

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES – January 12, 2015**

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Rand, Chairman
Jeff Amberson, Vice Chairman
Leslie Rutan, Clerk
William Pantazis
Jason Perreault

*Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 11, 2014 JOINT MEETING

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the December 11, 2014 joint meeting as submitted; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 15, 2014 REGULAR MEETING

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the December 15, 2014 regular meeting as submitted; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:00 p.m. - SAMIR HANNOUSH D/B/A PICKLE HAUS DELI
Request for a Common Victualler License for premises located at 276 West Main Street.

Attorney Roderick St. Pierre was present on behalf of the applicant Samir Hannoush. Mr. Hannoush was out of town and was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Hannoush has submitted an application for a common victualler license as the new owner of the Pickle Haus Deli located at 276 West Main Street.

Mr. Hannoush currently owns and operates the Uptown Deli located inside the Christmas Tree Shop Plaza in Shrewsbury. The daily operations of the restaurant will not change and the name will remain the same. The current employees will be kept on as well.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve the application for a Common Victualler License as submitted by Samir Hannoush of Ben Han Corporation d/b/a Pickle Haus Deli for premises located at 276 West Main Street, providing that the licensee receive satisfactory inspections by the Building, Fire and Health Departments; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:05 p.m. - BARRY ROCHA D/B/A BARRY'S AUTO SALES
To consider a request for an increase in storage capacity for his Class II and Class III Licenses for premises located at 25R Bartlett Street.

Barry Rocha of Barry's Auto Sales was present to inform the Board of his need to increase the storage capacity under his Class II and Class III Licenses for premises located at 25R Bartlett Street from a combined 58 vehicles to no more than 80 vehicles. Mr. Rocha stated that his business has steadily grown over the last several years, resulting in a need for the additional inventory. He noted that he has run this business since 1986.

BARRY ROCHA D/B/A BARRY'S AUTO SALES CONT...

Mr. Rocha reviewed the daily operations of his business as it stands now, noting that the majority of his business is now primarily related to the sale of used vehicles. The restoration portion of the business, which required the Class III License back in 1999, was prominent then, but has continuously declined and now represents only a small portion of the daily operations. As a result of his request to increase the storage by an additional 22 vehicles, he will be seeking relief from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) from the conditions set forth in the ZBA Decision dated December 30, 1999, which limited the amount of stored vehicles to no more than 58.

Mr. Rocha extended his appreciation to the Board for allowing him the opportunity to share with them his plans to expand the business prior to seeking relief from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Following some discussion, Mr. Coderre reiterated that Mr. Rocha is not looking for the Board to take any action tonight. It was his wish to obtain a review by the Police, Fire and Building Departments prior to filing an application with the ZBA. As Police and Fire did not raise any barriers to his request, he will seek relief from the ZBA and come back to the Board for their consideration at a future meeting.

Chairman Rand thanked Mr. Rocha for his presentation, adding that the information provided this evening will be taken into consideration when the application to increase the storage of vehicles is brought back before the Board.

7:15 p.m. - FRANCOIS HAMAD D/B/A ROADRUNNER

To consider an application for a Transportation/Taxi License for premises located at 197 Main Street.

Francois Hamad was present to request a Transportation/Taxi License for premises located at 197 Main Street. Mr. Hamad indicated that he operates his existing business (Northboro Car Care) at the same location and is looking to perform the administrative portion of the Transportation/Taxi License in his business office at this location. Mr. Hamad stated that he is aware that the license will not allow for any parking of taxi or livery vehicles at the business location at 197 Main Street. His plan is to park the one vehicle related to the taxi business at his home address at 50 Boundary Street.

During the discussion, it was brought to the Board's attention that Mr. Hamad's home address at 50 Boundary Street is on the Northborough/Marlborough line. Mr. Hamad indicated that his house is located in Northborough, while the majority of his driveway is in Marlborough. He indicated that he pays motor vehicle excise tax to Northborough, which raised concerns as to whether his driveway is actually in Northborough.

The Board did not take any action on the application until the Town Assessor can clarify whether or not the driveway at 50 Boundary Street (where the taxi vehicle will be parked) is physically located in Northborough or Marlborough, as the Zoning Regulations do not allow taxi vehicles to be stored in Northborough.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to continue the matter to the Board's January 26, 2015 Meeting; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:25 p.m. - DAN NASON, DPW DIRECTOR

Update on the status of the Otis Street Bridge and Snow & Ice Budget.

Otis Street Bridge Update

DPW Director Dan Nason provided a status report on the Otis Street Bridge closing. He stated that the bridge was closed to traffic this past summer due to structural deficiencies found in the support beams, settling and bulging found in the stone abutment wall and insufficient protection of above-ground utilities from a downed guardrail.

Mr. Nason indicated that this project has been a priority and is moving along at a fast pace, given the complexity of it. All investigatory/engineering work has been completed, and the project has been fully designed. The project is scheduled to be bid out in the next two weeks to allow time for bid submissions, contractor reference checks and contract negotiations prior to Town Meeting. Mr. Nason added that this has been the stated schedule since last year's Annual Town Meeting, with the only exception being the need to close the bridge sooner than expected because further investigation by a structural engineer determined that the structure posed an immediate public safety hazard.

Following some discussion, it was agreed that given the speed of the permanent bridge replacement it does not make sense to pursue a temporary structure at this location.

Mr. Nason assured the Board that all public safety departments have been involved in the process and that communication and coordination is continuous.

Snow & Ice Budget

DPW Director Dan Nason provided a status report on the Snow & Ice Budget for FY2015. The balance of the original \$346,200 appropriation is \$194,845.72 – or 56%. Mr. Nason noted that to date, there have been five recorded snow events, two of which required the use of plow contractors, as well as various icy, wintry mix events requiring treatment services. Funds in the amount of \$67,000 were expended for salt, which is currently stockpiled in the salt storage facility.

In response to a question from Chairman Rand, Mr. Nason informed the Board that the new salt shed is in the process of being built. The installation of the interior flooring will be postponed until warmer weather arrives, at which time the salt will be transferred and the old structure will be torn down.

REPORTS

Jason Perreault

- No report.

William Pantazis

- No report.

Leslie Rutan, Clerk

- Wished everyone a Happy New Year!
- Announced that the Senior Center is approaching it's five year mark. Noted that the Bistro lunch and dinner program is going very well with as many as 40 people routinely participating. Extended her appreciation to Bistro Manager Vicky Killeen.

Jeff Amberson, Vice Chairman

- Recently spoke to a local Boy Scout Troop as the boys prepare to earn their Citizenship in the Community badges. Thanked the Troop for their invite.
- Asked that the public be courteous to the those drivers who are out working during the storms.

Dawn Rand, Chairman

- No report.

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- Announced that a joint meeting between the Board of Selectmen, Northborough School Committee, Lincoln Street Building Committee and the Financial Planning and Appropriations Committees has been scheduled for January 22, 2015 at 7pm at the Library. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an update on the Lincoln Street Building Project. The project is at 95% design, is on schedule as presented at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting and is currently under budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Fouracre of 99 Pleasant Street spoke in support of the placement of a temporary bridge on Otis Street until such a time that the permanent bridge can be completed.

In response to a comment made by Mr. Fouracre, Fire Chief Durgin clarified that a temporary structure would not be sufficient for his Department's needs.

Echoing what was said earlier by the DPW Director under his update on the Otis Street Bridge, Mr. Coderre again assured the public that all public safety departments have been involved in the process and that communication and coordination is continuous. He urged the public to be understanding of all the engineering and approvals required to move a project like this forward, adding that no time has been wasted and the project clearly has not been idle.

Lastly, Mr. Coderre noted that the purpose of the status update provided by the DPW Director earlier in tonight's meeting, at which time Mr. Fouracre was present, was to communicate to the public that a temporary structure will not be pursued, given the fast-track pace of the permanent replacement bridge.

EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEEDS A961, A962, A963 & A964

Selectman Perreault moved the Board vote to execute Cemetery Deeds A961, A962, A963 & A964; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

7:50 p.m. - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Subsection 3 (litigation) due to the Chair's determination that a discussion regarding this matter in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the position of the Board; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Perreault	“aye”	Amberson	“aye”
Pantazis	“aye”	Rand	“aye”
Rutan	“aye”		

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell
Executive Assistant to the
Board of Selectmen

Documents used during meeting:

1. January 12, 2015 Meeting Agenda.
2. December 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes.
3. December 15, 2014 Meeting Minutes.
4. Information packet – Common Victualler License.
5. Information packet – Class II and Class III Request to Increase Storage.
6. Email from Concerned Resident – Class II and Class III Request to Increase Storage.
7. Information packet – Transportation/Taxi License.
8. Memo – Otis Street Bridge and Snow & Ice Budget Update.
9. Cemetery Deeds.