



# TOWN OF ADAMS

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 2016 – 7:00 PM  
ADAMS TOWN HALL, 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR, ADAMS, MA 01220

On the above date the Board of Selectmen and held a meeting at the Adams Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Richard Blanchard presided the meeting. Present were Vice Chairman Jeffrey Snoonian, Members Joseph Nowak, Arthur Harrington and John Duval. Also in attendance was Town Administrator, Tony Mazzucco, and Town Counsel, Ed St. John III.

*The Select Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.*

*The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

### READING OF MINUTES

- Meeting Minutes, January 27, 2016
- Meeting Minutes, January 30, 2016
- Meeting Minutes, February 3, 2016

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Snoonian to waive reading the minutes from January 27, 2016 and to approve them as written*

*Second by Member Harrington*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Snoonian to waive reading the minutes from January 30, 2016 and to approve them as written*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Abstention by Member Harrington*

*In favor were Chairman Blanchard, Vice Chairman Snoonian, and Members Nowak and Duval*

*Motion passed*

*Motion made by Member Harrington to waive reading the minutes from February 3, 2016 and to approve them as written*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Abstention by Vice Chairman Snoonian*

*In favor were Chairman Blanchard, Members Harrington, Nowak and Duval*

*Motion passed*

### PUBLIC COMMENT

#### *Green Communities*

Jeff Lefebvre thanked the Board and Town Administrator for their work to receive the Green Communities check for \$166,865.00.

#### *Sub-Committee Meetings*

Jeff Lefebvre inquired why the Sub-Committee meetings are not being posted in Adams.

RECEIVED-POSTED  
16 MAR - 3 AM 11:42  
TOWN CLERK  
ADAMS MASS.  
CLERK



## TOWN OF ADAMS BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

A Sub-Committee does not have a majority of the Board of Selectmen, with two Members or less.

### ***Adams-Cheshire Regional School***

**Jeff Lefebvre** asked the Board to meet with the *Adams-Cheshire Regional School District School* Committee because the citizens are not being informed about why the Superintendent is choosing to work from home. He said there was the same problem over two years ago.

### ***Thunderfest, Ice Skating Rink***

**Dave Bissaillon** of *ProAdams* thanked the Town, the Board of Selectmen, and other agencies in town for their support with *Thunderfest* and *Ramblefest*. March 5<sup>th</sup> weekend is the 5<sup>th</sup> *Thunderfest*. More information can be located on [www.exploreadams.com](http://www.exploreadams.com) Planned events include ski and snowshoeing races, *Thundertrek* and *Thunderglide*. He also thanked the Town DPW for assisting with getting ice skating back to Adams in Russell Field. Once completed, it will be held from Thursday through Sunday for three weekends.

### ***PAL Program***

**Chief Tarsa** advised the PAL Program is reorganizing and restructuring, and Officer Charon will be stepping in to complete the season. Keith Mclear will help with the church leagues. There was a huge outreach from the community, and the PAL Program will continue.

### ***Honorary Officer Stodja***

**Chief Tarsa** updated the Board that *Honorary Officer Stodja* completed his tour of duty and helped solve a larceny during his shift. He worked with K9 Unit Kumar and Sergeant Wright, as well as visited the Court System. He did a full day's work, and an admirable job.

### ***Adams Farmers Market***

**Deb Dunlap**, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator, updated the Board that Kelly Field, Glen Field, and Ashley Priester agreed to take over running the *Adams Farmers Market* in the private sector. She will be providing support as a liaison for them to the Town to assist with submission of paperwork and providing information and guidance as they get established. Dates and details of the Market will be forthcoming.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Appointment***

**Wayne Piaggi** expressed written interest in being a member of the *Agricultural Commission*, which has vacancies.

***Motion made by Member Nowak to appoint Wayne Piaggi as a member of the Agricultural Commission***

***Second by Member Duval***

***Unanimous vote***

***Motion passed***





## TOWN OF ADAMS BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

### **One Day Wine & Malt Licenses**

An application was received for a One Day Wine & Malt License by the *Adams Ale House*, March 6, 2016 for Thunderfest Weekend, to take place at the Greylock Glen.

An application was received for a One Day Wine & Malt License by the *Bounti-Fare Restaurant* for March 5, 2016 at the Visitors Center for Thunderfest Weekend.

**Chief Tarsa** indicated he would like to review the plan of each One-Day License applicant to prevent underage drinking, such as utilizing the ID Band system, which has worked well in the past. Each alcohol vendor is asked to provide this, as well as to police themselves. He asked the Board to have this as part of the conditions for their receiving the License. They plan may be submitted by email, and pending approval by the Chief of Police.

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Snoonian to approve the One Day Wine & Malt License for Bounti-Fare Restaurant on March 5, 2016, with a completed and approved plan*

*Second by Member Nowak*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Snoonian to approved the One Day Wine & Malt License for Adams Ale House on March 6, 2016 contingent upon a submitted plan to curb underage sales and upon Police Chief approval*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### **Facility Use Requests**

A facility use request was received from *ProAdams* to use the Adams Visitors Center for Thunderfest on March 5, 2016

*Motion made by Member Duval to approve the use of the Adams Visitors Center by ProAdams for Thunderfest on March 5, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*

*Second by Vice Chairman Snoonian*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

A facility use request was received from *Dion Snowshoe Series* to utilize the Greylock Glen on March 6, 2016 for a 5K snowshoe race.

There was a brief discussion about whether a DCR permit was needed, and who would be picking up trash after the event. The DCR permit was pending but an email was received indicating it was being approved. Receipt of the DCR permit was required for the insurance policy. Volunteer crews clean up after the events.



## TOWN OF ADAMS BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

*Motion made by Member Harrington to approved the use of the Greylock Glen for the Dion Snowshoe Series on March 6, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. pending receipt of the DCR permit and insurance liability policy*

*Second by Vice Chairman Snoonian*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

A facility use request was received from the *Adams Aces* to use Renfrew Field from April 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016 for sports.

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Snoonian to approve the use of Renfrew Field for Adams Aces on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.*

*Second by Member Harrington*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

A facility use request was received from the *Adams Lassie League* to use Russell & Reid Fields from April 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016 for sports.

*Motion made by Member Duval to approved the use of Russell Field and Reid Field on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., and on weekends from 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. from April 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016*

*Second by Vice Chairman Snoonian*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

A facility use request was received from Pamela Behrens for the *Mass Dash Relay* to use the Adams Visitors Center on July 16, 2016 from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Chief Tarsa** explained the route and that this was a relay race, so just a brief stopping point for a very small number of relay racers.

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Snoonian to approve the use of the Adams Visitors Center by the Mass Dash Relay on July 16, 2016 from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. pending receipt of the insurance policy*

*Second by Member Nowak*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### **Town Hall Hours**

**Town Administrator Mazzucco** reviewed the information regarding Town Hall going to a four-day work week, and experimenting with it for six months. A month notice of the schedule change would be given to the public and the staff would track the number of citizens utilizing the hours after 4:00 p.m. The public hours would be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and closed on Fridays. Staff would come in earlier, and the schedule will be temporarily altered to accommodate the public on a Friday for elections, registrations and tax collection.





## TOWN OF ADAMS

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

There is no reduction in staff hours with this schedule change. Use of the suggestion box in Town Hall or coming to meetings to give input was suggested to those who wished to give feedback.

*Motion made by Member Duval to approve a six-month trial as outlined effective March 14, 2016*

*Second by Member Harrington*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### **Municipal Aggregation**

The Town Administrator and Board Members discussed the Municipal Aggregation in regards to both the timeline and selecting green rates or a different energy mix. An overview of the aggregation was given, and currently it would indicate a 20% to 30% savings in energy costs. The next step for the Town is to decide how long the contract will be. It was emphasized that there is no commitment and every resident and business has the choice to opt out if they desire. A standard mix or a green energy mix could be chosen, and contract rates available are six, twelve, eighteen, or twenty-four months. It was recommended that the Town wait until later in March to select rates when the National Grid rates are locked in and come down. An 18 month contract was recommended as it is not too short or too long. An explanation was given that Green Energy would be a slightly higher rate but will still be a mix. It was clarified that the rate is calculated by usage, so no frugal resident would be paying more than they used. There is no cost for residents to opt out, and if a resident is on the budget plan they would stay on the budget plan. Colonial Power is a broker, and their rate is factored into the rate purchased. It is approximately 1/10 of one cent that they receive.

*Consensus of the Board was reached to have Municipal Aggregation on the March 2, 2016 agenda for approval to select the contract length and energy mix.*

### **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

#### ***Cemetery Commission***

**Member Nowak** attended the *Cemetery Commission* meeting and advised Larry Clairmont is not running this year. Anyone interested in being on the Commission should get nomination papers signed soon. There was a discussion about cement work done incorrectly in the cemetery footings causing stones to tip. They are interested in looking into it further.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

#### **Town Administrator's Report**

##### ***Green Communities***

The Town was presented with a very large check for *Green Communities* funding, as well as road signs and a plaque for doing work to become a *Green Community*. A review was made of the components required to be met to be in the Green Communities program, including solar or wind, fuel efficiency plans for vehicles, and adopting the stretch code. Funds from this program may be used toward green community programs and may be able replace the boiler at the library and provide energy audits at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The funds come from the State, but are collected from money citizens pay on utility bills, so it is the Town taking part in the program we pay for.



## TOWN OF ADAMS BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

### ***BART Science Fair***

Town Administrator Mazzucco was a judge at the BART student Science Fair.

### ***Economic Development Commission***

The quarterly meeting will be held in March for the Economic Development Commission.

### ***Farmers Market***

Citizens Glen Field, Kelly Field and Ashley Priester have indicated they will step up and take over the Adams Farmers Market, and the Town is working with them to give them as much support as possible and liaison to keep it seamless.

### ***Berkshire County Education Task Force***

There was a BCETF meeting on Saturday and a good discussion on shared services for education.

### **Town Counsel Report**

Town Counsel St. John III advised since his last report he rescheduled a case with the ABCC at the request of the Mt. Club attorney for late April or May. He reviewed a zoning issue, a permitting issue, and a potential litigation issue. He also reviewed an issue concerning a curb cut and provided a response, and reviewed a question concerning assessment practice.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Citizens were reminded not to throw baby wipes down the toilet, as they are causing a major issue in the sewer system. A couple of neighborhoods have been narrowed down that are causing the worst problem.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion made to adjourn by Vice Chairman Snoonian***


***Second by Member Duval***

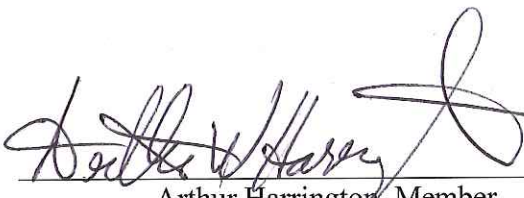
***Unanimous Vote***

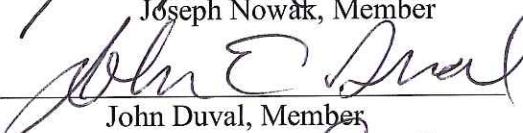
***Motion passed***

*The Board of Selectmen Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,  
Recording Secretary

  
Joseph Nowak, Member

  
Arthur Harrington, Member

  
John Duval, Member

  
Jeffrey Snoonian, Vice Chairman

  
Richard Blanchard, Chairman