

**TOWN OF ADAMS SELECTMEN'S MEETING AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, March 7, 2012 – 7:00 PM**

**TOWN HALL, MEETING ROOM, 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR, ADAMS, MA 01220**

1. **CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 PM**

2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personal or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel.
- To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares.

3. **READING OF MINUTES – January 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

4. **CITIZEN'S CONFERENCE**

5. **PUBLIC HEARING**

- 7:10 PM – Application of Liquor License for Donald R. Sommer d/b/a Halflinger House Restaurant & Inn, LLC.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

8. **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

9. **A. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**B. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**C. POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**E. OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

**F. TOWN COUNSELOR'S REPORT**

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

11. **APPROVALS**

- Approval of application to place a sign on a Public Way
- Approval of name change for a class II License
- Approval of support letter for Environment Massachusetts

12. **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Agenda items

13. **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

**March 7, 2012**

RECEIVED-POSTED

On the above date the Board of Selectmen met at Town Hall at 7:00 PM. Chairman Harrington presided, present: Michael Ouellette, Jason Hnatonko, Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator and Edmund St. John IV. Absent: Paula Melville and Scott Nichols.

TOWN CLERK  
ADAMS MASS.

Chairman Harrington asked for a motion to come out of recess: CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Ouellette to come out of recess at 7:00 PM – Unanimous

### **READING OF THE MINUTES**

The Board held the minutes of January 18, 2012 and voted only on January 25, 2012.

Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Ouellette made a motion to approve and waive the reading of the minutes of January 25, 2012 – Unanimous

Chairman Harrington announced that the Board would open Citizen's Conference till 7:10 at that time they would recess in order to open the Public Hearing. If there was anyone who wished to speak during Citizens Conference and was unable to the Board will reopen Citizens Conference following the Public Hearing.

### **CITIZENS CONFERENCE**

Resident Martin Bush stated that his name was mentioned a few weeks ago at a Board of Selectmen meeting that he was not present at. He wished for clarification on some of the things that were said. He asked Mr. Butler, Town Administrator the Member Melville had brought up a letter at the end of the meeting and Mr. Bush stated that Mr. Butler made a reference immediately after that comment, paraphrase - a hand full of people are trying to give the appearance that this Town is a mess. Only bad things are coming from a few small sources and more often than not the things you bring to our attention are debunked they are quickly found to be inaccurate or are just lies in the first place. Mr. Bush felt these were pretty strong accusations and he wanted to make sure if any of those were directed at him or his letter. Mr. Butler replied: they were not directed at Mr. Bush or his letter. I did make those comments, I stand by those comments I still feel the same way. I was referencing a Member of the Board who is not present this evening. It was actually in response to a series of different things she had said leading up to the comments I made. They were not referencing specifically the item you addressed to the Board about. No, I was not individually singling out you or any of the issues you brought before the Board, I was speaking generally and I do stand by the comments I made. Mr. Bush thanked Mr. Butler. Mr. Bush asked all of the Board that if the allegations are proven to be true do any of you have an opinion on the actions on the grown men and woman that I mention in that letter. Do you find that their actions are acceptable in our educational system if it is proven true, can I ask your opinion on that Mr. Butler. Mr. Butler replied that he did not have enough information to form an opinion. He feels there is a process to be followed; he doesn't know whether or not that process has been followed. Mr. Butler also commented that his

professional advice would be for all parties involved to continue to follow whatever process is in place to mitigate the concerns that Mr. Bush had.

Resident Jeff Lefebvre announced that the Maple Grove Civic Club will be holding a fundraiser for their scholarship fund on March 10, 2012 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM. They will also be holding their regular meeting on March 18, with guest speaker Tom Bowler. Jeff commented on the Thunderfest event, he was very pleased with it.

## **PUBLIC MEETING**

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Ouellette to open the Public Hearing at 7:00 PM – Unanimous

Donald Sommer explained to the Board that he has purchased the former Harrington Restaurant and is in the process of making some minor changes inside. He plans to open in May and needs to obtain a Liquor License to make it financially viable; he is requesting from the Board the approval of his application for a Liquor License. Attorney St. John IV informed the Board that Attorney St. John III, Town Counsel has reviewed the application and provided a list of concerns. At this time those concerns were addressed but have not been reviewed by Town Counsel. The Board decided to approve the Liquor License contingent on the approval of Town Counsel.

A motion made by Member Ouellette, seconded by Member Hnatonko to close the Public Hearing at 7:20 PM – Unanimous

A motion made by Member Hnatonko to approve the Liquor License for the Halflinger House Restaurant & Inn LLC. Pending the review of Town Counsel – Unanimous

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Ouellette to approve the application of Halflinger House Restaurant & Inn, LLC for a Sunday Entertainment License and Entertainment License – Unanimous

## **CITIZENS CONFERENCE**

Haley Meczywor, Town Clerk wanted to let the Board and residents know that the census is whining down and if you have not received a visit from a census takers please call the Town Clerks office to insure you are on the census list. She also reminded residents that dog licenses need to be renewed and are available at the Town Clerks office. Also the Annual Town Election will be held on May 7, 2012, candidates must submit their nomination papers by March 19. The dead line for incumbent Town Meeting Members is March 12.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

Chairman Harrington attended the Capital Planning Committee, he feels they are moving forward and have a great group. They have some ambitious goals ahead of them.

## **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

A copy of the Administrators Report is attached to these minutes.

## **TOWN COUNSEL'S REPORT**

A copy of the Town Counsel's Report is attached to these minutes.

## **APPROVALS**

A motion made by Member Ouellette, seconded by Chairman Harrington to approve the application of Limited Edition to place a sign on a public way – 2 Yeas, 1 Abstain (JH) motion passed.

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Ouellette for a name change on a Class II License to Alternative Motors of Adams, Inc. – Unanimous

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Chairman Harrington to table the approval of a support letter for Environment Massachusetts till the next regular Board of Selectmen's meeting – 2 Yeas, 1 Abstain (MO) motion passed.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Member Hnatonko asked if the Events Committee could hold a Memorial Day run, Haley Meczywor suggested that Member Hnatonko attend an Event Committee Meeting that will be held on Monday night. He will try to attend the meeting.

Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator wanted to state that the multiple applications regarding the one available Liquor License that had expressed interest in acquiring that license were immediately contacted and provided that application. One never got back to the Town, two informed the Town that they weren't interested at this time and the only application that was returned was the business that came before the Board tonight. He felt this should be noted for public information and be out there.

Chairman Harrington wanted to echo the support of the Pro-Adams Group and the media for being there; they did an excellent job coving this event. Also to all the residents who come out and supported this event, it was wonderful to see the diversity in ages and everyone enjoying this event.

With no further business to conduct a motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Ouellette to adjourn at 7:48 PM – Unanimous

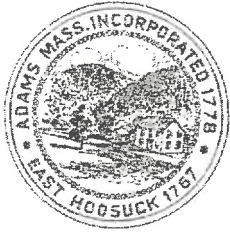
Respectfully Submitted

Melissa Schaffrick

Recording Secretary



Handwritten signatures of Arthur W. Harnsey and Michael C. Ouellette. The signature of Arthur W. Harnsey is written in black ink and is positioned above the signature of Michael C. Ouellette, which is written in blue ink. Both signatures are written on a set of three horizontal lines.



# Town of Adams •

Massachusetts 01220-2087

JONATHAN W. BUTLER  
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

RECEIVED POSTED

12 JUL 12 PM 3:04

TOWN CLERK  
ADAMS MASS.

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CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

## Memorandum

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator

Subject: Town Administrator's Report

Date: March 7, 2012

JWB

1. Adams Memorial School – The Town held a site visit for interested entities on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The intention behind the site visit was to provide potential developers or interested parties with an opportunity to view the site and ask questions about its condition. We had about thirty people in attendance, though most were representatives of either Berkshire dance Theatre or the Adams Youth Center. There were no private developers in attendance.
2. Capital Planning – There was a Capital Planning Committee meeting held on March 1<sup>st</sup> in Town Hall. This was the first time this Committee has met in over seven years. Due to the Town's fiscal condition, there is the possibility of some significant capital being spent in this budget, and also a need to start constructing a legitimate five year plan. We had a great introductory conversation between Committee Members and both Donna Cesan and Myself about our goals for the Committee. This Committee will be meeting much more regularly in the coming year, with the hopes of establishing a new five year plan by the end of 2012.
3. Thunderfest – Many thanks must go out to the ProAdams group, the Event's Committee, the Thunderbolt Ski Runners and all sponsors and participants of the inaugural Thunderfest Downtown Festival this past weekend. Despite the race having to be cancelled for the season, this event brought out hundreds of people and definitely had a very lively energy about it. It was evident at the Visitor's Center that a solid foundation was being laid for hopefully more events like this in the near future. Almost everyone person I spoke with during the afternoon had great things to say about the festival, the race and the potential for both in Adams.



"Home of Mt. Greylock"

*Edmund R. St. John, III*

Admitted in MA and CA

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March 7, 2012

TOWN COUNSEL REPORT

We have reviewed the application for an all alcoholic beverages license submitted by Haflinger, LLC. Written comments have been submitted outlining what additional information needs to be provided.

Our office is reviewing and providing comments concerning the proposed easements for the former Albert's Hardware property.

We have consulted with the Building Inspector's office concerning code enforcement matters.

Our office has discussed the proposed intermunicipal agreement with the Adams Fire District and with District Counsel. We anticipate scheduling a meeting with representatives of the Town and the District in April.