

Approved 5/10/10

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

MINUTES

May 3, 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, Marie Angelinos
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Minutes of April 28, 2010: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Rick Green to approve with a change, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

SBA Communications Lease Review: The pertinent parts of the lease were forwarded to Cliff Bombard, Town Accountant to review the current rent structure.

Planning Board Minutes: The minutes were reviewed without comment.

Planning Board Bylaw Amendments Meeting: The Planning Board will set some meeting dates to discuss proposed bylaw amendments with the Board of Selectmen in preparation for next year's town meeting.

PVTA Invitation: The Board has been invited to attend the opening of a new dispatch area at the Springfield Bus Terminal on May 12 at 10:00 am. Rick will attend for the Board.

Keno To Go Request: The Lottery Commission sent a letter of request for the Hampden Mini Mart to get approved to sell "Keno To Go". A motion was made by John Flynn to approve the request subject to the Building Inspector's approval, which will be reviewed tomorrow night, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Dog Officer Plan: The current animal inspector has an interest in becoming our dog officer, instead of the town continuing its agreement with the Thomas J. O'Conner Animal Center. The board agreed that we should pursue doing something in town rather than with Thomas J. O'Conner.

Police Department: Chief Farnsworth invited two representatives from Motorola (now WPCS) in to discuss options for the Fire Department to upgrade its radio system so the department will be on a wide band (which is what the Police Department is on and allows them greater coverage throughout the town).

BOS 100503

Tony Ambrosino and Manny Litos, presented company history and their proposal for greater coverage for the Fire Department. It was stated that the town would need two new transmitters for full coverage in the town, (due to the town's topography). We currently have one tower on Walt Black's property that is in a state of disrepair, is difficult to access and needs some immediate attention to ensure its integrity. The representatives suggested that a single tower could not guarantee the coverage that the town needs. The proposal is for two lower sites, with directional antennas using the cellular site at the landfill and cellular site on Commercial Drive.

WPCS pursued frequency coordination through the FCC who came up with the town of Marlborough, CT. The letter of concurrence from Marlborough, CT that would be necessary for us to work with them would come at a price according to Chief Farnsworth. They fear we might cause interference and interrupt their service in the field. The Board responded that they will request a meeting with the Marlborough Selectmen in hopes of securing an agreement with them.

The Board will pursue contact with Marlborough on Tuesday.

New School Maintenance Committee: A resident stopped in the office today asking what the district planned to do to ensure the maintenance of the new school is monitored and controlled so we don't end up with the same problems we have with the existing Minnechaug.

The Board responded that it has been proposed that 1% of total construction costs will be raised and appropriated by the district with matching funds coming from the SBA, for the ongoing maintenance of the new building. The only question not answered is if the entire amount will need to be raised in one budget cycle. Clarification will be sought on this issue.

8:00 pm Fire Department: The Board reconvened their meeting at the Fire House where they were scheduled to meet with the entire department to discuss the new guidelines agreed to by Rick Green and the committee he worked with at the Fire Department. The presentation did not go exactly as planned, but it is what the board voted on and will stand as presented.

A motion was made by Rick Green to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc