

Town of Adams Massachusetts 01220-2087

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN HALL BUILDING
8 PARK STREET

Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
1st Floor, Board of Selectmen Meeting Room
MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Hoyt. Present were Vice Chairman Bush, Members Blanchard, Duval, and Nowak. Also present was Town Administrator Green and Town Counsel St. John, III.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The meeting minutes for November 20, 2019 and November 26, 2019 were presented for approval. *Motion made by Vice Chairman Bush to waive the reading of the minutes and approve them as submitted, second by Member Duval. Abstention by Member Blanchard. Voted in favor were Chairman Hoyt, Vice Chairman Bush, Members Duval and Nowak.* The minutes of the December 3, 2019 meeting were presented for approval. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to waive reading of the minutes and approve them as submitted, second by Vice Chairman Bush. Vote: unanimous.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: *No members of the public came forward to comment.*

NEW BUSINESS

Recognition for Red Carpet Restaurant: *Chairman Hoyt read the following proclamation:*

***WHEREAS**, the Red Carpet Restaurant has been the longest-standing, full-service family restaurant in Berkshire County; and **WHEREAS**, the Red Carpet Restaurant has been a family owned eatery for 69 years; and **WHEREAS**, the building at 69 Park Street has been a social gathering spot for many generations providing great food at a great price; and **WHEREAS**, the Haddad Family has shown their commitment and hospitality to the residents, neighboring communities and visitors of Adams; and Be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Adams Board of Selectmen recognize the Haddad Family for their dedication and contribution to our community with the successful operation of the Red Carpet Restaurant; and Be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Selectmen wish you all a happy and healthy retirement. **IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the Town of Adams to be affixed on this 18th day of December in the year 2019. Members of the Board of Selectmen congratulated George Haddad and Ann Bartlett for their retirement and shared their stories and feelings about what the Red Carpet Restaurant has meant to each of them.*

Update from Adams Arts Advisory Board, Endorsement Request for Project Sunflower:

Richard Tavelli presented a draft proposal for an Adams Arts Advisory Board project that will support and highlight the suffrage centennial celebration. The project would fill storefronts and public spaces, starting on Park Street, with visual images and decorations to present a more attractive and viable image that will promote economic development and civic pride. The sunflower was chosen as it is a symbol of the suffrage movement. Mr. Tavelli asked to come back to a future meeting to have the Board of Selectmen officially endorse this project.

Application for Permit to Place Sign on a Public Way: *Northern Berkshire United Way* requested a sign be placed in Memorial Park, Adams, December 2019 through August 2020. The sign is 2 ft. wide by 8 ft. high. ***Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the sign application as submitted, second by Vice Chairman Bush.*** *Member Blanchard* questioned the location, Memorial Park, and wondered if the sign could be placed on the west side so as to not take away from the veterans. ***Member Nowak amended the motion to approve the application for the sign to be placed on the west side of Memorial Park from December 2019 through August 2020, second by Vice Chairman Bush.*** ***Vote: unanimous.***

Facility Use Request, Greylock Glen: *Jonathan Shefftz dba Northeast Ski Mountaineering*, February 22, 2020, 9:00 a.m. to the end of the race. ***Motion by Member Nowak to approve the use of the Greylock Glen by Northeast Ski Mountaineering on February 22, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. for a race, second by Member Blanchard.*** ***Vote: unanimous.***

License Approvals

Auto Sales License Renewal, B & B Micro Manufacturing, 201 Howland Avenue, Adams. *Chairman Hoyt* mentioned that there was a delay in distributing the paperwork to B&B and hence this was not part of the license renewal meeting. ***Member Blanchard made the motion to approve the Auto Sales License Renewal for B&B Micro Manufacturing, second by Vice Chairman Bush.*** ***Vote: Unanimous.***

Common Victualer License for 2020, Original Seed Cigar & Lounge, 32 North Summer Street, Adams. *John Sheerin* was present and spoke about the plans for Original Seed Cigar & Lounge. Members of the Board asked questions about the plans and thanked him for investing in Adams. ***Vice Chairman Bush made a motion to approve the Common Victualer License for Original Seed Cigar & Lounge, second by Member Blanchard.*** ***Vote: Unanimous.***

Common Victualer License for 2020, Cumberland Farms, 46 Commercial Street, Adams. *Chairman Hoyt* stated that this is a new license request for Cumberland Farms as Health Inspector Blaisdell has suggested that this would be the necessary paperwork for the coffee and soda sales. ***Motion by Member Blanchard to approve the Common Victualer license for Cumberland Farms, second by Vice Chairman Bush.*** ***Vote: Unanimous.***

Reversal of All Alcohol License Transfer, O'Geary's Liquor Store, Inc., 60 Commercial Street. *Chairman Hoyt* stated that we received a termination and release of purchase and sale agreement for O'Geary's Liquor Store and therefore, the Board needs to vote to reverse the All Alcohol License transfer. *Town Counsel* stated that the paperwork was in order and that this was the next step in the process. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to reverse the all alcohol license transfer for O'Geary's Liquor Store, second by Vice Chairman Bush.*** ***Vote: Unanimous.***

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Administrator: The DPW storm mitigation from the 25" snowfall was reviewed. Town offices closing 12:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve and Town Hall at 12:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Begun FY2021 and will be meeting with Department Heads to begin the process. Meeting with BART Charter School on an Arbor Day Tree Planting Program. A BART School intern may be able to help the Town with GIS work. McCann Students may be able to help with the Russell Field design of the Field House. Community Development was notified of an award of an \$80,000 ADA Grant for the

Registry of Deeds building. The DPW Director, Robert Tober, is scheduled to start January 13, 2020. Member Nowak asked what percentage of property taxes have been collected to date. It was suggested to have the Tax Collector come to an upcoming meeting to give a report. Member Nowak also asked that the Auditor present the Town Audit once it is complete.


Town Counsel: Town Counsel St. John III advised since his last report he reviewed a staff request regarding reasons to enter into executive session. He reviewed and commented on a proposed donation of land to the town. He met with a staff member regarding Open Meeting Law issues, and reviewed and responded to a complaint that the Open Meeting Law was violated. He reviewed and responded to a Public Records Act request. He appeared at a hearing before the Western Massachusetts Housing Court concerning a request to have the court issue a judgment against Edward MacDonald, who had brought suit to overturn a ruling by the Zoning Board of Appeals. This ruling upheld the Zoning Enforcement Officer's citation of Mr. MacDonald's business, Quick and Easy Rolloff, for violating the Town's zoning bylaw prohibiting dumping at the former Curtis Paper site. Following today's hearing, the judge ordered judgment in favor of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He wished everyone a happy holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year.

SUB-COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS: *Member Nowak* reported on the Conservation Commission meeting where they did not have a quorum but the engineer for the Route 8 Corridor Project was there. A highway plan was brought. There will be swales to absorb water before they get to the catch basins. Got the OK from the DPW, State and MassDOT. A vote could not be taken due to there being no quorum. He reported he attended a Cemetery Commission meeting, and the family of Jeffrey Lefebvre are looking to purchase a site to put in a granite reflection bench in memory of Jeff Lefebvre at Bellevue Cemetery. The possibility of increasing the cemetery to include more sites was discussed but the trend is going toward cremations rather than burials. Upgrading will take place as there is a catch basin and roadway in need of repair. Maple Street Cemetery is looking to extend the fence along Valley Street. ASSCC has had meetings on the parade and signed a contract for the fireworks. An upcoming event fundraiser on January 18, 2020 on Musical Bingo at Bass Water Grille will be held and tickets are \$25 each. *Vice Chairman Bush* announced he attended a North Adams City Council meeting regarding North Adams joining the District. He attended the Board of Health meeting where discussion surrounded capping cigar sales and vaping. He attended the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition meeting where a mental health discussion took place at the monthly forum, meet and greet in Adams happens monthly. A Fallen Heroes Meeting took place regarding collection of information needed and to have releases signed by families. *Member Duval* reported that Memorial School Sub-Committee met regarding the update of the RFP for the HVAC unit and creating a building use policy for the building. The bids came in high and discussion took place on filling the gap in funding. A Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting took place regarding I-90 interchange exits study done and they are looking to add a new exit. The Adams Route 8 Pavement Rehabilitation Project 2020 timeline will be reported out at a later date. The Adams Systematic Bridge Maintenance before Mullen Mayflower will be rehabilitated with state funds. Adams/North Adams Trail design from Lime to Hodges Cross Road for the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail is moving forward. Trail resurfacing will also take place in 2020 from Visitors Center to the Berkshire Mall. The temporary inconvenience to the community from the project was noted. Member Duval asked about the Russel Field design and if the Board will be seeing that again at a future meeting. Member Duval asked for a document that includes lessons learned from the Road Map to Ribbon Cutting program as a follow up to the discussion with John Sheerin about some hiccups in the process. It was announced that the Budget Sub-Committee will meet in January to set goals for the FY2021 Budget.

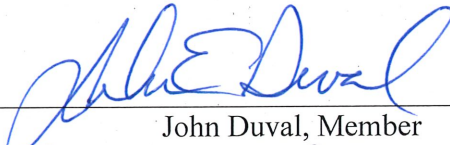
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER: Member Nowak asked for an update on what has been spent at Hoosac Valley Elementary School as he indicated that there is no heat in the gym at the elementary school. Chairman Hoyt thanked staff, board members and volunteers for their service to the Town. She noted that this was the last televised meeting of 2019, and the next televised meeting will be January 15, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn the meeting, second by Vice Chairman Bush. Vote: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm*

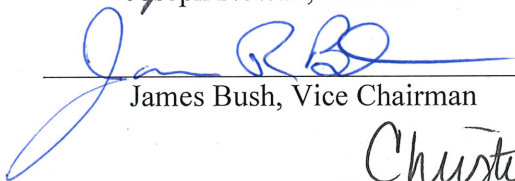
Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,
Recording Secretary




Joseph Nowak, Member



John Duval, Member



James Bush, Vice Chairman



Richard Blanchard, Member



Christine Hoyt, Chairman