

Approved 4/8/13

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

April 1, 2013
5:30 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Board Members: Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn, Norman Charest
The meeting was called to order by Vinnie Villamaino at 5:30 pm.

The board started their discussion about 601 Main Street and proposed costs to remediate the salt issue on Main Street.

Joan Corbin and husband George Maillalieu stopped in to talk about the ongoing problems they are having with their neighbors, the Haluch's on Isaac Bradway Road. They said multiple businesses are being run on the property which includes the use of bobcats, wood chippers going daily, trucks delivering huge logs with no regard for the noise or the quality of life around them. They have called the Police on more than one occasion to complain and have heard gunshots on numerous occasions. The board stated that Lance Trevallion, Building Inspector would be made aware of the problem and work with them to come to a resolution.

The board is scheduled to meet with the Advisory Board to discuss last minute budget numbers and warrant articles prior to the Advisory Hearing posted for April 8th.

- 601 Main Street
- Warrant Review
- Budget Review
- Transfer Request for Gasoline

Advisory Meeting: Cliff Bombard, Town Accountant came to the meeting with Advisory and the board members. He presented a revenue projection sheet.

The meeting started with John Flynn discussing the estimated cost for the water remediation issue on Main Street. John thinks that the costs will run between 20 and 40k between the drilling of the well, the digging of trenches, installing plastic sleeves, connection of pump to control panel in the Highway Garage, and electrical and plumbing work to the affected houses.

There was also talk of the highway equipment needs and whether any of those might be put off for another year.

Norman Charest, both Selectman and Assessor told the group that the Board of Assessor's has released monies from the Overlay Surplus account for FY 2010 and FY 2011. This totals \$44,388.12 which can be voted on at Town Meeting to be used as a funding source. The consensus was to use it to fund the Main Street water issue.

BOS 130401

The Advisory Board had further questions regarding other accounts and John Flynn stayed behind to discuss these with the board.

Norman Charest and Vinnie Villamaino left the Advisory Meeting to reconvene in the office at 7:00 pm for the rest of the meeting.

Secure Energy: Jodie Maurer came before the board to discuss alternative electric sources, suppliers, to negotiate with them for best energy costs for a collection of towns. She needs copies of each of our electric bills for all town use. Once she has a chance to analyze this information she can seek a fixed cost for 30 to 60 or more months.

Barking Dog Complaint: Harvey Smith from Colony Drive has complained to Shelley Sears, Dog Officer about the constant barking of a dog that lives next to him, owned by the Desrosiers' family. He said that the dog is free to go in and out of the home during the day and the barking is persistent. Robin and Amanda Desrosiers came in defense of their dog that is kept inside during the night and they contend does not bark continuously. They did state that Mr. Smith has complained about any dog they have owned and barking for over twenty years.

Mr. Smith just wants the barking to stop. He and his wife both have health conditions and the constant disruption causes them much anxiety. He hired an attorney to write a letter to the board who outlined MGL regarding nuisance by reason of excessive barking, etc. that must be investigated by selectmen or officer in charge of handling dog complaints.

The board will require that the Desrosiers keep the dog indoors to see if the barking stops and Shelley Sears will report back to the board after doing some site visits to check on the barking.

Grant Application Presentation: Gina Kahn, who is a grant writer for the HWRSB came before the board to discuss a grant proposal that she is working on and needs support from the district as well as the Board of Selectmen from both towns. There will be more than 600 or so applicants that she will be up against, but she is willing to proceed if the board supports her doing so.

In the first year of the three year grant, the funding could be anywhere between 100k to 750k.

Gina thinks 400k each year might be attainable and noted that it is awarded on October 1, 2013.

That would require that the district get started right away with the acquisition of material and supplies to increase physical education offerings.

In year 2 they would hope to add 2 health teachers which would bring the total to 4, 2 at the high school and 2 for the middle schools.

When the grant expires, there would be no money in the budget to keep those teachers in year 4.

Norm is worried that when programs come in and fund positions, they tend to remain and become incorporated into the budget. He was happy to hear that some money would be used for equipment.

We have a new fitness center now with the new school and cardio machines can count towards the match and help in the application process.

Norm did not want to be obligated after a 3 year time frame.

It is hoped that having a 3 year program would boost the overall and ongoing condition of the health programs.

Gina will forward a final copy of the application for the board's signature.

Farmer's Market: Karen Hatch came before the board to discuss the opening of the Farmer's Market held at Hampden Nurseries. They have planned to start on May 11th. The board will check with Chief Farnsworth as to whether he has any parking concerns with the location.

Norm Charest made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Police Chief's compensation at 7:53 with return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norm Charest yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

A motion was made by Norm Charest to leave Executive Session at 8:10 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norm Charest yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

Broadband Meeting: Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is working with the state and the fiber optic installation of broadband service. A representative will be in our office on April 25th at 1:30 to present the plan and answer any questions. Library, Police, Fire and a Selectman will attend.

Minutes of March 25, 2013: The minutes 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.

West Brook Acquisition: Sherry Himmelstein called to tell the board that her warrant article will need to be revised from 105k to 106k for the property purchase from the Morton family.

School Project for 2013: The town carries a line item in the budget for a local school project that needs to be done. It is recommended by Ed Cenedella, Director of Facilities for the District. He will be asked for a project he wishes to do for TWB or Green Meadows.

Water Commission: One of the water commissioners recently resigned, but was approached by John Flynn and asked to remain on the board for another year, to which he agreed.

BOH Variance Request: The board reviewed the plans for a leaching trench at the Highway Garage at 589 Main Street. Lorri McCool has recommended that a variance be approved for a 1' reduction to groundwater. Norm Charest made a motion to approve the variance as recommended, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Liquor License Application: The board will review the license application process and will vote on an application fee at the next meeting.

Bulk Day for Transfer Station: Jane Budynkiewicz has scheduled May 11 as the bulk day at the transfer station and the board concurred.

Building Permits: Reviewed without comment.

Chair Lift Status: Pam Courtney met with a structural engineer for his review of the site for the lift installation. The installers must have approval from an engineer that the walls will support the specs for installation. The engineer will research the existing lift for specs to determine if the proper support is available in the existing wall.

Stormwater Report: Our annual stormwater report is being prepared by Tighe and Bond and the status of that will be checked.

With no further business, a motion was made by Norm Charest 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