



TOWN OF HADLEY
SELECT BOARD
May 9, 2012
Meeting Minutes

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

Present: Joyce Chunglo, Chair Gloria DiFulvio, Daniel Dudkiewicz, David Moskin, Brian West

Absent:

Also in Attendance: David Nixon (Town Administrator); Peg Jekanowski (Administrative Assistant); Richard Trueswell (TV-5); Dennis Hukowicz, (Hadley Police Chief); Andy Klepacki, Cathy Zatyarka (Park and Rec);

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Brian West, seconded by Joyce Chunglo, to approve the minutes of 04/18/2012 and 04/25/2012. Motion passed with a vote of 4-0-0. (David Moskin absent at time of vote.)*

Appointment:

Park & Recreation Department – Clothing Donation Box at North Hadley Hall

Mr. Klepacki and Ms. Zatyarka presented the Board with information on the clothing donation box stationed at North Hadley Hall. Ms. Zatyarka researched the organization, Kiducation, starting with collecting references from other Towns, which were positive. She stated that the Kiducation is a community crusade for children of Massachusetts. They give the Town \$0.03 per pound for every pound of clothing collected, since April 600lbs of clothing has been collected. She stated that the Hadley Public Schools and the Fire Department have already received donation amounting to \$10,000.00 from this nonprofit, 501(3) c organization. They treat clothes as a recyclable commodity.

Discussion ensued regarding the placement of the box, and the problem with space with the dumpster. Ms. DiFulvio asked if the box could be moved from the front of the building to the side. Mr. Klepacki said it is likely the box will be moved to other locations throughout Hadley in order to keep interest high. Ms. Chunglo stated that she had no problem with the box and its location. Ms. Zatyarka stated that many people are not aware that this organization has local impact in terms of donations. Park and Recreation officials will work with Gary Berg from Building Maintenance for better placement of both the dumpster and the donation box.

Discussion ensued as to the need of a dumpster. Mr. Nixon stated that the contract is almost up and we can reevaluate the need for a dumpster at North Hadley Hall versus other options.

Mr. Klepacki asked to speak about a budget problem and stated that the Park & Recreation's budget was somehow dropped from the VADAR system. Mr. Klepacki stated they had submitted a budget through VADAR and had a time/date stamped print out from January 24, 2012. At the time before Town Meeting when Park & Rec reps met with the Finance Committee, the original numbers were dropped, although the comments had gone through. They were told by the Finance Committee that it was too late to modify the budget. This was alarming as they had followed every procedure and yet their requested budget was not there.

Mr. Nixon stated that there were two problems that happened with VADAR, one was the submitted budget from Park and Recreation had requests in the amount of approx. \$11,000.00. When it was printed for the Select Board review, the \$11,000.00 request was dropped, but the comments were there. Another problem was a budget was submitted by Mr. Nixon for Police Fire accidental insurance policy in the amount of \$21,000.00. This was printed out and was in the Select Board budget books, but somehow in March it was no longer in VADAR. Mr. Nixon does not know how it was deleted from VADAR. Discussion ensued as to how these numbers could have disappeared. Mr. Nixon stated that a meeting is needed about the use of VADAR and some of the issues that occurred with its use.

Mr. Klepacki stated that Park and Receptions plans have been "tossed aside" this year due to this issue. He asked for a check and balance system, something that validates that what a department submits is what reaches the Select Board.

Mr. Moskin stated it is "probably human error or human action" that dropped the numbers, "not the software." He suggested printing out budgets and having hard copies. Dan Dudkiewicz asked Mr. Klepacki for his opinion,



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based on his years of computer experience, how he felt about this error. Mr. Klepacki responded that VADAR is a database driven system and that VADAR could probably do forensics to find out what happened and how the numbers were dropped. In regard to the funding shortfall, the Board discussed looking at this issue in the fall.

Old Business

1. Ambulance Update

Mr. Nixon met with Town Manager of Amherst, John Musante, regarding the ambulance contract. The proposal contains provisions stating there is need for an active committee that meets quarterly, need for more frequent reporting, and a \$5,000.00 increase per year. The Ambulance Committee reviewed the proposal and submitted information received today for enhancements. Mr. Nixon asked the Board to take this under advisement in order to have time to review the information from the committee. Mr. Nixon stated the contract is up to 3 years with a provision to opt out sooner, it is in line with budget increases, and it revives the ambulance committee with representation from both the town of Amherst and Hadley, and there will be more reporting. The training issue will be handled separately.

2. Schedule Dog Hearings

Hearings were scheduled for June 20, 2012.

3. Request for Electronic Speed Limit displays on North Lane.

A resident has requested the Board revisit the request for electronic speed limit displays on North Lane approaching West Street. Chief Hukowicz stated that he has been back out to the location and found average speed to be approx. 10 mph above the posted speed limit, and later in the day the speed seemed to increase with commuter traffic.

Discussion ensued as to what the most effective method would be for controlling speed. Dan Dudkiewicz asked if the Town would be better served with a mobile sign. The Chief stated that these types of signs are expensive, but they could also be used in a different capacity by different town departments, as a message board. The Chief did agree that this area (North Lane and West Street) does need attention. Mr. West stated his opinion that the most effective speed deterrent is to have a cruiser there more often and on a regular basis writing tickets, that this would be more effective than a sign. The police exposure would become known and people would know to slow down in that area. Mr. Dudkiewicz agreed but thought a sign would have higher effectiveness. Mr. West stated that speed is a problem on many Hadley roads, and we cannot put electronic signs on every street where we have a problem. This is why a mobile sign would be effective—and it was decided to get some estimates on this type of sign as it serves the entire Town and not just one street. Gloria DiFulvio asked about if any type of slow or caution sign could be put up now in the North Lane area. Mr. Nixon and Chief Hukowicz will research some estimates and funding.

4. Bidding out for routine Electrical, Plumbing and Gas Work

Mr. Nixon presented the Board FY 2012 invoices and receipts (blind samples) for review which included a range of rates for work routine work done in Town. Brian West stated that he agrees with going out to bid for routine work. Specifics about expectations of the vendor will be built into the bid specs, and the bidders will have to meet minimum requirements. Mr. Nixon reminded the Board that this is for routine work and not for large projects. Mr. Wilfred Danylieko stated that other costs need to be factored in to the hourly wage; it was explained that would be up to the bidder to include that in their overhead. **Joyce Chunglo made a motion, seconded by Brian West, to go out to bid for routine Electric Services and Plumbing and Gas Services.** Mr. Nixon also reminded the Board that they can reject bids if they are not suited to the Town's needs. **Motion passed by a vote of 5-0-0.**

New Business

1. Route 47 Flea Market Traffic

Chief Hukowicz and the Board discussed recent traffic problems on Route 47 in the Vicinity of the Hadley Flea Market on Lawrence Plain Road. At the height of the traffic on Sunday, April 29, 2012, there was one person stationed to direct traffic but he stood at the side of the road and seemed to be overwhelmed. The following



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Sunday there were two Hadley Police officers directing traffic and the flow was better. Discussion ensued regarding the fact that on the day of the higher congestion emergency vehicles would not have been able to get through. Chief Hukowicz identified this as his number one concern. He explained that there is a condition of the Flea Market license that a traffic officer is required. Chief Hukowicz is going to continue to monitor the situation including traffic on the road and the parking situation. He will report back to the Board any ongoing concerns/solutions to the problem.

2. Memorial Day Parade

The Hadley Memorial Day Parade will take place on Sunday, May 27th, 2012 at 2:00pm. There is a bus that leaves from the Legion in the morning to bring participants to Hadley cemeteries to honor veterans. Joyce Chunglo invited all elected officials from Hadley to participate.

3. Follow Up to Town Meeting – School Discussion

At the May 3rd Town Meeting School Committee Member Molly Keegan asked the Board to meet along with other representatives to plan for the long term budget issues facing the School. This will include representation from the Select Board, School Committee and Finance Committee. Gloria DiFulvio explained that this is to address long term viability of the school budget. Members of the School Committee will attend next week's Select Board meeting to discuss the plan.

4. Conversion of Land from Chapter 61A

Mr. Nixon explained that this is regarding property at 111 West Street, Hadley, MA aka 57 West Street (map 4G, Block 1) (Property.) The Town has the right of first refusal on the property and also a 120 day waiting period to exercise the right of first refusal. He stated that this is not a parcel the Town wants to acquire, and recommended the Town waive their right of first refusal and waive the 120 day waiting period. ***Brian West made a motion, seconded by Dan Dudkiewicz, to waive the Town's right of first refusal and waive the 120 day waiting period. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.***

Announcements:

Joyce Chunglo offered condolences to the families of Bertille Dragon, Stuart Russell, & Bernice Wanczyk.

Mr. Nixon announced that there will be a major detour in the Town of Hadley impacting Bay Road, South Maple Street, and Moody Bridge Road. This will happen after Memorial Day and the project will take 6 weeks. He asked citizens to plan alternate routes of travel.

Dan Dudkiewicz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joyce Chunglo. Mr. Danylieko asked about some digging that is going on at the North Star School on the grounds of the Russell Street School which is a Town owned building. Mr. Nixon explained that the Select Board had given North Star permission to plant a garden at a previous meeting. He was made aware of the problems that occurred with the initial set up of the garden and the issues have been addressed with the school.

Joyce Chunglo thanked Richard Trueswell for the job he did in taping Town Meeting. She also knows of someone willing to serve on the TV-5 advisory committee if there are openings. Brian West stated that there is also a vacant position with the Library Trustees.

Motion to adjourn was approved at 8:10 pm with a vote of 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret J. Jekanowski
Administrative Assistant