

Approved 11/18/14

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

November 10, 2014  
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.

Police Department Building Committee: Chief Farnsworth and Rick Green came before the board to discuss the payment of bills as they come in on the new building. Jeff explained that the first review will be done by the OPM and they will then be forwarded to Jeff for his review and approval. Once approved, they will be forwarded to the Selectmen for approval. Once fully approved, they will be returned to the Police Department for processing.

Jeff notified the board that the next Police Building Committee meeting will be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> with the OPM and Architect, which would be a good time for the board to meet both parties.

Board of Health: There is a request for a variance in groundwater separation for the septic design at 15 Greenleaf Drive. The design requires a reduction of the groundwater separation from 5' to 4'. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino, based on the Board of Health Agent's recommendation that the property be allowed a variance in groundwater separation, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Hampden Host Agreement: John Flynn has been working with our technical consultant, Beth Greenblatt and the Altus Group to determine a lump sum payout for acting as the host for the solar installation on Somers Road. The board suggested that John go back with another proposal to be discussed at the board's next meeting on November 18.

Minutes: The minutes of November 3, 2014 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. The Executive Session minutes of November 3, 2014 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.

Correspondence: Reviewed without comment.

601 Main Street: The board is waiting for final documents to be provided by Dave Martel, now that the water testing parameters have been agreed upon.

BOS 141110

613 Main Street: The check has been issued to Paul and Deborah McNaughton for the repair work for their house. We are attempting to get the contractor in to make the connection from the town well to the homeowner's house.

Board of Health: Gary Weiner and Lorri McCool will review the situation of water at the Federated Church and the possibility of the need for a public water supply, given the addition of the daycare business at the church.

Meeting Date: The board discussed the next meeting date. Given that the scholarship dinner will be held at La Cucina on Monday night at which the board members will serve as waiters, the meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

Budget Meeting: The board moved to the Melville Room for the annual budget kick off meeting at 7:00 pm. John opened the meeting by announcing the deal the board is working on for the town to act as host to the solar installation on Somers Road and the potential for an immediate payout of \$125-150,000. There is also the opportunity of doing a buy out of the cell tower at the transfer station for a one time payout.

John stated that the board is looking for level staffing and level number of hours from each department. Carol Fitzgerald announced that the Personnel committee is reviewing a new salary schedule, which will probably allow for a step increase only for all employees. Once the schedule is approved, it will be distributed to all departments.

John mentioned the addition of tax revenue from the Hampden Country Club and the installation of the National Grid power station on Allen Street.

Each department was asked how the year had been for them. Dana Pixley stated that everything was good, as did Mike Gorski. Norm Charest stated that when Carolyn Reed finishes her training, the salary money currently going to the Assessor's will be shifted to her, which may occur in the next fiscal year.

Jeff mentioned the construction of the new police station and gave an update as to the status of the project. Dana asked whether any thought had been given to the plowing and sanding of the new station; and mentioned that the Senior Center's needs are immediate in the morning and not something the Highway Department can accommodate. Jeff's response was that we had another year before we have to think about winter conditions at the station.

A discussion was started by John Flynn about the Senior Tax Abatement Program which was approved through a town meeting vote. John gave an overview of the program, that the hiring would be done by the department who needed the help; that the application would then be forwarded to the Selectmen for their approval; and then forwarded to the Assessors and the Treasurer to determine final eligibility for the applicant. The information will be sent out to department heads again for their use and the assessor's will be asked as to the cut off for number of volunteers allowed in the program given the tax implications.

The board reconvened in their office and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm, seconded by Norm Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc