

Approved 03/26/12

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

**MINUTES**

March 12, 2012  
6:30 pm

625 Main Street  
Town House

Board Members: Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn

Guests: Ed Gorski, Tyler Witkop, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

The meeting was called to order by Richard Green at 6:30 pm.

RAH Wine Tasting Event: Dave Turcotte arrived from RAH to discuss the wine tasting event they would like to hold at Memorial Park as a fundraiser. The board's concern is the question of containment once people arrive. There will quite possibly be a town sporting event there at the same time and RAH will have to ensure that those attending the fundraiser have no contact with kids and others who are there for recreational reasons. It was then suggested that they hold it within the confines of the ballpark which is fenced. Rick suggested that there are tables and chairs that can be used and John mentioned tents that are available. Rick will check into insurance needs, but will not sell liability insurance to them and suggested that he contact Field, Eddy and Buckley for a certificate. Dave will get back to the park once this is accomplished.

Parties for the hearing started to gather in this office and given the number attending, the hearing location was moved to the Auditorium with a sign on the Selectmen's door stating same.

Once gathered in the auditorium, the public hearing was called to order by Richard R. Green at 7:03 pm.

Public Hearing for Liquor License: Hampden Country Club employees William Conley, Chief Financial Officer, Jonathan Murray, Director of Operations and Thomas Froment, Manager were present for the Hampden Country Club Liquor License hearing.

Also in attendance were abutters and interested individuals as follows: Paul and Theresa Bechard, George and Beth Pecia, Phil Schneider and Ms. Partyka-Green.

Rick called the hearing to order at 7:03 pm and welcomed those in attendance. He outlined the process for the permit to be issued, took comments and questions from the floor and then allowed the representatives for the HCC to speak to those concerns. The Bechard's concern is based on the travel path that cuts through their yard and a concern they have had with patrons using their property as a bathroom in the past. The HCC rep's responded by assuring them if there was ever an issue that Jonathan Murray could be contacted by the neighbors directly. He left his business cards for that purpose. He also stayed after the hearing to review the site plan as well as building plans with these neighbors.

The Pecia's concern was whether the HCC would be issued a beverage cart license and if so, are very concerned with the use of alcohol on the course. George stated his concern with underage drinkers on the course, with people becoming intoxicated on the course, with litter from those drinkers winding up on their property, and felt that drink carts should not be considered. The owners in the past had used a beverage cart and the board had never received complaints from neighbors before.

There were questions about the patio plan that Jonathan will address and provide for the next hearing. They were also told that any entertainment license issued has a 10:00 pm end time.

A motion was made by John Flynn to continue the hearing until the boards' next meeting, on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Upon advice by our Town Moderator, Judge Howarth, Vincent J. Villamaino recused himself from the hearing and any vote.

Dog Hearing: Marlene Safford, and John Novak were present at the start of the hearing as was Mr. Kosakowski, the father of the homeowner. Lindsay Bibeau did arrive a short time later.

Ms. Kosakowski was not here to state her case, but she had called this office and stated that as she started out of her house, the dog came bounding over and she went immediately back into her house. Mr. Kosakowski stated that his daughter went out to her car, and the dog came after her, and she ran back into her house. The Safford's have installed an electric fence and both dogs are collared and respond to the charges that hit them.

The dog has charged after the neighbors Ms. Kosakowski and her husband and they now have a two and a half- month old son, and are concerned with what that might mean for their baby. The board suggested that our Dog Officer, Shelley Sears evaluate the situation with the fence and determine if the dogs heed the fence. As was mentioned during the discussion, based on other dog owners, the fences do work, but there are times that the dogs just bolt through the shock anyway.

Sheryl Kosakowski would like to prevent the dogs from having to be removed from town, but also remains concerned for her family. The board will ask that Shelly go forward with the evaluation, and coordinate the timing of it with Sheryl's father so he may attend.

Mr. Krawiec who is a neighbor came in to note that he had witnessed the dog stopping at the edge of the yard.

We will ask that Shelley Sears report back with her findings.

Fire Hose Purchase: The Fire Department has ordered a new fire hose for the new fire truck and the board will ask the Chief if there is any money from the Department's operations account. There is also money available from the proceeds from the sale of the old truck in September. The Treasurer and Accountant will be notified of same.

Job Reviews: Rick asked that some job positions should be studied for salary purposes and John suggested that this be done after town meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of March 7, 2012 were reviewed and a motion was made by John Flynn to approve as presented, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Vinnie Villamaino was not present for the meeting and therefore abstained from the vote.

The Executive Session minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by John Flynn to approve as presented, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Vinnie Villamaino was not present and therefore abstained from the vote.

Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and a motion was made by John Flynn to close the warrant, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Request for Pancake Breakfast at Senior Center: Becky Moriarty received a request from a group asking to use the Senior Center for a fundraiser event and Becky wondered about a fee schedule for such an event. John suggested that the group ask for a donation to cover the cost of opening and cleaning of the building and offered that he would help pay the fee for the group. John, Rick and Vinnie all stated that they would cover the cost for this event. A motion was made by John Flynn to approve the use of the building by Best Buddy's subject to the payment of the usage fee, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Sight Line Letter at 113 Somers Road: A resident called the office seeking a solution to a sight line obstruction caused by trees/bushes located at 113 Somers Road. The board will ask that the Highway Superintendent determine whose property the trees are on to determine the resolution to the situation. If they are on personal property, Dana will be asked to get them trimmed, if not, the owner will be asked to trim or remove them at his expense.

Highway Department Sign Request: The board reviewed information from Dana Pixley regarding the free signs that we could have installed at the intersection of Wilbraham Road, East Longmeadow Road and Somers Road. The signs are much bigger than what we have and the board thinks, not in keeping with our community and will decline the installation.

Personnel Issue: The board reviewed a letter submitted by the Highway Superintendent.  
Littering Signs: the board will continue the issue of littering in town. They will review state laws and our need or not for a bylaw.

Board of Health Dates: Jane Budynkiewicz submitted a list of upcoming dates for the Board of Health and included the idea of privatizing the transfer station. The board has asked our Town Engineer group, Tighe and Bond to research this.

Police Chief Salary Discussion: The Chief submitted a list of items he would like to discuss. He will be in on the 19<sup>th</sup> for a meeting.

\$5k Maintenance Project: John had discussed the library rug replacement with Ed Cenedella for the \$5,000 line item we carry in the budget for school repairs. Ed will be contacted about this.

Septic Repair Money: There has been money in an account for some time for septic repairs that has not been used and the board will ask Cliff Bombard, Town Accountant to roll that money into the reserve fund.

Secure Energy Solutions Information: A company from East Longmeadow would like to meet to discuss various options for delivery of product which would save the town money. Pam Courtney will get more information on this.

Dog Complaint: The board received a complaint from a resident on Potash Hill Lane, Ellen Moriarty and has asked that resident Shelley Sears come in to discuss.

Unemployment Query: The Governor is looking into operational problems with the Division of Unemployment. A letter will be drafted to Governor Patrick detailing some ongoing issues the town is trying to deal with without success.

Cell Tower: The board has a proposal from the cell tower owners, our tenants and Rick will set a meeting with Bill Pepin from Channel 22 for his advice of the value of the proposal.

Board of Health: A variance was requested to lessen the distance from the water supply to SAS from 100' to 80' at 3 Old Coach Circle. The board reviewed and a motion was made by John Flynn to grant the variance as recommended by Lorri McCool, BOH Agent, seconded by Rick Green. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Unregistered Cars: The board will ask that the Police Department review the town again for illegal unregistered cars.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino 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