

Approved 5/23/16

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

May 2, 2016
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Board Members: Vincent J. Villamaino John D. Flynn, Norman Charest
The meeting was called to order by Vinnie Villamaino at 6:00 pm.

A motion was made by Norman Charest to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations for the Highway Department at 6:00 pm, with return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

With no further business to discuss a motion was made by John Flynn to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session at 6:07, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: John Flynn yes, Norman Charest yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

Regional Dispatch: Fire Chief Mike Gorski and Police Chief Jeff Farnsworth came before the board to discuss the progress of the Hampden County Regional Emergency Communication Center. There is a meeting scheduled for May 13th and there is some work to be done prior to that meeting. Jeff explained that there needs to be representation on all sub committees, as follows: Governance Finance, Technology, Dispatch, Police and Fire Operations. John agreed that he will be on the technology subcommittee, Mike Gorski will be on the Governance and Finance subcommittee and Jeff Farnsworth will be on the Operations subcommittee. John will ask if Rich Rediker has someone who might be able to help with the technology subcommittee. The question was asked who would serve on the building subcommittee and Jeff responded that there is an architectural firm working on it and Vinnie agreed that he would be on the building subcommittee.

There is another issue that must be dealt with which is moving the low band system and UHF, the cost of moving them to the new station, the Fire Department will need 7 new radios at \$600/each, and Jeff informed the board that initially the cost would have been \$3200, but he has a deal and can get them for \$2400.

Domestic Policy: The Chief submitted a new policy that Norman needs to review prior to the board signing off on it.

Chief Farnsworth stayed to discuss the issue of part time employment for Reserve Officers who are over the age of 65. According to Hampden County Retirement, full time officers have to retire at 65, but there is no clear, concise direction on whether or not a Reserve Officer has to retire at 65. The board will allow Jeff to continue to monitor this issue over the next few weeks;

BOS 160502

and there is the possibility of going through special legislation, but that would set a precedent for the town.

Country Auto: Bob Fois and his sons came before the board to discuss a Used Car License to be issued by the Board. John Matthews, Chairman of the Planning Board came in to help explain the rationale used by both the Planning and Zoning Boards in rendering their decision to approve. The Zoning Board of Appeals ruled that it was not a Sales Yard and determined that a Used Car License would be a continuation of a pre-existing use and approved Bob Fois to operate his business as such. The ZBA agreed that a total of four cars could be displayed, two on each side of the lot. There is currently a fence on one side of the lot and a buffer on the other side. Planning would like a fence erected to shield the property to the rear of the station, and want some of the cars behind the station to be moved. The license will be issued on a year to year basis, as all licenses currently are. Mr. Fois will be required to do a general clean-up of the site as part of this approval process.

Based on this summary, a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve a Used Car License for Bob Fois at Country Auto, 498 Main Street for a total of four cars on display, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

One Day Liquor License: There was a request for a one day wine license for a service for Bill Olmstead at the Senior Center on May 8th from 12:00 to 5:00. The board will not issue a license for this event. The family will be notified.

Release of Right of First Refusal at 45 Erica Circle: The board reviewed the paperwork and determined that the town has no obligation in this regard.

Health Insurance for Retirees Clarification: The question has been raised by employees as to retiree health benefits and whether an employee has to be enrolled with a plan at the time of retirement. The question was asked of the MMA, who stated that the decision is a town by town decision. The board suggested that other communities be questioned to see how they handle this.

Minutes: The Minutes of April 11 and April 19 Open and Executive Session were reviewed and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve all minutes as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

VFW One Day Liquor License Requests:

- May 14, 2016, 12 pm to 12 am for a Jack and Jill Shower
- June 4, 2016, 12 pm to 12 am for a College Graduation Party
- June 5, 2016, 12 pm to 12 am for a Baby Shower
- June 11, 2016, 12 pm to 12 am for a College Graduation Party
- June 18, 2016, 12 pm to 12 am for a Lions Club Cornhole Game (no charge)
- July 23, 2016, 12 pm to 12 am for a 40th Birthday Party
- August 20, 2016, 12 pm to 12 am for a Jack and Jill Shower

The board reviewed the requests as presented, and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve all requests as shown above, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. There was a request for a High School Graduation Party that the Board would not approve.

Variance Request: The board reviewed a request to allow use of a sieve analysis in lieu of a perc test as the groundwater is too high for a perc test. The board reviewed Board of Health Agent, Lorri McCool's recommendation and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve the variance as requested, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by Norman Charest to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations for the Highway Superintendent at 7:15 pm, with return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

With most of the major issues discussed, Mark left the meeting and a motion was made by Norman Charest to adjourn the meeting and return to Open Session at 7:50 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

Correspondence:

- Letter from resident regarding School Committee Chairman: There was a complaint from a resident regarding the rude response she received from Peter Salerno at a School Committee meeting.
- Information on Grant Application that Gina Kahn will be presenting at next meeting
- East Longmeadow 4th of July Parade Invitation: Vinnie and John will march.
- MSTF Meeting Notice, time change to 6:00 pm and location change to TWB
- Girl Scout Awards: Awaiting information on the girls receiving the status of a Silver Honor.

Solar Update: The contract has not yet been finalized; the question of liability has not been resolved.

GreatHorse Water Testing: The wells are in place and GreatHorse is just waiting for the DEP to give them the go ahead to start monitoring.

Main Street Water Issues: There has been no progress from any party, but money was appropriated at Town Meeting to resolve the issues. John had a conference call with Mike Callan and Tom Couture to discuss further options.

With no further business, a motion was made by Norman Charest to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc