

Approved 10/7/13

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

September 23, 2013
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino
Present: Chief Farnsworth, Highway Superintendent Dana Pixley, Safety Officer, Sgt. Joy, Chief Gorski, Dave Markham, First Deputy Chief and Planning Board Chairman, Neil Flynn.
Tyler Witkop, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

Town Accountant, Cliff Bombard: Cliff came before the board to discuss upcoming Special Town Meeting and the town's financial position.

Excise is very heavily waited on the front end. The board wants to use free cash to reduce the tax rate. Stabilization will stay at 800k. John asked if monies received in reimbursements could be put into general funds and Cliff said that he would check in with Jim Podolok at the DOR.

There was then discussion about the Special Town Meeting scheduled for October 28th. John asked a placeholder be put on the warrant to raise and appropriate from available source, funds for the water issue on Main Street. There will also be articles for the stabilization accounts and free cash as boilerplate warrant articles.

The question was asked of Cliff if the Police can use an old warrant article for a new cruiser and Cliff's response was that the funds are free to be used for a cruiser purchase without a further vote from the town.

Cliff and Norman Charest agreed that right after STM they would work to get submittal to State for our tax rate.

Hampden Country Club Tunnel Discussion: A number of departments were made aware of this meeting were invited to come if they felt the need. (See attendees above).

The Hampden Country Club was represented by Jonathan Murray, Kid Antonacci and Jerry Gagliarducci. They were first asked if they had Planning Board approval to which they replied that they did and Neil Flynn added that the minutes would be typed up and the HCC would have full approval.

Jerry Gagliarducci will handle the construction portion of the job and noted that there will be some excavation that will need to be done prior to the actual construction start time.

The project will be lit 24 hours with lighted barrels, a temporary roadway will have a center line painted, will be approximately 400 feet long and it will be a paved road. There will be detour signs; slow signs, end construction signs and Jersey barriers will be placed every night. The boxes will be installed 23' deep to allow the gas main and town drainage to go over them. The drainage needs to be installed near the school before the culvert work can be done.

The sections will be 7.5 feet long and 12 feet wide and high. Both ends of each culvert will require retaining walls to be as well as a footing at each end. The culverts will be delivered to the site and unloaded directly into place with a crane. The wing walls will be cast in place and will have a stone finish. Conduits will be installed under them to provide for electrical and other needs. They will back fill against the culvert and will block off the opening should winter weather interfere with their work.

They will start with the west side culvert and anticipate the work taking a month or so. The cutoff date will be Thanksgiving. After the road settles, they will go back in the spring and do whatever needs to be done to make it right.

A temporary gas line will be handled during construction.

There will no cutting or working until an October 28th start date.

The first week of November they will start the headwall. Vinnie said they could go two weeks into December. Jerry said they can get mix through the winter from a group outside of Boston. We will ask Dave Martel to check into indemnification.

The traffic issues were discussed and the site will be staked to allow the chief and safety officer to review the layout. Only then can they make an informed decision about what they require.

Sgt. Joy will contact the new principal at TWB to discuss the upcoming project.

They may need officers to work during school commuting hours; Jeff feels as though this issue can be done as necessary once construction begins.

Jonathan Murray will get detail plan (temporary road plan) to Tom Couture and Tom already has a full set of plans that were discussed tonight.

The plan is to construct/install one culvert this fall with the other done in the spring.

The footings for the retaining walls will be 7 or 8 feet, with wing walls to be poured in place.

Dana asked about getting spec's for the temporary road. Jerry said he will use a winter base for paving.

Gravel will be compacted as requested by Tom Couture.

Nothing will be done until both Tom Couture and Dana Pixley are comfortable with the plans.

Dana suggested that two winter seasons may be required for the construction to properly settle.

Anchor Engineering can send stamped plans from box culvert manufacturer.

There will be 700 feet between the two tunnels.

They will be required to repaving the area that has been cut and to repair the road to town standards.

A bond amount will be determined and will carry over 2 seasons.

John will check with Dave Martel, in the event of an accident on the temporary road, how we would handle the police reporting.

We may also require an easement from HCC for town use of the temporary road.

The contingency plan for bad weather will be to backfill everything and close it for the season.

Density testing will be done on site during the process.

Work will be done from October 28 to November 28. Given the time of year and the risk of snow events, Dana is concerned about road conditions.

Fire Chief, Mike Gorski was most concerned about the load of fire trucks on the road and was assured there would be no problem.

There will be no signage until Dana and Tom approve them.

The board will speak with Marty O'Shea about the construction work and how it will affect school transportation.

Lastly, it was recommended that Tighe and Bond review all plans at the owner's expense before work begins.

Minutes: The minutes of September 16, 2013 were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Board of Health: A letter was sent to a resident regarding the conditions of his property and will be followed up in the near future.

Building Permits for July and August: Reviewed without comment.

Electricity Aggregation Agreement: The Hampshire Council of Governments has sent an agreement for the board to sign so we may get a savings on our electricity. The board would like some real numbers to consider before signing on.

Park and Rec Correspondence: Reviewed with the comment that they are a standalone body and the board has no authority over what transpires in their department.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission: They are working to establish a Regional Municipal Support Services (RMSS) Program for local communities. The board reviewed without comment.

Note from resident: The board reviewed a letter praising the work that the highway department received for the recent paving project at Colony and Bayberry.

Motion for Police Station Start-up Funds for STM: The board reviewed the draft motion from the PD regarding funds being requested for presentation purposes. They asked that the draft states to "take from free cash or available funds". The change will be made.

Two other motions will be added to the warrant that is boiler plate relative to reducing the tax rate and putting money into stabilization.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn at 7:25 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc