

Approved 6/17/13

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

June 10, 2013
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by John D. Flynn.

Water Problems: Resident Donald Dorn came before the board to discuss ongoing issues he has at his property which is right on the river. For years he has experienced flooding and now is trying to deal with the trees that are traveling downstream and creating a log jam at his home. Phil Grant from the Conservation Commission has said via email that Mr. Dorn can take those trees out. The board will seek different avenues to help Mr. Dorn get the trees out of the river, perhaps prison workers could do the job; John will contact the Ouimette's on the other side of the river to see if they might be of assistance. Vinnie and John will go to the site to review the situation. Mr. Dorn has granted permission to the selectmen to enter onto his property.

Used Car Dealer's License: The board was asked by Frank Colantoni to make a change to his license from town to delete one portion and replace it with another. The board will make the change and sign the license for the licensee.

Chief Gorski: Fire Chief Gorski came before the board to introduce Christopher Peters as a candidate for a firefighter's position. The board met with Christopher and upon Chief Gorski recommendation a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Christopher Peters as a provisional firefighter effective this date, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The chief then talked about a program he wants to implement involving having two firefighters/EMT's on duty on a nightly basis so they would be able to respond to medical emergencies along with police personnel. The board was impressed that 16 of the firefighters have become EMT certified.

Kathleen Delaney and Mark Giza: Hampden Theater Guild would like access to use our town house auditorium this summer for rehearsals for their next performance. They were asked to come in to discuss the expectations of the board during these rehearsals. The board will get a letter out to Kathleen detailing what those expectations are so there will be no misunderstandings in the future.

Chief Farnsworth: The chief came before the board to discuss a few issues. One was the matter of seniority in the police union and as Jeff mentioned, this is an issue that belongs to the union, would require midterm bargaining and does not see the need for same.

There was discussion of Sgt. Joe Henry's retirement which will be effective July 1, 2013.

Tawrin Seega came before the board as the highest test achiever for the recent Sergeant's exam and the best candidate for the vacancy that will come with Sgt. Henry's retirement. At the Chief's recommendation, a resounding motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Tawrin Seega as the new Sergeant, effective July 11, 2013, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Jeff mentioned that he has an additional 4k from cruiser line that could be used in the future purchase of an all-wheel drive vehicle.

There have tests for Reserve Officers, 3 of whom have passed, and this will start the interview process for a new officer, to replace Tawrin's vacancy.

Mike Meaney will be appointed as a full time officer contingent upon successful graduation from the academy.

The chief has gotten the approval to test a new firearm from Smith and Wesson at no cost to the town, with officers using at their own expense. The board approves and a letter will be sent stating same.

Norm brought up the need to discuss the new position in the department. They will need to discuss with the Union and Jeff and determine what expectations will be for the position. There will be no overtime involved; it will merely be a matter of where the officer's time will be used.

Minutes: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve subject to changes, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

601 Main Street: Easement documents are being finalized for the residents to sign to finish the drainage work to tie into their wells.

Highway Projects: The board will review these with Highway Superintendent at our next meeting.

Municipal Electricity Program: To be reviewed further.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc

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