

Approved 11/19/12

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

October 1, 2012
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Board Members: Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn, Norm Charest

The meeting was called to order at 6:23 pm by Vinnie Villamaino.

Lauri and Scott Mikkola: Residents from South Road came before the board to discuss their neighbor who has created problems in the past due to a driveway that had never been paved. As a result there has been runoff during rain storms which leaves dirt, sand and debris in the road. During the winter, the runoff creates patches of ice which creates problems for residents getting out of their property. The reason for the visit tonight was the trouble that was created when the paving was done at 400 South Road today. Lauri attempted to get out of her driveway and road, but could not because the pavers had their equipment spread across the road. Lauri finally called the police who sent an officer up to resolve the situation. Gordon Paving had the road blocked for 20 minutes and told Lauri and her son to be patient. The biggest concern was the road being blocked from allowing emergency vehicles to get through. Her son was a half hour late for his job and Lauri was late for her job as well. The Mikkola's said that the Highway Superintendent will do a site visit tomorrow. Vinnie was going to stop at the Police Station at the end of this meeting to discuss with an officer.

Fire Department: 1st Deputy Chief David Markham came before the board to introduce Firefighter candidate, Eamonn H. Hall. Dave reported that a background check has been done, his health has been checked and he has met all necessary requirements. The board welcomed Eamonn and a motion was made by Norm Charest to appoint Eamonn H. Hall as a provisional firefighter effective October 1, 2012 through June 30, 20123 seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

School Committee Chairman: The board invited John McCarthy, Chairman of the HWRSD School Committee to discuss a number of issues. The first item discussed was the rent received in Wilbraham for Memorial School. Concerns arose when the rent came in and the School Committee made a unilateral decision on what to do with the money without meeting with the Board of Selectmen from either Wilbraham or Hampden. The board in Wilbraham wanted to meet in Open Session, but the SC wanted the meeting held in Executive Session.

BOS 121001

The question was asked, if a major repair project was necessary, who would pay for the repair?

There was talk of using the rental money for technology needed by the Hampden schools. The E&D fund was discussed as another place to hold the money.

How can the money be spent without breaking the regional agreement?

\$360,000 has been collected so far for the year, which could go into the capital improvement fund, but the decision would have to be approved at town meeting first.

The board would like to determine what the fair way is to deal with these funds. Hampden paid 25% to help close this school. John would like to hear the School Committee's ideas on how allocate the money fairly. The board is also curious as to why they weren't invited to the first meeting as well.

School Usage Policy: The board wanted to discuss this issue with John McCarthy as well. The board agrees with a usage fee schedule for the use of Minnechaug, but wondered what the procedures are for the other schools in town.

John thought there was a concern about the building use, and that the superintendent came up with new policy.

There were not a lot of people invited to the discussion. The policy was issued without the Selectmen's input.

John wants definition of the tier group. He explained that when the theater group used the school, the custodians did nothing to help. He suspected that in paying for their hours that some work would be done on the custodial staff.

The board will provide a tier group and forward to the Superintendent for his reference.

The question was asked whether the school choice number gets worked into our assessment numbers. John McCarthy will check on that.

Auditor's Report: Norm stated that he would like a review done of the report to ensure the town follows through on recommendations. We will schedule an exit interview with the auditor, Tom Scanlon.

Police Officer's Test: On October 12th John will be part of the group that interviews qualified candidates to join the force as a full time officer.

118 Raymond Drive: Persistent problems continue with the homeowner and tenant regarding the work on large logs, and the splitting, stacking and selling of wood out of the home. Vinnie and Lance will discuss next steps.

State Election Warrant Review and Signing: Eva Wiseman has forwarded information to the board regarding the posting for the state election to be held on November 6, 2012.

Storage Tank Operator Costs: The board wants Highway Superintendent in to discuss the training and certification for this new state edict. We have contacted Tighe and Bond to

do the training and Dana has found another resident from town who can do the same training. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of September 24, 2012 were reviewed and a motion was made by Norm Charest to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. The minutes of April 23, 2102 were reviewed and a motion was made by Norm Charest to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Michael Cooney: Our attorney's and Worker's Comp group are working on back wages for those officers filling in for Mike due to his accident while on duty and our Worker's Comp group are seeking wages that were paid to Mike while he was out. The saga continues.

Warrant and Highland Circle: Out Town Counsel contacted us about a warrant article that a resident wanted on the Special Town Meeting warrant. It involves property owned by Michael Cimmino at Highland Circle and is an issue that was dealt with by planning back in 2002. It needs some final approval by the town before any changes can be made to the ownership. Dave Martel is getting language from Cimmino's attorney to use for the warrant articles. The town will ask that a representative for M. Cimmino attend the meetings to explain the details.

With no further business, a motion was made by Norm Charest to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc