

Approved 4/30/12

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

April 2, 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 at 6:30 pm by Richard R. Green.

Ken White, VFW Commander: Ken came before the board to discuss the Memorial Day Parade. The event will be held as it has in the past, a solemn event in honor of our active service members and in memory of our veterans, living and not. We will work together over the next few weeks to make sure we have everything coordinated for the day. The event will be held on the front lawn of the town house which allows for more people to gather.

There was some conversation about the origination of the VFW Post in town. The board will look for that information along with Ken White.

Police Station Discussion: Chief Farnsworth, Doug Boyd and Jamie Collins came before the board to discuss the next steps in the process, namely choosing the group to do the spatial analysis. The group agreed that the qualifications would better be better served by using Kaestle Boos since they are local and have worked on a number of safety buildings in the area. They would provide a more comprehensive plan. Vinnie will contact Uxbridge, MA and ask that they forward information directly to Chief Farnsworth for his review.

Resident Don Dorn: Mr. Dorn from 65 River Park Drive came in to ask about the process to do cleanup work in the river near his house. Conservation Commission has the ability to issue a 30 day permit to allow some cleanup and Mr. Dorn will attend a meeting with the Conservation Commission shortly to begin the process.

Adopt-A-Road: The board will let those know who are participating in the Adopt-A-Road cleanup will take place on Saturday, May 12th. John noted that a CCD class will participate and the notice will go out by April 19th to give those participating plenty of time to plan.

VOTE: The board reviewed the bargaining process for insurance coverage relative to unions. In order to proceed with changes the following motion was made. Rick Green entertained the motion that, the Town of Hampden elects to engage in the process to

change health insurance benefits under MGL, c.32B, Sections 21-23. The motion was moved by Vinnie Villamaino, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Enhanced Medex Program: The SVRHT approved a change in the program offered for retirees. Hampden had offered a Standard Medex plan in the past, but at a SVRHT meeting, the group approved a new plan offering which the Medex Enhanced plan. If the town did not offer this new plan, we would have to pay for an actuarial study to be done since SVRHT approved the offering already. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to accept the Medex Enhanced Plan (OBRA90), seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

School Committee Information: Executive Session was held to discuss the Open Meeting Law complaint.

Farmer's Market at Hampden Nurseries: Karen Hatch from the Farmer's Market group came in to talk about the relocation at Hampden Nurseries. Vinnie talked with Mike Cimmino about using the egress onto East Longmeadow Road and the board will review the parking plan intended for use.

Stormwater Report: The town is required to file a stormwater report by May and will contact our town engineers, Tighe and Bond for their assistance.

Emergency Response: Based on the information from the Highway Superintendent and the Police Chief we will contact a few contractors to see if they have an interest in responding for the town in the event of an emergency instead of using the Highway Department staff.

Chapter 90 Funding: The state has allotted \$258,112 for highway funds for the coming fiscal year.

Unemployment Hearing: The board will be notified of the date to appeal the case for Jason Walbridge.

Executive Session for Dispatchers Union: the board discussed the events from the executive session and what the dispatcher's are looking for.

Minutes: The minutes of March 26, 2012 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.

Fire Truck Payment: The board discussed the payment method for the fire truck. There was a motion at last year's town meeting to borrow money and to draw from stabilization to pay for the fire truck. It will be included in this year's warrant as well.

Warrant: The board reviewed the warrant again for any last minute revisions.

Cell Tower: James Quackenbush has negotiated with our lessee on the cell tower for one time cash infusion, but after board members meeting with Bill Pepin from Channel 22 News, the board has decided not to go forward with the proposal. A call will be made to the lessee to let them know.

Well Water Issue: The board will invite a number of residents to an informational meeting to discuss possible well water issues. The board will also check with Tom Couture, from Tighe and Bond, our town engineers to get a cost estimate for the installation of a reverse osmosis system.

Dog Officer: Shelley Sears called about the issue with Scott Chapman's dog who has become a nuisance for some neighbors. The board will invite Shelley in to discuss this.

Special Town Meeting: The board discussed the need to add some money to the maintenance budget at the Senior Center as the building is now over ten years old. The board will bring up the issue at Fall Town Meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant
/pbc