

Approved 2/5/18

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

January 29, 2018
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 Vinnie Villamaino at 6:00 pm.

Board of Health: Jane came before the board to discuss the Transfer Station budget, which will have to be reviewed further. In addition, she mentioned the ongoing issues with the integrity of the Town House. The latest issue was discovered as a result of a boiler inspection. There is water coming in through the basement walls and Jane will contact Marois Contractors who did the Town House assessment and get a recommendation for a remedy as well as an estimate as to cost.

Pitney Bowes postage machine will have to be replaced and the Xerox copier should probably be replaced at it is old and difficult to get parts for.

Highway Superintendent: Mark Langone came before the board to review his budget and get some direction from the board relative to a possible bond and projected projects. His budget is in line as requested and the increase is a result of contractual obligations; and up approximately \$9,000.

Mark mentioned wanting to take on Wilbraham Road as an all-inclusive project but the board wants to wait in the event something happens with water and sewer coming in. Vinnie does think that drainage could be replaced now, and Mark stated that the job would be a complete replacement of what currently exists. The board mentioned the pipe on Main Street that brings water to the Scantic and how that was just sleeved without replacing the entire pipe. Mark will check into that. He also mentioned that all catch basins on the job would be precast.

John suggested that the board do a walk- thru of the drainage to get a better sense of what the job entails.

Mark wondered about proposing a bond again, but the board feels it is unnecessary at this time, given that we have approximately \$454k left in the last bond. That money could be used for next year.

Mark suggested increasing the highway maintenance paving line from \$55k to \$65k. The board agrees with this approach.

The discussion turned to vehicles and the need for a pick up replacement (the larger truck that hauls the chipper and plows) and a stainless steel body for a dump truck. The dump body will be paid for out of the Snow and Ice account and the truck will be a warrant article.

Snow and ice account is approximately \$12k in the black and Mark will be in soon to ask about running the account in the red for the rest of the season.

Vinnie will stop to see Mark next week to further assess the needs of his department.

The board asked about new trucks and Mark confirmed that they are being built taller and we have 2 bays that accommodate our newer trucks, but we will run out of garage space with the addition of another dump truck.

The last item is the need to replace the gas tracking system used at the garage, which has been limping along for years, which is the Gasboy. Mark has researched the replacement, which can be held off until this next budget cycle, and is available on the State Bid List. The cost should be approximately \$10k.

Kris Barnes, department working is making progress after surgery on his hand and has started therapy. Mark will provide an update next week as to his progress.

Chief Gorski: Mike came before the board with new candidate, Dylan Fontaine who is a resident in town. Dylan has passed his medical and CORI check, is 21 years old and has already applied to the Fire Academy. He will have to meet all training requirements and looks to be a good fit for the department.

Based on the Chief's recommendation, a motion was made by Norman Charest to appoint Dylan Fontaine as a provisional firefighter, contingent upon meeting all training requirements and successful Fire Academy completion, for a one year term, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Mike Gorski: Chief Gorski came in to review the Fire Department budget and noted a few changes to the submittal. As stated by Cliff Bombard about the use of revolving funds, it was said that salary can no longer be taken out of that account. Mike has made that change. There will be a change relative to full time benefits for those on staff now and the entire budget will be recalculated. Mike also noted that Dr. Beltrane will receive a \$3k salary this year, as he had last year. Mike will also determine what the reimbursement will be for call firefighters. Operations are budgeted at \$4k now, bumped up from \$3,500 last year.

A motion was made by Norman Charest to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 6:45 pm, with return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

With no further business, a motion was made by Norman Charest to adjourn the meeting and return to Open Session at 6:55 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes and Vinnie Villamaino yes.

Planning Board Update: Phill Schneider and Robert Howarth came before the board to discuss the status of the Planning Board. There has been a change in the board's organization; in that John Matthews has chosen to step aside from the Chairman's position, due to personal issues and Phill Schneider has accepted the position.

The upcoming projects are as follows:

Solar installations: The board will pursue some regulations relative to residential installations and large scale installations. Monson has recently passed a bylaw that Hampden will look into. With the Board's approval, Phill will check with Town Counsel as to our ability to do so; whether the bylaw is legal or not.

Recreational marijuana needs to be addressed as the deadline of April 1, 2018 is approaching and if Planning and the Town do nothing about restricting its use, recreational marijuana sales would be allowed. There is a template in place that Hampden could follow; it's a matter of having a Special Town Meeting prior to Annual Town Meeting to act on it. The template is available through Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

Kibbe Lane development: Tom Speight, son of Ed Speight is taking over the completion of the project started by Ed and will work with Planning to finish. Planning was asked if they will petition to have the road accepted at town meeting and it is unclear at this point. Mark Langone appears to be satisfied, but the real determination will come from our consultant, Tighe and Bond. They added that Rose Crowley, Town Counsel will be working on yet another amendment to this agreement.

The next item is houses on Raymond Drive that will require an opinion from Town Counsel too.

In addition, there is an issue pending on the telephone poles on Mill Road, on the Eversource property that are being contested by Susan Alston. This will require Town Counsel assistance too.

Planning is also looking into zone changes on Somers and East Longmeadow Roads, as well as Allen Street.

This serves to notify the Board of Selectmen, the need for additional legal fees in the future.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission: Joshua Garcia and John O'Leary came at the board's request to discuss the Community Compact Grant project and to assist Hampden in starting the process seeking grant funds. Joshua presented an overview of the state's program, heralded by Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito who have encouraged almost every community in the state to join. The possible funds possible are from \$5k to \$50k. There are a number of avenues we can explore and the board is thinking that ADA accessibility for the Town House would be a good start as well as the project of bringing sidewalks from Centennial Commons and doing some remediation with the intersection of Wilbraham Road/Allen Street/East Longmeadow Road would be a priority as well. John O'Leary will be our contact through the process and a meeting will be scheduled so John can come in with other department heads in town to discuss next steps.

Entertainment Licenses: The board reviewed the following entertainment licenses and would like to change the language on them to better reflect the noise requirements as less subjective. The language will be worked on by Norman Charest. Because of the delay, a motion was made by John Flynn to extend the existing entertainment licenses expiration (with the exception of GreatHorse) until February 28, 2018, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by John Flynn to extend the entertainment license for GreatHorse until February 28, 2018, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: John Flynn and Norman Charest yes.

Vinnie Villamaino abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by John Flynn to extend the Sunday entertainment license for GreatHorse until February 28, 2018, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: John Flynn and Norman Charest yes. Vinnie Villamaino abstained from the vote.

- Casa Bella
- Gio's
- La Cucina
- GreatHorse
- VFW
- Parks and Rec

Scantic River Dam Update: Vinnie Villamaino and John Flynn met with members of the DEP to discuss the recent damage to the dam near the Chapin Road Bridge. DEP has agreed to work with the town to orchestrate the procedure to rebuild the dam. The idea would be to place stones back to original place and to dredge between the dam and the bridge to provide greater water capacity for fire operations. We would have to work with Conservation and National Heritage for Endangered Species as well. This is a project that could be handled by Tighe and Bond. Vinnie checked to find out about using CPA money for the project, and Doug Boyd feels that the money is there. In response, Phil Grant from Conservation suggested that the response is ridiculous and should not be done.

It was suggested that a well could be drilled near the Scantic River, one near Chapin and South Roads. Conservation will meet with the Selectmen to discuss this project further.

Minutes: January 22, 2018: The board reviewed the minutes and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so approved.

Executive Session Minutes of January 22, 2018 were reviewed. A motion was made by Norman Charest to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Conservation Restrictions for Mt. Vision land purchase: The purchase of the Mt. Vision property, approved at Annual Town Meeting in 2016, has yet to be finalized. Because of that, Conservation Restrictions need to be granted by the Town to the Minnechaug Land Trust. A motion was made by John Flynn to authorize the signing, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Miscellaneous:

Revolving Fund Language for Annual Town Meeting: New bylaw language on file for warrant preparation.

Letter regarding Mini Mall Septic: Noted that owner, Mike Cimmino has to start on replacement of septic system.

Newsletter Update

Meeting with Chief Farnsworth prior to meeting with Advisory. Will schedule for February 12th at 5:30 pm.

NOTE: Police Contract Negotiations February 5th at 6:00 pm

Website: John brought up the Hampden website and the need to transfer it to a design company and then have it maintained by the town. There are a number of different companies out there that we can explore and make a decision on for the coming year.

Police Negotiations: Vinnie announced that Norman would be handling all police contract negotiations due to expire this year.

Seeing no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino 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