

Approved 4/18/17

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

March 6, 2017  
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 by John Flynn at 6:00 pm.

Fire Budget Review: Chief Gorski and Dave Markham came before the board to discuss the fire department budget prior to meeting with the Advisory Board. John noted that he had read the articles written by the Chief about fire department proposed recommendations for changes to the

John mentioned the PR campaign that, John thinks the question needs to go before the town, not just with the BOS, and this was discussed some time ago and John agreed that this would not go away, 3 people recommended, no replacement for a vacation leave, roll the dice, maybe hire someone for an hourly pay, there are now 2 weeks of vacation suggested, 51% of calls come in during the day; Mike proposes an internal post at first, rather than going out to get V asked how the department can respond with 3 people, Stony Hill Road fire, 4 people, mutual aid came in, 3 people on staff, tones go off, the fire house would be contacted first, and then go to the fire, determine if anyone is in, to get them out immediately, one person at the pump panel, any fire department dedicates someone to the engine, 2 firefighters go in for rescue, if someone life is in danger, an assessment is made and 2 people can go in for rescue.

Are there different types of academies? No additional training is required of our guys, they have all been academy trained. Career class is 5 days a week for 1.5 months, mass call volunteers, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays.

Where the fire is depends on how it gets fought.

Monday thru Friday, 8 to 5, Fire guys are not out enough in schools or out to seniors, Vinnie asked if they called mutual aid, how long does it take them to get here? The response was 12 to 14 minutes from EL and EL are set up for hydrants.

Fire House expansion, 2 bays at \$200k and a truck purchase for \$500k in the following year. Warrant article for these capital improvements and look at ventilation issues down the road. Pagers and radio system: both PD and FD are all on high band and use them, low band is there if they need it

Check into communications equipment up on the Black property and make sure everything is covered by insurance. There are three transmitters with battery back-ups.

BOS 170306

Note: A date needs to be set for the next Capital Planning Meeting.

Citizens for Educational Excellence: Mary Ellen Glover came in with a group of other concerned residents to discuss the ATM warrant articles regarding the school. John is willing to send a letter to the school committee to ask about the audit preparations, and to ask if the state reviews the findings. A letter will be sent to the School Committee from the BOS regarding the audit.

SVRHT Audit Report: Reviewed without discussion.

Regional 911 Emergency Communications District Agreement: The board is still considering its option as to which plan to proceed with.

Letter from Historical Commission: The board reviewed a letter from the Historic Commission regarding the Gerrish property and asking for the board's support in granting a variance to revert the property back to its original configuration.

Minutes: Not reviewed.

Seeing 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