

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES 06/20/2018

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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 were Interim Town Administrator Cesan and Town Counsel St. John III.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the March 26, 2018, March 28, 2018, and April 4, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meetings were submitted for approval. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to waive reading the minutes and approve them as submitted for March 26, 2018, March 28, 2018, and April 4, 2018, second by Member Blanchard. Abstention by Member Bush. Voted in favor were Chairman Duval, Members Blanchard, Nowak and Hoyt. Motion carried.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: *There were no public comments made at this meeting.*

OLD BUSINESS:

Facility Use Request, Russell Field – Sonia DeSanti, July 9, 2018 to August 10, 2018, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.: *Motion made by Member Nowak to take this item off the table, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.* Interim Town Administrator Cesan reported she has communicated with Ms. DeSanti and they are working more closely together with the DPW to monitor the use of the restrooms and to alert them if there are issues. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve use of Russell Field from July 9, 2018 to August 10, 2018, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., second by Vice Chairman Nowak. Vote: unanimous. Motion passed.*

NEW BUSINESS:

ACRSD Superintendent Vosburgh: *Paul Butler, Chairman* of the ACRSD School Committee introduced Superintendent Vosburgh, who gave information about his background and intentions. He noted that Adams and Cheshire are two communities that care about their kids and he looks forward to working with them beginning July 2nd. He noted the two communities need stability in this job and he hopes to spend ten years in the position. He expressed the importance of transparency and being proactive about dealing with issues before they become problems. He invited the Board Members to contact him with any concerns. Superintendent Vosburgh was welcomed to the community. The state of the C.T. Plunkett School building was briefly touched on, and it was explained that funds have been appropriated toward maintaining the building. It was noted that the funds won't fix all of the problems but a plan will be developed to identify and prioritize the needs. The Board Members expressed an intention to work closely with Superintendent Vosburgh to help projects come to completion.

Ratification of Full Time Police Officer: Chief Tarsa advised the Board that he had asked for Reserve Officers in February and is now requesting Natasha Antona be made a full-time permanent Police Officer for the Town of Adams. A letter was submitted to Interim Town Administrator Cesan outlining the details of the request regarding Officer Antona. Her background, education and work ethic were explained to the Board. If appointed, she will attend the full time academy in October. Chairman Duval read the letter written by Interim Town Administrator Cesan. *Motion made by Member Bush to appoint Natasha Antona to the position of Full Time Police Officer, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.* Officer Antona was then sworn in by the Town Clerk.

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Ratification of Part Time Police Officer: Chief Tarsa requested appointment of Dylan Vandolowski to the Reserve Officer position. He gave Mr. Vandolowski's background and interest in pursuing a career in law enforcement. His education was outlined and certifications in law enforcement were listed. Chairman Duval read the letter from Interim Town Administrator Cesan requesting the ratification. *Motion made by Member Bush to appoint Dylan Vandolowski as a Reserve Officer for the Adams Police Department, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

One Day Wine & Malt License - The Grille, July 29, 2018 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the Polish Picnic: Mary Jette, the Chairperson of the Polish Picnic advised that The Grille sponsors and oversees the sale of beer and wine for the Polish Picnic. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve a One Day Wine & Malt License to The Grille for the St. John Paul II Parish for Polish Picnic on July 29, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous.*

Board of Selectmen Sub-Committee and Liaison Assignments: Member Hoyt advised that the Personnel Sub-Committee reviewed the list. Member Hoyt read the assignments aloud for the public. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the Sub-Committee, Liaison and Ad-Hoc Committee assignments for 2018-2019 as presented, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

2018-2019 Annual Appointments: Member Hoyt read the individual appointments for 2018 individually. A request was made to hold the appointment of Don Fitzgerald as Local Inspector for clarification as he is living in Texas. It was noted that Mr. Fitzgerald only receives a check when he works and does zoning research, which can be done from a distance. It was explained that the appointment was made last year because there are online applications and it doesn't require a local person to do it. He reviews plans, so does not have to physically see the work like the inspector. Further clarification from the Building Inspector on this was requested. *Motion made by Member Nowak to hold appointment of Don Fitzgerald as local inspector for clarification, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous. Motion made by Member Nowak to approve all other annual appointments as read, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.* It was explained that the Personnel Sub-Committee looked at the Agricultural Commission which need more people, and will come forward with a plan in the future.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Town Administrator's Report: An update was given on the reconstruction of streets and sidewalks resurfacing project. Two bids were received for this project and the low bidder was J.R. Maxymillian at \$707,000, which is \$200,000 over available funds. It was noted that when it was put out to bid it included the unit pricing in the bid documents which allows the Town to add and subtract sections. With the Board's approval the Town is ready to award a contract for \$525,000 to include the streets on the list and a portion of the sidewalks. Not all of the sidewalks would be able to be done due to fiscal constraints. Work will probably start within three weeks. An inquiry was made regarding the inspection of the Cook Street Bridge and it was noted that it was done within the last five years. A request was made for a new surface over it, but the span is too big to qualify for the state's Small Bridge Program.

Town Counsel Report: Since the last report Town Counsel St. John III advised he reviewed and responded to an inquiry regarding the need for annual appointments, he reviewed an easement, he reviewed the care of an animal held by the town, he reviewed the Zoning Board of Appeals Inter-Municipal agreement, and updated information concerning the amount of demolition costs for 50 Commercial Street to go forward with a lien in the Town's interest.

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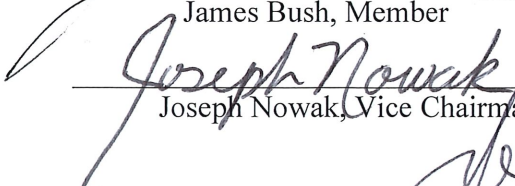
SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS – *Member Hoyt* advised that the Licensing Sub-Committee met regarding a Change of Officers, reviewed taxi bylaws and alcohol content at public events. The Personnel Sub-Committee met to review annual appointments and talked about the Town Administrator search. They are looking at the possibility of hiring a consultant and looking at proposals. *Member Nowak* attended a ZBA meeting where the proposed Cumberland Farms was reviewed, and a large contingency of neighborhood residents attended to voice displeasure. The second ZBA meeting was regarding chickens being housed on North Summer Street, where an abutter was displeased with chickens clucking in the early hours. Richmond Street flooding problems were addressed and are to be rectified. Lee's Dynasty requested a curb cut to their property. He noted that each member was sued for a decision made regarding a roll-top, for not allowing business. He advised he went to the Cemetery Commission Meeting regarding a new building to house equipment and cold storage. A decision was made that interments will take place until 12:00 p.m. on Saturdays unless there are extenuating circumstances, in order to save overtime funds. He advised he attended a Climate Change meeting at Berkshire Community College, which produced facts that climate change is already a problem. *Member Nowak* reported that he and Member Bush went to the Vulnerability public meeting to gather information regarding future grants. There will be another meeting on Vulnerability and it was recommended that more citizens attend to help get more grants for the community. *Member Nowak* reported he attended the Adams Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee meeting and they are fundraising for the statue. Letters were sent requesting support to businesses of the community. *Members Nowak and Bush* helped out at the Bulky Waste Collection.


ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER – *Chairman Duval* received an email regarding Northern Berkshire Community Coalition looking for a support letter. A request was made for the Interim Town Administrator to look at it before the Board votes on it. *Interim Town Administrator Cesan* advised that there is a request to support an application to the National Park Service, and she is looking at how involved they are in the community. ***Consensus was reached for Interim Town Administrator Cesan to go forward with the letter.*** Meeting scheduling around the holiday and upcoming agenda items were discussed. *Member Nowak* advised that Park Street is deteriorating and beginning to settle and crack. He asked to have crack sealing done so they don't expand. *Member Nowak* expressed concern about the Zero Tolerance situation and the talk of rectification. He expressed he felt this was intolerable, and read a quote from Robert Kennedy.


ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.*

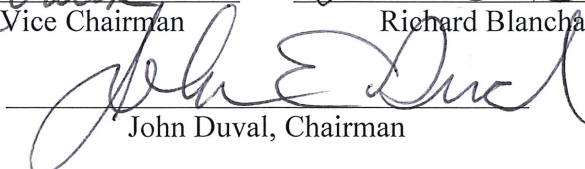
Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,
Recording Secretary


James Bush, Member


Joseph Nowak, Vice Chairman


Christine Hoyt, Member


Richard Blanchard, Member


John Duval, Chairman