

Approved 7/7/10

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

June 16, 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 by John Flynn at 6:30 pm.
Rick Green was not able to attend.

Police Department:

Reserve Candidate: John O'Brien was introduced to the board by Chief Farnsworth who is recommending John for a Reserve Officer's position. His available hours will benefit the department in that he can provide daytime coverage from late morning through early afternoon. He currently works for the town of Granby in the same position and will retire from that position if appointed here. A background check has been performed and he is fully trained. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint John P. O'Brien to the position of Reserve Officer for the Police Department effective immediately for a probationary period of one month, new appointments will be made at month end, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Sergeant's Position: This is a topic that will be discussed later in the summer.

COPS Grant: There has been information on an available grant that would give us the benefit of an officer for a short amount of time, but would require that we then commit to a position on the force which we don't have the money to support.

Response Letter from Chief: The chief responded to a letter inquiring to the follow up of a case, more information will be necessary.

IBPO Contract Uniform Allowance: The Chief has questions about the "allowed expenditures for uniform allowance" and we will contact Stan Weinberg for his opinion on the matter.

Board of Selectmen and Board of Health: The Administrative staff sat before the board to explain their decision to not take any money voted at town meeting outside of what raises were given to all employees. They feel as though the nature of the additional money has caused too much friction in the town hall as well as with residents in the community. The board agreed that the monies would not be given to the staff.

Transfer Station Stickers: The board discussed the stickers given free of charge to firefighters and agreed that there would be a limit of one per household.

Used Car License: The board is awaiting backup information from Frank Colantoni for his used car license; this will be discussed at a later date.

Minutes of June 7, 2010: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Employee Assistance Program Renewal: The board reviewed the renewal for our Employee Assistance Program and the need to have an informational session for employees to understand all that is available to them through this program. We will schedule a lunch time session to make it accessible to most of our employees, and conduct another that the firefighters and other police officers could attend.

Status of Goat Rock: The final purchase of the Goat Rock property will take place before June 30, 2010 in order to comply with the grant requirements. Sherry Himmelstein is working with Dave Martel to ensure there is a timely closing, with attorney's fees to be paid by the Minnechaug Land Trust.

Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District: The School District forwarded their Assessment Schedule for FY2011.

Transfer Requests: There is the need for a transfer for our Town House Maintenance account in the amount of \$1,500 and into Law and Claims for \$310. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve both transfer requests and forward to Advisory, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Unemployment Issue: The board reviewed recent correspondence from the Division of Unemployment Assistance regarding a part time employee, last discussed in August of 2009. The board responded again, requesting a hearing, which had been requested in 2009 and which we never received an answer.

SVRHT: The group has forwarded rates for Reinsurance Quotes for the coming year, and is seeking a reduction in those numbers.

COA Budget Backup: Rick Green recently met with Advisory on a number of issues, one of which is the budget request from the Council on Aging. Rick and Becky Moriarty have compiled years of previous invoices for utilities which given the location is a fixed line item, and therefore uncontrollable. Rick will present the information to Advisory to ensure the line is funded for level service and not level funded.

Miscellaneous:

- PVPC correspondence,
- ISO (Insurance Services Office) for evaluating building code enforcement

- Minutes from Regional Selectmen's Meeting (next meeting Thursday, 6/17/10)

Executive Session

Cell Tower Proposal: The discussion had to be postponed due to insufficient information from SBA our current lessee at the site.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc