

**HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS**



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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Board of Selectmen/Board of Health
Town House Auditorium
September 20, 2021
6:00 pm

**THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON AND REMOTELY USING VIDEO CONFERENCING
TECHNOLOGY**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES:

ORDER OF BUSINESS

6:05 p.m. – Update on dog complaint

6:15 p.m. - Town meeting logistics (Clerk, Moderator)

6:25 p.m. - Fire Station Expansion Project – Fire Chief

6:35 p.m. - Review of Covid Status

6:40 p.m. - HWRSD Strategic Planning Committee

7:00 p.m. - General By-Law Amendment: Filling Vacancies on Boards

7:10 p.m. -Further Review: STM Warrant

7:25 p.m. - Joint Meeting with the Planning Board: Appointments to fill Vacancies

7:45 p.m. - **Executive Session: MGL c30 (a) (#3):** To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. *The Board will review contract proposals from the Hampden Police Union.*

UPDATES

Water Project

Hampden County Retirement Board

CORRESPONDENCE

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

PACKET

6:05 p.m. – Update on dog complaint

6:10 p.m. - Chief Scott issues: Covid reimbursement & Reserve Officer Training

To: Town Administrator, Hampden Board of Selectmen
From: Chief Scott B. Trombly
RE: Reserve Officers Bridge Academy outlook
Date: 09/07/2021

As we try move forward with our reserve officer program, as a supplement of the budget, I would like to try to explain the outlook that Police Reform has provided us with.

As of just last week, more new information has come out from the Mass. Training Council (MPTC) with regards of how police agencies and town move forward with reserve, part time police officers.

Over the next three years, reserve officers are faced with training to bring them up to a full time police officer capacity or lose their certification. These officers are broken up into groups, A-H, I-P and Q to Z. We have 6 Reserves in the A-H, grouping. 4 reserves in the I-P, and 1 Reserve in the Q-Z group.

The most recent New information, out on the requirements for this to happen is:

Reserve officers want to become full time Under POLICE REFORM can get an exemption through their police chief but first they must have 5 years of service with Hampden and work 480 hrs. of patrol hours, not details and have had in- service training for these five years, which would be total of 2400hrs., over 5 years.

*****Note**** Our reserve officers are not able to obtain 480hrs of patrol, in their capacity as a reserve with Hampden Police Department on a yearly basis. Full time officers have first right of refusal of overtime and there are 12 reserves to try to fill open shifts, when they become available.

Our reserve officers currently have various amounts of hours but well under 480 hrs.

Our reserve officers in the town of Hampden, must be sent to the bridge academy to keep their certification but will not be able to get the full-time exemption, 480 hours. Once they are bridged, there is a deadline, if not meeting working hours of 480 yearly, they will have to be sent to full time

academy or lose their certification. (Deadline being decided by 10/1/2021)

If they were to be bridged, by the town, all cost for training will be on the town, including ammunition for their 40 hours of qualification. Still after they complete this bridge, the MPTC will be setting a deadline for all reserve officers bridged, to either work 480hrs., and become exempt or attend a full-time academy.

These guidelines set forth will be creating a hardship for town like our that have used reserve officers.

A conversation will need to take place on the future of the Hampden Police Department over next couple of weeks, since bridging starts 10/1/2021.

Over the next few years, our part time officers will not be certified as they won't be able to keep up to standards set forth.

An option for replacements or our reserve officers will be a full-time police officer who retires, that can come work for any agency in Mass. This officer only needs to keep up with yearly in service trainings and in house training. (Firearms, CPR, legal updates)

Another option would be to add, a fulltime officer over the next couple of years and have minimum manning if an officer needs time off. An officer to each shift.

An expected vote on the most recent guidelines through the MPTC will be on 9/15/2021.

If our officers are bridged, a medical and Physical ability test needs to be completed.

There currently is an ammunition shortage, which may affect the r/o completing his training by 6/30/2022 for A-H last names.

We have 4-5 potential reserves officers that could be bridged in the A-H.

I would like to meet and discuss this matter very soon.

Thank You,
Chief Scott B. Trombly

Bob,
Question for you!
Two of our previous officers that have been out do to COVID19, our department has reimbursed their time used.
Most recently, the officer that has covid19 has asked about their time being reimbursed!
Your thoughts?
Thanks

Scott B. Trombly
Chief Of Police

6:20 p.m. - Town meeting logistics (Clerk, Moderator)

6:25 p.m. - Fire Station Expansion Project – Fire Chief

6:35 p.m. - Review of Covid Status

Update from the Health Assistant

6:40 p.m. - HWRSD Strategic Planning Committee

Appointment: Kristen Gumlaw has volunteered. Studied Higher Education Administration in college

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