



## *Town of Adams Massachusetts 01220-2087*

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

TOWN HALL BUILDING  
8 PARK STREET

**Wednesday, August 17, 2022, 7:00 p.m.**

**TOWN HALL, 8 PARK STREET, ADAMS, MA 01220  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Board of Selectmen Meeting Room**

**CALL TO ORDER:** On the above date, the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 7:00 PM at the Adams Town Hall. Chair John Duval opened the meeting. Present: Chair John Duval, Vice Chair Christine Hoyt, and Member Richard Blanchard. *Members Joseph Nowak and Howard Rosenberg and Town Counsel Edmund St. John were absent.* Also present were Bri Hantman, Recording Secretary; Peter Gentile, NBCTC; Brian Rhodes, iBerkshires; Erin Mucci and Ray Gargan, ProAdams; Members of the Adams Police Department; Carol Cushenette, Finance Committee; Members of the Town

*The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**The minutes for the June 29, 2022 Meeting were submitted for approval.**  
Approved at the last board meeting, no further action

**The minutes for the July 20, 2022 Meeting were submitted for approval.**  
Approved at the last board meeting, no further action

**The minutes for the August 3, 2022 Meeting were submitted for approval.**  
Member Blanchard moves that we wave the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes as provided. Motion is seconded by vice-chair Hoyt. No further discussion, motion passes unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Chief Kelley, Adams Police Chief:* Sgt. Malloy has been a part of the community for her entire life and began her career with the Town of Adams as a reserve officer in 1992. In 1997 Donna was ratified and hired as the first fulltime female police officer in the history of the town. June was 30 years for her in this profession and in this department. Chief Kelley would like to acknowledge this accomplishment. Chief Kelley presented Donna with an award recognizing her three decades of service to the department.

*Officer Malloy* stated that she stays here and does this job because she cares about this community. She loves serving this community and is happy to stay here.

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Public Entertainment License Application; Fr. Paul Norman, St. John Paul II Parish, Polish Festival, September 11th, 2022, Polanka Grounds:** Vice-chair Hoyt noted that representatives for the Polish Festival have already come before the board of Selectmen and all of their paperwork is in order.

*Motion to approve the public entertainment license application for Fr. Paul Norman, St. John Paul II Parish, Polish Festival, September 11th, 2022, at the Polanka Grounds made by Vice-chair Hoyt. Motion seconded by member Blanchard. No further discussion. Motion passes unanimously.*

**Public Entertainment License Application; Mike Steuer, Fall Run, September 17th, 2022, 8:00am-9:00pm at Bowe Field:** Vice-chair Hoyt noted that Mike Steuer has already presented the event to the board, and all of their paperwork is in order.

*Motion to approve the Public Entertainment License Application; Mike Steuer, Fall Run, September 17th, 2022, 8:00am-9:00pm at Bowe Field made by Vice-chair Hoyt. Motion second by Member Blanchard. No further discussion. Motion passes unanimously.*

**Permit to Place Signs on Public way; Mike Steuer, Fall Run**

Mike Steuer has asked to place signs in seven locations, Memorial Park (East/West), Rt. 8 Roundabout, Town Hall Lawn, Library Lawn, Visitors Center Lawn, Hoosac Street Traffic Circle, and Center Street and Commercial Street Traffic Island.

*Motion made by member Blanchard to approve the placement of the signs in the seven locations listed.* Member Hoyt seconds for discussion, but would like to leave it up for discussion to remove the sign from the roundabout location.

*Motion by Member Blanchard to amend motion to exclude roundabout sign location. Vice-chair Hoyt seconds the motion. Motion to amend the original motion passes. Motion to approve the placement of signs for the Fall Run in six locations passes unanimously with no further discussion.*

**Designation of ARPA Funds to Purchase Replacement Vehicles for Wastewater Treatment Plant and Animal Control, Town Administrator, Jay Green:** The Town is due to receive 2.3 million dollars in ARPA general funds that the Town may spend.

1.8 Million Dollars so far committed. Engineering design improvements for waste water improvement, remainder has gone toward the Greylock Glen and engineering work therein. Adams Fire District to review engineering work. Construction oversight. Library Boiler has been allotted for. Upgraded internet service for Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Recently, one of two vehicles assigned to wastewater treatment, a Crown Victoria, has failed. It will no longer pass an inspection and is not serviceable. As such, a new vehicle was needed and a Ford

Escape was identified. 2012 Ford F350 to replace the other vehicle that the department has. Also, currently the Animal Control officer uses a Crown Victoria, and had to remove about 40 cats from a residence and transport them inside the vehicle to bring them to Pittsfield. It became increasingly apparent that she needs a more appropriate vehicle.

Municipal service vehicles are becoming increasingly difficult to find. There is about a 12-18-month lead-time from the date at which the vehicle is ordered. If we use the ARPA funds at this time, we will not have to use any capital funds next year to pick up these vehicles. I ask for the permission to designate \$40,350.00 to cover the purchase of those vehicles. This would leave the uncommitted balance of over half a million dollars.

*Chairman Duval* asked for clarification on the guidelines regarding purchases with ARPA Funds. *Jay Green* clarifies that there is a 1-time loss provision that the BOS accepted that allows us make these one-time purchases.

*Vice-chair Hoyt* asked for clarification on the balance of the uncommitted ARPA Funds. *Jay Green, Town Administrator* clarified Balance would be over \$566K but that number may vary slightly as other designations are rounded and liberal numbers. There is a likelihood that the number may increase after some of these projects conclude.

*Chairman Duval* agrees that the animal control officer certainly needs to have a vehicle that is not an enclosed car.

***Motion to designate \$40,350.00 of ARPA funds to purchase replacement vehicles for Wastewater Treatment plant and Animal Control made by Vice-chair Hoyt. Motion is seconded by member Blanchard. No discussion. Passes unanimously.***

**Pro-Adams Presentation on Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism Directional Wayfinding Signage Grant Project, Raymond Gargan Pro Adams:** here to brief the board on the status of this multimedia campaign. This idea started with the Rapid Recovery Planning Program. There is a great tourist economy in Berkshire County and Adams was not getting as much of that benefit as they could be. The idea is to leverage some of the attractions that we do have.

Currently, there are a number of displays adds that are running. Google, Facebook, Instagram, and 1Berkshire Ads. Rack Cards distributed county wide. "Explorer's Guide" brochures distributed at our main attractions and other locations. Strategically placed signage and literature boxes in town, at Greylock Glen and at Greylock summit. Everything is tied together through a QR Code that is on the literature (both the rack cards and brochures) and links back to the new Explore Adams Website. 6 areas; Attractions, Events Calendar, culture, dining, shopping, and trails. One of the goals is to position Adams as an outdoor recreation hub in Berkshire county.

**Signage:** There will be 4 informational signs that include literature boxes. They will be strategically placed. They are all being done at WHITCO signs and the largest single line item in the budget is

going directly toward a local business. Signs will be approximately 2ft by 4ft and the maps will have a way finder map. *Chairman Duval* asked if there is an estimated completed date for the signs? They should be fabricated by next week and ready for installation in the following week. *Chairman Duval* also asked if the placement of the signs needs to be approved by the Board of Selectmen. It was clarified that they have already been approved by the ZBA.

There will also be 6 smaller versions of the signs that will have the QR Code but not the way finder map. WHITCO will be installing the signs. 5 signs will be at the Greylock glen. These signs are approximated 12" by 19". 3 of these signs should be able to be affixed to pre-existing structures. WHITCO will also be responsible for the installation of the signs.

The fonts and colors of the signs are done to match the brand elements that already exist in town.

Last part of the signage project is to rehab and extend the existing wayfinding signs. These signs are relatively illegible. They will be updated in quality, color, and lettering.

Funding: Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism Grant \$49,000 and 1Berkshire Regional Economic Development Grant \$16,000.

Questions from the Board? *Member Blanchard* commented that he has already seen the advertisements on Facebook. *Vice-chair Hoyt* wants to thank ProAdams for coming forward and doing this work, taking the time to present of this. Everyone in the room, should take a brochure and hand them out.

There is a free business listing on the Town website, so if someone would like to have their business listed on the Town website. You can contact the Town Clerk if you would like to be listed.

*Jay Green, Town Administrator* would like to thank Town partners and community groups from stepping forward and getting these projects done. We have a lot of expensive projects that are happening simultaneously and we couldn't do it with community groups. Adams is ever changing into the

### **Howland Ave Resurfacing Work Update, *Jay Green, Town Administrator***

*Jay Green, Town Administrator*: Pleased to announce that Howland ave will be resurfaced by Mass DOT and grateful to District 1 Highway Director Francisca and John Barrett. FY23 pavement municipal highway pavement improvement funding. Roundabout to the Town Line by Bounti Fare. All 4 lanes will be resurfaced. Mass DoT needs to come out and do core samples.

The four-lane highway is beyond the maintenance ability of our DPW. We are undertaking this so we can establish how we can we immediately address the current surfacing issue on Howland Ave. If we undertook repairing that roadway surface it would bankrupt the town. We are anticipating that that will be complete by the end of this calendar year.

VPO engineering to address the roadway and engineers are making a study. The idea is the road will be put into a state of good repair and become a road that our highway department is actually capable of maintaining. Working with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission on this project.

There are a lot of projects right now that are being completed that are not being funded by local tax dollars.

### **Town Staffing Update, Jay Green, Town Administrator**

*Jay Green, Town Administrator:* There is a lot of work happening in the Town of Adams. We currently have 5 positions open.

- 1) Shared Human Resources Director: Shared with Town of Williamstown and City of North Adams. Funded by a community compact state grant. That job is presently posted in a variety of locations.
- 2) Town planner Position: This position has been called Junior Planner or Senior Planner in the past. Funded by CDBG program and is a fulltime position. That is posted and is on our website. Will deal primarily with Zoning bylaws. Helping some new business with the Road Map to Ribbon Cutting Program.
- 3) Part Time Business Inspector. Facilities Director is responsible to maintaining all town owned buildings. Adding a part time inspector will allow Gerry Garner to free up.
- 4) Transfer Station Attendant. Right now, our custodians are spending time as transfer station attendants, and we need for them to be fully present as custodians. Senior Tax Work-off and Veteran Tax Work-off credit.
- 5) Wastewater Treatment Plant assistant mechanic. This position will work with the Chief Mechanic over at the plant. Maintaining pump systems, electrical systems, and others. It has been difficult to recruit for this position as it has been listed for well over a year.

Please reach out if you have any questions. Most of these positions are fully benefitted. You can work with a great team of people.

Internally posted one position for Administrative Assistant in the Town Clerk's Office. Adams PD is currently fully staffed, as is the Adams DPW.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:**

*Vice-Chair Hoyt:* Red's Viking Pub had their liquor license approved by the ABCC.

*Member Blanchard:* None

*Chairman Duval:* BRPC annual meeting will be in September. Hoping that all selectboard members will be able to attend.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER:

*Chairman Duval:* Outdoor center ground breaking: Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> the Governor and Lieutenant Governor will be attending at 10:00am. A separate ceremony with Congressman Neil in the near future.

Officer Malloy's commitment is impressive. We are happy to have her and we are thankful for her service.

*Vice-chair Hoyt:* August 30<sup>th</sup> at 10am the Governor will be attending a ground breaking for Greylock Glen and there will be an additional ceremony when congressmen Neil is available at a later date.

August the 19<sup>th</sup> Clifford the Big Red Dog will be shown, wrap up the movie series.

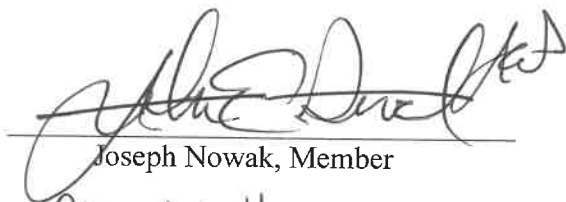
August 23<sup>rd</sup> Mr. Doubtfire will play, wrapping up the summer concert series

Tuesday Sept 6<sup>th</sup> is voting day for the primary elections! Voting is at the Adams Memorial School from 7am until 8pm.

## ADJOURNMENT:

*Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn, second by Vice-chair Hoyt. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted by Bri Hantman, Recording Secretary.



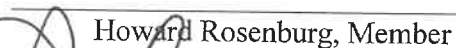
Joseph Nowak, Member



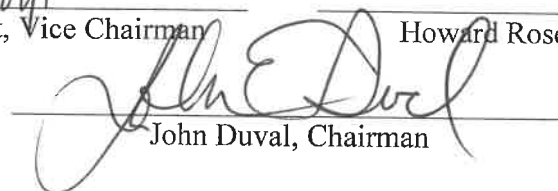
Richard Blanchard, Member



Christine Hoyt, Vice Chairman



Howard Rosenberg, Member



John Duval, Chairman