

Approved 4/2/18

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

February 26, 2018  
6:00 pm

625 Main Street  
Hampden MA

Board Members: Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn, Norman Charest  
The meeting was called to order by Vinnie Villamaino at 6:00 pm.

Senator Eric Lesser: The board welcomed Senator Eric Lesser who stopped in to ask how he might help the Town of Hampden; to ask if there were any specific projects that he could bring forward in the legislature. The board discussed public safety assistance, fire and police and if there were any funds available for our fire department.

Vinnie asked about Regional Dispatch and where the state stood on the matter. Senator Lesser responded that he had not heard much on the topic recently and Vinnie remarked that the board had been entertaining the idea, but had chosen to withdraw when the contributions were cut considerably.

The other topics discussed were the complete streets program and the Circuit Breaker program which enables reimbursement for special education programs. They are hoping to get the number back to 75% reimbursement.

Senator Lesser and Aide, Michael Clark mentioned the project they helped get funded for Memorial Park a few years ago and wondered if there were any such projects in need in the near future. The board suggested that Mark Langone be contacted to see if he has any shovel ready projects that need funding.

Minutes: The minutes from May 15, 2017 were reviewed and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted. The minutes of February 12, 2018 were reviewed and a motion was made by Norman Charest to approve as presented, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

A motion was made by John Flynn to enter into Executive Session at 6:15 pm, to discuss lease negotiations with Rose Crowley, Town Counsel and Ameresco, solar developer with return to Open Session, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: John Flynn yes, Norman Charest yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

With that, a motion was made by Norman Charest to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm and return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes, Vinnie Villamaino yes.

The Chief brought up the idea of putting the department through accreditation, which allows a company to come in and review policies and procedures at a cost of approximately \$1,200. The board doesn't have much enthusiasm either way and wonder if there might be costs associated with any new policy mandates.

The Chief also mentioned a Suicide Prevention Seminar that will be held at Minnechaug on March 27<sup>th</sup> and will be open to the general public.

NOTE: Advisory will review the Police budget on March 5<sup>th</sup>, with the board in attendance.

Rates for Information Technology Assistance: We will continue to seek quotes for assistance in the Town House for our Information Technology.

Entertainment License for Gio's: The board reviewed the request made by Gio's Pizzeria for indoor entertainment only and a motion was made by John Flynn to approve the license as presented, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Special Town Meeting: The board would like to get an opinion from Town Counsel regarding the warrant questions posed by the School Committee and whether they must go on the warrant for Special Town Meeting.

Massachusetts Municipal Association Meeting: To be hold on March 2<sup>nd</sup> Palmer 8:00-10:00

Health Insurance Rates: The estimate increase in our health insurance rates for town employees will probably be around 5%.

Seeing no further business, a motion was made by John Flynn to adjourn at 8:10 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B Courtney  
Administrative Assistant

/pbc