

Approved 10/13/15

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

September 8, 2015
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Board Members: Vincent J. Villamaino John D. Flynn, Norman Charest
Norm Charest was not able to attend the meeting.
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Vinnie Villamaino.

Police Station Building Committee: Chief Farnsworth and other members including Don Collins, Gary Weiner, Phill Schneider, Rick Green and Gail Lefebvre were present to discuss the bids received for the newly designed building. There were ten bids received and the Project Manager and architect reviewed all of the bid documents. All bids included sub bids as well. There are alternate bids for architect's fees, radio's, gates, FF&E (furniture, fixtures and equipment), fences, plantings, floor coverings and sally ports. The bid came in under the \$2,975,000 approved at town meeting. The board asked if there was any thought given to not spending the total amount allocated at town meeting. The committee responded that the building size was reduced and the savings gained allows for other alternatives to be considered. The bid award will go to Marois Construction Company, Inc. out of South Hadley MA. When the Chief spoke with the Palmer Chief, the company received glowing reviews for the station they built in Palmer.

There was further discussion as to how the committee would proceed from here. A motion was made by John Flynn that the bid received from Marois Construction in the amount of \$1,985,000 as a base bid and the bid for Alternate #1, in the amount of \$169,500 be approved, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

In addition, a motion was made by John Flynn that all alternates to be recommended by the Building Committee will have to be endorsed by the board, and shall not exceed the budget of \$2,975,000 approved by the town at ATM on 4/28/14 for the entire project, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Chief Farnsworth: The Chief discussed the use of the cruiser as it might be needed for an out of town officer to use on a detail. Jeff would like to start at a cost of \$10/hr. for the time being and the board is fine with that.

Public Access Cable Channel: There have been calls to the board inquiring about starting a public access channel for Hampden in an effort for town meetings to be televised. Rita Vail, Art

Booth and Nancy Zebert were scheduled to attend tonight's meeting, but neither Art nor Nancy were able to attend.

Bill Adrian, a representative from Charter Communications attended the meeting to offer his suggestions for moving forward.

Given the size of our community, we might be better served working with another community. There would be a better chance for grant money and there will be a surcharge to each resident for public access.

There are many options available for towns to create an access channel. Technology is changing constantly giving us more choices. The Wilbraham broadcast is currently available to residents in Hampden.

Bill Adrian stated that there would be some equipment available from Charter for the town's use and in addition there will be staffing needs.

John Flynn agrees that this is an opportunity to explore. Charter will be willing to conduct some training on how to film a meeting, what key shots to get, etc.

Rita Vail said she will contact Bill Adrian directly early October and will also work to get others interested in participating. The Wilbraham-Hampden Times and The Reminder will be contacted to put a notice in the papers seeking volunteers to help with operations and programming.

Transmitters will be provided as part of the contract and a PC/laptop for PowerPoint work, will need a tripod and one camera only, that can be a better grade consumer type, nothing more than that.

Board of Health Calendar for September: Drug Take Back Day will be held at the Hampden Senior Center and the Annual Hazardous Waste Day will be held in Wilbraham allowing residents to dispose of hazardous waste in both instances, free of charge. There will also be a Bulk Day at the Transfer Station for disposal of large items that cannot be accepted at the TS. An independent hauler comes to the station for a fee to residents.

Cultural Council: The Council has a few vacancies and will seek out volunteers to join the board.

Revocation of Used Car License: Licensed Use Car dealer, Bilal M. Mhanna of BAG Auto Sales, Inc. did not fulfill the requirements to lease office space and therefore has no place of business. Based on that, a motion was made by John Flynn to rescind the Used Car License he holds, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Resident's Street Light Issue: A resident from Sessions Drive has requested that the street light at the corner of Sessions Drive and Baldwin be turned off as she is hypersensitive due to the light. The board had requested a letter from her doctor, and was provided one by Northampton Wellness Associates, LLC. The board will contact National Grid and request that the light be moved to a different pole.

School District: The board received notice from Beth Regulbuto, Assistant Superintendent for Business regarding a change in the school budget and with that a revised lower assessment for the Town.

Notice of Appeal: The Bechard's from Wilbraham Road have filed another appeal against the Planning Board and GreatHorse (Hampden Country Club).

Planning Board Minutes: Reviewed without comment.

Board of Registrars: The board received a letter from the Town Clerk regarding the ineligibility of Dick Patullo to serve on this board as he serves on the ZBA as well. The board will investigate and will seek to make Dick a Special Municipal Employee.

Human Resource Audit Report: The board reviewed the report generated by Peter Brunault from the Employers Association of the NorthEast. These findings will be discussed at the board's next meeting on September 14th with the Personnel Committee.

Solar Grant Vote: The board is required to vote to enter into an agreement for grant assistance. With that a motion was made by John Flynn to review and vote to determine whether to authorize the Chair to enter into a Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Services Contract in connection with Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

GreatHorse: Residents from Raymond Drive called the Police and complained about the noise coming from the GreatHorse. The board will look into entertainment licenses to see if GreatHorse currently has one. The board will also check all licenses/permits that they should hold.

Fall Town Meeting: The board reviewed the potential items for the warrant for the Fall Town Meeting. The warrant will be drafted soon for review.

One Day License: The VFW requested a One Day Permit on September 26, 2015 for the Hampden Lion's Club Dinner from 12:00 pm to 12:00 am. A motion was made by John Flynn to approve such permit, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Federated Church and Will D'Angelo: The board will have Town Counsel work on drafting a release for both parties to finalize the water issue at the Church and Riverside Drive.

Chief Farnsworth: The board would like to see the current spreadsheet from Jeff detailing the various vehicles, mileage and condition to determine whether another vehicle will be needed for the department.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc