

Approved 5/16/11

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

May 9, 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 D. Flynn.

Changing of the Guard of the Board of Selectmen/Board of Health: *A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to reorganize the board and nominate Rick Green as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. A motion was made by John Flynn to nominate Vinnie Villamaino as Chairman of the Board of Health, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. A motion was made by Rick Green that in Vinnie Villamaino's absence that John Flynn act as Chair of the Board of Health, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.*

Mike Gorski, Fire Chief: The Chief came before the board to introduce Trevor Howell as a candidate for a position on the Volunteer Fire Department as a Provisional Fire Fighter. The board reviewed Trevor's application and asked some questions about references and instructed Trevor that if he were appointed, a lot would be expected of him. They noted that since Mike Gorski has recommended him that they would support his recommendation. They also emphasized that this is a serious position and one in which the entire department would be dependent on him as they are each other at every event. Trevor answered all of the board's questions, and the board was satisfied. *A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Trevor Howell as a provisional fire fighter for the town for a probationary term of one year, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.*

Fire Department Transfer Request: The board reviewed a transfer request from the fire department for a transfer of \$4,300 from the Reserve Fund for Fire Department Operations, namely truck repairs and other monthly invoices. *A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the transfer from the Reserve Fund into Fire Department Operations in the amount of \$4,300, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.* The request will be forwarded to Advisory for their approval.

Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent: Dana came before the board to discuss his list of proposed construction projects for the coming construction season. After much discussion the following plan was approved:

BOS 110509

- Main Street needs some serious restoration work, which will require some road detouring for 5-6 days.
- Eastbrook Drive is in the same condition as Ridge Road was. A remark was made about what Planning requires for the structure of the roads and perhaps their requirements should be revisited. There is not enough gravel in place and sub drainage will have to be replaced, road will be reclaimed, base will be repaved and berms will also be installed.
- Town Garage Parking Lot is in bad shape and Dana will focus on the worst spots in the lot.
- South Road will also require a simple overly to finish the repair from winter damage in the area of \$10,000 which will come from bond money and finish that road for some time to come.
- Mountain Road will require some shimming and the rest of the funds will be used for crack filling around town. This has been successfully used in the past and will continue to be used where most needed.

The board suggested looking forward to Special Town Meeting in the fall, to try and find some money for construction projects and maybe continue crack filling at that time (since it can be done in spring and fall).

Narrowbanding, is also an issue that will require some attention in the near future to ensure the highway radios remain “on line” on their own frequency. The gentleman who works with Dana on his radios now does not see it as a major problem to accomplish. The question of compatibility with Fire and Police is less of an issue now that Highway is not involved with the Fire Department in fire situations, but the radios will still be compatible with the Police. It also does not appear to be a major budget item so Dana will work out the details with his representative and let the board if he needs anything from them.

Transfer Request: Last year Dana started a program to replace the street signs in town and needed an additional \$2000 to finish the work.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to transfer \$1,000 from Employee Benefits to Highway Maintenance, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to transfer \$1,000 from Law and Claims to Highway Maintenance, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Transfer Request: At the Annual Town Meeting, a transfer request was reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to transfer \$2410 from the Reserve Fund into Highway Maintenance to pay for guardrail that had been stolen sometime during the winter, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Truck Repair: One of the highway trucks needs a clutch repaired which Dana will have done. Once the invoice is received here, a transfer request will be completed and submitted to the Advisory Board.

Highway Pick-Up Truck: With a positive vote at the Annual Town Meeting a letter of commitment has been sent to Sarat Ford, guaranteeing our purchase of the pickup with plow they bid on earlier in the year at a total cost of \$23,930.

MEMA Reimbursement: Dana has been notified by MEMA that Hampden qualifies for reimbursement up to 75% for one of the snow storms. He forwarded that information to this office and that was forwarded to the Police and Fire Department. There is a meeting on Friday the 13th at the MEMA office in Agawam which Dana and Rick will attend to get information as to how to proceed to get the reimbursement.

Police Department: The board received a response from Chief Farnsworth on a resident's complaint about speeding on South Road. The Chief conducted a speed survey for one week's time and found that only 8.2% of the vehicles traveling the road were in excess of the speed limit. A concern was raised by the board about the crown in the road and whether that exasperates the problem, but Dana did not seem to think the road needed any profile change, that trees are not shading the area. It was concluded that the board will request traffic enforcement for those traveling in excess of the speed limit.

Minutes of April 25, 2011: *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.*

Minutes of May 2, 2011: *The minutes were reviewed, both Open Session and Executive Session and a motion was made by John Flynn to approve both sets of minutes, with the change of omitting his presence from the Executive Session, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.*

Transfer Station Bids and Dumpster Bids: All of the bids were reviewed by the board. *A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to award the bid to Allied Waste, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.*

Unemployment Appeal Hearing: A hearing has been scheduled for May 25 @ 2:00 pm for a former employee as he has appealed a decision rendered by Unemployment. Rick will attend the hearing.

Eagle Scout Project: A letter was sent to Vinnie Villamaino from Walter McLaughlin regarding a proposal for an Eagle Scout Project. Vinnie will contact the scout and see what he has in mind for a project.

Board of Health Coordinator: *Jane Budynekiewicz has been working many hours outside of her normal work hours and after calculating that time, a motion was made by John Flynn to approve a day of compensation for her in lieu of pay, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.*

Board of Health: Jane Budynekiewicz, Board of Health Coordinator and Board of Health Agent Lorri McCool are conducting a Summer Kickoff Event on Saturday, May 14th for

residents of all ages. The program will feature speakers offering various health related information and a variety of services will be available to get answers to questions about summer health. The program runs from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Regional Selectmen's Meeting: The meeting will be held on May 19 at 7:00 pm in the Town of East Longmeadow. The agenda items are: Data Hub Services, Employee Family Protection, Regional Dispatch Update and Regional Veterans' Agent.

Reminder: HWRSD Safety Meeting, May 10, 2011

With no further business, a motion was made by John Flynn to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc