

TOWN OF ADAMS SELECTMEN'S MEETING AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, November 7, 2012 – 7:00 PM

TOWN HALL, MEETING ROOM, 1st FLOOR, ADAMS, MA 01220

1. **CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 PM**
2. **READING OF MINUTES – October 10th, 2012**
3. **CITIZEN'S CONFERENCE**
4. **PUBLIC HEARING**
 - Tax Classification 2013 – 7:10 PM
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
7. **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**
8. **A. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**
B. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
 - Appointment of Operator I in Department of Public Works**C. POLICE DEPARTMENT**
D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 - Zoning Bylaws Discussion**E. OTHER DEPARTMENTS**
F. TOWN COUNSELOR'S REPORT
9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - Parking ban in effect November 15, 2012
 - Town is still in need of 2 Christmas Trees
 - Hurricane Sandy Relief Fundraiser
10. **APPROVALS**
 - Visitors Center – December 19, 2012 2:00 PM – 7:00 PM American Red Cross
 - Approval of Commemorative Rock – Dana Labbee

CLERK

TOWN CLERK
ADAMS MASS.

13 FEB 27 AM 8:47

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11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Agenda items

12. **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

November 7, 2012

On the above date the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 7:00 PM at Town Hall. Chairman Harrington presided; present Michael Ouellette, Scott Nichols, John Duval and Edmund R. St. John III, Town Counsel absent Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator.

Chairman Harrington called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

A motion made by Member Ouellette, seconded by Member Nichols to approve and waive the reading of the minutes of October 10th, 2012 – Unanimous motion passed.

CITIZENS CONFERENCE

Mr. James Fassell, Chair of the Parks Commission addressed the Board regarding the Dana Labbee plaque which is located at Renfrew Park. The plaque will be placed on a commemorative rock next to the basketball court. Resident Jeff Lefebvre announced that the Maple Grove Civic Club will be holding a meeting on November 18th the speaker will be Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator.

PUBLIC HEARING

At the Tax Classification Hearing the Board of Selectmen chose the split rate between commercial at \$21.67 per \$1000 and residential at \$18.25 per \$1000. The increase is .99 cents per \$1000 for residential and \$1.20 for commercial properties. Chairman Harrington closed the Public Meeting at 7:45 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion made by Member Ouellette, seconded by Member Nichols to approve the request of \$13,000 to go before the Finance Committee for repairs to be made to the Heating/Cooling system at the Adams Visitors Center – Unanimous motion passed

SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORT

Member Duval attended the Parks Committee meeting on November 6, 2013 and the Adams Housing Authority meeting and he plans on attending these meetings on a regular basis.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

A motion made by Member Ouellette, seconded by Member Nichols to approve the ratification of Jim Waltermire to the position of Operator I step 5 in the Department of Public Works. – Unanimous motion passed

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CLERK

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Michael Mach, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals requested from the Board a work session with some Board members to discuss changes and revisions to the current by-laws. Chairman Harrington asked Mr. Mach to meet with the ZBA Members and bring back a list of their issues and concerns. The Board will then meet and have Donna Cesan, Community Development Director attend and advise as to the next steps required.

TOWN COUNSELOR'S REPORT

A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Harrington made the following announcements:

- The Town of Adams Parking ban will be in effect on November 15, 2012.
- The Town is still in need of two (2) Christmas Trees for the holiday season.
- There will be a Hurricane Sandy Relief Fundraiser on November 10th & 11th donations can be dropped off at the Forrest Wardens Building located on North Summer Street from 9:00 Am till noon.

APPROVALS

A motion made by Member Nichols, seconded by Member Ouellette to approve the American Red Cross to use the Visitors Center on December 19, 2012 – Unanimous motion passed

A motion made by Member Nichols, seconded by Member Ouellette to approve the Commemorative Rock for Dana Labbee – Unanimous motion passed

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Items: At this time there are no agenda items for the workshop meeting.

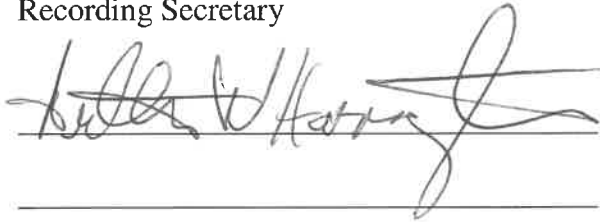
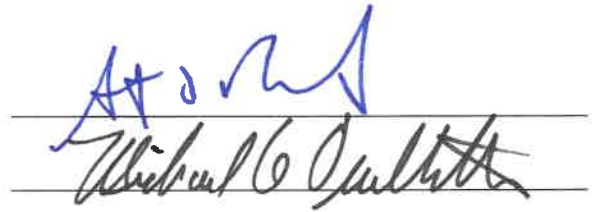
GOOD OF THE ORDER

Member Nichols requested a representative from the Adams Water Department attend a Board of Selectmen's meeting to explain the situation regarding the issues with the Town's water supply.

Member Duval thanked Michael Mach for attending tonight's meeting, and getting the ball started on the issues regarding the Zoning Board of Appeals. Member Duval also expressed his concern with the Tax Classification hearing; it was a dose of reality and he feels it is not good news for Adams. Chairman Harrington feels they should look into getting an independent evaluation, in many communities the Assessor does not preform that task and it is done by a private company.

With no further business to transact a motion made by Member Ouellette, seconded by Member Nichols to adjourn at 8:25 PM – Unanimous motion passed

Respectfully Submitted
Melissa Schaffrick
Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melissa Schaffrick", written over two horizontal lines.A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Ouellette", written over two horizontal lines. Above the signature is a blue checkmark.



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JONATHAN W. BUTLER
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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Memorandum

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator

Subject: Town Administrator's Report

Date: November 7, 2012

JWB

1. Adams Memorial School Status – The Middle School RFP was issued and we had two separate entities attend the site visit. Submittals are due on Friday, November 16th and we are expecting to have formal responses. The Town is also beginning the process of taking steps to temporarily mothball the Memorial School. While we work through a process of possibly re-using the facility, it will take some time before any lease negotiation or formal plans are finalized. Therefore, in the interim, we can spend a little as 1/5 of the normal cost on heating oil for the facility if it is in a mothballed state. The savings from taking these steps will be significant.
2. The Town was extremely fortunate to almost entirely avoid any damage from Hurricane Sandy. Storm damage costs were limited to a few overtime hours for the DPW and the cost of removing a few large tree limbs that had fallen. The Town was also able to successfully use the CodeRED Emergency Alert System during the storm. The updates seemed to be very well received by the residents of Adams, and were very useful to our Public Safety personnel in getting out good information.
3. There is an MPO Meeting tomorrow night that the Town will be attending with good numbers. The status of the proposed Roundabout project at Route 8/Friend Street is expected to be discussed. Since originally facing reduced funding for the project, the Town has been working diligently with BRPC and MassDOT officials to find a way to restore funding so that this important community project can move forward.
4. The Adams Visitor's Center will be scaling back its hours for the winter season in the coming weeks. A more detailed update on the new hours will be coming along within a week or two. The Town is attempting to put together a part-time staffing plan so that the Thunderbolt Ski Museum will be available for public viewing on weekends.



"Home of Mt. Greylock"

Edmund R. St. John III

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November 7, 2012

Town Counsel Report

I prepared for and attended the Special Town Meeting. I researched and advised the Town Administrator concerning the process of appointment of a special town moderator due to the potential unavailability of the Town Moderator.

I reviewed draft automobile dealer license permits and provided comments to the Town Administrator.

I have reviewed a tax abatement issue with the Assessor and provided guidance.

I reviewed and approved contracts for the shoal removal from the Tophet Brook.