

Approved 1/21/14

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

MINUTES

January 14, 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 6:00 pm by John D. Flynn.

Guest: Tyler Witkop, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

1. Mutual Aid Agreement: The agreement brought forth by MEMA was discussed and the highway superintendent was asked his opinion of the agreement. Dana Pixley's response was to question what advantage this would bring to Hampden. The board then asked who would pay the cost of our crew working in another community for mutual aid. This will be discussed at the next meeting on the 21st.
2. Tighe and Bond Underground Storage Tank Monitoring Proposal: The board reviewed the proposal for the mandated monitoring that must be done of our underground storage tanks at the Highway department. The Administrative Assistant will request a reduction in the bid price and if successful at the amount of \$200/month, the board will approve. The work will continue for the remainder of the fiscal year. A motion was made by Norm Charest to approve the bid proposal contingent upon a reduction to \$200 month, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
3. Cummins Generator Maintenance Agreement: The Town House and Senior Center have had some maintenance and repair issues with generators housed on each property and the board questions the benefit of the maintenance agreement currently being reviewed. John will call Cummins to discuss further.
4. Hampshire Council of Governments Electricity Program: This program to purchase electricity through a group purchase program was voted at ATM in April 2013 and these are the final stages of review as to what this will mean for the residents in town. Resident, Dave Hayward from Somers Road is employed by Northeast Utilities and was present tonight. He has offered to help in the review of this program and will attend the meeting on January 21st when the board meets with Ken Elstein from the Hampshire Council of Governments.
5. Minutes: Minutes of December 9, 2013 were reviewed. There was one clarification that needs to be made and these will be reviewed at our next meeting. The minutes of December 16, 2013 were reviewed and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Vinnie Villamaino was unable to attend the meeting and therefore did not vote. The minutes of December 30, 2013 were reviewed and a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Norman Charest could not attend the meeting and therefore did not

vote on the minutes. The minutes of January 6, 2014 were reviewed and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. Vinnie Villamaino could not attend the meeting and therefore could not vote on the minutes.

6. Solar Energy Contact by Soltage: The board has been contacted by Soltage, a solar company interested in installing solar panels at our transfer station. We will contact the company and ask that they come in with a proposal to discuss.
7. Hampshire Purchasing Cooperative: The board received information from the Hampshire Council of Governments regarding cooperative purchasing power with their group. The information will be forwarded to various departments to check on cost savings.
8. Gaming Commission Letter of Community Designation: A letter was sent to the Gaming Commission to put Hampden in the queue to receive compensation as being a “designated community” as other surrounding towns have been. This will allow for conversation between Hampden and the Commission to discuss possible mediations due to the development of a casino in downtown Springfield.
9. Unemployment Notice: Received request for former Town employee who worked for the Parks Department this past summer.
10. Chairlift Update: The board received an update from the Tighe and Bond engineer regarding the progress on the chair lift installation. Waiting for additional information.
11. Charter Cable License Renewal/MassBroadband123: John is looking for a few quotes for fiber providers.
12. Letter re: Main Street residents: The board is seeking an opinion from our insurance carrier relative to possible damage to pipes of residents along Main Street. We need a determination if MIIA will cover any damages or whether the board will go back to the town to request additional money for repairs. John has contacted two well drillers for quotes for a well to be drilled for the Federated Church. Tom Couture will be handling this for the town.
 1. Trench Permit for Golf Course: FYI
 2. ZBA Hearings for Hampden Country Club: Raymond Drive residents have filed with ZBA and Superior Court to protest the decisions made by the Planning Board and the Zoning Enforcement Officer.
 3. Town House Building Committee: The board received a letter of interest from Albert Vincent in serving on the Townhouse Building Committee. Mr. Vincent will be asked to come in and meet with the board.
 4. Various Correspondence: Reviewed without comment.

Residents, Dave and Charo Hayward came into the meeting to ask the board if they had been in contact with the Gaming Commission relative to possible effects on the town with the development of a casino in Springfield. They noted that Somers Road will be used heavily for potential patrons and the board responded that the Commission had been contacted. The Hayward’s mentioned that some of the money from the casino might be used for a bike path along Somers Road. John mentioned that he would look into having a traffic study done to support our position. Dave Hayward has had numerous conversations in the past with Rick Green when he was on the board about possible energy efficiencies that might be available to the town. They had also discussed a solar installation at the landfill. Given Dave’s experience in the

field, John made a motion to appoint Dave Hayward as a member of the Energy Committee, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

There was further discussion about installing solar roofing at TWB. This will be discussed further.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc