

Approved 6/26/17

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES

February 21, 2017
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden MA

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino

Guests: Eugene D'Angelo, Mary Ellen Glover, Bruce Glover, Rita Vail, John Niemi, Tyler Witkop,
Wilbraham-Hampden Times

John Flynn called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PVPC Block Grant Document: John O' Leary from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission came before the board to bring them up to speed on the status of the grant application he has been working on in concert with East Longmeadow. There was a public hearing held in EL where residents were allowed comment on the application and John needs the signature of the board members to submit the application. The submittal date is March 10 with an anticipated five to six months wait before hearing on the status of the submittal.

Board of Health: Jane Budynkiewicz, BOH Coordinator came before the board to discuss the financial status of the Transfer Station and its Enterprise Fund. Jane explained that the Town needs to buy bags this year and that cost has been at the \$14k mark for a few years. The board discussed the option of increasing the cost per bag versus raising the cost of the permit to access the Transfer Station and asked that Jane run a few scenarios to determine what would be the best way to proceed with the cost differential. In addition, Norm asked that Jane research the costs for curbside pick-up and add that to the other information gathering she is doing. She will report back once the information is available.

John asked about the monitoring of conditions at the Transfer Station and thought that some of the less stringent testing requirements may have expired at this point. Contact will be made with Tighe and Bond who did the closure report for the dump to see if there have been changes in these mandated DEP tests.

Additional line items were reviewed with Jane and she made notes of accounts that would need transfers before year end as well as estimates of increases needed for the coming fiscal year.

One account that needs an immediate transfer is that for Office Supplies. A transfer request will be completed and submitted to Advisory for their approval. As it stands right now, we will need transfers in the amount of \$14k before the end of the fiscal year.

BOS 170221

HWRSD: John remarked that Ed Cenedella, Facilities Manager for HWRSD will be meeting with the custodial staff at TWB and Green Meadows to determine how best to use the funds from the town budget to accomplish renovations for either or both of the schools.

Another budget item to be addressed is the \$31k needed by the Police Department to pay for new video cameras in the cruisers. It will have to be handled in a Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for May 8th.

Veterans' Agent: John asked that the Veterans' Agent be contacted to see how his budget numbers look and whether we can anticipate a lower number this year.

Traffic Control: While reviewing the status of this account, after the Main Street paving project and realizing how much money was expended by the town for this project, the board wants to ensure that traffic control is part of the contractor's bid rather than have it be the town's expense.

Citizens for Education Excellence: Mary Ellen Glover, Rita Vail, Bruce Glover and John Niemi were present for the discussion. Mary Ellen wanted to know if the questions the group brought forward to be asked of the attorney had been sent and if so, when might they expect answers to them. John explained that the attorney was on vacation but answers should be expected sometime in the next week.

Mary Ellen also noted that the audits performed for the HWRSD are not "clean" audits and she has requested copies of these audits from the School Committee but has not yet received them. A concern is that the financial statements are not being prepared by the Business Manager/Assistant Superintendent, but rather performed by the CPA who performs the audit. This office has those audits and Mary Ellen will be provided access to them at any time.

Annual Town Meeting: Mary Ellen Glover also noted that the Citizens for Education Excellence will bring forward two warrant articles for this year's ATM. They are in process of finalizing the wording and will get the necessary signatures. She was told that the warrant will be closed at the end of March.

Transfer Station Solar Installation: Lenny Grundstrom and neighbors from South Monson Road came before the board to express their concerns about the solar installation proposed at the Transfer Station. People are concerned how the structures will affect them, their quality of life, how their views will be changed, etc. Brett Purchas spoke as the group's leader and had a copy of the plan that has been proposed. The plan shows a 50' buffer zone, but the neighbors would like it expanded. John explained that nothing is set in stone yet; that Ameresco will have to go to all necessary boards for approvals; for example, Planning, Conservation Commission, National Heritage and any others that apply. All abutters will be notified so they can attend any and all public hearings. DEP will also be involved in the process.

The question was asked if the town will get revenue from clearing the wood ourselves, and the board will check into that.

John explained that the board is acting to reduce the tax implications for residents, and this is a way to generate some revenue.

Drainage and scenery appear to be the biggest concerns for those in attendance.

Brett is concerned about the value of his property and the drop in his home valuation.

It was reiterated that all abutters would be properly notified of any public hearings and would be free to voice their concerns at those hearings.

John also mentioned that Eversource will be developing on Mill Road with a 50% build out, and 50% green space.

Transfer Station Solar Meeting Attendees:

- Leonard Grundstrom, South Monson Road
- Eugene D'Angelo, Scantic Road
- Mike Ford, South Monson Road
- John Matthews, North Monson Road
- John Niemi, Bennett Road
- Allen and Laurie Schoolcraft, Scantic Road
- Jason Grundstrom, South Monson Road
- Peggy Grundstrom, South Monson Road
- Susan Kendrick, South Monson Road
- Mark Kendrick, South Monson Road
- Brett Purchas, South Monson Road

Minutes: Minutes were not reviewed; will be done at a later date.

Correspondence:

- FMLA Request
- Site Plan Submitted to Planning
- Letter to Broderick re: Water Tie In
- Request from Garden Club
- Letter regarding Fire Department

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc