

**HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS**



**GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Meeting: November 14, 2023; 6:30pm**

Attendees:

	Cliff Bombard	X	Keith Pixley
X	Michal Boudreau	X	Luis Severino
X	Eric Brewer		
X	Donna Hatch		
X	John Matthews		

Minutes

Planning Board Chair

- Select Board too overreaching; they do not stay in their lane.
- Select Board tries to influence Planning Board.
- Need alignment with Town goals.
- Chair interaction with BOS Liaison.
- Should look into a part-time professional planner.
- Would like more access to Town Counsel.
- Poor communication with regards to meeting with other departments, etc. Conflicts with other family duties. No consideration for the people that are giving their time.
- Need to embrace technology such as tablets for Board members.

Highway Department Supervisor

- Day starts 6:00 am. Meets with people in the department to coordinate the day's activities
- Replies to email, phone calls, and other questions from Town residents.
- Reports to the Board of Selectmen.
- Attends Select Board meetings, when required
- Provides information to Town Administrator, when required
- Writes Bid Specifications for projects.
- Coordinates repair of Town Highway equipment, as required
- Has good communication with BOS and TA.
- Would like the decision-making process to be expedited. There are delays in getting approvals. The process can be cumbersome.
- The Storm Water should be handled by those with expertise. Should have a dedicated Storm Water person.