

TOWN OF ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS
ADAMS TOWN HALL BUILDING, 1st FLOOR, ADAMS, MA 01220

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES 05/02/2018

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CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duval at 7:00 p.m. Members Hoyt, Blanchard and Nowak were present. Also in attendance was Interim Town Administrator Cesan. Town Counsel St. John III was not present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the March 20, 2018 and March 21, 2018 were submitted for approval. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to waive the reading of the minutes for March 20, 2018 and March 21, 2018 and approve both as submitted, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: *Jacob Levesque* announced there will be a summer basketball league at Renfrew Field and registrations may be made online and at the Library during business hours. *Town Clerk Haley Meczywor* announced that the Annual Town Election is Monday, May 7th at 92 North Summer Street from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Those with questions are encouraged to call the Town Clerk's office. *Dr. Martin Bush* advised the Board that he had emailed the School Principal and Administration about an upsetting remark. He said the School Committee heard the complaints and the Coach was reprimanded in the past and not taking it seriously because it was a non-disciplinary hearing. He gave a copy of the comments to the Board Members and asked for the Board to contact him regarding the situation.

OLD BUSINESS:

Facility Use Request, Greylock Glen & Train Station, ProAdams: This item was tabled at a previous meeting. *Motion made by Member Nowak to take the item off the table, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.* The Facility Use Request was reviewed and is for the MAGICon Harry Potter festival. Shuttles will be provided. Entertainment will take place at the Train Station and the event will be at the Greylock Glen. Insurance was provided. *Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the use of the Greylock Glen and Train Station by ProAdams on July 21, 2018 and July 22, 2018 from sunrise to sunset for the MAGICon festival, second by Member Blanchard. Member Hoyt abstained due to being a member of ProAdams. Voted in favor were Chairman Duval, Vice Chairman Blanchard and Member Nowak. Motion carried.*

Facility Use Request, Visitors Center, Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum: *Motion made by Member Blanchard to take the Facility Use Request for the Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum from the table, second by Member Nowak. Vote: unanimous.* The application was reviewed. A calendar of dates was provided for planned train rides from May 26th through December. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the facility use of Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum on June 9th and 23rd, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., July 14th and 28th, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., August 11th and 18th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., September 1st, 15th and 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., October 20th and 27th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., November 23rd, 24th, and 25th from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and December 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 15th and 16th 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. with the Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum to coordinate parking efforts with the Interim Town Administrator, second by Member Nowak. Vote: unanimous.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Open the Town Meeting Warrant: Those interested in adding an item to the Town Meeting Warrant should provide it in writing to the Board of Selectmen with the required number of signatures. *Chairman Duval* read a letter requesting the Board of Selectmen set the Annual Town Meeting date, open the warrant and to close the warrant on May 16, 2018. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to open the Warrant for Annual Town Meeting, to close the Warrant on May 16, 2018, and to set the Town Meeting date as June 18, 2018, second by Member Nowak. Vote: unanimous.*

Town Wide Tag Sale: *Chairman Duval* read a letter from Kelly Rice of the Town Wide Tag Sale Committee announcing the Town Wide Tag Sale date of Saturday, August 11, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$1 and the map of the tag sale will be provided. She requested the Board of Selectmen waive the \$2 tag sale fee, and charge \$1 for participation. Concern was expressed about people parking illegally, on the wrong side of the street and in dangerous locations. The Police Department was requested to monitor tag sales by the highway for safety.

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Motion made by Member Hoyt to waive the \$2 Tag Sale fee for the Town Wide Tag Sale on August 11, 2018 and to charge a \$1 registration fee, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.

Proclamation of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week: A Proclamation was read aloud by *Member Hoyt*. *Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the Proclamation of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week for May 6 – 12, 2018, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

Ratification of Seasonal Laborer Positions: *Vice Chairman Blanchard* read the letter from the Interim Town Administrator requesting the ratification of Kristopher Saunders, Richard Santelli, and Shawn Marko as Seasonal Laborers at \$11 per hour pending successful passing of physicals. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to ratify Kristopher Saunders, Richard Santelli and Shawn Marko as Seasonal Laborers, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous.*

Facility Use Request, Greylock Glen - Road Runners Club of America, June 17, 2018: It was noted that this event and Magicon occurred on the same weekend last year which caused a parking issue but the two groups have worked together to book separate dates and do better parking management this year. *Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the use of the Greylock Glen by the Roadrunners Club of America on June 17, 2018 from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous.*

Facility Use Request, Visitors Center - Berkshire Running Center, on May 21, 2018: It was explained that this item has already been approved at a previous meeting.

Facility Use Request, Greylock Glen - Pamela Sherman, on June 9, 2018: Pamela Sherman explained the request to the Board for a memorial candlelight vigil from 12:00 p.m. to dusk, and a DJ will be on site with generators. There will be no balloons or food, and it will just be a memorial event. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the use of the Greylock Glen on June 9, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to dusk, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous.*

One Day Wine & Malt License Application, David Nicholas Jr. dba Bounti-Fare, Adams, MA, on May 20, 2018 at Adams Visitors Center: This request is for the Steel Rail Half Marathon event to provide food and beverage vending as has been done for the last four years. The plan to keep underage drinking or overconsumption from occurring was explained. The Visitors Center Parking Lot Project is scheduled to start on May 21, 2018. State regulation of alcohol content was discussed and all beer will be coming from Berkshire Brewery with 5.2% alcohol content. Beer with 6.2% alcohol content was turned down for the event. It was noted that typically higher alcohol content costs more for the consumer. Concern was expressed about the effects of the higher alcohol content on consumers at the event. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the One Day Wine & Malt Application for David Nicholas Jr., dba Bounti-Fare on May 20, 2018 at the Visitors Center, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

Common Victualer, Entertainment License Application - BYGU, LLC dba Landers Pub, Grub & Play, 8-10 East Hoosac Street, Adams, MA: Robert Williams, representing BYGU, LLC advised he is in the process of taking over the Adams Ale House from Mr. Girard. He explained the plan to create a neighborhood pub with family games, video, corn hole, darts, pool tables and live entertainment at night. Clarification was requested and the property is not yet leased from Mr. Girard. Nathan Girard will stay on as the Alcohol License Manager and once the license is approved a transfer of license will go through the process. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to table the Common Victualer License Application for Landers Pub, Grub and Play, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous. Motion made by Member Hoyt to table the Entertainment License Application by Member Hoyt, second by Member Nowak. Vote: unanimous.*

Wastewater Treatment Plant Skilled Laborer Job Description Approval: The WWTP Skilled Laborer Job Description was approved by the Personnel Sub-Committee. This creates a new Skilled Laborer position for the WWTP and requires a lower Class 3 Certification for operators as the other Operator I and Operator II Require a Class 4 Certification. It was explained as being a more entry level position which will allow for transfers. Typically a hiree is allowed twelve months to get the proper certification. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the Job Description of WWTP Skilled Laborer as proposed, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

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Wastewater Treatment Plant Technical Clerk, Operator I Job Description Approval: A change in the Job Description was requested as it was discovered that the WWTP Technical Clerk/Operator I Job Description class for Driver's License was in error since the 2008 approval by the Board of Selectmen. The only change to be made is from Class C to Class D. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the WWTP Technical Clerk/Operator I Job Description change to Class D as presented, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Town Administrator's Report: Five bids were received for the Visitors Center Parking Lot Project. Waterfield Design Group is reviewing the bids and the Town expects to make a recommendation for award by next week. A notice to proceed is expected just before Memorial Day Weekend. Bids for up to twelve roads and road segments for a two mile length of roadway at \$500,000 will be out by late June. The final bid form will be prepared tomorrow and a final list will be presented to the Board. The Town applied for the designation of Opportunity Zones for two of three tracks and can receive favorable tax treatment within these designated zones. Final information about the program has not been released but both tracks were approved by the Governor. \$200,000 was awarded for 1 Cook Street for cleanup to remediate the contaminated property of petroleum and coal dust and to allow for redevelopment of the site for future uses. Waterfield looks through the bids to make sure all forms are there, to review the numbers and compare to be sure nothing is overlooked. The low bidder is quite a bit lower than the other bids and the Town wants to be sure that bidder did not overlook something causing change orders. Board Members noted the new lighting looks nice on Park Street. A brief discussion took place about the trees being cut down for the Visitors Center Improvement Project and new trees will be planted. There will be an increased focus of activity, twelve new spaces will be added and the lot is shifting eastward. Some trees provided shade but were also hiding lighting and uplifted the sidewalk so they had to be removed.

Town Counsel Report: *There was no Town Counsel Report submitted.*

SUB-COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS: *Member Nowak* advised he attended the Adams Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee meeting and was happy with the number of people in the community giving to the statue and for the parade. He advised he stopped in at the Police Department for the Opioid Turn-In Program and was very impressed with the students and coordinator overseeing the project. He noted that Adams is being a progressive community. *Chief Tarsa* advised the main goal was the pilot program and the group met the goal they were looking for. The Police Department provided the host facility and literature for addiction from the Northern Berkshire Coalition, Berkshire Opioid Network. Paula Consolini oversaw the program. He noted they are getting opioids off the street. *Member Hoyt* advised she attended the Personnel Sub-Committee meeting for the job descriptions that came before the board today, and they reviewed a Job Description for the Police Department Lieutenant which is coming soon. The sub-committee reviewed a draft of the Parking Control Attendant and researching neighboring communities for their job descriptions. She advised she attended the ACRSD School Committee meeting last week where John Vosburgh from Taconic was selected as Superintendent. She attended the Regional District Agreement Committee meeting where the District Agreement is being revised and will be submitted to the School Committee Legal Counsel before going forward. It will be reviewed at a joint committee meeting and they are looking for it to go forward at a Special Town Meeting in the fall. The Town Administrator Screening Committee met this week and will be providing the Board of Selectmen with more information soon. *Chairman Duval* advised he attended the Personnel Sub-Committee meeting with Member Hoyt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER: *Member Nowak* thanked the Fire Department for doing an excellent job with the fire on Maple Street, which was in a tough location. He expressed that Adams is lucky to have the Volunteer Fire Department and thanked Chief Pansecchi and the firefighters. He advised he walked down by the railroad tracks and there is a mess behind Dollar General, Dunkin Donuts, 7-Eleven and the homes from Albert Street on. He expressed a desire to work with the businesses to clean up their properties or to get a volunteer group to pick up debris. He noted that the Bike Trail has a lot of pebbles on it and the construction for the new train platform for the train is causing some but it is also at Cook Street and both ends of the crossing.


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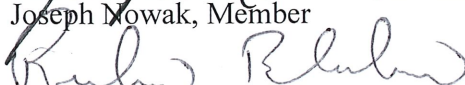
He expressed a desire for the summer help to take care of it when they come on board. Money will not be appropriated for a gator until Town Meeting. *Interim Town Administrator Cesan* advised that the DPW focused on Howland Avenue for filling potholes with 8,000 tons of blacktop mixed in the past couple days. She advised she will mention the pebble issue to the Foreman to include that in the near future. Three Seasonal Laborers were put to work but the rest won't be fully activated until July 1st when new funds are appropriated. *Member Nowak* advised citizens it is their civic duty to vote and Democracy works best when everyone's voice is heard. He wished all candidates the best of luck. An inquiry was made whether the DPW unit plowing sidewalks could have a street sweeper attachment for the Bike Trail. It was advised that the equipment would be too heavy. *Member Hoyt* reminded everyone that Election Day is on Monday and information is on the Town website and Facebook Page regarding what is on each ballot. Information on Town Meeting Member openings and write-in campaigns is available at the Town Clerk's office. The Council on Aging provides transportation on Election Day to get to the polls, and those interested should call to make arrangements. The Mobile Food Bank will be held at the Visitors Center on the second Tuesday of the month from 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. *Vice Chairman Blanchard* advised that this is not the first time the DPW are fixing potholes on Howland Avenue, and they are doing what they can when they are able. The Board of Selectmen presented the Administrative Assistant with a card for Administrative Professionals Day. *Chairman Duval* acknowledged those that had served as elected officials that are not running again. He thanked them all for serving the community. *Member Nowak* announced that nobody put in for the open School Committee position for the Town of Cheshire and asked interested parties to please consider it to help the School District. *Chairman Duval* read a letter from Charter Communications advising that WCBB ABC Channel 5 will no longer be available. He thanked the Maple Grove Civic Club and ProAdams for putting on the forums that candidates took part in. He advised this is his last meeting of his second term, though he is running again. He checked back in the Town of Adams archives to 1939 when Frank Brown was the Collector of Taxes, and the tax rate back then was \$36/\$1000.

ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Hoyt, Vote: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.*

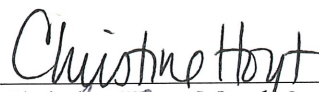
Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,
Recording Secretary



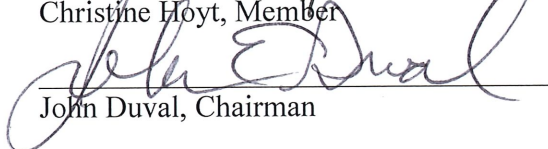
Joseph Nowak, Member



Richard Blanchard, Vice Chairman



Christine Hoyt, Member



John Duval, Chairman