

Approved 9/22/14

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

MINUTES

July 29, 2014
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino
Guests: Jack Germain, Matt Fisher, Frank Watson, members of the Federated Church, Dave Martel, Town Counsel, Tom Couture from Tighe and Bond Engineering.
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by John D. Flynn.

Federated Church Well Discussion: Members of the Federated church came before the board to discuss the quality of their well water at the church. An agreement had been prepared by Town Counsel and presented to the church, but the church was not satisfied with the terms.

Tom Couture responded that a common sense approach was taken as to where the plume ran, when asked why the Board had not come to the church some time ago. The plume goes towards the river and the location of a new well will have to be determined. There was also the question as to whether a new septic system would have to be installed.

John was concerned in that communication between the church and the town were not frequent and suggested that if we all stayed in communication, this could be resolved fairly quickly. When standards were discussed Tom emphasized that there are no state standards for the sodium or chloride levels in water. He did state that chloride with manganese may cause a problem with plumbing fixtures and also stated that sodium with the chloride present may present some problems for some people.

The church members were concerned about contamination down gradient from the church and Tom responded that the State would never allow the church to be held responsible for any damage for down gradient contamination.

Matt was adamant about the terms of the agreement and after further discussion it was agreed that the following revisions would be made to it:

- The town will not waiver in its commitment to supply through the drilling of a new well, or additional options for clean water
- The church will not have to indemnify the town against any future claims regarding the water quality
- The church will indemnify the town for interior costs as well as the pipes from the rectory to the church
- The church would be reimbursed for the well, interior problems and anticipated parking lot repairs

Tom Couture was asked about his opinion on future contamination. He responded that a catch basin has been installed on town property at the highway garage which should eliminate any future concerns. This was not satisfactory to the church members, who responded that if there is

no real concern, then the town can commit to a future clean water supply. Dave Martel stated that the town would provide indemnification limited to salt infiltration.

When asked about possible remedies for the water problem, Tom stated that there are three ways to go: a special act of legislation to expand the water source already drilled for other properties on Main Street, install a Reverse Osmosis treatment system in the church or drill a new deep well.

When cost estimates were discussed for the drilling of a new well, Jack Germain stated that the original numbers the church came up with were gathered hastily and they would like time to work on getting "real" numbers.

John suggested that there is some additional money available, that 3k-4k could be available if needed.

The group agreed to meet again on the 18th to check on the status of the situation. The church should have numbers by then. The church members asked that Bruce Libby be a part of future conversations. Matt stated that with additional legal fees being incurred that he would like those to be considered for reimbursement by the town.

There was also discussion about the day care center doing business at the church. The board wanted to make Lorri McCool, Board of Health Agent aware of the situation and request her input as to any concerns she might have.

Tom mentioned that having a public water supply requires a 400' boundary around it with full control with the space.

Everyone is hopeful to have this fully agreed to and resolved by September 1, 2014.

Kaestle Boos Contract Signing: The board reviewed the architectural agreement and a motion was made by Norman Charest to allow John Flynn to sign the contract for the new Police Station architectural work, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Chair Lift Proposal: We anticipate the installation of the chair lift on Wednesday, August 13, 2014.

Country Club Washout on Wilbraham Road: The board discussed the situation with the washout on Wilbraham Road and ensured that things were cleaned up to the Highway Superintendent's satisfaction.

Fire Department Request: Chief Gorski requested that the board approve the appointment of Tim Evans to the position of 3rd Lieutenant. A motion was made by Norm Charest to appoint Tim Evans to the position of 3rd Lieutenant for the Fire Department for a term of three years, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Hampshire County of Government: To continue working on the electric aggregation plan, the board was required to sign documents for the State. This was done and will be forwarded to the HCOG.

School Correspondence: The board reviewed various pieces of correspondence with no discussion.

Seeing no further business, a motion was made by Norman Charest to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc