

Approved 5/18/15

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

May 4, 2015
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.

Water Commissioner Candidate: The board met with Jake Allaband, town resident who is interested in serving as a Water Commissioner. Jake has attended one meeting with the commission and is here to meet with the board. After some discussion, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Jake Allaband as a Water Commissioner for a three year term, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Hampden Housing Authority: Deanne Vermette and Carol Collins came before the board to express their interest in being appointed to the Housing Authority. There are two open positions; one for a one year term and the other for a five year term. Carol Collins was interested in the one year term and Deanna was interested in the longer term. As it was town election, it was suggested that both Carol and Deanna be write in candidates. The board did not appoint either one of them as the election would be the proper way to install new members.

Lease Agreement between the Town of Hampden and the HWRSD: The board learned of changes that the HWRSD wished to make to the current lease that is due to expire on June 30, 2015 (after already having requested a one year extension last year). The agreement allows the HWRSD to lease the Green Meadows Elementary School and the Thornton W. Burgess Middle School for a twenty year period. The HWRSD has already met with the Wilbraham Board of Selectmen with their proposed changes, but have yet to meet with the Hampden Board of Selectmen. Our Town Counsel, Dave Martel has reviewed the proposed changes as he received a copy of the lease prior to the Board of Selectmen. He raised some concerns in a letter to the board dated May 1, 2015. The board will invite Superintendent O'Shea to attend a board meeting to present the proposed changes as has been done in Wilbraham. The board will also invite our Town Counsel to attend the meeting at his convenience.

Unemployment History: There are substantial charges levied against the town for unemployment claims that have been challenged in the past by this office. There will be a review of those charges and contact will be made with the Department of Workforce Employment to try to resolve the issue.

Hazardous Mitigation Plan: This will require two public outreach meetings and three planning meetings to make the revisions necessary for completion. One planning meeting has already taken place.

VFW Permits: The following one day permits have been requested by the VFW:

- Sunday, May 17, 2015 for a 30th Birthday Party from 12:00 pm to 12:00 am
- Sunday, July 19, 2015 for a Baby Shower from 12:00 pm to 12:00 am
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A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve both permits as requested, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: all in favor

Chief's Contract Status: A motion was made by John Flynn to go into Executive Session to discuss the status of the Chief's contract at 6:27 with return to Open Session, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes, Norman Charest yes.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to leave Executive Session at 6:43 pm and return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Vinnie Villamaino yes, John Flynn yes, Norman Charest yes.

Senior Center: We will check with Becky Moriarty regarding the insurance coverage and whether the heat coils will be covered in the winter damage claim we submitted.

4th of July Parade Invitation: John Flynn and Vinnie Villamaino will march in the annual East Longmeadow parade.

Transfer Requests: There are transfer requests for the following accounts:

- Gasoline Expenses to Road Machinery Maintenance \$2,000
- Reserve Account to Law and Claims \$3,000

A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve both requests, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Winter Snow Damage: The board discussed the estimates received for the repair work needed at the Fire House and Senior Center.

Regional Dispatch Report: The board is waiting to hear from the group who has been hired to study the regional dispatch concept. The Chief has projected that the town could expect to realize a savings of \$166,000 a year with a regional program.

Verizon Letter of Authorization: The board would like this checked into further before signing off on this authorization.

Leash Law: The board signed the annual letter notifying residents of the leash law in town.

Memorial Day Parade: The VFW has secured Daniel Begin to be the speaker at this year's ceremony for Memorial Day.

NOTE: The tanks needed for the septic repair work at Ed Kennedy's property have been ordered by Tom Gregoire, contractor for the project.

Seeing no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc