

Approved 11/2/17

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

MINUTES

July 10, 2017  
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 6:00 pm.

Guests: Heather Zanetti, Mary Ellen Glover, Maura Ryan

Heather Zanetti and other concerned residents came before the board to keep the conversation going about the town's support for equal education at TWB. Heather asked where the town stands as it relates to investigating deregionalization. John responded that he has been working the phones to find an attorney from town willing to work on the issue pro bono, and is not having much luck. John will continue to look for representation.

Heather also asked about the response to the request for information from the school, as it relates to the students who have transferred to WMS and why their requests were granted. The board explained that the process takes time as the town had to proceed with the Secretary of State's Office and then with the Attorney General's office. There has not been a response to the request yet.

Heather also asked about the numbers that have been generated by the school and everyone concurred that the numbers seem to change with time and no one feels certain that the information provided by the school has been accurate. There is the feeling that we cannot get a straight answer to costs and John agreed that believable facts are much needed from the School District. We are looking for a cost analysis for the option the school committee has championed. The discussion turned to the District's budget and how to put pressure on the district to expose what factors comprise the budget. When the budget is discussed, it comes down to the different "buckets" and what gets paid out of those "buckets". John suggested that with Mary Ellen Glover on the School Committee she will be able to get some information that can then be disseminated to the others.

Mary Ellen is concerned about lack of action from the night of Town Meeting until tonight on the citizens questions as they feel there has been no progress to date. The board responded that they have been working with State Offices seeking answers to the questions posed.

The cost estimates need to be delineated and Mary Ellen will not support an additional assessment to the town to keep TWB open.

Board of Health: The location at 24 Wilbraham Road has so many issues affecting its septic location that a public hearing for numerous variances was required by the Board of Health to discuss all issues. Abutters have been notified of the hearing. After listening to Board of Health Agent, Lorri McCool explain the many difficulties in locating a new septic, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the variances as recommended, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted

Variance Request: The location at 61 Sessions Drive will need a variance for the setback from septic to well from 100' to 70'. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the variance as recommended, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Request for Information: A resident requested information regarding the used car licenses in town. Resident will be informed of cost to do so and then information can be compiled.

568 Main Street: Resident, Phil Bator came before the board to discuss the quality of his water. He brought in test results from a recent sampling that was done. The board reviewed the numbers and told him that there are people further up Main Street that have higher sodium contents than his and these levels can be naturally occurring. The board suggested that if he had some historical data they would be open to look at that.

Syncarpha Solar Agreement: Lightning Strike Notice and Actual Production for Exhibit E: The board will review and sign off to return to Syncarpha.

One Day Liquor License: A request has been made for a one day liquor license at the Senior Center on October 14<sup>th</sup> from 10-4 for a wine and cheese reception. The center will exhibit works from the Scantic River Artisans, in a "Joy of Art" show. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve as presented, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

AMR Contract Extension: The Towns of East Longmeadow and Hampden will continue a service extension with AMR for one year. There is an option to renew for two years, but will be extended one year at a time. The board signed off and it will be returned to AMR.

Safe Auto Sales: The board will discuss this pending license at a later date.

Response to Dispatcher Grievance Issue: The board reviewed the response from our attorney to a union representative regarding a grievance issue. The letter will be sent out.

Note:

- PVPC 12 month Assessment
- Note from Taxpayer
- Regional Dispatch: The board assigned Vinnie V to be the representative for the Regional Dispatch project.
- Mass Office on Disability: Pam to attend seminar.
- Building Permits June 2017
- Sgt. Interviews with Chief: Board member needed; Norm will handle the task.
- Town Wide Cookie Swap: Presented by resident, no decision from board.
- Federated Church and Peterson Easement Agreement: Vinnie will measure driveway that needs to be paved.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: all in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B Courtney  
Administrative Assistant  
/pbc