

Approved 3/12/08

**HAMPDEN PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
February 27, 2008
Town House**

Mr. Dolben declared the Public Hearing on Proposed Changes to the Subdivision Rules and Regulations opened at: 7:00pm.

Members Present: Charlie Dolben, Chair, Joseph Kruzel, Neil Flynn and John Matthews.

Members Absent: Anthony Bongiorno, Associate.

Also present was Peter Hatch, Fire Chief.

The Public Hearing was opened and the order of business was read by Mr. Dolben which included the Statement of Authority, the legal notice and publication dates. The items to be reviewed include amendments to design standards for fire protection water supplies and sidewalk construction.

A letter was received from the Building Department stating no comment at this time on the changes proposed. No other feedback was received from other departments.

There was a brief discussion with Chief Hatch regarding the fire suppression system requirements. The Chief would like to see wording added to the effect that the subdivision contractor would be liable for up to one year for any maintenance problems. Also, the contractor would be responsible for the initial filling of the tanks and the Fire Department would refill them when used. Mr. Kruzel noted that with any subdivision, monies are withheld for up to one year in case problems arise. The location of the system within the subdivision was discussed. Mr. Dolben commented that the positioning of the system would be in the turnaround of the subdivision. Chief Hatch felt that it should be centrally located in order to reach more residences. An easement is possible in the subdivision review process. The Fire Chief would have to approve of the plans. Mr. Kruzel noted that FROSD and PURDS are privately owned. Their associations maintain the roads, lawns... Chief Hatch stated that he would like to see cul-de-sacs without islands. Problems have come up with the fire trucks not being able to make the turns. Mr. Kruzel added that if there was an island in a cul-de-sac, the radius of the turnaround should be increased. Mr. Kruzel asked if there is a section in the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1142 on performance testing. Chief Hatch answered that he was not sure but that he could do the testing of the systems. Mr. Kruzel added that the initial test would be the contractor's responsibility. Chief Hatch thought that the Fire Department may have to be involved with the use of their equipment. Mr. Dolben added that he will work on additional wording pertaining to performance guarantees.

There was no discussion on the other proposed amendments.

Mr. Kruzel made a motion to modify the proposed fire suppression by-law change subject to proposed language pertaining to the performance and acceptance standards. Mr. Flynn seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Voting yes: Joseph Dolben, Joseph Kruzel, Neil Flynn and John Matthews

Issues of additional wording will be addressed at the next meeting. With no further questions or comments Mr. Dolben closed the Public Hearing at 7:33pm.

Submitted by: Deborah House, Clerk