

Approved 1/14/14

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

January 6, 2014  
6:00 pm

625 Main Street  
Hampden, MA 01036

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino  
Vinnie Villamaino was not in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 pm by John Flynn.

Guests: Tyler Witkop, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, Art Booth, Paul Bechard

Fire Department: Chief Gorski introduced Meaghan Rogers to the board as an applicant for the position of a provisional firefighter. Meaghan stated that she has had an interest in doing this work for some time, and now has the time to commit to the training and has going to the gym to get in shape for the job as well. She has been vetted through the department and her brother was appointed most recently to the department. Norman asked about training and Meaghan will receive one on one training initially and will have completed all training within a year. Norman made a motion to appoint Meaghan Rogers to the position of Provisional Firefighter, as recommended by Mike Gorski, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Verizon Pole Petition: Verizon is petitioning to install two new poles on Ames Road and a representative from UCS, Paul Davis, contracted by Verizon, presented the plan to the board. Dick Harris was here as well as residents from 8 Ames Road. There are guy lines that go into trees on Dick Harris' property and Dick wants the trees taken down. Verizon intends to cross Ames Road at one point and install another pole there. Paul Davis showed a more detailed plan to the board and the residents for a full understanding of locations. When asked when the work would take place, Paul's response was dependent upon engineering and construction departments' schedules, but he would guess in the spring. The poles have all been marked out and will be jointly owned by Verizon and National Grid.

A motion was made by Norman Charest to approve the pole placement based on the Plan marked Verizon No. 1A0Y2EW, dated November 22, 2013, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Conservation Commission: Travis Zanetti, a resident from Rock-A –Dundee Road came before the board to express an interest in serving on the Conservation Commission. When asked why, he explained that he had a run in with them when he was working on his property and thought he might prove to be an asset to the group, although he has no formal background in that area. Given that, John asked what his background is. Travis responded that he is an electrician and John wondered if he might be interested in serving on the Town House Building Committee, as that might be a better fit for him. John asked that he express his interest via letter or email to this office as to the committee he might want to serve on.

BOS 140106

South Road Property Release: The Release of the Right of First Refusal for property owned by Russ and Olga Morton was signed off by John Flynn and Norman Charest upon receiving notice that a full payment of taxes had been made.

Minutes of December 9 and 16 and December 30: The minutes were not reviewed as Vinnie was not here for one of the meetings and Norm was not here for another. They will be reviewed with a full board present.

2015 Salary Chart: The salary chart was provided by the Personnel Committee and distributed to all elected/appointed department heads for their budget preparation.

Warrantless Entry Policy: Norm wants to read the current policy the department uses before signing off on the new policy. A request will be made to the Chief.

Park and Rec Letter re: School gym usage: John's response to the letter was that the statements in the letter did not accurately reflect what took place in the meeting with P&R and Marty O'Shea. He thought Cindi Connors and Marty O'Shea agreed to meet to determine how best to proceed with scheduling gym usage.

Assessor's Memo on Assistant Assessor: The Assessor's notified Personnel and the BOS of a salary adjustment made for Assistant Assessor after her six months of service. Carolyn Reed's new rate will be a Grade 9, step 12, effective January 6, 2014.

Conservation Restriction: A conservation restriction will be placed on property purchased by Sherry Himmelstein which requires the Board's signatures by law. Dave Martel is reviewing the document now.

Charter Emergency Information: Noted by board.

Charter Cable Contract Update: The contract for Charter is scheduled to expire on March 2, 2014. The board can review contract information as well as Broadband usage for town buildings.

Notice of Claim: Administrative Assistant slipped and fell in icy parking lot and reported such to MIIA.

Maintenance Agreement for Generator: No discussion.

Tighe and Bond Underground Storage Tank Monitoring Proposal: No discussion.

Broadband Information: No discussion.

Kibbe Lane Road Condition: A memo was sent by the Planning Board to the Highway Superintendent regarding the condition of Kibbe Lane. His response was that it should be reviewed by an engineer before the town accepts the road.

HWRSD Budget Meeting: January 9 at 5:00 pm.

Note from Hampden Country Club Buffer Committee: The Board was copied on a letter to Lance Trevallion, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer by the group, asking that he take action on the work done by the HCC.

Highway Inspection Reports: So noted.

Personnel Committee: The Personnel Committee is seeking new members as two of their current members will no longer be able to serve. Cindi Connors and Karla Grant contacted this office for more information. We will ask that a letter be submitted by those interested parties. There is also some question as to whether an employee could serve on a committee, as it may be a conflict of interest issue. We will check with MMA as to how they would handle this situation.

MEMA Mutual Aid Agreement: The Highway Superintendent received a copy of this agreement for review as it pertains more to Highway than to Police and Fire, John asked that we get comments from Dana Pixley as to the benefits of such an agreement. Chief Gorski was in support of the agreement.

With no further business, a motion was made by Norman Charest to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc