



TOWN OF ADAMS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, May 4, 2016 – 7:00 PM
ADAMS TOWN HALL, 1st 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 were **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.

REORGANIZATION

Chairman Blanchard called for a motion to elect the new Board of Selectmen *Chair*.

Motion made by Member Harrington to nominate Jeffrey Snoonian for Chair

Second by Member Duval

Unanimous Vote

Motion passed

Chairman Snoonian took the gavel. He requested a motion to elect a Board of Selectmen *Vice-Chair*.

Motion made by Member Nowak to nominate Member Harrington as Vice Chair

Second by Member Duval

Unanimous Vote

Motion passed

READING OF MINUTES

- March 23, 2016
- March 24, 2016
- March 30, 2016

Motion made by Member Blanchard to waive reading the minutes from March 23, 2016, March 24, 2016 and March 30, 2016 and approve them as written

Second by Member Vice Chairman Harrington

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elections

Jeff Lefebvre congratulated Members Blanchard and Nowak for winning the elections and expressed disappointment at the low turnout of voters.

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Slums and Blight

Jeff Lefebvre advised he attended a meeting where they talked about blight, and he inquired about grant money applications.

This summer or fall there will be a workshop regarding Community Development Block Grants for slums and blight, but there are parameters that have to be met. Alternate program information can be reviewed together. Pittsfield and North Adams are entitled to programs that Adams is not eligible for.

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District

Jeff Lefebvre inquired when the Town plans to meet with the school district because there are major problems there including out of control bullying.

A proposal from the Collins Center to do an objective study is forthcoming and will begin the process.

Town-Wide Tag Sale

Town Tax Collector/Treasurer Kelly Rice advised the Board she is stepping up to volunteer for running the Town-Wide Tag Sale, and to disregard the letter submitted by the assistant to the Town Administrator. Citizens wishing to register to participate may come to the Treasurer's Office at the Adams Town Hall.

Authentic Mailing

Henry Jaeschke advised the Board that a mailing from H&R Block that has gone out is not a scam.

NEW BUSINESS

One Day Liquor License Application

Bounti-Fare Restaurant requested a One Day Liquor License for Berkshire Running Center Half Marathon.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Harrington to approve the One Day Liquor License for Bounti-Fare Restaurant for May 22, 2016 for the Berkshire Running Center Half Marathon for Beer & Wine only
Second by Member Duval

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Resubmission of Change of Club Officers

Adams Turners, Inc. submitted an updated documentation packet for the Club Change of Officers to be resubmitted to the Alcohol and Beverages Control Commission.

Member Nowak noted a typographical error on a Personal Information Form for Stephanie Gigliotti that needs to be amended prior to the paperwork being submitted to the ABCC.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Harrington to approve the resubmission of the Form 43 for the Change of Club Officers for Adams Turners, Inc.

Second by Member Blanchard

Unanimous vote

Motion passed



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Town-wide Tag Sale

Kelly Rice advised the Board she would be taking on the Town-wide Tag Sale for August 13, 2016 and requested the Board of Selectmen waive the Tag Sale fee for citizens, who must register for \$1.00. Applications are at the Treasurer's Office and may be turned in there. Rain or Shine.

Motion made by Member Blanchard to waive the Tag Sale fee for the Town Wide Tag Sale

Second by Vice Chairman Harrington

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Opening of Warrant for Annual Town Meeting

Warrant at next week's Workshop will be available for the Board to Review, Close the warrant on the 18th and Finance Committee on the 19th

Motion made by Member Blanchard to open the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting

Second by Vice Chairman Harrington

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

School Committee

Member Nowak attended a School Committee meeting where it was advised that the educators from CT Plunkett started a program that allows boisterous students non-disciplinary time to be mentored by staff to help them acclimate back to the classrooms. He advised there was an awareness of the School Committee regarding the need for consolidation.

Public Safety

Chairman Snoonian advised he attended the tabletop exercise with members of the Police, Fire, Schools and Board of Selectmen in attendance. The scenario introduced a catastrophe into Town initiated by a microburst storm including emergency response, evacuation plans, the responsibility of Emergency Management and MEMA. He advised they were somewhat prepared and it was a good exercise. More frequent exercises would be advantageous.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Administrator's Report

Dog Licenses

Dog licenses are available, and citizens should come get them.

Road Work

Howland Avenue potholes have been patched by the DPW. Line striping and crosswalks will be done as soon as school is out because the ground needs to be warm for the striping to set properly. It will be weather dependent.



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Member Nowak noted that he has received a complaint over the last three years from a Myrtle Street housing resident who was promised a number of times that it would be done and it has not been done. He inquired why the striping is worn out so quickly.

The DPW advised the Town Administrator that if the ground is too cold and it is striped too early it doesn't stay. It has been done under the incorrect conditions in the past as the Town responded to complaints, and has not been done effectively.

Emergency Planning

A tabletop emergency planning exercise took place this week and went well. The scenario was a microburst storm that caused damage to the area, creating the need for emergency response. The intention is to have one of these exercises annually.

Berkshire County Education Task Force

The Berkshire County Education Task Force (BCETF) met last week, and is doing ongoing work. A shared service group for North County is looking into different options for shared services, possibly around special education.

School Consolidation

A proposal for analysis of school options by Collins Center is expected this week.

Department of Environmental Protection

A letter for the DEP regarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant staffing is going out this week, and has been a collaborative effort with Community Development Director Donna Cesan.

Health and Housing Inspector

The Health and Housing Inspector, Tom Romaniak, started this week and has office hours.

Town Meeting Warrant

The Town Meeting Warrant will open today, and close in two weeks.

Board Finance Sub-Committee

The Board Finance Sub-Committee met with a Sub-Committee of the Finance Committee to work on developing a financial management policy for the Town. It will be an overview that guides financial decisions. The Stabilization policies across the state were reviewed. OPEB funding policy and other policies were briefly looked at.

Vice Chairman Harrington advised that as Board and Committee members change the policy would carry through from one group to another. The Sub-Committee will talk about fee structure for services, what happens with the money when it comes in and other guidelines. Parameters will be created for keeping a certain amount of money in the funds so the Town is not using Free Cash all the time. No decisions were made at the meeting. Guidelines will be brought forward to the Board for approval.

Member Nowak noted that although there are a lot of things going on it is important to tie up loose ends because innovation is good, but completion is better.



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Community Events

Some of the events left behind by the disbanding of the Events Committee have been taken over, and if anyone interested in running one of the remaining community events they should contact the Town Administrator. People are still needed to run *Susan B. Anthony Days*, *Hijinks Night*, *Bike Night* and *Cruz Night*. Chairman Snoonian may have contacts interested in taking on Bike Night.

Town Counsel Report

Town Counsel St. John III advised that since his last report he performed an investigation in potential litigation, he responded to questions concerning zoning matters, he rescheduled the Mountain Club hearing before the ABCC, and researched and responded to a question regarding a town meeting warrant article.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

Roundabout Project

Member Nowak advised he noticed there are a lot of shrubs being put in at the Roundabout, and it will be important to have enough staff to keep them maintained. He recommended the DPW consider this early on to manage it so weeds don't start growing in.

Voting and Position Vacancies

Member Nowak thanked citizens of Adams for their support in the vote, and praised those who took the initiative to be write-in candidates.

Member Blanchard thanked those who voted and for support in being reelected. He requested a list be put on the Town website for position vacancies because there are a lot of open seats in case anyone is interested in filling one.

Vice Chairman Harrington congratulated Members Nowak and Blanchard for how well they did in the election and expressed appreciation for working with them both past and future. He thanked those that came out to vote as well.

Letter to the Editor

Member Nowak advised he wrote letter to editor thanking the family that owned Stanley Lumber for their service and wished them well.

Liaison Assignments

Chairman Snoonian requested the list of Board Member liaison positions be provided for board members to consider for input on assignments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#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;*



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*Motion made by Vice Chairman Harrington to enter into Executive Session for purpose #3 at 7:34 p.m.
Second by Member Duval*

*Roll Call Vote: Member Blanchard, Chairman Snoonian, Member Nowak, Vice Chairman Harrington
and Member Duval*

Motion passed

Motion made by Member Blanchard to exit Executive Session at 7:39 p.m.

Second by Vice Chairman Harrington

*Roll Call Vote: Member Blanchard, Chairman Snoonian, Members Nowak, Vice Chairman Harrington
and Member Duval*

Motion passed

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn by Member Blanchard


Second by Member Harrington

Unanimous Vote

Motion passed

The Board of Selectmen Meeting adjourned at 7:40 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