

Approved 6/16/14

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

May 27, 2014
6:00 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.

Police Department Building Committee: Jeff Farnsworth, Phil Schneider, Don Collins, Doug Boyd, John Shay came before the board at 6:30 and were later joined by Gary Weiner, Gail Lefebvre and Rick Green.

Jeff started by telling the board that they would like Kathy Zanetti to take minutes of their meetings as they go forward. John confirmed that she would be working straight time and not overtime while doing so. There is money available in the project funding and Jeff anticipates that a lot of her work will be done during normal business hours once the building construction starts. The last new project built was the Senior Center. Doug suggested meeting with the architect, Kaestle Boos on fees, and if we don't come to agreement, they would have time to go out to bid with other architects. He mentioned that this is not a stick built building, but will be designed off a computer and built off site.

There was conversation about the location of the building, what kind of buffer the neighbor would have and the location of a stream that would require a buffer zone as well. There were not exact dimensions on the renderings that the committee but those numbers will be determined. Gary Weiner stated that there is not much of a wetland, but the Conservation Commission will make the final determination on that and typically there is a 50' buffer from wetlands, and a 50' buffer for the septic as well.

The board asked about Brian Garbecki and whether or not he had been asked to join the committee. Rick Green will ask Brian if he would like to participate.

The board asked if a timeline has been established for the construction. Jeff responded that they would like to determine the bid stream to get the best numbers for the project. The architect said this is a good time to go out to bid. We might delay if that changes. One of the manufacturers of these prefabricated buildings called the architects to check on the status of this building, so moving on it now may give us the best outcome. Weather is not an issue since this is being built off site. Only the site work will be an issue. Vinnie suggested that they move quickly on determining the building envelope so trees can be cut to take advantage of the work environment now.

The Building Committee would like to schedule separate meetings with the Northampton Police Chief and the Palmer Chief to gather information from their experiences with building new stations.

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The Selectmen do not wish to be intricately involved with the building process, and are confident that those on the committee will be handling the bidding, and construction that ensures the biggest benefit for their fellow residents.

They also stated that the committee must convey all financial information to the Town Treasurer, Dick Patullo so the borrowing and funding are done in the most frugal way.

Jeff said they have talked with Dick about the scheduling of the project and will continue to keep him informed.

The next step will be to meet with the architect, and negotiate the best possible price for their expertise. The question was asked as to when serious money will be spent, and the group; thinks it will be 6 to 87 months at least. The first money will be spent for a retainer for the architect.

Town House Elevator: The board will contact Architect Roy Brown to set a time to meet to discuss the project.

Town House: The floors in the Melville Room and auditorium were tested for asbestos and were found to be absent of any. The board will proceed with scheduling the new floors in both locations. John would like to schedule a meeting with the Town House Building Committee for June 5th.

Status of Markham Discrimination Case: The board reviewed the information on the petition that Mr. Markham has brought against the town about Howlett Hill Road. Town Counsel, Dave Martel will continue to monitor and act on our behalf.

Legal Fees: John would like to check with Cliff Bombard to see if we might be able to cover some of our legal fees through other accounts as the Law and Claims account has little money left.

Philpott Property Sale: One of the homes on the SVWD will be sold and therefore the new owner will be paying the town for the water they use. The board would like the Water Commissioners to come in to discuss the procedure to get this established.

GASB45: This office must compile health insurance costs and benefit information so a report can be generated showing the town's liability for its employee benefits.

MassDOT: The board received a notice to proceed on projects being funded with separate monies from the state to take care of road conditions due to winter weather. The town received an additional \$38,461 in funding.

Police Department Holding Cell: The chief had raised the concern about the plumbing problem in the holding cell. He spoke with the board, and has discovered an inexpensive repair that he has already done. As to the issues with the condition of the cell cited by the state, we will hold off on that project with the pending police department relocation.

Notes:

- Soltage Solar Company and the Landfill location: The board will invite parties in to discuss potential solar projects on June 16.

- Dog Restraining Notice: To be signed. There is another issue with the McNeil family and a dog who roams loose. This will be addressed in a letter to the dog's owner.
- Insurance Restitution Received: Check received and deposited.
- Defibrillator Grant Denial: Chief Farnsworth received a notice that no grant monies are available for the defibrillators he applied for; fortunately, the town appropriated the funding in the event the grant was denied.
- Property and Liability Insurance: A 2nd request for bid was sent out with a bid opening date of June 6th requested.
- Resignations: Mark Casey resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals and Charles Beaver, a 20 year volunteer firefighter and officer submitted his letter of resignation from the fire department.
- Charter Phone Set-up: Will send out billing information to Charter to get a quote for phone services.

Water Commissioners: A house that is currently serviced by the SWD will be sold and the board would like to meet with the commissioners to discuss the billing of this service.

Conservation Commission: The board would like to invite two residents in to discuss their interest in serving on the Conservation Commission. They are Andrew Netherwood and Tim Hanley. The invitation will be for June 16th.

Town Accountant: The board would like Cliff to review possible sources from which money can be transferred to offset those nearing "running in the red".

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc