

Approved 8/15/16

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES

August 1, 2016
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden MA

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino
The meeting was called to order by John Flynn at 5:55 pm.

Garden Club: Ginny Blake and members of the Garden Club came before the board to discuss tables used for their annual plant sale on Memorial Day after the parade. They have old tables that John suggested be replaced with some new, lighter weight ones that could be stored in the auditorium and used when the club needed them. The old ones had been stored in the basement of Academy Hall and were cumbersome and heavy to cart up and down. The club seems pleased with the suggestion and the board will look into purchasing three to six new tables.

John asked Connie Witt to stay behind when the club departed so he could ask for her help with Academy Hall. John mentioned the recent resignation of Judy Jackson and he and Connie agreed on the commission needing more members. Tyler Witkop was asked to put a notice in the Wilbraham Hampden Times seeking people interested in working on this commission. In addition, Tyler will do a story on the commission and talk about the recent work done on the WWI monument on the common.

Academy Hall: Items needing attention: A skirt needs to be replaced on the building, columns need to be repaired and Connie will contact her expert regarding painting the building again.

Highway Superintendent: Mark Langone came before the board to give an update on the following projects:

Bennett Road: Mark explained that the project was off to a rocky start, literally, with the size of the rocks that needed to be removed during excavation; they have made good progress and will have a couple more weeks of work to complete.

2 Scantic Road: Mark received a call from the homeowner at 2 Scantic Road who complained about water entering her property from the cemetery run off. The water previously had been deflected due to the location of a house that has since been demolished. John suggested that Mark meet with Cemetery Commission to discuss remedies. Vinnie suggested putting a berm in and directing the runoff directly into the catch basin. Mark will follow up with the Cemetery Commissioners.

Steepleview Drive: Mark will meet with contractor, Palmer Paving to discuss how to finish driveways and handle water drainage. He was told to check in with Gary Weiner for additional information regarding drainage issues.

GreatHorse: Mark was contacted by Jonathan Murray from GreatHorse who asked about putting in a curb cut on Wilbraham Road to access a cart path to allow truck traffic. Mark said the majority of the work had already been done this afternoon and Vinnie responded that he knew all about it. Nothing more for Mark to do.

Chief Farnsworth: The Chief asked to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel issues. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino at 6:35 to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues with return to Open Session, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: Vinnie Villamaino yes, Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session at 6:45 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: Vinnie Villamaino yes, Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes.

Jeff mentioned that the new cruiser would be delivered soon and talked about ordering another car at fall town meeting. The board did not think that another car was due for replacement and asked that Jeff get mileage information to them for future discussion.

Police Station Building Committee: Phill Schneider came into the meeting to discuss the status of the new building with Jeff Farnsworth. It appears that all sub-contractors are in line for an opening of September 6th. Verizon has committed to their work, the OPM and architect are working on a punch list now, the trusses are getting set for the carport, landscaping is coming along, thanks to St. Clair's donation and the buffer between the station and neighbors Garbecki's looks good.

They then discussed tentative dates; Jeff having his staff in the building on the 31st of August, coordinate with Mike Gorski, coordinate with East Longmeadow who will cover for our 911 training day on the 31st, and Jeff will check on an open house on September 24th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. This will be discussed further to set hard dates.

As an aside, Jeff explained that he had ordered new vests for all cruisers, for active shooter situations. Norm asked what level of vests he had ordered and the board wondered about the vests fitting all officers. Jeff assured them that they were designed to do so.

Fall Town Meeting: A memo has gone out to all department heads announcing October 24th, 7:00 pm at TWB as the date for our Special Town Meeting.

VFW One Day Permit: The board reviewed the one permit request made by the VFW for Saturday, August 13, 2016. A recommendation was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as requested, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

VFW Request for Annual Turkey Shoot: The board will ask that members come in to discuss the request.

Republic Services Agreement: The board will discuss the end date of the agreement.

Appointment of Alternate Commissioner to PVPC: The board will ask about the possibility of an alternate commissioner coming from Zoning Board of Appeals.

Regional Selectmen Meeting: Nick Breault, Wilbraham Town Administrator is working on scheduling a Regional Selectmen's Meeting and offered a few dates. This board would prefer the date of October 6th and will relate that to Nick Breault.

Minutes: June 13, June 20, June 27, July 5, July 11 and July 18, 2016: The minutes were not reviewed.

Building Official Certification: There is paperwork that needs to be filed with the state for the building inspector.

Retiree Health Insurance Requirements: Information has been gathered for the board's review regarding certain requirements for employee's to receive retiree health insurance.

Unemployment Files: Information has been gathered for the board's review and town counsel's review to determine if there is a way to settle with the state's assessment of monies due for unemployment.

Police Department Move: The board will hold a meeting on August 9 at 10:00 am for Town House staff to discuss the upcoming move of the police department.

GreatHorse DEP issue: GreatHorse still has time to get testing results to DEP for final approval.

Solar Update: There are additional credits available now so the solar installation at the transfer station can take place.

Seeing no further business, a motion was made at 7:30 pm by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc

BOS 160801