

**Minutes  
Hampden Town Council  
Services Committee  
July 13, 2009 @ 6:00pm**

The meeting of the Hampden Town Council Services Committee was called to order at 6:05p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2009, at the Hampden Municipal Building by Chairperson Shannon Cox.

Gretchen Heldmann, GIS/IT Specialist  
Kurt Mathies, Recreation Director  
Councilor Shannon Cox  
Councilor Jean Lawlis  
Mayor Matt Arnett  
Councilor Andre Cushing (arrived 6:20pm)  
Jim Feverston (arrived 6:45pm)

**1. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for 06/08/2009 were motioned for approval by Mayor Arnett with a second by Councilor Lawlis. All voted in favor, minutes approved.

**2. Old Business**

**A. Pool Board/Scholarship Guidelines**

No update.

**B. Two Park Ordinances**

Gretchen received only one comment/question via email regarding the two park ordinances. Kurt and Gretchen would like a little more time to overhaul the ordinances, and they requested to make one park ordinance with subsections as needed for individual parks. They were previously wrapped up in the planting project at the pool and had no time to work on these.

**C. Tree Board/FoDDix Update**

Gretchen and Kurt gave an update as to the status of the tree planting at the pool. Many trees had to be dug up and replanted by Kurt's staff, but they all seem to be doing great. Phil Stack staked and roped nearly all of them. The committee asked for an update to be given to the entire Council at the next meeting, and Jim offered to write a one-pager for Councilor Cox to present during her councilor comments. The next Tree Board meeting is 7/22 during which

time a presentation about Dorothea Dix Park will be drafted to give at the public meeting about the park scheduled for 8/12 at 7pm in the Community Room. A tentative walk-through of the park is scheduled for 8/19.

**3. New Business**

**A. Dog Park**

Kurt reported that he has been thinking about doing a dog park for the last eight of the 12 years he has been with the town. This led to a discussion about parks in general, and job descriptions and roles of employees. Parks, plantings, and the like are not in Kurt's job description nor Gretchen's, yet both employees were key to the success of the Project Canopy grant pool planting. The project took a lot of hours and both employees had to work overtime for a few weeks to ensure they got their regular job tasks accomplished. Mayor Arnett motioned to table this issue until the fall, second by Councilor Cushing. Two voted in favor, two voted against. The discussion continued until it was decided that Councilors Lawlis and Cox would work together to move this issue forward by mentioning it in their councilor comments, with all interested parties to call Councilor Lawlis. Councilor Cox will speak with the town manager about Parks and support staff.

**4. Public Comment**

No public comments.

**5. Committee Member Comments**

a) Rain Garden

Mayor Arnett wanted to know when the rain garden would be fixed, and if more plants would be added. The rain garden will be fixed as soon as it stops raining long enough for a crew to get out there and work on it under the direction of Phil Ruck and Laura Wilson. More plants will be added as the budget allows. There was some discussion about spending more money on the rain garden when employees were asked to not take raises. The issue was referred to the Finance Committee.

b) Committee on Committees Work

There was a long discussion about the library expansion project and the role of other boards/committees and how they interact and relate to the Council and Council committees. Although Councilor Cox has contacted both the library and pool boards, they still seem to be acting somewhat independently, yet they need to report to the Council. It was decided that the groups need to have solid bylaws and legal definition as to what they can and cannot do,

especially with regard to expenditures. The issue was referred back to the Committee on Committees for suggestions.

c) ComCom Update

Councilor Cushing reported that the two media interns are back in action and he is working with them to get the TV channel up to date with some programming.

d) Affiliated Programs

Kurt brought up an issue regarding affiliated programs, and referred to a document guiding what affiliated programs can and cannot do, that each program must agree to. The document was created by the Council in 2004 in response to an issue with the travel basketball program and also the travel soccer club and its use of MSAD22 fields. The travel soccer club has decided to not follow the guidelines of this document, or their own bylaws, and as a result are violating local and state regulations. The team is cutting Hampden, Winterport, and Newburgh players from the team in favor of Old Town, Bangor, Camden, etc players, which is expressly prohibited in the document. The group also discussed a deadline to give to the soccer club as to making a formal decision of whether or not they want to continue to be an affiliated program. Councilor Cushing motioned to enforce the document as written, which gives the Recreation Director the authority to decide what to do, but prior to any action the Recreation Director should speak with the town manager about the issue. Mayor Arnett seconded, and all voted in favor. Kurt will speak with the town manager, and will draft a letter to the officials of Soccer Maine as well as MSAD22 which will most likely result in this travel soccer club being banned. The Recreation Committee will review the situation and determine for what length of time this club will be banned. Gretchen mentioned that there are many other affiliated programs that need to be examined that do not fall under this sports-oriented document, such as Kiwanis, Hampden Business Association, Goodwill Riders Snowmobile Club, and more. The Committee on Committees will examine these situations and revise/expand the document.

The next meeting is August 10, 2009 at 6:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Heldmann  
GIS/IT Specialist