



Town of Adams Massachusetts 01220-2087

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**TOWN HALL BUILDING
8 PARK STREET**

Wednesday, December 1, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: On the above date the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at the Town Hall Board of Selectmen Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Hoyt. Present from the Board of Selectmen were Vice Chair Hoyt, Members Blanchard, Nowak and Rosenberg. *Chairman Duval was absent.* Also present were Town Administrator Green, Town Counsel St. John III, Town Clerk Meczywor, Sarah Fontaine, Steven Alibozek, James Foley representing Victory Lounge, Administrative Assistant Dunlap, Brian Rhodes from iBerkshires, and Peter Gentile from NBCTC.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the *November 10, 2021 Workshop and November 17, 2021 Meeting* were submitted for approval. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to waive reading and approve the minutes for the November 10, 2021 Workshop as submitted, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed. Motion made by Member Blanchard to waive reading and approve the minutes for the November 17, 2021 Meeting as submitted, second by Member Rosenberg. Abstention by Vice Chair Hoyt. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: *Haley Meczywor* of the Events Committee reminded everyone of the Holiday Decorating Contest. Participants must sign up by Friday, December 3, 2021. The map will be created next week, and will be available online Wednesday. Judging begins December 10th and 11th. There are 23 participants so far. All participants are asked to turn on their lights between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. Judging ends on Sunday, December 12th and winners will be announced two weeks later at the Board of Selectmen meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Book Collection Bin: *Town Administrator Green* recommended turning this item over to the Town Administrator's office and he will report back on it. He noted the Transfer Station is the best fit for it and if it cannot be put there he will work with Dr. Rhoads to find another location. *Motion made by Member Blanchard for the Town Administrator to handle the Book Collection Bin placement, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.*

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Endorse Mass in Motion Grant Partnership Agreement with Northern Berkshire Community Coalition: It was noted that Ms. Besaw could not attend. *Town Administrator Green* explained what Mass in Motion is, and that the Town would participate with NBCC to achieve its overarching goals. They would be the fiscal agent and administrator of the grant. The Board would vote to endorse it to participate. *Vice Chair Hoyt* read part of the letter aloud, and the roles in the community with NBCC were outlined. The Town would provide demographic data and files and several departments would be involved. There will be program participation, no money exchange.

Motion made by Member Blanchard to endorse the Mass in Motion Grant Partnership Agreement with Northern Berkshire Community Coalition, second by Member Nowak. Member Nowak inquired whether this is for one year or longer, and Member Rosenberg advised he found the agreement vague as the requirements are not clear. Town Administrator Green advised that NBCC drives it. ***Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Facility Use Request: *Town Hall Lobby*, Adams Events Committee, Saturday, December 18, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for an Elf Event. *Haley Meczywor* of the Adams Events Committee explained there will be an Adams Scavenger Hunt, and Town Hall will be used as the staging area. She advised that NBCC is asking local businesses to partner with the program to get members of community into establishments while engaging the whole family. Business owners will be given a stuffed Yeti to put in their business and families will get a postcard of participating businesses to visit and get a stamp before turning it back in to get a free treat. No purchases are necessary, and this is similar to events from the past Susan B. Anthony Days. She thanked NBCC for coming up with this idea. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve facility use request for use of Town Hall Lobby for the Elf Event on December 18, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. by the Adams Events Committee, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Ratification of Council on Aging Director, Sarah Fontaine. *Vice Chair Hoyt* read aloud the letter from Town Administrator Green recommending ratification of Sarah Fontaine to the position of Council on Aging Director. *Town Administrator Green* reviewed the hiring process and noted it was a tough decision. He advised the screening committee found that Ms. Fontaine excelled in the interview in three areas. He explained that Ms. Fontaine had worked with Erica Girgenti and was familiar with her work municipal services and social services delivered by a government entity. He pointed out it was important to have someone come in that understood the nuances, and felt she was equipped to get going ahead. *Sarah Fontaine* expressed she was excited for opportunity and looked forward to working with the Town and residents to support agencies that service the older population. She explained that Council on Aging Director positions don't open often, and it was perfect timing. She had done professional development and waited for a position like this to become available. She reviewed her experience and familiarity with local services. A brief discussion took place on the intended move of the Council on Aging to a new building. *Ms. Fontaine* expressed excitement about it being a blank canvas where she can design the space that works for the residents of Adams. *Member Rosenberg* asked with the aging population in Adams and an increase in demand for elder services whether the Town is equipped to handle it, and Ms. Fontaine advised that Adams should be proud of what it offers as it is the gold standard and sets the bar high. She noted the needs are for transportation as it is a rural area, which can cause issues. Food and security are the other issues facing seniors and the community at large. *Member Nowak* noted Ms. Fontaine's resume indicated she was a good match for the position and her grant writing credentials may become important for the transportation program and other areas as well. He noted additional social needs of the elderly, as many are alone and the position will need her to be a sounding board. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to ratify the appointment of Sarah B. Fontaine for position of Council on Aging Director at the Grade 11, Step 10 salary of \$66,248, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Annual License Renewals: The Licensing Sub-Committee met on Monday and reviewed the process and paperwork of renewals pending. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee were reviewed, and it was noted that there are nine license types to approve by the Board of Selectmen.

All Alcohol Package Store Licenses: Renewal of All Alcohol Package Store Licenses for Anee Liquor dba O'Geary's Package Store, 60 Commercial St., Adams MA, Mahant Oasis Liquors, Inc. dba Oasis Liquor Store, 35 Spring St., Adams MA and Ambnik, LLC dba Val's Pipe & Package, 5 Columbia St., Adams, MA were presented for approval. *Vice Chair Hoyt* noted that all of the license holders in this section have met the requirements. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve Anee Liquor dba O'Geary's Package Store, Mahant Oasis Liquors, Inc. dba Oasis Liquor Store and Ambnik, LLC dba Val's Pipe & Package for All Alcohol Package Store license renewal, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Wine & Malt Package Store Licenses: 7-Eleven, 223 Columbia St., Adams, Tri-Petroleum, Inc., 160 Howland Ave, MA, Adams Hometown Market, 11 Myrtle St, Adams MA. *Vice Chair Hoyt* advised that all Wine & Malt Package Store Licenses have met the requirements. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the Wine & Malt Package Store Licenses for 7-Eleven, Tri-Petroleum, Inc. and Adams Hometown Market, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

All Alcohol Establishments: Nicholas Enterprises, Inc. dba Bounti-Fare Restaurant, 200 Howland Ave, Adams MA, Victory Lounge, Inc., 13 Victory St., Adams MA, AJ's Trailside Pub, 12-14 Pleasant St., Adams, MA, Forest Park Country Club, 41 Forest Park Avenue, Adams, MA, TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, 27 Spring St., Adams, MA, Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, 77-83 Commercial St., Adams, MA, Haflinger Haus, 17 Commercial St., Adams, MA, Adams Turners, Inc., 6 Turners Avenue, Adams, MA, Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, 6 Anthony St., Adams, MA, Adams Lodge #1335 B.P.O. The Elks, 63 Center St., Adams, MA, Pine Brook Pub, LLC, 128 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Adams Post #160, Inc. The American Legion of MA, 160 Forest Park Avenue, Adams. *Vice Chair Hoyt* advised that the Haflinger Haus is pending a Certificate of Inspection and the Victory Lounge is pending Workman's Compensation insurance, Liquor Liability insurance and a Certificate of Inspection which did not pass. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the All Alcohol License renewals of Nicholas Enterprises, Inc. dba Bounti-Fare Restaurant, AJ's Trailside Pub, Forest Park Country Club, TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, Haflinger Haus, Adams Turners, Inc., Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, Adams Lodge #1335 B.P.O. The Elks, Pine Brook Pub, LLC, and Adams Post #160, Inc. The American Legion of MA, second by Member Rosenberg. Jim Foley, representing Victory Lounge, explained that The Victory Lounge is doing redecorating. He reported that the bathrooms had a strong urine smell so they took off outside panels and are trying to get a plumber to come in to do tiling to create a clean and healthy environment. He noted time constraints with getting it done and the exit signs are old and they were not aware that they were dead. Vice Chair Hoyt reviewed the concerns of the Building Commissioner, which Mr. Foley explained were also reviewed with the Building Commissioner yesterday. He explained they will be taking out permits for the walls that were removed in the bathroom. It was noted that The Victory Lounge was not included in the motion. Vote: Unanimous. Motion passed. Motion made by Member Blanchard for the Board not to approve the All Alcohol License for Victory Lounge Inc, second by Member Nowak.*** Discussion took place regarding the liquor liability and workman's compensation insurances not in possession either. Mr. Foley advised that to his knowledge his son was working on that. He reviewed how difficult the last year was, and also the inability to get labor. He said he didn't want to be punished by trying to do the right thing. *Member Blanchard* explained the recommendation for denial of the renewal being that the business has not opened yet and that the license is considered a "pocket license", which is not allowed. He pointed out that there is no way the business will be ready for this renewal submittal, and when the business is ready a new application can be made for the license.

It was clarified that they can get a license, they are just not able to renew it. *Member Nowak* advised that the building had been the home of the Maple Grove Civic Club in the past and the kitchen was less than attractive. The work being done would only be an improvement. *Mr. Foley* advised they will be putting on a new roof, going green and being energy efficient. Vice Chair Hoyt explained that there are licenses available currently, when the business is ready to reapply and praised him for coming to update the Board and answer difficult questions. ***Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Wine & Malt Establishments: Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, 1 Summit Road, Adams MA, Chee's Chinese Cuisine, Inc., 13 Columbia St., Adams MA, Lee's Dynasty Asian Fusion, 131 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Stacy Varellas, dba Pizza House, 26 Hoosac St., Adams, MA. Vice Chair Hoyt advised that Bascom Lodge does their inspection in the spring when they reopen. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the Wine & Malt Licenses for Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, Chee's Chinese Cuisine, Inc., Lee's Dynasty Asian Fusion, Stacy Varellas, dba Pizza House, pending completion of Certificates of Inspection, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Sunday Entertainment Licenses: Adams Turners, Inc., 6 Turners Avenue, Adams, MA (Before 1:00 p.m.), AJ's Trailside Pub, 12-14 Pleasant St., Adams, MA (Before 1:00 p.m.), TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, 27 Spring St., Adams, MA (Before 1:00 p.m.), Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, 6 Anthony St., Adams, MA (Before 1:00 p.m.), Original Seed, 32 North Summer Street, Adams, MA (Before 1:00 p.m.), Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, 1 Summit Road, Adams MA (After 1:00 p.m.), Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, 77-83 Commercial St., Adams, MA (After 1:00 p.m.), Nicholas Enterprises, Inc. dba Bounti-Fare, 200 Howland Avenue, Adams MA (After 1:00 p.m.), Victory Lounge, 13 Victory St., Adams MA (After 1:00 p.m.). *Vice Chair Hoyt* explained that Bascom Lodge is pending their Certificate of Inspection in May 2022, and Victory Lounge could be tabled. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to table the Sunday Entertainment License for Victory Lounge, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed. Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the Sunday Entertainment Licenses for Adams Turners, Inc., AJ's Trailside Pub, TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, Original Seed, Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, and Nicholas Enterprises, Inc. dba Bounti-Fare, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Weekly Entertainment Licenses: AJ's Trailside Pub, 12-14 Pleasant St., Adams, MA, Adams American Legion, 160 Forest Park Ave, Adams MA, Pine Brook Pub, LLC, 128 Columbia St., Adams MA, Forest Park Country Club, 41 Forest Park Avenue, Adams, MA, TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, 27 Spring St., Adams, MA, Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, 77-83 Commercial St., Adams, MA, Haflinger Haus, 17 Commercial St., Adams, MA, Adams Turners, Inc., 6 Turners Avenue, Adams, MA, Victory Lounge, 13 Victory St., Adams MA, Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, 6 Anthony St., Adams, MA, Adams Lodge #1335 B.P.O. The Elks, 63 Center St., Adams, MA, Nicholas Enterprises dba Bounti-Fare, 200 Howland Avenue, Adams MA, Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, 1 Summit Road, Adams, MA, and Original Seed, 32 North Summer Street, Adams, MA. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to table the Weekly Entertainment License renewal for Victory Lounge, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed. Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the weekly entertainment licenses for AJ's Trailside Pub, Adams American Legion, Pine Brook Pub, LLC, Forest Park Country Club, TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, Haflinger Haus, Adams Turners, Inc., Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, Adams Lodge #1335 B.P.O. The Elks, Nicholas Enterprises dba Bounti-Fare, Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, and Original Seed, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Common Victualer Licenses: AJ's Trailside Pub, 12-14 Pleasant St., Adams, MA, Forest Park Country Club, 41 Forest Park Avenue, Adams, MA, TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, 27 Spring St., Adams, MA, Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, 77-83 Commercial St., Adams, MA, Haflinger Haus, 17 Commercial St., Adams, MA, Adams Turners, Inc., 6 Turners Avenue, Adams, MA, Victory Lounge, 13 Victory St., Adams MA, Stacy Varellas, dba Pizza House, 26 Hoosac St., Adams, MA, Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, 6 Anthony St., Adams, MA, Adams Lodge #1335 B.P.O. The Elks, 63 Center St., Adams, MA, Pine Brook Pub, LLC, 128 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Chee's Chinese Cuisine, Inc., 13 Columbia St., Adams MA, Nicholas Enterprises dba Bounti-Fare, 200 Howland Avenue, Adams MA, Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, 1 Summit Road, Adams MA, Adams Post #160, Inc. The American Legion of MA, 160 Forest Park Avenue, Lee's Dynasty Asian Fusion, 131 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Jason Donuts, Inc., dba Dunkin Donuts, 177 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Angelina's Submarine Shop, 34 ½ Columbia St., Adams, MA, Daily Grind, 37 Park St., Adams, MA, James 4:10, LLC dba McDonalds, 2 Commercial St., Adams, MA, Corner Variety & Luncheonette, 50 Summer St., Adams, MA, Coffee Liberation Front, 1 Park St., Adams, MA, Tri-Petroleum, Inc., 160 Howland Avenue, Adams, MA, Miss Adams Diner, 53 Park Street, Adams, MA, Original Seed, 32 North Summer Street, Adams, MA, Rainbow Shack, 85 Summer Street, Adams, MA, and Poseidon Coffee, 3 Hoosac Street, Adams, MA. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to table the Common Victualer license for Victory Lounge, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed. Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the Common Victualer Licenses for AJ's Trailside Pub, Forest Park Country Club, TAWJRW, Inc. dba WOJO's, Commercial St. Café, dba The Viking Pub, Haflinger Haus, Adams Turners, Inc., Stacy Varellas, dba Pizza House, Gebirgs Verein, dba Mt. Club, Adams Lodge #1335 B.P.O. The Elks, Pine Brook Pub, LLC, Chee's Chinese Cuisine, Inc., Nicholas Enterprises dba Bounti-Fare, Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, Adams Post #160, Inc. The American Legion of MA, Lee's Dynasty Asian Fusion, Jason Donuts, Inc., dba Dunkin Donuts, Angelina's Submarine Shop, Daily Grind, James 4:10, LLC dba McDonalds, Corner Variety & Luncheonette, Coffee Liberation Front, Tri-Petroleum, Inc., Miss Adams Diner, Original Seed, Rainbow Shack, and Poseidon Coffee, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Auto Sales Licenses: Alternative Motors of Adams, Inc., 69 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Alternative Motors of Adams, Inc., 74 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Gene's Sales & Service, 108 Howland Avenue, Adams, MA, Maple Grove Equipment, 8 Leonard St., Adams, MA, McAndrews- King, Buick, GMC, Inc., 224 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Ronnie's Cycle, Sales & Service, Inc., 150 Howland Avenue, Adams, MA, Ronnie's Cycle, Sales & Service, Inc., 63 Alger St., Adams, MA, B & B Micro Manufacturing, Inc., 201 Howland Avenue, Adams, MA. ***Vice Chair Hoyt*** advised that the Licensing Subcommittee reviewed these and the landlord for Alternative Motors at 69 Columbia Street has not paid taxes. The livelihood of the business was discussed. ***Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the Auto Sales licenses for Alternative Motors of Adams, Inc., 74 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Gene's Sales & Service, 108 Howland Avenue, Adams, MA, Maple Grove Equipment, 8 Leonard St., Adams, MA, McAndrews- King, Buick, GMC, Inc., 224 Columbia St., Adams, MA, Ronnie's Cycle, Sales & Service, Inc., 150 Howland Avenue, Adams, MA, Ronnie's Cycle, Sales & Service, Inc., 63 Alger St., Adams, MA B & B Micro Manufacturing, Inc., 201 Howland Avenue, Adams, MA. second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.***

Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the Auto Sales License renewal for Alternative Motors at 69 Columbia Street, Adams pending the property owner payment of taxes, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.

Inn Holders and Lodging Licenses: Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, 1 Summit Road, Adams MA (Lodging), Haflinger Haus, 17 Commercial St., Adams MA (Innkeeper), Mount Royal, Inc., dba Mount Royal Inn, 99 Howland Avenue, Adams MA (Motel), Topia Inn, 10 Pleasant St., Adams MA (Lodging). *Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the Inn Holder and Lodging Licenses for Bascom Lodge Group, LLC, Haflinger Haus and Topia Inn pending completion of inspections, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.* Brief discussion took place regarding the status of Mount Royal Inn. Concern was expressed about Mount Royal Inn not returning paperwork for renewal and also police input on activities at the motel. *Vice Chair Hoyt* advised that the Licensing Sub-Committee requested a meeting to discuss this further. She noted that The Grille and Red Carpet did not renew their licenses for 2022, and Mount Royal Inn did not return paperwork or payment. Polanka Grounds and Agricultural Fair are putting off their applications for entertainment licenses until spring when schedules are confirmed. Member Nowak thanked the Licensing Sub-Committee for their work on this.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Administrator: *Town Administrator Green* advised the Board of Health is still monitoring and reviewing the Covid-19 status in town and working in conjunction with other agencies county wide. He noted that North County and Pittsfield have the largest saturation of Covid-19 and reminded citizens that the best course is to continue masking, washing hands frequently and social distancing. He pointed out that there is vaccine shortage or shortage of boosters so people can still get vaccinated in Central, North and South County. He advised that the Board of Health has not taken regulatory action yet, but it is a good reminder for those who are immune-compromised or unvaccinated to take that step to protect yourself and others. *Member Nowak* reported he was glad to see overhead boom at Davis Street to lower in the culvert. *Town Administrator Green* reported there will be a visit from MEMA next week for the Jordan Street Culvert. He reminded Board Members to submit names for the Charter Review Committee as Member Nowak was the only one who has done so.

Town Counsel: *Town Counsel St. John III* advised he received the deed to the 26 Commercial Street property from Mr. Ransford's attorney. He wrote a letter to a local business reminding it of its obligations to complete its renewal application in a timely manner or face possible loss of its license to operate. He reported that last month Chairman Duval requested he research the charter amendment process, which he completed and shared the information with the Chairman. He reported that that Tax Collector provided him with an affidavit for use in the MJD case, which was forwarded to the Land Court. *Member Nowak* asked if anyone talked with the construction crew and planners for the egress on the 26 Commercial Street property. It was explained that the work was already done. Maxymillian took down Mobil sign, and funding is in place for removal of the underground tanks and demolition.

SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS: *Member Blanchard* and *Vice Chair Hoyt* reported that the Licensing Sub-Committee met on Monday. *Member Rosenberg* reported that Adams went from 27 to 51 cases of Covid-19, with the majority of cases in those under 40 years of age.

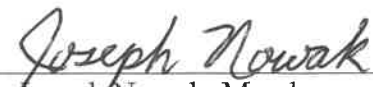
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER: *Member Nowak* noted it was nice to see the decorations around town. He asked to have Town Treasurer/Tax Collector Rice invited to a meeting to talk to the Board about tax collections this year and what percentage have been collected.

He asked for a constituent whether the police are operating on different frequency, and it was clarified that this is not the case.

ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn, second by Member Rosenberg. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

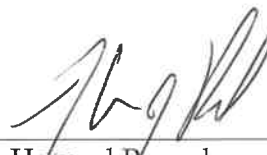
Deborah J. Dunlap, Recording Secretary



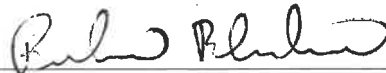
Joseph Nowak, Member



Christine Hoyt, Vice Chair



Howard Rosenberg, Member



Richard Blanchard, Member