



TOWN OF ADAMS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, May 17, 2017 – 7:00 PM
ADAMS TOWN HALL, 1st 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. Vice Chairman John Duval presided the meeting. Present were Members Joseph Nowak, and Christine Hoyt. Vice Chairman Richard Blanchard was absent. 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

Minutes for March 22, 2017

Minutes from March 23, 2017

Minutes from March 29, 2017

Motion made by Member Nowak to waive reading and approve the minutes for March 22, 2017, March 23, 2017 and March 29, 2017 as written

Second by Chairman Duval

Abstention by Member Hoyt

Voted in favor were Chairman Duval and Member Nowak

Motion passed

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maple Grove Civic Club

Jeff Lefebvre announced Sunday at 3:00 p.m. is the final Maple Grove Civic Club meeting at Polish National Alliance until September. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission will be speaking.

Warrant Article 26

Jeff Lefebvre asked the Board Members to let the public know whether or not they approve of Warrant Article 26, and to give guidance to Town Meeting Members.

NEW BUSINESS

Nomination of Inspector of Animals

Town Administrator Mazzucco advised State wants this done in May and is a bureaucratic happenstance to appoint Kim Witek and Dan Lefebvre as the Inspectors of Animals for the Town of Adams.

Motion made by Member Nowak to appoint Kim Witek and Daniel Lefebvre as Inspector of Animals effective immediately

Second by Member Hoyt

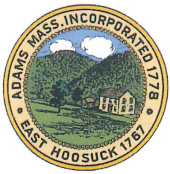
Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Facility Use Request – Visitors Center

The American Red Cross requested use of the Visitors Center parking lot for their Annual Blood Drive on July 22, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All insurance documents are current.

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TOWN CLERK
ADAMS MASS.
CLERK _____



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Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve use of the Visitors Center by the American Red Cross on July 22, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Facility Use Request – Visitors Center, COA/Mary Whitman

Mary Whitman, representing the Alzheimers Association requested use of the Visitors Center building and grounds in conjunction with the Council on Aging for the “Longest Day” event. She asked permission to hang a banner from the building, purple ribbons on the streets and purple balloons with weights in front of Town Hall, the Library and the Town Common. She asked to put up sandwich board signs on the island by the Post Office, McKinley and Hoosac Street and add lawn signs with statistics about Alzheimers disease. She gave a brief history about the event on June 22, 2017 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Town Administrator Mazzucco advised when the Town sponsors an event it doesn’t require a permitting process. The Candlelight Vigil would not need a special permit unless it was a bonfire.

Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the use of the Visitors Center building and grounds by Mary Whitman and the Council on Aging on June 22nd from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the “Longest Day” event

Second by Member Hoyt

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the placement of signs, ribbons, and balloons on town-owned land and buildings subject to Town Staff approval

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

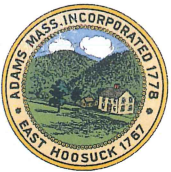
Motion passed

Approval of Temporary Agreement with National Grid for Installation of Electricity at Adams Landfill

Town Administrator Mazzucco advised he had worked with National Grid on this to seek a license to run the power line for the trash compactor and for the attendant to have heat. The compactor would be leased for \$100 per month and the Town would get it up and running so a large amount of money will not be needed to get it started.

Town Counsel advised that National Grid wants an easement, which will be on the Town Meeting Warrant but this allows them to get on the work order sooner.

Member Nowak inquired if there is money in the Green Communities account left and if the funds can be used for it. He was advised that not much money is needed to get it up and running, and everything should be running by September. It is a valid site assignment by the Department of Environmental Protection.



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Motion by Member Hoyt to approve the Temporary Agreement with National Grid for the installation of electricity at the Adams Landfill

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Approval of Kingsmont Lane as a Public Way

Town Administrator Mazzucco advised this is the final part of the process for Kingsmont Lane to be approved to be a Public Way. An engineering firm verified that it meets Town requirements. The DPW Director, Building Commissioner, Community Development Director and Town Administrator are in agreement that all requirements have been met. The Board will be provided engineering approval materials before Town Meeting.

Town Counsel St. John III advised this item is ready for presentation for Town meeting and requires a simple majority of Town Meeting vote.

Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve Kingsmont Lane as a public way

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Open and Close Town Meeting Warrant

Town Administrator Mazzucco was presented with a document to amend the district's agreement that was incorrectly worded. The Board had closed the warrant but it has not gone to print so may reopen the warrant. He reviewed the process to add this to the warrant for Town Meeting, and then set the Town Meeting to June 19th. The Finance Committee then formally votes their recommendation on the warrant

Motion made by Member Hoyt to reopen the Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Chairman Duval read the warrant article petition regarding an amendment pursuant to section 7B with respect to the formation of the School District. Town Counsel was asked if the boiler is not working and needs to be replaced and this petition does not pass if there would be a financial burden on the Town of Adams.

Town Counsel St. John III advised he would like to review the agreement to evaluate the monetary impact on the Town of Adams.

It was noted that the language was not clear; there were concerns including the funding formulas and that the document states what the petitioners would like to happen. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has to approve it after Town Meeting. The complexity of the district agreement was discussed, and Town Charter and state law requirements were outlined, and it was noted that time is running out.

Motion made by Member Hoyt to add the ACRSD Petition to the warrant

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

Motion passed



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Motion made by Member Hoyt to close the Annual Town Warrant

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

Motion made by Member Hoyt to set Annual Town meeting Monday, June 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at C.T.

Plunkett School

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous vote

Motion passed

SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

Conservation Commission

Member Nowak attended the Conservation Commission meeting. He noted that the trail at the Greylock Glen is well laid out, a wide trail, and has a beautiful viewshed around the ponds. He advised it will be a shared trail system.

Berkshire Natural Resource Council

Member Nowak spoke about the property Old Harrington Farm at High Bridge, and noted that DCR does not tear down buildings so Berkshire Natural Resource Council will take them down and remove them.

Finance Committee Meeting

Member Nowak and **Chairman Duval** attended the Finance Committee meeting and the warrant articles were reviewed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Mazzucco reported that dog licenses are available and due by June 15th or there will be additional fees. The Faerie Festival will be held on June 17th and Magicon will be held on June 18th. The Ashuwillticook Rail Trail Ceremony took place and praise was given to Skip Harrington for his work on the event. Free Bags are available at Town Hall for citizens through the BagShare Program. LED lights will be replaced with newer softer ones. There will be a joint Solid Waste meeting with the Board of Selectmen. The Zoning Board approved a new Gas Station on Howland Avenue. There will be a Public Tax Auction on May 25th. A Cemetery Restoration Group has formed and will be run by Bruce Shepley. Those interested should email the Town Administrator and leave their name and number. Work is being done on the Greylock Glen for a landing area for the MA Hang-Gliders Association.

Board Members asked for the new Gas Station owner to be invited to come to the Board to provide information, what the Town's responsibility would be for the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail running to Lime Street, for a Murray Street Bridge update and when the crosswalk painting would begin. The Town will be responsible for mowing, installing dog poop bag holders, and providing some maintenance. Work is being done to get a golf cart vehicle for staff to maintain it. The ground has been warm and patching, drainage, and cemetery work before Memorial Day need to be done before crosswalk painting. Tax demand notices are going out and the audit report is in-house and the Board will be receiving it. It was clarified that the Walk-Through for the Tax Auction will be held on May 19th at 10:00 a.m., and positive feedback was given for the dog license form coming with the census.



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Town Counsel Report

Town Counsel St. John III reported that he reviewed bankruptcy filings from Town Clerk, reviewed documents and had discussions with an attorney regarding an easement over town land, attended a staff meeting regarding issues involving a private street, met with an attorney regarding a person banned from town buildings and communicated with staff regarding that meeting, and reviewed additional items regarding the acceptance of Kingsmont Lane as a town way. He advised the Board that the person in charge of the building provides info to Town Counsel that someone is causing a nuisance and a no trespass order is then issued.

ACTION ITEM: Chairman Duval requested a subcommittee meeting to go over committee assignments and the yearly review of the selectmen's handbook.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ashuwillticook Rail Trail Celebration

Members Nowak and Hoyt gave praise to Skip Harrington and the team that put together the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail Phase III Grand Opening Ceremony. He noted it was nice to see town and state officials here. Chairman Duval was commended for being the Master of Ceremonies.

Berkshire Eagle Coverage

Member Hoyt attended an event at the Haflinger Haus to give information on how the Berkshire Eagle can give more local coverage, and thanked Haflinger Haus for hosting and the citizens who attended

Crosswalks

Member Hoyt urged citizens to use caution on crosswalks while waiting for them to be painted.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Member Hoyt to adjourn

Second by Member Nowak

Unanimous Vote

Motion passed

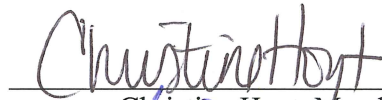
The Board of Selectmen Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,
Recording Secretary

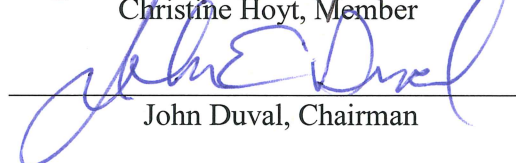


Joseph Nowak, Member

Richard Blanchard, Vice Chairman



Christine Hoyt, Member



John Duval, Chairman