

Approved 03/26/12

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

March 19, 2012
6:00 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

Police Chief, Jeff Farnsworth:

Spatial Analysis Studies: The Chief has received two proposals for a needs analysis for a new police station. A note will be sent to Jamie Collins and Doug Boyd asking that they review these and attend a meeting to discuss on April 2, 2012 at 7:00 pm. The board would prefer to work with the local group and have kept a place hold on the warrant for funding for this study.

Town Towing Contract Renewal: The board will seek bids on a new contract. Jeff will outline the parameters for the bid.

Wallace Tree Invoice: Rick Green will write a letter to get this invoice paid for detail work from the Sue Bower house move.

Snow Plowing on Private Property and Highway Emergency Response Plan: The Highway Superintendent has stated that a private contractor should be called for emergency purposes to get into a resident's property. The chief pointed out that time spent looking for such contractor, takes needed time for the emergency situation. MIIA will be contacted to check on our coverage if highway members are called in to do the work. If a truck is damaged, if property is damaged, are we protected?

Raymond Drive Unregistered Cars: Jeff is having his officers ticket the homeowner on a weekly basis, rather than on a daily basis. Vinnie will visit the homeowner to get them moving on remedying the situation. The chief stated that he can file these tickets in court and the question was raised about raising the fee. A motion was made by John Flynn to increase the per day, per vehicle fee for unregistered cars to \$20.00, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted

Resident Guardrail Request: Property owner at 19 South Road has sent a letter regarding the number of accidents that have occurred at his home causing property damage. He would like the town to install a guardrail along the frontage. The board will ask that Dana Pixley do the necessary installation when timing is right for the highway, with a note explaining that a line item transfer will occur once the work is done. Rick also asked

BOS 120319

that the chief submit a written report on when speeds have been tracked and what they are. The chief will have his officers run radar on a daily basis to track it now.

Fire Burning Phone Calls: The chief talked about the number of phone calls asking for burning permits that have become a real issue for the dispatchers. Even with the institution of the webpage information for residents, many, many residents use the phone to call the fire line to check on burning permits. The board will ask Chief Gorski for his thoughts on a remedy. There was the suggestion of having a duty officer take the calls on weekends.

113 Somers Road: The board discussed the situation at this address relative to bushes that have become a sight line issue for drivers. Given the history of the planting, the board determined that the town will take down the bushes, stumps will be ground. And the property will be reseeded. Once done, the cost will be split 50/50 between the town and the homeowner. A note will be sent to Dana Pixley explaining same and asking him to submit a bill and the board will do a line item transfer once completed.

A motion was made by John Flynn to go into Executive Session at 6:35 for Contract Negotiation discussion with the officers and dispatcher with return to Open Session, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes, Rick Green yes.

A motion was made by John Flynn to leave Executive Session at 6:47 pm and return to Open Session, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. Vote: John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes, Rick Green yes.

Community Garden Farming: Beryle Doten and Don Collins came before the board to discuss the Hampden Community Gardens and their desire to use property in the upper field of Green Meadows School. Gary Weiner, local engineer suggested what land to use, ensuring they stay 20 feet away from septic system which will give them just shy of an acre. School Superintendent, Marty O'Shea has sent a letter of approval, and Beryle Doten has visited with Deborah Thompson, Principal, who is enthusiastic about the learning experience for students. The board mentioned that there is no smoking, no alcohol, allowed and that farmers will have to adjust hours that they tend to planting, etc. The Town of Hampden allows the property to be used, but accepts no liability and the visitors must abide by all polices according to the school, including allowing no vehicles beyond a certain point. Beryle stated that she would meet with Deb Thompson again before she distributes application forms for farmers.

Hampden Country Club Hearing Continuation: Rick Green reopened the hearing at 7:00 pm which was continued from last week for the Hampden Country Club liquor license. Those attending were: Tyler Witkop, Ed Gorski, Theresa and Paul Bechard, George Pecia, Tom Froment, Don Collins, Guy Antonacci, Gerald Antonacci (permittees) and Jonathan Murray.

George Pecia has asked when the last owners were permitted to have a beverage cart; and it was explained that a prior permit has no bearing on this permit application as the liquor license reverts to the town once the permittee closes its doors. These are all new permits that will be issued as is the liquor license.

The issue raised at the last hearing was brought up again, what if: members misbehave, use property as a bathroom, unruliness, etc.

Jonathan Murray and Gerald Antonacci both explained that this will be a private club, that tournaments will be held on Monday and Tuesdays only, that they are accepting the liability, that serving staff will be TIPS trained as required by the state, that golfers will not be wandering or loitering as the carts will be equipped with a GPS system in them allowing the course owners to track them and move them along as necessary. Jonathan stated that they are talking about installing toilets, maybe composting toilets, and something more attractive than the standard outdoor units. This satisfies George Pecia's major concern, with children in the neighborhood and behavior of golfers.

Paul Bechard mentioned that this license is not without a risk of revocation to which the board agreed. Should complaints come pouring in, there is recourse for the town should they wish to use it.

Rick entertained a motion to approve the liquor license for the Hampden Country Club, to approve the operation of a beverage cart (for alcoholic drinks) on the easterly side of the HCC, with approval for the use on the full course. The motion was made by John Flynn and seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so approved.

The hearing was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The Hampden Country Club asked about getting a one day liquor license for use on Easter Sunday as has been done in the past. The permit would be for April 8 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. A motion was made by John Flynn to issue a one day permit to the HCC for April 8 from 10-5, contingent upon necessary inspections and approvals by the Building Inspector, Fire Chief and Board of Health Agent, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Advisory Committee: The board would like to meet with Advisory to review the warrant and hearing and posting schedules at our next meeting.

Dog Complaint: Shelley Sears, Resident and Dog Officer: The board received a letter from Ellen Moriarty from Potash Hill Lane complaining about dogs owned by Shelley Sear's children. Their history goes back to February 2008, when Ellen's dog ran into Shelley's son's yard and was in a fight with his dog on a leash. The leashed dog's owner paid half of the medical bills to the vet for Ellen's dog's misbehavior. Her dog ran into Shelley's kids' yard. Those who attended this meeting with Shelley Sears are: Meggi Sears DeCasare, 17 Potash Hill Lane, Karen Burzdak, 11 Potash Hill Lane Michael Ford 93 Thresher and Vincent DeCasare. Michael had brought his dog to Potash Hill Lane, but the dog never went after Ellen's daughter as stated in her letter of complaint, and in

fact Ellen's dog and Michael's dog were playing at one point. Karen Burzdak has never had an issue with dogs on the street and was surprised to hear of Ellen's complaint. The board discussed the issue with Michael Ford, and reminded him that his dog must always be leashed and he promised to do so. Shelley has to make sure all dogs are leashed or under control of the owners. The board will send a letter to residents on Potash Hill Lane that all dogs must be leashed at all times.

Fines and Fees: The board discussed the issue of unregistered cars and the fines for keeping those cars. They felt that a stronger fine might motivate these people to do what is needed to clean up their yards. A motion was made by John Flynn to raise the fine for an unregistered vehicle (over the one allowed through the bylaw) to \$20/day, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Emergency Facility Shelter Agreement: The board read the Shelter Agreement and would like to reschedule the meeting with the MRC and approve the emergency facility at the same time. We will work to set a date for the MRC in this office.

Health Insurance Option: The board will schedule a meeting with Union rep's to discuss various issues related to health insurance options.

School Budget Number: Reviewed and filed.

DEP Change: A particular inspection need not be done any longer on an annual basis at the Transfer Station, but random inspections will occur by the State.

Minutes: The minutes of February 27, 2012 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. John Flynn was not at the meeting and therefore abstained from the vote.

The Executive Session Minutes of February 27, 2012 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. John Flynn was not at the meeting, and therefore abstained from the vote.

Updated Warrant: The board reviewed the warrant and will meet with the Advisory Committee next Monday to discuss the budget and warrant.

Fire Truck: The board expected a few dollars remaining from the purchase of the truck and will check with Chief Gorski on how much we have remaining.

Advisory Meeting: The board would like to meet with the Advisory Committee next Monday to review the warrant and budget numbers and work on the timing of hearings, etc.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc