



TOWN OF HADLEY  
SELECT BOARD  
March 6, 2013  
Meeting Minutes

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm, Room 203, Hadley Town Hall

**Present:** Chair Gloria DiFulvio. Joyce Chunglo, Daniel Dudkiewicz, David Moskin, Brian West  
**Absent:** None

**Also in Attendance:** David Nixon (Town Administrator); Peg Jekanowski, (Admin. Assistant); Richard Trueswell, (TV-5); Dennis Hukowicz (Police Chief), Michael Spanknebel, James Kicza, (Fire Department); Gary Berg, John Waskiewicz, Sharron Gifford, Mike Klimoski, Mike Pequignot, (DPW); Linda Sanderson, Frank Aquadro (Finance Committee); Molly Keegan (School Committee) Dylan McCoy, (Daily Hampshire Gazette); Greg Stutsman, Janra Roberts, Jessica Gorman, Christopher Gendron, Pamela Wilte, John Mieczkowski Sr., Kevin Rodak, Georgia Loconsolo, John Loconsolo, Timothy P. Baj, George W. Myers, Randy Izer, Andrea Stanley, Loyce Warner, Theoren Warner, Jane Nevensmith, Lucas Humann, Douglas Wright, Suzie Costigan, Ted Giles, John Kusniarz, Jacqueline Allard, Walter Basara, Jr., Cheryl Greenstein, Lorrain Schagian, Kim Gladding

**Approval of minutes of 02/20/2013**

**Motion: Dudkiewicz      Second: Chunglo      Vote 4-0-0. (Moskin absent at time of vote.)**

**Approval of warrants: (38, 38S, 71)**

**Motion: Chunglo      Second: Dudkiewicz      Vote 4-0-0. (Moskin absent at time of vote.)**

**Old Business #1: Senior Service Director Search:**

David Nixon explained there is a subcommittee working on the search for a new Senior Service Director. At a recent meeting of the search committee, it was recommended to amend the section of the Senior Service Job Description having to do with Preparation, Knowledge, Skills and Abilities. The specific request is that the requirement that a candidate hold a Bachelor's Degree be relaxed to allow for comparable life experience. Suggested language is as follows: *"Bachelor's Degree in Social Service, Gerontology, Human Services or a related discipline is preferred, or comparable life experience, and 3 years of related experience."*

**Approve recommended change in language of Senior Service Job Description:**

**Motion: Dudkiewicz      Second: West      Vote: 4-0-0. (Moskin absent at time of vote.)**

A member of the search committee, Jane Nevinsmith, inquired about advertising the available position for a longer period of time. Mr. Nixon stated that the job was posted in the several area newspapers and will appear electronically on the Masslive website for 30 days. The position is also advertised on the Town Website and TV-5, as well as the Massachusetts Association of Council on Aging. The cost for advertising is over \$1,000.00, and further advertising is cost prohibitive. Ms. Nevinsmith suggested a running a smaller ad over a period of time that will attract more candidates. Funding is still an issue. The Massachusetts Municipal Association publication (The Beacon) was also suggested but the March issue is already out and resume/applications are due March 29.

**Appointment**

7:05 pm: **Randall E. Izer dba Spruce Hill Motors**

Hearing: Class 2 License (Used Car Sales)  
235 Russell Street, Hadley MA

Mr. Randy Izer was before the Board with an application for a Class 2 License (Used Car Sales.) The plans have been approved by the Planning Board and Mr. Neyhart, Zoning Enforcement Officer for the Town, has signed off on the application, placing a limit of 5 cars.



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**Approve Class II License for Randall Izer, dba Spruce Hill Motors:**  
**Motion: Chunglo      Second: Dudkiewicz      Vote: 5-0-0.**

**7:10 pm Game Over LLC dba The Quarters, 8 Railroad Street**

• **Hearing: All Alcohol On Premise License (Continued from 02/20/2013)**

It was noted that the original portion of the hearing that began on February 20, 2013, was continued to the present. A question about legal notice has been resolved. Mr. Dudkiewicz asked Chief Hukowicz about his meeting with the applicant. Chief Hukowicz stated that he asked the applicants about the status of their Live Entertainment license. Mr. Gregory Stutsman, applicant for The Quarters, stated that the Live Entertainment license application is being withdrawn. The Quarters representatives also presented the Board with action plans for crowd control. The chief's main concerns were controlling crowds when there is overflow to capacity and parking. Mr. Stutsman stated that plans include upgrading insulation and sound proofing windows to cut down on noise. He stated that their intention is to abide by all Town Bylaws and not upset the neighborhood. He stated there will be signs relative to proper parking by patrons, and a sign on the door stating the cars improperly parked will be towed. Mr. George Myers of The Quarters also stated to the Board that the request for licensed premise has been amended not to include the deck, so there will be no drinking allowed by patrons except in the interior portion of the premise. They also stated that they will have staff to prevent patrons from lining up outside and stated that they are not a bar; they are a restaurant that serves alcohol.

Captain Mike Spanknebel stated that he has met with the owners and discussed the building layout, and that they are planning on a full fire alarm system in the building, as well as a suppression system in the cooking area, and leaving space for a fire lane as well as a developing a relationship with a towing company so that cars will be immediately towed.

Chair DiFulvio opened the hearing to the public for comment. Some neighbors and residents stated that they object to the potential threat of noise and disruption to the neighborhood for those who live near the proposed establishment. Other residents voiced that they are concerned about parking and hours of operation.

Supporters stated that it would be a low key venue and that it offers a different type of venue in that it offers arcade games. It was further stated that the land is business zoned so the applicants have a right to open a business, and the Planning Board has approved their site plan.

Member West stated that if a license is granted, the Board controls it (the license), and if there are any issues the offenders would be brought in and appropriate action would be taken against the license.

Chair DiFulvio asked if there was anyone present with any new information that the Board has not heard. Seeing none, Chair DiFulvio closed the public comment period. Member Dudkiewicz stated that he worries about noise late at night and how people will access the establishment. He also stated he worries about families on the bike path.

**Grant an on premise all alcohol liquor license to Game Over LLC dba The Quarter, 8 Railroad Street:**

**Motion: West      Second: Chunglo      Vote: (4-1-0. Dan Dudkiewicz dissenting.)**

- Live Entertainment License Application (withdrawn)



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- Common Victualer Application

**Grant to a common victualer license to The Quarters Restaurant:**

**Motion: West                      Second: Chunglo                      Vote: 5-0-0.**

- Automatic Amusement Application

**Grant an Automatic Amusement license to The Quarters Restaurant:**

**Motion: West                      Second: Chunglo                      Vote: 5-0-0.**

• Sewer Impact Fee: The owners of the Quarters questioned the Sewer Impact Fee and how it is being applied to their establishment. They stated they although they have capacity of 74, they are only planning on 54 seats. Administrative Assistant to the Sewer Commissioner Mike Pequignot explained that the Impact Fee rate is based on square footage for overall capacity, not number of seats. Discussion ensued regarding the facts that this is how the Sewer Impact Fee has been assessed with other area businesses.

**Enforce the Sewer Impact Fee based on 73 seats, 61 seats at 20 gallons per day and 12 seats (grandfathered in from previous business) at 10 gallons per day, for a total fee of \$20,770.00, and set up a payment plan of four yearly payments starting with the certificate of occupancy:**

**Motion: West                      Second: Chunglo                      Vote: 4-1-0 (Dudkiewicz dissenting.)**

**New Business # 1 Request for Reserve Fund Transfer – DPW:** For the repairs and replacement of equipment from the February 8 & 9, 2013 snow storm, including repairs to backhoe, tires for the loader, repairs to dump truck, tires for 624 loader and truck # 35 that needs replacement parts. The final total amount of the reserve fund transfer is to be determined. Discussion ensued regarding the value of government surplus vehicles if they require additional funding for maintenance.

**Approve a Reserve Fund Transfer request (once the total actual repair bill is known and any possible reimbursement is investigated) in an amount up to \$24,000.00:**

**Motion: Dudkiewicz                      Second: West                      Vote: 5-0-0**

**New Business # 2 Taco Bell: Common Victualer License Application**

New Owner: G. F. Enterprises, LLC

**Approve a Common Victualer License for G. F. Enterprises dba Taco Bell, 348 Russell Street**

**Motion: West                      Second: Chunglo                      Vote: 5-0-0**

**7:30 pm Annual Town Meeting: FY14 Budget:**

**DPW:** the Board reviewed the proposed FY 2014 DPW budget. Each division is paying its true costs. One feature is that several accounts under DPW have been consolidated in the Budget.

The total requested increase in budget for Highway is \$54,343.00

The total requested increase in building maintenance is \$66,500.00

The total requested increase in waste water is \$44,363.00

The total requested increase in water is 149,209.00

Discussion ensued that the Select Board will deliberate on how to balance the budget, and then send their recommendations and or directions to balance it to the Finance Committee.

Discussion ensued and Town resident John Mieczkowski asked since the formation of the DPW 3 years ago, how much money the Town is saving versus three separate departments (water, sewer and highway.)



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**Fire:** Chief Kicza and Captain Mike Spanknebel presented the proposed Fire Department budget (attached to these minutes). The total budget is \$412,652.00 which is an increase of \$174,919.04

**Police & Communication:** Chief Hukowicz presented the proposed budgets for the Communication Center and Police Department. Regarding the Communications Center, there are not a lot of major changes. The total increase in the budget is \$311,873.00. Discussion ensued regarding moving building maintenance (for the safety complex) out of this budget into the 490 building maintenance budget. Chief Hukowicz stated that the wage numbers are based on speculation, based on negotiations. He also presented a plan for hiring an additional officer to cover a number of different duties (part time detective, supplementing on court time, and supplement on patrol.) This would serve as a valuable asset, also allowing him to address overtime. There was also discussion regarding vehicle maintenance and whether it should be in the police department budget or DPW budget. It was explained that this is for maintenance outside of routine things such as oil changes, and require higher tech maintenance than the town garage can supply.

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

Discussion turned to the Warrant. Mr. Nixon stated that after the Select Board closed the warrant, new information was received from Hampshire Council of Governments regarding a new energy program, Hampshire Solar. If the town chooses to participate, it may benefit with a projected 21% cost reduction on all electric bills, but it requires opening the warrant to place a new article.

*Open the 2013 Annual Town Meeting warrant:*

**Motion: West                      Second: Moskin                      Vote: 5-0-0**

*Place article on Town Meeting Warrant reducing the size of the Select Board from 5 members to 3 members.*

**Motion: Dudkiewicz                      Second: West**

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of changing the make-up of the Select Board from a 5 person to a 3 person Board. Member Dudkiewicz stated that the 5 member Board seems to have problems moving forward on issues and with a 3 person board there "is no place to hide." He would like it as a warrant article to have discussion from Town residents. Discussion ensued regarding objections to the Select Board opening the Warrant after it has been closed.

**Motion passed with Vote: 3-1-1 (Moskin dissenting, DiFulvio abstaining). .**

*Place article on Town Meeting Warrant regarding participation in the Hampshire Council of Government's new energy program, Hampshire Solar.*

**Motion: Chunglo                      Second: Moskin                      Vote: 5-0-0**

*Close the Town Meeting Warrant.*

**Motion: Chunglo                      Second: West                      Vote: 5-0-0**

Town Administrator David Nixon presented an overview of the budget summary he had prepared after the February 6, 2013 budget showed a shortfall of \$817,039.00. He made changes to the February 6 budget to show a pathway with changes to close the gap on the shortfall. He stated this is a proposal and subject to change. In developing this he used 5 guiding principles that the budget ensures a capital plan for the future, that there is shared burden, adherence to budget policy and best management practice, and provide a bridge for the funding gap with the schools with the understanding that the school will have greater



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stability in the school budget in FY2015, and balance the budget wherever possible by enhancing revenues, reducing expenses and judicious use of reserves in order to make up the balance.

Under reducing expenses meant elimination of expenses that weren't warranted based upon historic use and target goals set by the Select Board, as well as reducing expectation for achieving certain initiatives such as OPEB.

In terms of revenue there is not a lot to work with in terms of increases.

The House proposed state budget figures include a Chapter 70 increase, but true budget figures have not yet been released. Until we know true budget figure, Mr. Nixon is proposing using 509,000 in free cash to balance the budget which will reserve 244,000 for capital program in FY2015. He also took capital projects contained in operational budgets to capital funding articles. He also reduced overtime budget in both dispatch and police budget. Regarding schools budget and increased request, he reduced the request for Annual Town Meeting and will see if could be replaced at Fall Town Meeting. For Fire Department, he changed some requests into capital items, and regarding the Fire Chief position, proposed funding for the chief position and reducing the captain position for one year for a savings of \$54,000.00, plus reduce overtime.

The Board will make decisions on the budget at their March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 meeting.

Other business: Mr. John Mieczkowski requested that the Board allow him to speak at their next Select Board meeting regarding a noncompliance issue from DEP dated February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Chair DiFulvio stated the Board will talk about it in the future.

**Announcements:**

Ms. Chunglo offered condolences on behalf of the Select Board to the families of Laura Niedzwiecki and Jack Walsh, who recently passed away. Mrs. Niedzwiecki had served on the Board of Registrars for a number of years.

Mr. Moskin stated that at a recent meeting of the Connecticut River Scenic Byway committee he learned that they will be asking the Town for locations for bike racks along the river.

Chair DiFulvio stated that the Hadley Mothers' Club will host candidate's night on Monday, April 1, 2013 starting at 6:30 at Hopkins Academy.

**Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn (10:22 PM)*

**Dudkiewicz**      **Second: Chunglo**

**Vote: 5-0-0**

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret J. Jekanowski  
Administrative Assistant