

**TOWN OF ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS**  
ADAMS TOWN HALL BUILDING, 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR, ADAMS, MA 01220

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES 06/06/2018

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duval at 7:00 p.m. Members Hoyt, Blanchard, Nowak and Bush were present. Also in attendance was Interim Town Administrator Cesan.

**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes for the March 22, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting were submitted for approval. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to waive reading the minutes and approve them as submitted, second by Member Blanchard. Abstention by Member Bush. Voted in favor were Chairman Duval, Members Hoyt, Blanchard and Nowak. Motion carried.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – *There were no comments from the public received at this meeting.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Request for Letter of Non-Opposition - Janet L. Sherman, Berkshire United Distribution Services, LLC:** It was noted that this item is not ready to move forward at this time. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to table the Request for Letter of Non-Opposition by Janet L. Sherman until it is ready to go forward, second by Member Nowak. Vote: unanimous.*

**Ratification of Part-Time Council on Aging Van Driver:** *Chairman Duval* read the letter from Interim Town Administrator Cesan requesting ratification of Dennis Kingsbury to the Part-Time Van Driver position for the Council on Aging. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to ratify the appointment of Dennis Kingsbury to the position of Council on Aging Part Time Van Driver, Second by Member Bush. Vote: Unanimous.*

**Ratification of DPW Maintenance Technician/Operator I positions:** *Chairman Duval* read the letter from Interim Town Administrator Cesan requesting ratification of Tristan Frieri and Timothy Morgan to the open positions of DPW Maintenance Technician/Operator I positions. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to ratify Tristan Frieri and Timothy Morgan to positions of DPW Maintenance Technician/Operator I, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous.*

**Ratification of Wastewater Treatment Plant Technical Clerk/Operator I Position:** *Chairman Duval* read the letter from Interim Town Administrator Cesan requesting ratification of Jared Genzabella to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Technical Clerk/Operator I position. *Motion made by Member Novak to ratify the appointment of Jared Genzabella to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Technical Clerk/Operator I position, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.*

**Notice of Assignment of Street Number from 0 Hathaway Street to 19 Hathaway Street:** *Chairman Duval* explained the request to assign the street number. *Motion made by Member Bush to approve the assignment of 0 Hathaway Street to 19 Hathaway Street, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

**One Day Malt License Application, Bright Ideas Brewing – July 21, 2018:** Colleen Rafferty represented Bright Ideas Brewing and requested a One Day Malt License for the MAGICon event on July 21, 2018 from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. It was explained that the second day will not have alcohol. *Motion made by Member Nowak to approve a One Day Malt License for Bright Ideas Brewing for July 21, 2018 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., second by Member Blanchard. Abstention by Member Hoyt. Voted in favor were Chairman Duval, Members Blanchard, Nowak and Bush. Motion carried.*



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**Facility Use Request, Transfer Station - Alert Hose Company:** A request was made by the Alert Hose Company to sell fundraiser tickets at the Transfer Station. Concern was expressed about congestion and safety during heavy activity. Michael Therrien of the Alert Hose Company advised it would be on July 28<sup>th</sup>, August 4<sup>th</sup>, and August 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to raise money for the Alert Hose Company 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. He advised a small tent would be put up with a table and it would be positioned with a couple of cars for parking on the side to avoid impeding traffic. Additional concern was expressed that once the Fire Department was allowed to do this other volunteer organizations would ask to be supported. It was noted that unlike a boot collection at major intersections this would not impede traffic and would be safer. Discussion took place about whether the DPW staff could assess where this could reasonably take place. It was noted that since it is only three days Town Staff would make sure it is safe and is not an issue to cause further problems. The sale of trash stickers on site was described as a mad rush. Insight was given that it was the first time this location had been requested and the Board is receiving an increasing number of requests to use buildings and facilities. A workshop will take place to review the facilities use request form, process and policies. Mr. Therrien invited the Board to the annual Firefighter Memorial Ceremony at Bellevue Cemetery to remember fallen firefighters. **Motion made by Member Nowak to approve use of the Transfer Station on July 28, 2018, Aug 4, 2018 and Aug 11, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. by the Alert Hose Company to sell tickets for a fundraiser, second by Member Blanchard. Voted in favor were Chairman Duval, Members Nowak, Blanchard and Bush. Voted in opposition was Member Hoyt. Motion carried.**

**Facility Use Request, Greylock Glen - Stu Besnoff:** Mr. Besnoff, Scoutmaster of the Boy Scouts Troop 93 requested use of the Greylock Glen from June 15-17, 2018 to camp. An explanation of where camping was intended to take place was given, Interim Town Administrator Cesan advised this was acceptable. **Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the use of the Greylock Glen area by the Boy Scouts Troop 93 from 6:00 p.m. June 15, 2018 until 7:00 a.m. on June 17, 2018 for camping, second by Member Nowak. Vote: unanimous.**

**Facility Use Request, Park Street - Annmarie Belmonte for Hijinx on July 23, 2018:** Crystal Howcroft represented the Hijinx Committee. Hours of the event will be 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and the street will be closed at 5:00 p.m. for setup. 1500 attendees are anticipated, and plans for trash removal were reviewed. It was explained that last year all proceeds went to the Youth Center, and this year they will go to POP Cares. Chief Tarsa explained that there will be four officers required, as in the past. Clean up afterwards will be done by the Hijinx Committee. **Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve use of Park Street from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for Hijinx on July 23 2018, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.**

**Facility Use Request, Russell Field - Sonia DeSanti:** The request is from July 9, 2018 until August 10, 2018. A request was made to table this request to allow for time to meet with the applicant to form a plan and establish use of the field and the bathrooms. **Motion made by Member Nowak to table the request for use of Russell field from July 9, 2018 to August 10, 2018 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.**

**Facility Use Request, Russell Field - Sonia DeSanti:** The request is from June 26, 2018 to August 2, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays for a Tennis program. **Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve use of the Tennis Courts at Russell Field from June 26, 2018 to August 2, 2018 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm., second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.**



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**Facility Use Request, Renfrew Park - North Adams Babe Ruth:** The request is from June 1, 2018 until August 31, 2018. Quinn Gladu represented the North Adams Babe Ruth League, and explained they are in the process of a 501(c)3 application for Northern Berkshire. She advised that the eleven teams are blended teams of participants aged sixteen to eighteen in North County and play each other. There is a travel component to extend the season and these kids play in another league. It was noted that a schedule of hours was needed, rather than blanket coverage of use during all afternoons and evenings. Ms. Gladu explained that due to the late, wet spring the opening day was last Sunday. A schedule for the games will be created. The teams play in Alcombright Field in North Adams but one field is inadequate for eleven teams and other communities no longer have a field to use. Concern was expressed about having practices, and it was expressed that there was no prior notification that practices were not allowed. It was explained that the fields need to rest and a discussion will be had with the Parks Commission regarding a creation of clear policies for scheduling and tending the fields. Ms. Gladu explained her group has taken care of the fields and installed bull pens. She advised she is working with other parties but has found no other facilities to practice at to reduce the amount of wear and tear on the field. She explained that there are not enough fields to practice on and she has been working with other groups to find a workable schedule around each other. Games in the evenings will require the use of lights, and there will be a couple games held on a Friday night under the lights. When the teams play double headers they are here for the whole day. A request was made for Ms. Gladu to work with DPW staff regarding the schedule for practices and games, and to rake the infield. ***Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the use of Renfrew Field by North Adams Babe Ruth from June 1, 2018 until August 31, 2018 in the afternoons and evenings on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays provided a schedule of practices and games is provided to the Town, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.***

**Facility Use Request, Renfrew Park Basketball Courts:** The request is for Adams Summer Basketball from June 18, 2018 to August 9, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday. The application was reviewed as submitted by Jacob Levesque. ***Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve use of basketball courts at Renfrew Park from June 18, 2018 to August 9, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, second by Member Nowak. Vote: unanimous.***

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Town Administrator's Report:** Work is wrapping up on Municipal Vulnerability. A successful community workshop was held last month which identified the actions the Town should take to be more resilient. A public forum will be held to seek additional input on Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. An Invitation for Bids for the Town Hall Roof Replacement Project will be advertised tomorrow and will appear in the Central Register next week for roofing, flashing, siding, painting, and associated general work. The bid included several alternates with hope to work on the clock tower. The bid due date is June 28, 2018 at 4:00 p.m., and if successful work is anticipated to start late July. The Adams Visitors Center Parking Improvement Project received the Town's in-kind work which included the removal of trees and asphalt curbing by the DPW. C&A Construction, Inc. will be mobilizing on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The project will be undertaken in phases to allow continued use of the parking area throughout most of the construction period. It was noted that C&A Construction, Inc. was the contractor for Roundabout Project and a parking lot behind the Jones Block, which was grant funded. Bids are due tomorrow on the Road Re-pavement and Sidewalks Project, and a list of the roads and sidewalks will be forthcoming to the Board.



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**Town Counsel Report:** *There was no report issued to the Board from Town Counsel.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS** – *Member Hoyt* advised she attended the School Committee Meeting where an agreement was finalized with incoming Superintendent Vosburgh, who will meet with the Board at the next meeting. *Member Nowak* attended the Parks Commission meeting and many of the Facility Use Requests that came before the Board this evening were discussed then. He noted the community is short on parks. *Member Bush* advised he attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Real Eyes Gallery, and the Hoosac Valley High School Graduation. *Chairman Duval* read a letter sent to the Board expressing appreciation to the Board of Selectmen and the Council on Aging for use of the Fallon Health vehicle for a medical issue. He read a letter from Berkshire Gas regarding a recent petition to MASS Utilities for an increase, and if approved the average annual increase for citizens will be an additional \$40. There will be public hearings in Greenfield and Pittsfield which will be open for input, and if citizens are concerned about the potential increase to their bill there is information on the Berkshire Gas website. Citizens are urged to call Berkshire Gas or go to the [www.berkshriegas.com](http://www.berkshriegas.com) website. Contact people at Berkshire Gas are Christopher C. Farrell, and Karen Zink.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER** – An explanation was given that there are Executive Sessions which will follow. *Member Hoyt* announced that there was a Charter Spectrum Petition circulating to keep the Massachusetts stations on the air in Berkshire County since now Channel 5 has been taken off of the lineup. The petition by the local delegation is looking for support from Berkshire county residents as they go forward to the Federal Communications Commission to talk about contracts regarding Berkshire County. Annual Town Meeting will be held on June 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. and the Town Clerk and Moderator will be at C.T. Plunkett School at 6:00 p.m. that evening to answer questions for new Town Meeting Members and to give an overview of the process. Tapestry was thanked for putting on two free Narcan trainings for residents and officials at the end of May. The organizers of the Memorial Day Parade were thanked for their hard work. *Member Nowak* announced that he attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Real Eyes Gallery and advised it is nice to see more businesses opening downtown. He advised he had attended the event at the Russell Street Field honoring Margaret “Peg” Leavitt and thanked Corey Bishop for organizing it. He advised he attended the graduation of the Hoosac Valley High School Seniors, and wished the 80 graduates well going on to work, the military and college educations. He noted with so few graduates thoughts should be given to regionalization. He also advised that on Bellevue Avenue police officers came out and gave tickets for free ice cream to the youths. He thanked Chief Tarsa and the officers for providing this program.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*#2. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel;*

*At 7:48 p.m. a Motion was made by Member Hoyt to go into Executive Session #2, Second by Member Blanchard. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Duval, Members Hoyt, Blanchard, Nowak and Bush. Motion carried.*



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*#3. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares;*

***At 7:48 p.m. a Motion was made by Member Blanchard to go into Executive Session #3, second by Member Hoyt. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Duval, Members Hoyt, Blanchard, Nowak and Bush. Motion carried.***

*#6 To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body;*

***At 7:49 p.m. a Motion was made by member Hoyt to go into Executive Session #6, second by Member Bush. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Duval, Members Hoyt, Blanchard, Nowak and Bush. Motion carried.***

***At 8:58 p.m. a Motion was made by Member Blanchard to exit the Executive Sessions, second by Member Bush. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Duval, Vice Chairman Nowak, Member Blanchard, Member Hoyt, and Member Bush. Motion carried.***

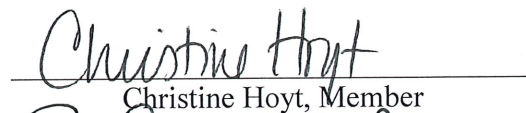
***Employee Agreement: Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the agreement to promote Shawn Briggs to position of Police Department Lieutenant, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.***

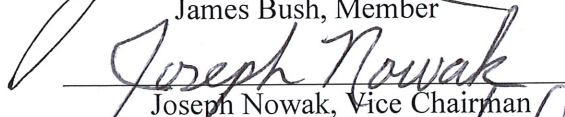
It was explained that a Board of Selectmen Workshop will take place to review Facility Use procedures and approvals. It was noted that the Town Charter needs to be reviewed for changes as well, and Town Counsel should be invited for this discussion. It was also pointed out that the Board needs to review Annual Appointments, and will have a vote on them at the next meeting in June.

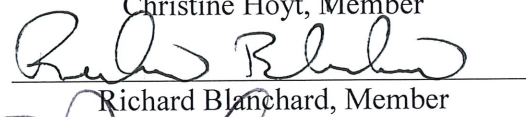
***ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Hoyt, Vote: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.***

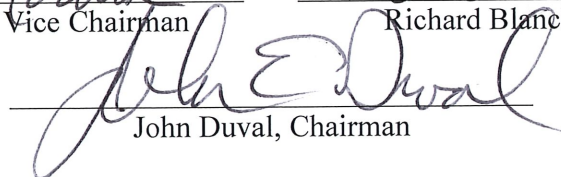
Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,  
Recording Secretary

  
James Bush, Member

  
Christine Hoyt, Member

  
Joseph Nowak, Vice Chairman

  
Richard Blanchard, Member

  
John Duval, Chairman