

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

**WEDNESDAY, January 4, 2012 – 7:00 PM**

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 PM**
2. **READING OF MINUTES** - June, 22<sup>nd</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, & November 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. **CITIZEN'S CONFERENCE**
4. **PUBLIC HEARING**
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - Veteran's Agreement Amendment
  - Communication from Town of Savoy
7. **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**
8. **A. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**  
**B. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**C. POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
**E. OTHER DEPARTMENTS**  
**F. TOWN COUNSELOR'S REPORT**
9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
10. **APPROVALS**
11. **OTHER BUSINESS**
  1. Agenda items
12. **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

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TOWN CLERK  
ADAMS MASS.  
CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

January 4, 2012

On the above date the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at Town Hall at 7:00 PM. Chairman Harrington Presided, present: Paula Melville, Scott Nichols Jason Hnatonko, Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator and Edmund R. St. John III, Town Counsel. Absent: Michael Ouellette.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **READING OF THE MINUTES**

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Nichols to approve and waive the reading of the June 22, 2011 minutes – 3 Yeas, 1 Abstained (PM) motion passed.

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Nichols to approve and waive the reading of the August 17, 2011 minutes – 3 Yeas, 1 Abstained (PM) motion passed.

A motion made by Member Nichols, seconded by Member Hnatonko to approve and waive the reading of the November 30, 2011 minutes – 3 Yeas, 1 Abstained (PM) motion passed.

A motion made by Member Nichols, seconded by Chairman Harrington to approve and waive the reading of August 24, 2011 minutes – 2 Yeas, 2 Abstain (PM & JH) motion passed.

A motion made by Member Melville, seconded by Chairman Harrington to approve and waive the reading of the minutes for September 2, 2012 - 1 Yea, 3 Abstained (PM, JH, & SN) motion passed.

A motion made by Member Nichols, seconded by Chairman Harrington to approve and waive the reading of the minutes for September 16, 2012 – 2 Yeas 2 abstained (PM & JH) motion passed.

## **CITIZEN CONFERENCE**

Resident Jeff Lefebvre announced that the Maple Grove Civil Club will be holding a Fundraiser on February 4<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 7:00 PM to raise money for the Summer Basketball program. Jeff also commented that he called and spoke to Mark Singleton regarding his support of the Park Street project. Jeff also informed the Boar that the BRPC will be holding a meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM - Emergency Shelter Project meeting.

Erica Samson, Council on Aging Director wanted to thank all the business who donated for the recent 60+ Holiday Party which was a huge success. She also reminded people of the Bucket of Sand Program, call the COA to request a bucket to be delivered to your house.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator brought to the Board a Veteran's Agreement Amendment. The Town is part of an Inter-municipal agreement with the City of North Adams and Williamstown for the Veteran's Services Program. The Veteran Agent is in Adams part time on Tuesdays and Thursdays. About 25% of Veteran's Services are in North Adams; the small communities of Clarksburg and Florida do not have a great need for a Veteran's Agent but are required by the State requirements to have one. These two towns have had to pay for an agent when the need is one or two Veterans a year. They asked if the Veteran's Agent could expand and include Clarksburg and Florida on a per case basis. After meeting with Stephen Roy, Veteran's Agent it was determined that it would be appropriate. Member Melville asked if this would impact the current hours required of him to be in Adams, Mr. Butler replied that it would not.

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Nichols to approve the Veteran's Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Clarksburg – Unanimous

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Nichols to approve the Veteran's Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Florida – Unanimous

Scott Koczela, Chairman of the Town of Savoy Board of Selectmen asked the Board for their support for a grant application through the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission for a feasibility study to keep the school open or to close it and have the students attend school outside of the Town. Selectman Koczela has met with the ACRSD Superintendent Alfred Skrocki, who is supportive of the study.

A motion made by Member Nichols, seconded by Member Hnatonko to send a letter of support for the grant application for the cost analysis to Berkshire Regional Planning Commission – Unanimous

## **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

## **TOWN COUNSELOR'S REPORT**

A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Harrington announced that he received a letter from Berkshire regional Planning requesting that the Chairman appoint a Member to the BTAC. This person cannot be a member of the MPO if a person in the community that is interested in serving on that Board, they meet quarterly. Any transportation project goes before this committee for and advises the MPO. If anyone is interested please contact the Town Administrators Office at 743-8300.

Chairman Harrington also commented on the extension of the rail trail into North Adams. He is asking for a support letter from each of the communities and any residents in the concept of moving the trail north.

A motion made by Member Nichols, seconded by Member Hnatonko to write a letter of support from the Board to continue the Rail Trail north - Unanimous

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Agenda items:

Member Melville commented that the MJD Realty issue has been going on for a year now. She would like to know when this would be taken care of. Chairman Harrington commented that he did not have an answer and will put this on the agenda for the upcoming Workshop meeting.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Member Melville wished a Happy New Year, comfort and joy for everyone.

Member Hnatonko announced that he would not be running for Selectmen when his term ends in May 2012. He appreciates everyone who has supported him for the last three years it meant a lot to him.

Chairman Harrington also wished everyone in Town a Happy New Year.

A motion made by Member Hnatonko, seconded by Member Nichols to enter into Executive Session at 7:47 PM to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law of federal grant-in-aid requirements – Roll Call Vote – Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melissa Schaffrick  
Recording Secretary

  
  




# *Town of Adams* • Massachusetts 01220-2087

JONATHAN W. BUTLER  
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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To: Board of Selectmen

From: Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator

Subject: Town Administrator's Report

Date: January 4, 2012

JWB

1. The East Road Slope Reconstruction Project was awarded to D.R. Billings Construction who came in with a low bid of \$297,500. This was almost \$400,000 below some of our estimates on the project cost. Work began in the last week of December, and there has already been a considerable portion of work done in that time. This project is expected to be completed within a couple of months, with the weather having a big impact on the actual construction timeframe.
2. East Road Culvert Replacement Project is nearly complete and the road is scheduled to be opened by the end of the day tomorrow. This project has had to work around weather, and as a result wasn't able to meet the initial mid-December timeframe. There are a few final touches that need to be completed, but it was reported to us by the Contractor that the Town should be able to open the road tomorrow - January 5, 2012.
3. Had a productive meeting today with Mayor Alcombright, Rep. Cariddi, Ron Turbin of Williamstown, Donna Cesan and Chairman Harrington in North Adams to put together strategy for the Rail Trail Extension vote before the MPO on January 31<sup>st</sup>. We plan to have a joint presentation put together to express the benefits of the trail extending to Hodges Cross Roads in North Adams.
4. The Town has recently had two full-time positions posted, COA Van Driver and a DPW Operator. I wanted to report to the Board of Selectmen that I plan to have appointments to present for ratification at the next meeting for both of those positions.

*"Home of Mt. Greylock"*



# Edmund R. St. John III

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January 4, 2012

## **Town Counsel Report**

After conversations with the property owner, I drafted and obtained from him a release to enable the Town to work on his land near the embankment collapse on East Road. This work is necessary to properly repair the damage to the public way near the Tophet Brook.

I have drafted and provided to counsel for the Adams Fire District an intermunicipal agreement to provide firefighting services outside the limits of the Fire District.

I attended a hearing concerning the receivership on the Alix properties on December 21, 2011 at the Housing Court. It is anticipated that these properties will be auctioned to a responsible purchaser.

I met with members of the Housing Department to discuss recently evolving zoning issues and I have begun researching this area in follow up to that discussion.