

Approved 7/29/13

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

July 15, 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 F. Flynn.

Board of Health: Jane Budynkiewicz came before the board to talk about the GETS program which allows town employees to have a communication option in the case of emergency conditions. This is a national program that requires individual clearance and allows a secondary avenue for communication if towers and service are out. Jane will get more information on the program and will present it later to the board.

Fire Department: Chief Gorski and 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Markham came before the board with two candidates seeking appointment to the department. Tim Raimer and David St. Martin have been interviewed by the chief and they come highly recommended to the board. They are both interested in helping people and have been active with the department showing a keen interest in committing to this volunteer group. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Timothy Raimer as a provisional firefighter for the town, effective July 15, 2013, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

David St. Martin is a college graduate who studied criminal justice and now wants to pursue firefighting as a career. He has always wanted to be a volunteer and help people and Chief Gorski recommends him for this appointment. After reviewing his application, a motion was made by Norm Charest to appoint David St. Martin as a provisional firefighter for the town, effective July 15, 2013, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The Chief and 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief stayed to talk with the board about the installation of more dry hydrants. These hydrants allow water to be drawn from a body of water greatly improving the department's ability to fight fires. There are three bridges that they have determined to be good locations for these installations. They are Chapin Road, Somers Road and Rock-A-Dundee bridges. There is one additional location on Bennett Road that a resident will allow the department to access. There are other hydrants already in place at Mill Pond and a pond on Glendale Road.

Vinnie has talked with the owners of the Hampden Country Club and they have agreed to allow a hydrant to be installed on their property as well. Dave would like to be part of the process in locating where it will be placed. It will cost approximately \$6,000 for all of them. They have discussed this with the Conservation Commission and there are no concerns on their part.

National Grid is working on a substation on Allen Street and has told Dave Markham that they will install a cistern tank for the fire department, which will hold 30,000 gallons of water. The department will keep that filled.

Police Department: Chief Farnsworth came before the board with a candidate who has been working for the department and will be going to the Academy for further training. There were interviews conducted and those on the panel all agreed that Ben Tucker should be granted the position. He will begin training as a student officer in August. A background check has been done as a Reserve Officer and after his graduation from the academy he will be appointed as a full time officer.

Transfer Requests: The following transfer requests were discussed with the Town Accountant and prepared for the Selectmen's vote and signing:

- From Reserve Fund to Property and Liability \$1,299.05
- From Reserve Fund to Traffic Control \$969.59
- From Reserve Fund to Fire House ATM warrant article on 4/25/11 \$2,978.99
- From Reserve Fund to Police Expense \$5,353
- From Police Salary to Cruiser Maintenance \$210.16
- From Tax Title to Employee Benefits \$3,019.61
- From Town House Utilities to Academy Hall Maintenance \$261.42
- From Fire Training Stipend to Fire Department Operations \$2,631.97
- From Animal Control to Dog Damage Fund \$100.00

A motion was made by Norman Charest to approve the transfers as noted, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Minutes of July 1, 2013: The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Norm Charest to approve as presented, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

One Day Permits for VFW: The following requests were made by the VFW:

- July 27, from 4:00 to 12:00 am for 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party: A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the permit, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
- August 10, from 2:00 pm to 12:00 am for Poker Run: A motion was made by Norm Charest to approve the permit, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Centennial Commons Meeting Request: The board was contacted by the new director, Lisa DiFranco of the Hampden Housing Authority who would like to discuss a number of issues with the board. She will be invited to attend the next meeting on July 29.

Vacation Schedule: The board received a letter from Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent detailing his dates for summer vacations.

Bennett Road Condition: One of the residents on Bennett Road has asked for time on the agenda to discuss the condition of the road. Dana Pixley would like to meet with the board prior to meeting with the residents so he can explain the history of the situation. He has suggested that a meeting be held on site as well so everyone can see exactly what the challenges are.

PVPC Annual Assessment: The assessment for this year is \$770.85.

CPA Funds: The board reviewed information on the utilization of CPA funds for the preservation of existing public housing units.

Health Insurance Benefit: Blue Cross/Blue Shield recently made a change to their plan by allowing members to go for tests like MRI's and CAT scans at locations other than hospitals, saving money both for the insurance company and members as well.

Conservation Restriction from National Grid to Town of Hampden: As part of the permitting process for the substation on Allen Street, a conservation restriction will be granted to the Town of Hampden from National Grid. That document will be forwarded to Dave Martel, Town Counsel for his review prior to the board signing off on it.

Signed Ambulance Contract: All parties have signed the final document, which means East Longmeadow and American Medical Response and Hampden are again in agreement for services.

Outdoor Wood Burning Furnace: The board reviewed the application for an outdoor wood burning furnace at 245 Bennett Road. With the recommendation from Lorri McCool, Board of Health Agent, a motion was made by Norm Charest to approve as presented, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Highway Department: The board was asked by Dana Pixley how to pave the driveway that was dug up with the septic installation. Should the money come out of the bond?

Fall Town Meeting: The board will have to go to fall town meeting for funding for the generator that will be installed at the highway garage for highway's use as well as the residents who will have their water supplied by the town. Once the money is secured, the town will have 12 months to have a generator on line and in use.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn at 7:00 pm, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc

BOS 130715