

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES - MAY 26, 2009**

7:00 p.m. - Selectmen's Meeting Room, 63 Main Street, Northborough, MA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fran Bakstran, Chairman  
Dawn Rand, Vice Chairman  
Leslie Rutan, Clerk  
Jeff Amberson  
William Pantazis

\*Pledge of Allegiance

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 13, 2009 REGULAR MEETING**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to accept the Minutes of the April 13, 2009 Regular Meeting as presented; Selectman Bakstran seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 27, 2009 SPECIAL MEETING**

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to accept the Minutes of the April 27, 2009 Special Meeting as presented; Selectman Bakstran seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:00 p.m. - ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Chairman – Fran Bakstran

Nominations for Chairman were called by Town Clerk Andrew Dowd.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to nominate Selectman Bakstran to the position of Chairman; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion. No other nominations were presented. Mr. Dowd closed the nominations for Chairman.

The motion to nominate Selectman Bakstran to the position of Chairman passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman – Dawn Rand

Nominations for Vice Chairman were called by Town Clerk Andrew Dowd.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to nominate Selectman Rand to the position of Vice Chairman; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion. No other nominations were presented. Mr. Dowd closed the nominations for Vice Chairman.

The motion to nominate Selectman Rand to the position of Vice Chairman passed unanimously.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS CONT. . .**Clerk – Leslie Rutan

Nominations for Clerk were called by Town Clerk Andrew Dowd.

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to nominate Selectman Rutan to the position of Clerk; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion. No other nominations were presented. Mr. Dowd closed the nominations for Clerk.

The motion to nominate Selectman Rutan to the position of Clerk passed unanimously.

7:05 p.m. - **PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION**  
Presentation proclaiming June 6, 2009 as Arthur Cole Day in recognition of National Trails Day.

Selectman Amberson read the Proclamation proclaiming June 6, 2009 as Arthur Cole Day in its entirety. Arthur Cole, along with members of his family, was present to accept the proclamation.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to proclaim June 6, 2009 as Arthur Cole Day in the Town of Northborough in recognition of National Trails Day and for being the founding member of the Northborough Trails Committee back in 1999; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:10 p.m. - **LAURIE KLEIN, SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR.**  
Presentation of Scholarship Awards.

Scholarship Committee Chairperson Laurie Klein, as well as other members of the Scholarship Committee were present to award scholarships to the following graduating high school students who were present this evening:

- ❑ Joseph DePaolo
- ❑ Dalton Ryan
- ❑ Sterling Chu
- ❑ Michael Amberson
- ❑ Changik Chung

Members of the Board thanked the members of the Scholarship Committee for their work and offered their congratulations to the scholarship recipients and their families.

7:15 p.m. - **PUBLIC HEARING**

To consider an application to transfer the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License from Tom's Gourmet, Inc. d/b/a Tom's Eatin' & Drinkin' Place to ITS Enterprises, LLC for premises located at 4 West Main Street.

At the request of Detective Sergeant Griffin, Mr. Coderre recommended to the Board that this public hearing be continued to the Board's June 8, 2009 Meeting.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to continue the public hearing to consider the application to transfer the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License from Tom's Gourmet, Inc. d/b/a Tom's Eatin' & Drinkin' Place to ITS Enterprises, LLC for premises located at 4 West Main Street to June 8, 2009 at 7:00 pm; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:20 p.m. - **KATHLEEN KELLY, AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

Presentation on the Relay for Life of Northboro-Southboro event to be held on May 29<sup>th</sup> at Algonquin High School.

Lorna Helms was present on behalf of the American Cancer Society to announce this year's Relay for Life of Northboro-Southboro being held on May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Algonquin High School. She noted that teams of people will camp out at the school and take turns walking around the track while enjoying food, games and entertainment. This annual event helps to raise much-needed funds to fight cancer and to raise awareness of cancer prevention and treatment.

Selectman Amberson agreed to attend the opening ceremony and welcome the community to the event on behalf of the Board.

7:25 p.m. - **PUBLIC HEARING**

To consider an application to transfer the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License from KACO Food & Beverage, Inc. d/b/a JJ's Sports Bar & Grill to Sarro Entities, LLC for premises located at 380 Southwest Cutoff.

Attorney Gerald Madaus and applicant Peter Sarro were both present. Mr. Sarro informed the Board that although he does not have any real life experience in the liquor industry, he has been a successful business owner since 1996. He does have experience in the food industry, owning his own deli in Worcester several years ago.

Members of the Board advised Mr. Sarro of the previous problems with management and service of alcohol at this establishment. It was acknowledged that management practices have improved greatly since the existing conditions were placed on the license in December of 2008.

**PUBLIC HEARING CONT. . .**

Mr. Sarro indicated that he is fully aware of the previous problems with this establishment. He confirmed that he received copies of all documents relative to the past problems with OUI convictions coming from this establishment, as well as a copy of the existing conditions that were placed on the license this past December. He informed the Board that he is in full agreement that all of the existing conditions remain in place, including the existing hours of operation. He added that this will be his full-time employment and that the current manager, Mr. Bitensky, as well as the senior bartenders will remain on staff. All existing policies and procedures, including the designated driver program will remain in place. The live entertainment on weekends and the sports coverage will continue. The menu will be improved and he will work towards enhancing the family-friendly atmosphere.

Detective Sergeant Brian Griffin informed the Board that the background check brought forward no concerns as to Mr. Sarro's character and suitability.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve the application to transfer the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant and related Licenses from KACO Food & Beverages, Inc. d/b/a JJ's Sports Bar & Grill to Sarro Entities, LLC for premises located at 380 Southwest Cutoff with the following conditions:

- That all existing conditions that were placed on the license in December, 2008 remain in full effect, including the existing hours of operation.
- That all municipal taxes, fees and/or other charges be paid up to the date that the license is approved by the ABCC.

Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:30 p.m. - **RICHARD NOVITCH**  
Request to block off Samuel Gamwel Road on Saturday, June 27,  
2009 from 11am - 8pm.

Mr. Coderre recommended that this item be continued to the Board's next meeting on June 8, 2009 due to the applicant's absence this evening.

**REPORTS****William Pantazis**

- Attended the Memorial Day Parade. Requested that the American Legion consider changing the time of the parade to the morning hours rather than in the afternoon.
- Spoke about a recent article that was in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette regarding complaints about the condition of cemetery plots. He understands that with the current economic crisis, staff has been cut, but feels this is a concern.

Jeff Amberson

- Spoke about the numerous complaints that he received regarding the cemetery conditions.
- Thanked those who supported him during his recent run for re-election.
- Thanked Selectman Rand for her work as Chairman of the Board during the past year. Offered his best wishes to Selectman Bakstran on being elected the new Chairperson.
- Noted that the Interview Committee met with several applicants for Boards, Committees and Commissions. See below for appointments.

Leslie Rutan, Clerk

- Spoke about the complaints that she received regarding the condition of the cemetery.
- Noted that a resident had recently been to the DPW Department to inquire about the location of a gravesite. Questioned what format the cemetery records are currently being kept in and asked if there was any way they could be computerized at some point in the near future.
- Announced the names of 13 Northborough residents who participated in the Boston Marathon. Offered her congratulations to all of them.
- Announced that a Community Planting Day will take place at the St. Rose of Lima Church on May 30<sup>th</sup> to benefit the food pantry.
- Offered her congratulations to Police Officers Jeremy Trefry, Robert Haglund and Nathan Fiske for receiving the Drive for Life Award by Mothers against Drunk Driving.
- Congratulated Town Clerk Andy Dowd on his recent designation as a Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk by the Massachusetts Town Clerk's Association.
- Suggested that the Board of Selectmen carry a banner identifying themselves while marching in the Annual Applefest Parade. Members of the Board agreed to divide the total cost for the banner amongst each of them.
- Participated in the check-in at the post-prom event. Noted how great the program is and appreciates it giving parents a peace of mind.

Dawn Rand, Vice Chairman

- Spoke about the complaints she received about the cemetery. Requested that this issue be discussed at a future Board meeting.
- Spoke about the complaints she received about the new administrative fee of \$50 on the last Water & Sewer Bill. Requested that the Water & Sewer Commissioners be invited to a future Board meeting to explain this fee and why it was instituted.
- Thanked Town Administrator John Coderre and his staff for all their preparation in making sure that the Annual Town Meeting ran smoothly.
- Thanked all those who coordinated and participated in the Memorial Day Parade, especially the Vincent Picard Post.

Fran Bakstran, Chairman

- Requested that when the cemetery concerns are discussed, that the discussion include an update on the process of how to obtain a cemetery deed.
- Thanked the Venture Crew on behalf of the Recycling Committee for their help with Recycling Day. Thanked those who recycled and the companies who provided the trucks and the manpower.
- Attended a recent Eagle Scout Court of Honor for William Deady. Mr. Deady's project was restoring the community garden at the St. Rose of Lima Church. The church is looking for help to maintain the garden during the summer months.
- Noted that the Rotary Club has taken over the planning of Applefest. Announced that nominations are now being accepted for Grand Marshall.

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- Responded to the concerns expressed this evening regarding the lower level of maintenance at the cemetery. Clarified that there is absolutely no disrespect intended on behalf of the DPW employees. He expressed how difficult it is for these employees who care about their work and their community, but do not have the resources to get the work done. He stated for the record that the DPW Department did a great job in preparing the cemetery for Memorial Day. The reality is that we do not have the ability to fund the level of services that this community has become accustomed to. This issue will likely worsen during the course of the next fiscal year and encompass all departments.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to appoint Jean Perry to the Housing Authority for a three-year term; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to appoint Virginia Simms George to the Board of Library Trustees for a two-year term; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to appoint James Wing to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a three-year term; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**APPROVAL/EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEEDS A807 & A808**

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve and execute Cemetery Deeds A807 & A808; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**8:00 p.m. – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 23B, Subsection 3, Collective Bargaining/Labor Negotiations Matter; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Pantazis	“aye”	Rand	“aye”
Amberson	“aye”	Bakstran	“aye”
Rutan	“aye”		

Chairman Bakstran announced that the Board would return from Executive Session only to adjourn.

**8:25 p.m. – RETURN TO OPEN MEETING**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to adjourn; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell  
Executive Assistant to the  
Board of Selectmen