: The board discussed the need for two new sanders for the coming winter. The question was whether they should be purchased out of highway funds, impacting the money to be used for highway purposes or purchasing them through the Snow and Ice Account. It was determined by the board that the sanders would be purchased out of Snow and Ice allowing full disclosure to the residents. The approximate cost for two sanders is \$15,000.

Notes:

- Memorial Day Parade: The parade is scheduled for May 31 and will be organized by the Art Booth at the VFW. The board will march in the parade.
- Academy Hall: The board has determined that the locks will be changed on the building to ensure all potential visitors will have to come through the Selectmen's Office to enter the premises. There were complaints as to the condition of the

building and we hope this will stop any further complaints about the needs of the building.

- Conservation Commission Hearing on April 21st for Main Street Culvert: Board members will attend the meeting to hear Conservation's comments to the plan.
- Note from Town Accountant
- Police Budget
- Peace Officer's Day: Flag will be flown at half staff to honor Policemen.
- Planning Board Minutes: Reviewed without comment.
- School Committee Minutes: The question of teacher deferral was asked and the school is now researching the original document; John is working on it and no money will be spent until the amount has been verified.
- Casino Task Force Minutes: Reviewed without comments.
- MSBA Letter re: Memorial School Closing
- Sample Ballot: Prepared by Town Clerk and reviewed by the board.
- Bulk Day April 24th
- Building Permit Report
- Hampden Community Garden: There will be plots available on Mill Road, donated by the Witkop family for gardener's use for a fee of \$20. The contact is Beryle Doten for more information.
- Public Hearing Notice for Commercial Drive Cell Tower Equipment Shelter
- Street Light Inventory: Reviewed without comment.

Board of Health: A variance was requested by the homeowner at 56 Ames Road due to a separation from groundwater of 3' versus 4'. A motion was made by Rick Green to approve the variance requested, as recommended by Board of Health Agent, Lorri McCool, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc