



Town of Adams Massachusetts 01220-2087

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN HALL BUILDING
8 PARK STREET

Wednesday, November 01, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

TOWN HALL, 8 PARK STREET, ADAMS, MA 01220
1st 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. Board Chair Christine Hoyt opened the meeting. Present: Chairman Christine Hoyt, and Members Rick Blanchard, John Duval, and Joe Nowak. *Vice-chair Howard Rosenberg and Attorney Edmund St. John III were absent.* Also present were Jay Green, Town Administrator; Bri Hantman, Recording Secretary; K. Scott Kelley, Adams Chief of Police; Haley Meczywor, Town Clerk;

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The October 18th, 2023 Meeting Minutes were submitted for approval.

Member Blanchard made a motion to accept the October 28th, 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented and waive the reading. Member Duval seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Town Clerk, Haley Meczywor approached the board on behalf of the Adams Events Committee. The Holiday House Decorating Contest is coming back this year. The entry period is November 20-Dec 1. Judging will take place From Friday the 8th - Sunday the 10th. Winners will be announced on December 13th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Approve Application from St. Stans School to Place Signs on a Public Way at Hoosac Street Traffic Island, Center Street Traffic Island, Memorial Park East and West, Library Lawn

The request is to locate the signs at the Hoosac Street Traffic Island, Center Street Traffic Island, Memorial Park East and West, and Library Lawn.

Member Nowak made a motion to allow the placement of signs for the St. Stans Bazarr, to take place on November 18th and the above listed locations totaling 4 signs. The motion was seconded by Member Duval.

Member Blanchard noted that it is actually 5 signs as Memorial Park east and west will be two different signs. Member Nowak amended his motion to include 5 signs. Member Duval seconded the amended motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Traffic Commission Recommendations

Amend Traffic Regulation Article XI, Other Traffic Regulations, Section 202-66, One Way Streets, Traffic Commission recommends that Winter Street be changed to a ONE-WAY street from Summer Street headed North to Weber Street.

Chief Kelley, Adams Police Department approached the board. Chief Kelley stated that there is a safety concern on Winter Street with how narrow that street is. As such, the Traffic Commission feels that it is best to make that street a One Way street. The Traffic Commission also recognizes that an additional solution would be to make Winter Street a dead end street with a turn around at the end. The recommendation is to try the One-Way sign first, to see if that works.

Member Duval asked if all of the abutters were notified prior to the Traffic Commission meeting where this was discussed. Member Duval also asked if the Fire Department would be able to get their trucks through there. Chief Kelley clarified that yes, the abutters were notified and the Fire Department has stated that they can still get a truck through. Additionally, the Fire Department has stated that this would be their preferred fix to the situation. The Fire Department has expressed concerns about navigating their trucks at a dead-end circle, which was the alternatively proposed solution.

Member Duval made a motion to Amend Traffic Regulation Article XI, Other Traffic Regulations, Section 202-66, One Way Streets, to include Winter Street being listed as One Way Street, heading North to Weber Street, to take effect in 90 Days. The motion was seconded by Member Duval.

Member Blanchard asked that the Chief of Police come back and update the Board of Selectmen roughly 60 days after the change takes effect. Member Nowak asked when the property owner, Mr. Abate, came forward, if he was speaking on behalf of his tenant. Chief Kelley clarified that Mr. Abate had gathered feedback from his tenants prior to approaching the traffic commission.

The motion passed unanimously.

Amend Traffic Regulation Article VI, Parking, Section 202-41, Parking Prohibited on Certain Streets, Traffic Commission recommends that NO PARKING signs be installed along the entire length on the South side (odd numbered side) of High Street

Chief Kelley spoke about the No Parking signs that were previously put up on High Street. The signs were later taken down as they were not put up following the appropriate procedures. There was a brief debate about which side of the street the signs would go on. Chief Kelley looked produced an image from Google Maps to clarify which side he was discussing. There was also a brief discussion regarding a small stretch of sidewalk on High Street and if that sidewalk impedes parking.

Member Nowak made a motion to Amend Traffic Regulation Article VI, Parking, Section 202-41, Parking Prohibited on Certain Streets, to install No Parking signs be on the South Side (odd number side) of High Street, with a request that the Traffic Commission Meeting takes place within 60 days to discuss the parking on the even side. The motion was seconded by Member Duval.

Member Duval stated that the Traffic Commission changing this street sets a precedent that is reactive. Chief Kelley stated that should the Traffic Commission become proactive, that is a foundational change in the purpose of the commission which would require a bylaw change. Member Duval questioned what metrics were used to determine a that a street is too narrow. Chief Kelley clarified that the Department of Public Works has stated clearly that they have a hard time getting a plow truck in there. Additionally, it is challenging for emergency vehicles to drive on that road, particularly if there are vehicles parked on both sides of the street. Member Nowak noted that it is important to see if a change works because it is a matter of safety.

The motion was voted down by the Board of Selectmen with two votes in favor of the motion and two votes against the motion.

Suspension of Parking Meters for Holiday Season, Wednesday, November, 22nd through Monday, January 1st.

Member Blanchard made a motion to suspend the parking meter collection for the Holiday Season for Wednesday, November, 22nd through Monday, January 1st. The motion was seconded by Member Nowak. Member Nowak hopes they are covered in a festive manner. The Motion passed unanimously.

Review and Approve Dog License Fees for Upcoming Licensing Period, Effective April 1st, 2024

Town Clerk, Haley Meczywor, approached the board to recommend that the licensing fees for dogs be kept the same. Ms. Meczywor read the list of fees and their associated costs. These fees are the same as they were last year.

Member Blanchard made the motion to approve the dog license fees as stated by the Town Clerk. The motion was seconded by Member Duval. The motion passed unanimously.

Review Dog Kennel License Proposal

Ms. Meczywor stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals has recently granted an approval for a Dog Daycare. That business has sparked a discussion regarding kennel licenses. Ms. Meczywor inquired with local communities regarding what they use for a Kennel License.

Member Nowak asked questions regarding the specific business that is looking to open a Doggie Daycare. *Town Administrator Green* clarified that the board is not being asked to decide regarding a specific business, but rather if the Town should create a Kennel License and fee structure.

Chairman Hoyt stated that the proposed fees were taken from surrounding communities and the reason for the fees is to help cover the necessary inspections that need to happen.

Member Blanchard asked questions regarding how the kennel tags would be affixed to the dogs. It was clarified that that practice would be up to the business owner.

SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:

Licensing Update, Renewal Packets available for pickup

Chairman Hoyt: The Town of Adams has made licenses available for pickup. License renewal paperwork will not be mailed out this year. Please make an appointment with Bri Hantman in the Town Administrator's Office in order to establish a time to pick up your renewal paperwork. All paperwork and payments are due to be returned to the Town Administrator's office by 4pm on Monday, November 20th. All Liquor License applications must be signed in the month of November.

Member Blanchard: None

Member Nowak: None

Member Duval: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Greylock Glen Café Operator Request For Proposals, RFP #24-002

Town Administrator Green stated that the RFP for the Greylock Glen Café Operator is out and the due date is in January. If anyone is interested in this opportunity, please reach out to the Community Development Department. 1Berkshire is helping to push this out to a number of restaurant operating groups.

Member Duval: None

Chairman Hoyt: The Digital Equity Workshop happened last week. There was some good feedback regarding devices and access to the internet. If anyone would like to access the survey, they can contact Bri Hantman in the Town Administrator's office.

Member Nowak: Inquired about the status of the Adams Ambulance Service and what is happening with them. *Chairman Hoyt* clarified that the Adams Ambulance will be a future agenda item. Member Nowak also asked what determination was made, if any, regarding two local businesses that were cited for service of alcohol to underaged individuals. Chairman Hoyt clarified that the hearings for those businesses are scheduled to take place in December. *Member Nowak* also asked if he can have access to the Hoosac Valley Regional School District MCAS scores. *Member Nowak* also asked about a gathering of people that he witnessed in armory court, which he believed to be the Digital Equity workshop. Town Administrator Green clarified that Yina Moore, owner of the Adams theater invited individuals to attend a meeting with the Mass Cultural Council. That was the group that he witnessed in Armory Court, not the Digital Equity Meeting.

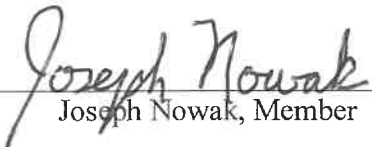
ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Blanchard. The motion was seconded by Member Duval. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.


List of Materials Referenced:

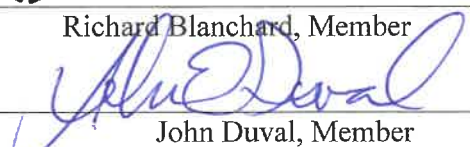
- **October 18th, Meeting Minutes**
- **List of Dog Licensing Fees**

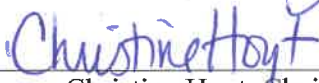
Respectfully Submitted by Bri Hantman, Recording Secretary.


Joseph Nowak, Member


Richard Blanchard, Member


Howard Rosenberg, Vice Chairman


John Duval, Member


Christine Hoyt, Chairman