

Approved 3/21/11

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

March 7, 2011  
6:30 pm

625 Main Street  
Town House

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino  
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by John Flynn.

Building Inspector, Lance Trevallion: The board received a copy of a complaint sent from a resident to the Building Inspector with a copy to the board detailing some ongoing issues with the abutting property owner who is a bank. Lance notified the board that the property is in the process of being sold to a successful bidder. Lance has notified the successful bidder of the situation and will be told that the driveway in questions needs to be brought up to code. As to the issue which exists between the two property owners, and one's water being shed onto another's is a civil issue and will have to be resolved between the two property owners.

Zoning Enforcement: This is one of the main reasons for Lance's presence at this meeting. He is here to give his opinion as to how the enforcement issue can be handled. Lance is currently looking to stay in his inspector's position for the next 3 to 5 years. He thinks the town needs to hire a 20/hr week building inspector. Current funding for Lance, the clerk, and phone is approximately 6k. Right now, the only solution he sees is to hire a 20/hr week building inspector. Before he became the inspector, he was told the former inspector made approximately 17k, which is in part why Lance took the job. The office needs to be open during the day and as mentioned he suggests 20 hours a week. Lance also believes we need to revamp/rewrite our zoning bylaws to be able to better enforce them. Lance thinks the bylaws need to be codified in order to enforce them. Lance brought up the in-law apartment bylaws and thinks they need to be rewritten to better serve our residents. These apartments are part of the landscape of the town in other communities and work well. Lance also mentioned the existence of a Town Planner in Wilbraham where small incremental changes have taken place. Home occupation businesses should be addressed as well. Lance suggested the possibility of regionalizing with Wilbraham; job sharing 20 hours here and 20 hours in Wilbraham. Perhaps East Longmeadow would talk about regionalizing. Lance mentioned that this has been done successfully in the Berkshire area.

South Road Resident's Complaint: Mr. and Mrs. Zick came in to discuss the conditions of South Road. They brought photos of the deterioration that has occurred due to the winter conditions and are asking that the town commit to working on the road. Rick

suggested that we declare a state of emergency to be reimbursed some of the funds. John asked about other causes to the deterioration of the road, unimproved driveways, buildings built without permits, etc. The Zick's maintain a culvert in their yard, and work to take care of drainage issues as they come in. John mentioned that we will go back to determine what has caused some of the issues, and how these costs might be reimbursed to the town.

Bennett Road: Jay O'Brien from Bennett Road came to the board to complain that he been unable to get his mail since the first snow storm of the season. He has had to retrieve it from the Post Office. Jay is requesting that the town clear the banking on Bennett Road to provide access to the mailbox. The road needs some repair work as well. Dana will be asked as to when the road can be worked on.

Property Purchase: The board had talked about the idea of purchasing the property that Cumberland Farms sits on and when brought up with Lance, his response was not positive. He stated that the property lies in a 100 year flood plain and that it would be ridiculous to even consider purchasing the property to house any town building.

Candidate for Alternate Electrical Inspector: Eric Foisy came before the board with Lance Trevallion, Building Inspector and was introduced as Lance's recommendation for the Electrical Inspector Alternate. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Eric Foisy as the Electrical Inspector Alternate as recommended by Lance Trevallion, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Warrant Review: The board reviewed the warrant again, made some revisions and will await a decision from town counsel as to the eligibility of CPC funding requests.

Community Preservation Funding Requests: Waiting for decision from CPC.

Nomination of Animal Inspector : The board received nominating papers for our Animal Inspector. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Shelley Sears to the position of Animal Inspector, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Planning Board Minutes: Reviewed without comment.

Board of Selectmen Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of February 28, 2011 and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The board reviewed the minutes of March 2, 2011, and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Public Hearing on Regional FY12 Budget: The School will hold a budget hearing on Thursday, March 10 at 6 pm.

Various dog complaints:

Gasboy Software at Highway Garage: At the moment, it is suggested that Dana run two computers, one to serve the Gasboy software which tracks the gas use of various departments and to use the other for other business.

Response from Cemetery Commission: The Cemetery Commission reiterated what the board had sent to them.

EAP Reminder: The board received a reminder to raise the wellhead at Town Hall which must be done by spring.

Postal Complaints: Board members have received complaints from various residents regarding the tardiness in getting mail and in sending mail out in a timely fashion. It is known that all of our mail is routed through East Longmeadow causing the delay in deliveries here. The board will write a letter to Postmaster stating that our residents are not being properly served.

GIS status: The board has added a warrant article for Annual Town Meeting to fund the GIS planning tool to be used by various town boards.

Prism tax deduction paperwork will be signed by the Board Chairman.

SVRHT: This office will check into whether or not the Town has adopted Chapter 18d or 32b.

Town House Building Committee: John brought up the topic of adding a member to our Town Hall Building Committee and has recommended Ed Loiko as a candidate. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to add Ed Loiko to the Town Hall Building Committee, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

PVTA: Vinnie Villamaino would like to recommend Ed Loiko as the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority Alternate. A motion was made by appoint Ed Loiko as PVTA Alternate, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The board will ask to meet with the Assessors tomorrow at 2:00 pm to discuss projections for the coming year.

Board Meeting: The board agreed to start the next meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm in order to meet with advisory at 6:00 pm.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant  
/pbc