



# TOWN OF ADAMS

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017 – 7:00 PM  
ADAMS TOWN HALL, 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR, ADAMS, MA 01220

On the above date the **Board of Selectmen** held a meeting at the **Adams Town Hall** at 7:00 p.m. **Chairman Jeffrey Snoonian** presided the meeting. Present were **Members Joseph Nowak, John Duval and Richard Blanchard**. 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.*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### *March 8, 2017 Minutes*

*Motion made by Member Nowak to waive reading and approve the March 8, 2017 minutes*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

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### PUBLIC COMMENT

#### *Wenzel Terrace*

**Jeff Lefebvre** followed up from the Feb 1, 2017 meeting about the properties on Wenzel Terrace with no frontage and zoning standards and building lots that are not legal.

**Town Administrator Mazzucco** advised that nothing has been brought against the town and there have been no complaints.

#### *School Closing*

**Jeff Lefebvre** commended the *Town of Cheshire* for wanting to keep the school and asked if keeping the school would have a cost to the School District or the Town of Adams.

**Town Administrator Mazzucco** advised he was not aware of this information.

**Chairman Snoonian** advised there is a group looking into having a private school but it will not cost our School District any money.

#### *Maple Grove Civic Club*

**Jeff Lefebvre** announced that on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at the Maple Grove Civic Club there will be a candidate forum at the Polish National Alliance and the public is invited.

#### *BagShare Program*

**Francie Anne Riley** announced a BagShare event at CT Plunkett and also that on both Friday and Saturday there from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Firehouse Café. Bags will be given away to people in town.



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### NEW BUSINESS

#### ***Bike Trail Extension Opening Ceremony – Skip Harrington***

**Skip Harrington** updated the Board on the Celebration of Ribbon Cutting and ceremony for the Phase III Extension of the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail. He asked for a consensus on this Adams event for going forward. The Adams Arts Advisory Board is working with the committee on ways they can help with it. A news release is prepared and was given out. Committee Members include Francisca Heming of *MassDOT*, Margerie Cohan, Amanda Chilson of *Bike North Berkshire* Chair and Heather Linscott and are working with Tony Mazzucco, Deb Dunlap and Donna Cesan. The date is set for May 12, 2017 in conjunction with the May National Bike Week from May 13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> and Baystate Bike Week in Massachusetts. The Town DPW has been deployed to prepare the Adams Station for use for the ceremony. The remains of the walls between the bays are being taken out and filled that with a clean, smooth surface for the event. Space will be given to vendors of local organizations and agencies in the areas to provide items and information on bike safety and recreational facilities on the bike path. George LeMaitre and Pat Fietta have begun working on an old etching of Adams which has been color enhanced as a large display on the inside wall of Adams Station. The building itself has a new roof and exterior, and the interior was original and needed enhancement. There will be a timeline of how the trail was developed, and it was noted that it didn't happen overnight because it takes time to do a project like this. There will be speakers including local delegation, dignitaries and invited guests. There will be information posted on the Facebook page. Sponsors are being solicited for the event and flyers are being created to be put in local bike shops, recreational locations and the media. There will be special activities on the trail to promote bike safety and there will be free snacks and beverages.

**Board Members** acknowledged this is a very positive event for Adams and thanked Skip for his hard work and for putting together the ceremonial event. It was noted that the Town of Adams must take over responsibility for maintenance for that section of the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail and a volunteer "Adopt a Trail" type group was suggested. A golf cart style vehicle and manual blower for pebbles was proposed to be acquired to assist the DPW with maintenance and the Adams Station was recommended for use for events.

**Town Administrator Mazzucco** advised he is looking into grant opportunities to get a golf cart style vehicle.

***Motion made by Member Duval to support the Friday, May 12, 2017 2:00 p.m. event at the Adams Station***

***Second by Member Blanchard***

***Unanimous vote***

***Motion passed***

#### ***Facilities Use Request – Greylock Glen, Boy Scouts Troop 38***

**Brendan Tatro** of the *Boy Scouts Troop 38* requested use of the Greylock Glen from Friday May 5, 2017 to Sunday, May 7, 2017 to do search and rescue or stranding situation operations and work on what to do to survive. Hopefully support will be given by the Forest Wardens and Adams Ambulance on Saturday evening until just past dark. Camping will take place and the Scouts will provide cleanup. The area used will be the gazebo area and upper field and there will be no ground fires.





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**Town Counsel St. John III** advised the insurance coverage is specific to the Parish at St. Thomas and needs to cover the Town of Adams property.

**Brendan Tatro** advised he will request the certificate be updated to include the Greylock Glen property and **Board Members** suggested tabling this request until the regular meeting on May 3, 2017.

*Motion made by Member Blanchard to table this request*

*Second by Member Nowak*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### *Facilities Use Request – Visitors Center*

It was noted that per **Council on Aging Director Erica Girgenti**, this Facility Use Request is no longer needed by Roy Thompson.

### *Facilities Use Request – Valley Street Field*

**The Adams Soccer Club and Adams, Cheshire Savoy Youth Soccer** requested use of **Valley Street Field** from **April 9, 2017 to November 25, 2017** on Monday through Friday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sundays 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

*Motion made by Member Duval to approve the use of the Valley Street Field by the Adams Soccer Club and Adams, Cheshire, Savoy Youth Soccer from Monday through Friday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sundays 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*

*Second by Member Blanchard*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### *Facilities Use Request – Valley Street Field*

**BART Charter School** requested use of **Valley Street Field** for **Ultimate Frisbee** from **March 14, 2017 to May 31, 2017** on Monday through Thursday afternoons from 3:40 p.m. to 5:40 p.m. in cooperative use with the **Adams Soccer Club and Adams, Cheshire, Savoy Youth Soccer groups**.

**Member Nowak** advised that as the Board's liaison to the *Parks Commission* he was aware that Celia Norcross and Julia Bowen work well together and have no problem with overlapping.

*Motion made by Member Duval to approve the use of Valley Street Field by BART Charter School from March 14, 2017 to May 31, 2017 on Monday through Thursday from 3:40 p.m. to 5:40 p.m.*

*Second by Member Nowak*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### *Facilities Use Request – Renfrew Field*

**North Adams Babe Ruth** requested use of **Renfrew Field** from **April 16, 2017 to September 3, 2017** during unspecified day and evening hours. Insurance documents are in order and the request was approved by the Parks Commission Chair.



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*Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the use of Renfrew Field to Babe Ruth League April 16, 2017 to September 3, 2017 days and evenings*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### *Facilities Use Request – Renfrew Field*

*North Adams Babe Ruth - Berkshire Americans* requested the use of *Renfrew Field* May 1, 2017 to August 15, 2017 on afternoons and evenings and the schedules will mesh with the *Babe Ruth League*. This request was approved by the *Parks Commission*.

*Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the use of Renfrew field to NABR Berkshire Americans from May 1, 2017 to August 15, 2017 on afternoons and evenings*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### *National Grid Easement for Recycle Center*

**Chairman Snoonian** advised that the Town of Adams will be taking solid waste at the recycling center and will need to have power over there. The Town of Adams is giving National Grid an easement to bring power to the recycling compactor and shed.

**Town Counsel St. John III** noted that when granting use of property, approval should go through Town Meeting.

**Town Administrator Mazzucco** expressed concern that it may push it into next year if it waits for Town Meeting.

**Chairman Snoonian** requested Town Counsel and the Town Administrator notify National Grid and investigate if alternate wording or a temporary license could be issued in the meantime.

*Motion made by Member Duval to table the easement request by National Grid for the Recycle Center*

*Second by Member Nowak*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*

### *Opening of the Town Meeting Warrant April 19, 2017 to May 3, 2017*

Town Administrator Mazzucco requested the Board open the Town Meeting Warrant from April 19, 2017 until May 3, 2017.

*Motion made by Member Blanchard to open the Town Meeting Warrant April 19, 2017 to May 3, 2017*

*Second by Member Duval*

*Unanimous vote*

*Motion passed*





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### ***Reserve Fund Transfer Request***

**Town Administrator Mazzucco** requested \$5,000 for cleaning the duct system at the Police Station regarding air quality complaints, last cleaned in 1997. The ducts have been cleaned and other Town buildings will be getting on a regular cleaning schedule.

**Board Members** indicated this request has come after the work has already been completed and that the Board is being asked to transfer funds post-work. It was noted that there was an awareness that the ducts needed to be cleaned but it was not an emergency such as the salt shed being empty.

**Town Administrator Mazzucco** advised this was a health and safety concern and was an unforeseen expense. A request was made, an investigation indicated it had not been done recently and was in rough shape.

***Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the reserve fund transfer of \$5,000 for the Police Station and forward to the Finance Committee***

***Second by Member Duval***

***Unanimous vote***

***Motion passed***

### **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

#### ***School Committee***

**Chairman Snoonian** attended the School Committee meeting where they approved the budget and it will be forwarded on to Town Meeting.

#### ***Parks Commission***

**Member Nowak** attended the *Parks Commission* meeting and concern was expressed by members about the Board of Selectmen superseding their vote as an elected commission regarding the *Adams Lassie League* and *ACS League*. He advised they felt slighted and wanted it brought to the attention to the Board of Selectmen.

It was noted that the Parks Commission is a supporting committee, but that it was time for a Charter review. The Board of Selectmen will task the Moderator to appoint a committee to do a charter review.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

#### **Town Administrator's Report**

##### ***Recycling Center***

The attendant shed is at the Recycling Center.

##### ***LED Lighting***

The Town may install LED lights but not new globes. There should be some test lights out in a couple weeks in front of the Simmons building.



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**Member Nowak** inquired why Green Communities funding doesn't cover the globes as part of the cost of the LED lighting, and if National Grid be able to help with the cost.

It was noted that it was already built into the cost, and that it was \$30,000 to cover the cost of the globes alone. Green Communities wanted the Town to do several projects out of the funding, so the full amount cannot be put into it.

### ***Council on Aging Van Driver***

Van Driver Greg Trottier is home recovering from surgery and will be out for a few weeks.

### ***Collins Center Funding***

There was additional funding requested from the state for the Collins Center as part of the Community Compact Grant to facilitate community meetings, which the state was willing to provide extra funding for.

### ***Property Auction***

There will be a Tax Property Auction held in June.

### ***Town Elections***

Town Elections will be held on May 1, 2017.

### ***Board of Selectmen Meeting***

There will be a Regular Board of Selectmen meeting next week to ratify seasonal employees.

### ***Request for Proposals***

The RFP for the Russell Field Master Plan will be going out next week

**Member Duval** requested to see the RFP before it goes out, and noted that some fields are locked with a fence and he hoped in the Master Plan that Russell Field remains open for townspeople to have full access to the field.

### ***Berkshire Mountain Faerie Festival***

The Berkshire Mountain Faerie Festival will be held on June 17, 2017.

### ***BagShare***

The *BagShare Challenge* is past the halfway point. Events will be held on Friday and Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Free bags are available.

### **Town Counsel Report**

**Town Counsel St. John III** advised he has been working on a number of things but does not have an official report.





## TOWN OF ADAMS BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

#### *End of Term*

**Chairman Snoonian** noted it has been an honor to serve over the last three years. He said he felt he did the right thing and appreciated the people who did not agree with him to allow him to open his mind and think differently about things. He thanked the Town of Adams staff.

**Member Nowak** thanked Chairman Snoonian for his service to the community and wished him luck in the future.

#### *Park Street Banners*

**Member Nowak** advised he would like to see the Thunderfest banners come down and the Ashuwillticook banners go up to coincide with events.

#### *Athletic Fields*

**Member Nowak** announced it was time look for more athletic fields in the community, including the property at the end of *Orcut Street*. He noted it is property tax delinquent and the DPW already mows the large grass parcel that could be used as a good practice field.

#### *Police Ride-Along*

**Member Duval** advised he did a Ride-Along with Officer Travis Cunningham of the Police Department a week and a half ago and noted that Board Members should each do it at least once. He said there was an amazing at interaction between the Police Department and the Community, and that during stops for speeding and other interactions Officer Cunningham was always courteous and explained everything. He thanked him and all the police officers for the great experience and thanked Chief Tarsa for allowing it.

### ADJOURNMENT

*Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn*


*Second by Member Nowak*

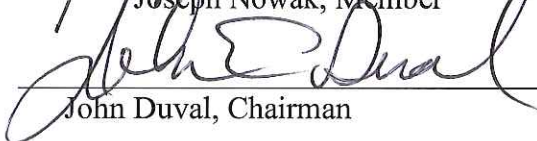
*Unanimous Vote*

*Motion passed*

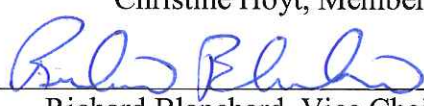
*The Board of Selectmen Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,  
Recording Secretary

  
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Joseph Nowak, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Duval, Chairman

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Christine Hoyt, Member

  
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Richard Blanchard, Vice Chairman