



# TOWN OF ADAMS

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, August 3, 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 Jeffrey Snoonian presided the meeting. Present were Vice Chairman, Arthur Harrington, Members Joseph Nowak, Richard Blanchard, and John Duval. Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco was absent. Also in attendance were Acting Town Administrator Donna Cesan 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

- June 8, 2016
- June 22, 2016
- July 6, 2016

*Motion made by Member Blanchard to waive reading the minutes from June 8, 2016, June 22, 2016 and July 6, 2016 and to approve them as written*

*Second by Vice Chairman Harrington*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### PUBLIC COMMENT

#### **Dispatch Communications**

Mike Gleason, Director of Adams Ambulance informed the Board of issues with dispatch services over the last 30 days and them. He advised that Adams Ambulance has lost several transfers and emergency calls because patient transfers are not being handled the same way, causing a delay in patient care and a financial loss to Adams Ambulance estimated between \$13,000 and \$18,000. He stated he had given a procedure sheet to Dispatchers to follow. He said the transition plan is not the same as was explained, and Adams Ambulance was then forced to purchase used and donated pagers to make it work. He pointed out that personnel must go out to the vehicle to use their radio instead of portables when using Savoy or Lenox Towers. He said he thought there would be testing prior to the formal switch, and he fears that someone will get hurt. He advised he has reached out to North Adams Dispatch Center, and if there is a question of patient care and crew safety he is willing to go there. He provided a protocol list and a letter to the Board of Selectmen.

**Board Members** noted that this will be addressed steadfastly. It was clarified that a meeting between all of the parties was scheduled for next Tuesday to discuss these issues.

**John Pansecchi** of the Adams Fire Department also advised that pagers go off intermittently when receiving calls and members sometimes do not get the message, depending on where they are in town. He said that radio communications are almost impossible with portable radios and tried suggested alternatives. He advised that Chief Goyette will be at the scheduled meeting on Tuesday.

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TOWN CLERK  
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CLERK



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Chief Tarsa advised that at tower at Florida Mountain should resolve several issues in Northern Berkshire.

### ***Adams Arts Advisory Board***

Francie Riley updated the Board that the *People-Powered Pedal Float* will be at Agricultural Fair this weekend. The *Great Chair Auction and More* fundraiser for the Youth Center will be happening again this year and anyone interested in decorating a chair or other furniture should call (413)743-3550. There will be a *Chair Walk* on the street again this year.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### ***Verizon Petition for Pole Location, Burlingame Hill, 7:10 p.m.***

Andy Huffnagle, representing Verizon read the petition to relocate a pole on Burlingame Hill. The request was sent in by the power company because the existing pole has deteriorated. They will be replacing the pole with larger pole and making it closer to the street to make it less difficult to reach. Eminent Domain is not a factor because Verizon works with the Town's existing Right of Way.

Chief Tarsa advised citizens to call the Water District or Police Department if lights are out on the poles.

***Motion made by Vice Chairman Harrington to approve the Verizon request for Burlingame Road as described in their notice***

***Second by Member Duval***

***Unanimous vote***

***Motion passed***

#### ***Continued – Show Cause Hearing, Mak's Grill, dba Rascal's, 7:20 p.m.***

The Attorney representing *Mak's Grill, dba Rascals* advised he was there to request the *All Alcohol License* not be revoked. He said Rascal's has been actively and aggressively marketing the property for a few months and had recently lowered the price after putting a lot of money into the building and investing in it. He asked for a minimum of six months, until the beginning of the year before the Board takes action to revoke the license. He noted that the ABCC has indicated six months, in a decision in another case was referenced being the proper amount of time to give for non-use from the time of notice. He advised this would bring them almost exactly to the time of renewal. Rascal's will continue to market the business aggressively and is also analyzing the business to see if there is a way to reopen it in the event that it cannot be sold, in a fashion acceptable to the Board.

Board Members made inquiries about the referenced case, and noted the renewal process is voted on in December, before the six months is expired. The desire is to be able to consider it before the full six months to fit into renewal process timing. If consideration is done in January it will be after the renewal is done and issuance has taken place for the next year. Additional discussion included having a plan in place in six months so the Board would vote on a transfer. Timing of doing discovery, CORI checks would likely extend it past the time and require a renewal.

***Motion made by Member Duval to wait six months prior to making a decision for renewal or revocation***

***Second by Member Nowak***

***Unanimous vote***

***Motion passed***





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### NEW BUSINESS

#### *State Primary Warrant*

**Town Clerk Haley Meczywor** submitted a letter from regarding the State Primary being held at Adams Highway Garage at 92 Summer Street on September 8, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Brief discussion took place about moving voting to Memorial School and what the status of that is. It was noted that previously there was an indication that in the fall the general elections could be held there. Insurance and handicap accessibility issues were noted with a long lead time to get the building ready.

#### *Town Census for 2016*

Adams Board of Registrars completed the census, increased by 35 persons, per a letter submitted by Town Clerk, Haley Meczywor.

#### *Appointment of Election Workers*

**Town Clerk Haley Meczywor** submitted a list of names of the ratification of Election Workers. A request was also made to authorize the Town Clerk to make emergency appointments as necessary.

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Harrington to approve the appointments as listed on the letter as presented*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed.*

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Harrington to authorize the Town Clerk to make emergency appointments as needed*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

#### *Facility Use Request: Adams Memorial School Park, Columbia Street*

**Kim Witek** requested use of the Adams Memorial School Park on Columbia Street for a Tag Sale in conjunction with the American Cancer Society on Saturday, August 13, 2016. A modification was requested in the Facility Use Request location to have the event take place in the driveway but not in the Veterans Park.

*Motion made by Vice Chairman Harrington to approve the use on August 13, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the adjacent driveway to Memorial School, and not Memorial Park West*

*Second by Member Blanchard*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

#### *Age Friendly Berkshires Presentation, Resolution*

**Chairman Snoonian** read a Resolution and **Director Girgenti** addressed the Board regarding the Age Friendly Berkshires and gave the statistics of the local population of older adults. She noted the redevelopment of the downtown, putting in an age-friendly trail, and suggested potential opportunities including zoning and adding in-law apartments. She reviewed a list of what Age Friendly Communities look at, discussed transportation gaps and challenges, and outlined a great tax incentive.



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Grants and opportunities will likely be in a higher opportunity once adopted because funding agencies like to see the Town is assisting and designing for the population, not just one demographic. Community health support models were reviewed, including house visits. She outlined opportunities to develop the county as age-friendly many reason. Adams was recommended to become certified as a dementia friendly community, and that the Town of Adams goes through a free training as the first municipality to do it.

*Motion by Vice Chairman Harrington to adopt the resolution as presented*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

#### *School Committee*

**Member Nowak** attended the School Committee meeting where they discussed and updated policy booklets before entering into an Executive Session.

**Chairman Snoonian** advised that Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. the new Interim Superintendent, Robert Putnam will be addressing the Board.

#### *Metropolitan Planning Organization*

**Member Duval** attended the MPO meeting regarding the Rail Trail Extension. The contract completion date is May 2017, but they hope to be completed from Hoosac Street to Lime Street before the snow flies.

#### *Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission*

**Vice Chairman Harrington** advised he attended the ABCC Training in Boston regarding the conversion to eLicensing for Liquor Licenses for Section 12 and Section 15 businesses. Adams is in the second tier of the Pilot Program, which will simplify the renewal process. The Town will need a kiosk for staff to support those without a computer, technology and email through the application process. Going forward everything will be paperless, and supporting documents will be scanned and sent to the ABCC online. The Town will get legal advice on whether to keep paper or just electronic copies of files.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### *Town Administrator's Report*

*Town Administrator Mazzucco was absent. Acting Town Administrator Cesan issued a report to the Board.* Four bids were received from contractors for Senecal Terrace. The lowest was from William J. Keller & Sons, which was \$10,000 lower than the estimate. All bids will be reviewed and a formal recommendation will be provided to the Board. The Town should receive a preconstruction plan from the contractor within the next month.

#### *Town Counsel Report*

**Town Counsel St. John III** gave a brief report regarding items he handled since his last report. They included doing additional research, investigation and correspondence concerning banning a private citizen from public buildings; reviewed correspondence from Zoning Enforcement Officer to MJD and correspondence to Zoning Enforcement Officer concerning same, and preparation for a hearing involving Mak's Grill, Inc. dba Rascals involving a 'pocket license'.





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### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

#### *Dispatch Communications*

An inquiry was made to Chief Tarsa regarding the radio at the station being able to be put into retransmit mode, which was doubtful. Each transmission from the Sheriff's Dispatch or the cruiser or the station showed the same exact call being transmitted on more than one tower. This was designed so if it missed one tower the other would get it. Florida Tower is being worked on for future use and some of the issues can be resolved through simulcast system which is a licensing process. There are issues with every agency that need to be ironed out and Chief Tarsa is trying mediating for both sides. He noted an issue with the Information Management Corporation (IMC) software system going down for maintenance, as well.

#### *Hijinx Night*

**Member Nowak** commended Ann Marie Belmont for doing a great job with Hijinx Night, and noted that there were many vendors.

#### *Polish Picnic*

**Member Nowak** went to the Polish Picnic and there was a great crowd there.

#### *Adams Agricultural Fair*

**Member Nowak** invited people to attend the Adams Agricultural Fair and hoped for a good turnout.

### ADJOURNMENT

*Motion made to adjourn by Member Blanchard*

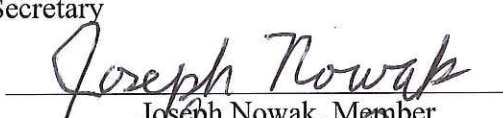
*Second by Member Harrington*


*Unanimous Vote*


*Motion passed*

*The Board of Selectmen Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.*


Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,  
Recording Secretary

  
Joseph Nowak, Member

  
Richard Blanchard, Member

  
John Duval, Member

  
Arthur Harrington, Vice Chairman

  
Jeffrey Snoonian, Chairman