

Approved 5/17/10

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

May 10, 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 6:38 by Vinnie Villamaino.
Guests: Tyler Witkop, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, Ed Gorski

A motion was made by Rick Green to elect John D. Flynn as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by John Flynn to elect Richard R. Green as Chairman of the Board of Health, second by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Richard R. Green as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen should John D. Flynn be out of town and/or unavailable, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by John Flynn to appoint Vinnie Villamaino as Chairman of the Board of Health should Rick Green be out of town and/or unavailable, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Police Department: Sgt. Henry introduced candidate James D'Amour as a proposed Reserve Officer. Sgt. Henry stated that Jim recently retired from the Sheriff's department, and comes highly recommended. Sgt. Henry performed the background check and stated that everything is in order.

Jim lives in town and since retired, has great flexibility for the job. His training has been completed and Sgt. Henry had even worked with Jim in the jail. He has training in working with inmates as well as knowledge of how to de-escalate situations. He has had some intermittent training and while with the Sheriff's department in Springfield, did receive some cruiser time training.

John Flynn mentioned the mainstay of the police department being community policing and emphasized the importance of such as a reserve officer. Rick reiterated the importance of getting to know people in town and being proactive in meeting residents in a positive way instead of waiting for a call for service.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint James D'Amour as a Reserve Officer, for a probationary period of six months, effective immediately, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

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Sgt. Henry stated that there are 12 reserve officers on staff and with the addition of Jim's appointment, the staff level should be in pretty good shape.

Police Department: The Chief submitted a letter regarding the Active Shooter Training that will be held at TWB on June 5th and 6th. John wanted to ensure this would have no detrimental effect on the gym floor. The notice will be sent to Park and Rec to make them aware of the training dates.

Minutes of May 3, 2010: *The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, seconded by Rick Green, VOTE: All in favor and so voted.*

Highway Department, West Brook Culvert: The board received a letter from the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife notifying the town that no endangered species will be affected by the Main Street culvert project. This is one more step in the ongoing process of approvals for the culvert repair.

School Repairs: The board had asked Chief Farnsworth about the installation of new locks at TWB since we have \$5,000 in our budget for school repairs. We now will ask the Chief how many more are needed to get the entire project done at one time.

Dog Officer Issue: The issue of how to handle the dog officer needs of the town was discussed again and will be reviewed further, instead of staying with the Thomas J. O'Conner Animal Center.

Stony Hill Bid Results: The board reviewed the letter from Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent recommending Lane Construction receive the bid award for the Stony Hill Road paving project.

A motion was made by John Flynn to award the bid to Lane Construction for the Stony Hill paving project for the amount of \$225,826.50, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino., VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Memorial Day Parade: The board is in the planning stages for the annual Memorial Day Parade held in conjunction with the VFW on May 31st. The parade concludes with a ceremony at the Town Common immediately followed by a Hot Dog Roast and Ice Cream Social at the Fire Station.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc