



TOWN OF HADLEY
SELECT BOARD
March 21, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Meeting convened at 7:00p.m., Room 203, Town Hall.

Present: Joyce Chunglo, Gloria DiFulvio, Daniel Dudkiewicz, David Moskin and Brian West (Chair).

Absent: None

Also in Attendance: David Nixon (Town Administrator); Peg Jekanowski (Administrative Assistant); Richard Trueswell (TV-5); Cathy Zaturka, Bob Kuzmeski, Andy Klepacki, Ken Berestka (Park and Rec); Dennis Hukowicz (Chief of Police); Mitchell Kuc (Dog Officer); Ralph Galarneau (Teamsters Local 404); Ben Storrow (Daily Hampshire Gazette)

Approval of Warrants: *A motion made by Dan Dudkiewicz, seconded by Joyce Chunglo to approve the Payroll # 73 & 75, and Warrants # 40, 40S & 40A passed unan. with a vote of 4-0-0.* (David Moskin not in attendance at time of vote.)

7:05 PM Appointment – Park & Recreation Commission

Hadley Park & Recreation Commissioners presented an overview of their program, as well as plans and questions for the future regarding providing ongoing service to the Town. Andy Klepacki, a Commissioner for Parks & Rec, stated that the Commission recently spoke to the Daily Hampshire Gazette as they felt the department was not represented in an article that appeared earlier in the month regarding North Hadley Hall. Correcting the message of that March 3, 2012 article was their intent, but in conversation with the reporter some future plans were brought up, and that became the focus of the article that appeared in the paper. He stated that the Commission wants to work in cooperation with the Select Board in planning for the future of the Park & Recreation Department.

Park & Rec continues to run a fair amount of programs throughout Town. A calendar showed that programs are held daily in North Hadley Hall. Facility limitations include safety concerns, especially with second floor, and conflicting reports about the status of North Hadley Hall has made planning for future activities difficult. Also, "bad press" about North Hadley Hall has had possible negative impact on activity enrollment. The facility needs of Park & Rec includes a large activity room with a stage, 2 Activity Rooms, Office and Meeting Space, and storage. Regarding Zaturka Park, there is no maintenance line item in budget to maintain the Park, and there is shortage of administrative support. North Hadley Park future is uncertain as is the future of North Hadley Hall, and it has safety issues. The Dept.'s goals are to expand program offering to all Hadley citizens, increase number of offerings to grow income, and to reinvest in parks and facilities. There is a vision of a possible community center that can house Park and Rec along with their programs, and become a place where teenagers can come together in a safe and appropriate environment. (The problem with using other facilities such as the Senior Center or Legion is that the department does not have control over who else is in building, which becomes a safety issue when programs for children are being run.) Their proposals include selling Zaturka Park as building lots and using the proceeds to establish seed funding, CPA Funds, State Grants, and other accounts, fund raising and donations. Their new vision is to acquire 4-6 acre parcel to house a community center and multiuse fields. A community center could also be used for other community needs such as voting. The reason for the new vision is due to the uncertainty of the future of North Hadley Hall, and the fact that other existing spaces in town are short term fixes and not adequate for the needs of the department. They would like to be closer to town, though they have not identified any particular parcel as yet. (Mr. Klepacki referenced the Town's master plan.)

Discussion ensued regarding the condition of Zaturka field, and the possibility of using other fields including the school fields, Umass fields located in Hadley, and the Legion.

Overall the Board expressed support and Brian West stated that the Park and Recreation Commission would be involved in discussions that the Board may have about the future of the department, especially as they (the Board) consider the future of Town buildings.



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The Commissioners asked for modification of a Capital Warrant Article for spring Town Meeting.

Dan Dudkiewicz made a motion to replace the current Park and Rec Capital Article with the language presented concerning selling Zaturka Park (article attached to these minutes), seconded by Joyce Chunglo. Motion passed unan. with a vote of 5-0-0.

Old Business

1. Annual Town Meeting Warrant-review draft

David Nixon stated that the Board has this meeting and then one more meeting on April 4th to review and make any changes to the Warrant. On the 5th of April it will be sent to legal for review and come back to the Board on the 18th of April for signature.

A discussion was held regarding Article 22 on the draft warrant, an article regarding vicious dogs. Discussion was held and the Town Dog Officer stated that he has concerns about the proposed article and the ability of the Town to house the dogs adequately in the event that the Town has to take control of the dog.

Mr. Nixon stated that the Town has to be sensitive to the concern over vicious dogs, yet whatever is adopted must be responsible for the animal and at the same time responsible to the tax payer. Mr. Nixon has been in touch with the person who wrote the article, Mr. Matthew Breuer, to discuss his proposal, but as of this date he has not heard back. David Nixon recommended the following approach: (1.) adopt the animal control measures offered by Officer Kuc as a bylaw and link it to the animal control law; (2) the bylaw needs to be approved by Town Meeting Vote; (3) continue to reach out to Mr. Breuer to reach resolution.

There was a Warrant Article held open regarding CPA land preservation-The Board had the language of the Article for review and it will go on the Warrant. Chair West reminded the Board that the revised Warrant will be reviewed again at the April 4 Select Board meeting, and that members can bring questions or concerns at that time.

2. Budget FY 2013 – Police Department / Dispatch

Chair West stated that the Police Department's requested budget for FY 2013 is \$1,041,360.00, as compared to last year when it was \$964,721.00. Chair West asked what individual line items make up the difference of approximately \$80,000.00. Chief Hukowicz stated that this is a "reality" budget, and this is to make sure to cover cost incurred by future negotiations. Full Time officers came in lower due to attrition of some highly paid officers, but Part Time officers budget has increased. Overtime has the largest impact for the increase in the Police Budget. Chair West stated that the use of Overtime needs to be addressed when collectively bargaining with the Union. He also stated that he wants to see the overtime training line item increased if the overtime is a result of training, rather than using the "regular" overtime line item.

The training budget was discussed and Chief stated that it is hard to predict. Some trainings are free, but there are costs to other trainings. The gasoline budget line item was also discussed as the price of gas continues to rise. David Nixon stated that the current bid per gallon is \$3.42 and that is a fixed rate through Hampshire Council of Government.

Chair West asked why the vehicle maintenance for the Police Department was actually in the Highway Department budget-and asked if it would be better to manage it through the Police budget. This way trends could be better identified as belonging to the Police Department, rather than Highway. Mr. Nixon stated that the Highway department does work on certain maintenance aspects of Police vehicles, but communication between the Police Department and Highway needs to be enhanced for better efficiency.

There was not a lot of change to the Dispatch Budget, some increase to electricity and maintenance contracts.



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New Business

1. Town Election Warrant

Joyce Chunglo made a motion to sign the Town Election Warrant for April 10, 2012, seconded by Gloria DiFulvio. Motion passed unan. by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. APR Application – 179 Hockanum Road

Joyce Chunglo made a motion to approve the APR application, seconded by Gloria DiFulvio. Motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1. (Dan Dudkiewicz abstaining.)

3. Application for Use of Town Common –Rex

The Board reviewed an application from Joe Rex to hold a wedding on the Common on September 22, 2012. It was noted that the Chief signed off on the application.

Dan Dudkiewicz made a motion to approve the Application for Use of the Common, seconded by Joyce Chunglo. Motion passed unan. by a vote of 5-0-0.

4. Atkins Corner Detour

The DOT will be doing road work for 6 weeks beginning just after Memorial Day. This work will detour traffic from Route 116 and will primarily impact South Maple Street and Moody Bridge Road in Hadley. The Board reviewed a map of the area and Mr. Nixon stated that at minimum a temporary 4 way stop and traffic control officer will be required. The Board expressed concern for impact on the road surface. Mr. Guilford Mooring from the Town of Amherst will attend next Select Board meeting to discuss project in more details and address Select Board concerns.

5. Health Insurance Eligibility – Rule Adjustment

David Nixon recommended that the Select Board adopt the following rule change regarding insurance eligibility for employees entering into retirement:

“Any employee retired by the Town under the current pension plan as a result of their employment with the Town shall be eligible to continue as a participant in the group health plans offered by the Town’s carrier provided he/she was enrolled in the group health plan on the date of retirement. This rule takes effect on the date of adoption and shall apply to all employees who retire as of the date of the adoption of this rule.”

Brian West made a motion to adopt this rule change, seconded by Joyce Chunglo. Motion passed unan. by a vote of 5-0-0.

The Board asked Mr. Nixon to review the possibility of further requirements for eligibility – Mr. Nixon will explore additional requirements, and will present his findings to the Board in the future.

Additional Items:

1. Two employees of DPW are coming up to the end of their six month probationary period. Mr. Nixon presented the recommendations of DPW Director Gary Girouard to the Board.

Dan Dudkiewicz made a motion, seconded by Gloria DiFulvio to end the probationary period for Mr. Jason Hall and make him a permanent Town of Hadley DPW employee. Motion passed by a vote of 4-0-1 (David Moskin abstaining.)



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Mr. Girouard recommended extending the probation period for Mr. David Sutter due to excessive time off during the last few months and the fact that Mr. Sutter has not yet obtained a valid Hydraulic License. (The Union Contract states that a valid Hydraulic License must be obtained within the first six months of employment.)

David Moskin made a motion, seconded by Joyce Chunglo, to extend the probationary period for Mr. David Sutter for up to an additional six months. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. Mr. Nixon reminded Board Members about the deadline for submitting questions or concerns about factual clarity in the Fire Department study. Mr. Moskin asked about the revenue numbers for ambulance services- does the date paint an accurate picture?

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

David Moskin announced that TV – 5 Advisory Committee welcomes new members.

Joyce Chunglo offered condolences to the family of Pauline Rytuba who recently passed away.

Executive Session:

At 9:02 pm Dan Dudkiewicz made a motion to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and litigation, and not to reconvene in open session. Motion was seconded by Joyce Chunglo. Chair West read the following statement: “As Chair of the Hadley Select Board I state that the Board has moved and seconded to enter into Executive Session and I state that the discussion of the matter in open session would have an adverse effect to the Town of Hadley.”

Roll Call Vote: DiFulvio=yes; Chunglo=yes; West=yes; Dudkiewicz=yes; Moskin=yes

A discussion was held in regard to personnel: A motion was made and seconded, and passed by roll call vote: DiFulvio=No; Chunglo=yes; Dudkiewicz=yes; West=yes; Moskin=yes

A discussion was held in regard to litigation matters.

At 9:50 pm Gloria DiFulvio made a motion to adjourn Executive Session, seconded by Joyce Chunglo; Motion passed unan. by a Roll Call Vote: DiFulvio=yes; Chunglo=yes; West=yes; Dudkiewicz=yes; Moskin=yes

Executive Session adjourned at 9:50 pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret J. Jekanowski
Administrative Assistant