



## ***Town of Adams Massachusetts 01220-2087***

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**TOWN HALL BUILDING  
8 PARK STREET**

**Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 6:00 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 6:00 PM at the Adams Town Hall. Chair Christine Hoyt opened the meeting. Present: Chairman Christine Hoyt, Vice-chairman Howard Rosenberg, and Members John Duval, and Joe Nowak. *Member Rick Blanchard and Attorney Edmund St. John III were absent.* Also present were Jay Green, Town Administrator; Bri Hantman, Recording Secretary; K. Scott Kelley, Chief of Police; Members of the Adams Police Department; Sarah Fontaine, Director of the Adams Council on Aging; Tammy Daniels, Reporter for iBerkshires; and residents of the Town of Adams.

*The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**The August 2nd, 2023 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes were submitted for approval.**

*Vice-chair Rosenberg made a motion to waive the reading and accept the minutes as presented for August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. The motion was seconded by Member Duval.*

Member Nowak asked for clarification of when the Cemetery Commission Rules and regulations were approved. Chairman Hoyt clarified that the rules and regulations were voted on in an earlier meeting.

*The motion passed unanimously.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** *None*

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Ratifications**

*Susan Denault, Fence Viewer for a one-year Term, expiring June 30, 2024*

Susan had requested to continue on as a fence viewer for a 1-year term to to expire June 30, 2024

*Vice-chair Rosenberg made a motion to appoint Susan Denault to the position of Fence Viewer for a one-year Term to expire June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Member Duval. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Gregory Trottier, Per Diem Van Driver for the Adams Council on Aging*

Chairman Hoyt presented the appointment memo for Mr. Gregory Trottier.

Sarah Fontaine of the Adams Council on Aging approached the board and explained the hiring process. There are a number of training requirements that an individual must go through.

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***Vice-chair Rosenberg made a motion to hire Gregory Trottier to the position of Per Diem van driver for the Adams Council on Aging pending the completion of all required trainings. The motion was seconded by Member Duval. The motion passed Unanimously.***

*David Ronnow, Per Diem Van Driver for the Adams Council on Aging*

Chairman Hoyt presented the appointment memo for Mr. David Ronnow.

Vice-chair Rosenberg asked what the training topics are that drivers must go through. Ms. Fontaine named a number of trainings including CPR and First Aid, Defensive Driving, Wheelchair and Passenger securement, Drug and Alcohol awareness, Sensitivity Training, and more.

***Vice-chair Rosenberg made the motion to appoint David Ronnow to the position of Per Diem Van Driver for the Adams Council on Aging, pending the completion of all required trainings. The motion was seconded by Member Duval. The motion passed unanimously.***

Member Nowak offered thanks for the work that the Council on Aging does.

### **Hoosac Valley Regional School District Updates**

Hoosac Valley Regional School District Superintendent Aaron Dean approached the Board.

#### *Facilities Updates*

Regarding the Elementary School Building, all classrooms have been retiled. All windows have been repaired to working order. Air Conditioners have been installed in all of the classrooms. HVAC system has been re-evaluated and balanced. Boiler and classroom heat controls have been updated. Concrete and brick repairs have been done around the rear of the building. There has also been work done around the entrance near the auditorium. Vermont Roofing has been working on the roof and any and all roof leaks have been repaired. Bathroom stalls have begun to be replaced. Fire panel and electrical repairs have begun. There have been security cameras installed on the interior and exterior. One of the biggest remaining projects is water control in the front of the building.

*Member Duval* asked if the installation of security cameras have had an impact on lessening the issue of vandalism at the school. At this time, there are still some issues of vandalism.

In 2018 the Town worked with the Community Development office to do a study on the building with EDM, who is an engineering company. The Pandemic slowed some of the work that was done. Funds from the Town that were given to the School District have been combined with funds from the School District in order to correct some of the facilities issues at the balance of the funds, about \$140,000, and the engineering report to work with the school district to handle some of those repairs.

Mike Mucci has been a great resource for the Town and the School as they work to complete these projects.

A bid has gone out for repairs to the roof over the gym at the middle and high school gym. The roof is out of warranty at this point. The project is going to be roughly \$800,000.00 and there will likely be a number of contractors that will likely bid on the project. There is money left in their capital funds budget.

#### *District Office Move*

Electrical work will be done by the end of the week, which is exciting. The hope is that, by the end of the month, the school district will be in the space and able to operate. There is a plan in place to empty the space in Cheshire by the August 25<sup>th</sup>.

### *Pathways Curriculum*

The Pathways program is being implemented in order have students more engaged with the work that they are doing. Two pathways have been approved by the State, Environmental Sciences and Healthcare Sciences. The purpose is to help students be more prepared for career exploration and college readiness. Arts and Entertainment; Education; Business Entrepreneurship; Engineering and Technology; and Sports Medicine and Health and wellness are all options that the school is working on offering.

Being an “Innovations Pathway School” opens the school district to increased funding. It was becoming apparent that the school needed to make a shift away from the traditional high school model.

Member Duval that Superintendent Dean for implementing the pathways program. Member Duval asked if there is anything the school can do to help get young folks back to the area. Mr. Dean stated that hopefully these Pathway Programs will help introduce the students to the local business.

*Member Nowak* asked if the money that school had already received would be used.

ESSR is the stimulus funding that was given to schools during the pandemic. ESSR came through Title 1 Federal Funds throughout the pandemic in three waves.

SOA is the Student Opportunity Act that steps up student funding opportunities through State Aid through Chapter 70.

*Member Nowak* is happy that the school will be offering an Environmental Studies Pathway. It is important as we face climate change.

*Chairman Hoyt* expressed that she is pleased with the billboards that the school has put up regarding the pathways.

### **Adams Police Department Officer Recognitions**

Chief Kelley and four members of the Adams Police Department approached the Board. Chief Kelley stated that there are extraordinary things that these officers do and there are different ways that we recognize them. Sometimes it's an email or a congratulations, but other times, their actions are so extraordinary that it warrants bringing them before the board.

On August 12, Sergeant Onorato was in Pittsfield when there was audibly a car crash. There was a passenger in the vehicle who was in serious condition and had life-threatening injuries. Sergeant Onorato entered the vehicle and applied pressure to wounds that included serious bleeding from the head and a skull fracture. Sergeant Onorato stayed there on the scene until EMS arrived. Sergeant Onorato's actions were certainly lifesaving. Chief Kelley expressed his gratitude for Sergeant Onorato's actions

On June 7<sup>th</sup> there was a violent assault on Summer Street involving a knife. Officer Whitney responded to the residence, entered the home, and saw the victim on the floor with obvious stab wounds. Officer Whitney recognized that there was blood pooling. Officer Whitney used his own fingers and towels to attempt to stop the bleeding that was coming from the right side of her neck. The bleeding was so profuse that it completely soaked through her hair and a large towel. At this point in time, the suspect was still at large, yet Officer Whitney stayed on scene and tended to the victim, which ultimately saved her life.

Chief Kelley stated that it is the actions like this that make him proud of the officers and the department. Both of these men saved lives.

### **Review and Approve One Day Liquor License Application for Polish Picnic, *Father Paul Norman, Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Polanka Grounds, 22 Mill Street, Adams from 12pm-5pm***

Rachel Tomkowicz approached the Board. They expect roughly 500 people. There will be traditional polish fare, American Fare provided by the Lions club, and Crumb Bakery will be provided baked good. It has become a great family event.

*Vice-chair Rosenberg made a motion to approve a one-day liquor license application for Father Paul Norman for Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Polanka Grounds, 22 Mill Street, Adams from 12pm-5pm. The motion was seconded by Member Nowak. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Review and Approve Public Entertainment License for Polish Picnic, Father Paul Norman, Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Polanka Grounds, 22 Mill Street, Adams, from 12pm-5pm**

*Vice-chair Rosenberg made a motion to approve the public entertainment license for the Polish Picnic for, Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Polanka Grounds, 22 Mill Street, Adams, from 12pm-5pm. The motion was seconded by Member Nowak. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Review and Approve Public Entertainment License for the Walk to End Alzheimer's Disease, Saturday September 30, 2023 from 9:00am-2:00pm at the Adams Visitor Center**

Mary Whitman approached the Board to speak about the Walk to End Alzheimer's. Mary challenged the Board of Selectmen to speak about the event including the various events that happen. One in three seniors dies from Alzheimer's. 75% of the money that is raised in the communities goes into those communities for education and support for families dealing with Alzheimer's. Only 3% goes to Administration.

*Vice-chair Rosenberg made a motion to approve the public entertainment license Saturday September 30, 2023 from 9:00am-2:00pm at the Adams Visitor Center. The motion was seconded by Member Duval. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Review and approve Application to Place Signs on a Public Way for the Walk to End Alzheimer's Disease, Saturday September 30, 2023 from 9:00am-2:00pm at the Adams Visitor Center**

Motion from Vice-chair Rosenberg to approve the application to place signs in front of Adams Town Hall, the Adams Free Library, the Adams Council on Aging, in the Memorial Park (East and West), the Hoosac Street Traffic Circle, and the Columbia Street Traffic Island. The motion was seconded by Member Nowak. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:**

*Member Duval:* None

*Vice-chair Rosenberg:* None

*Member Nowak:* Attended a Parks Commission Meeting. There is a struggle to find space for all of the teams to practice. Hopefully the Adams Memorial Building will be open soon for use.

Chairman Hoyt: Gave thanks to Jay Green for organizing and attending an Open Meeting Law training for Department Heads and Admins in Town Hall. It is a great

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

*Member Nowak:* None

Vice-chair Rosenberg: Extended gratitude to the folks at the Transfer Station

Member Duval: None

Chairman Hoyt: Next meeting is Wednesday September 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.


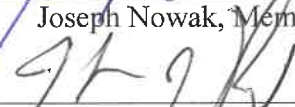
#### **ADJOURNMENT**

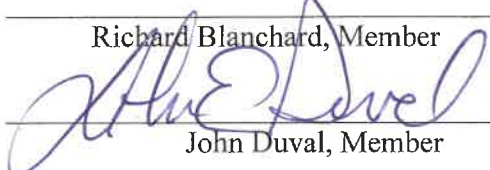
**Member Duval made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Vice-chair Rosenberg. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13pm**

**List of Materials Referenced:**

- August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
- Ratification Request Email, Susan Denault
- Ratification Request Memo, Gregory Trottier
- Appointment Notification Memo, Gregory Trottier
- Ratification Request Memo, David Ronnow
- Appointment Notification Memo, David Ronnow
- One Day Liquor License Application, Polish Picnic
- One Day Public Entertainment License Application, Polish Picnic
- One Day Public Entertainment License Application, Walk to End Alzheimer's
- Application to Place Signs on a Public Way, Walk to End Alzheimer's

Respectfully Submitted by Bri Hantman, Recording Secretary.

  
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Joseph Nowak, Member  
  
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Howard Rosenberg, Vice Chairman

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Richard Blanchard, Member  
  
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John Duval, Member

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Christine Hoyt, Chairman