

TOWN OF ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

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

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES 11/14/2018

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duval at 7:00 p.m. Present were Vice Chairman Nowak, Members Hoyt and Bush as well as Interim Town Administrator Cesan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the October 16, 2018 and October 17, 2018 Meetings were submitted for approval. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to waive reading and approve October 16, 2018 Meeting and October 17, 2018 Meeting minutes as submitted, second by Member Bush. Vote: Unanimous.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kelly Rice, Tax Collector advised her office will have extended hours on Saturday, November 24, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. because as are due Monday, November 26th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second Reading and Approval of Changes to COA Drug and Alcohol Policy: *Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the changes to the COA Drug and Alcohol Policy as outlined to meet the federal regulations, second by Member Bush. Vote: Unanimous.*

NEW BUSINESS:

The Execution of Note Sale Documents: Treasurer/Tax Collector Rice provided the Board the paperwork that Town Meeting approved for borrowing, which needed to be signed to allow for funds to come in for November 27, 2048. Ms. Rice advised she was able to secure a 2.5% interest rate. The Interim Town Administrator and the Board will continue to work with the State legislature to obtain funding. Town Meeting Members were thanked for approving the funding and Ms. Rice was thanked for her work on the paperwork. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to execute the note sale documents as submitted, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: Unanimous.*

Update on Chlorination and Water Monitoring Equipment, Adams Fire District: Superintendent John Barrett advised in April 2017 the Adams Fire District obtained a conditional chlorine permit from MassDEP which was set to expire April 10, 2019. Plans were submitted through an engineering company to install a temporary chlorination system in all wells. He explained that the "Boil Water Order" on August 23, 2018 indicated chlorination on full-time basis. The engineers were not yet complete in their process but were instructed to provide a minimum of safety chlorination. He noted that \$750,000 was expected to be needed and the District proceeded to the State for a loan. Engineers advised that due to time constraints of the deadline of the MassDEP discontinuation of boil order it was impossible to do in such a short timeframe. He stated he is working with MassDEP to get a more adequate system with safeguards so it does not have to be reengineered. The project was awarded November 9th and got funding approval on November 13th. He requested an extension and was approved by MassDEP to go back into the original conditional permit until April 10, 2019. He advised the District continues to monitor the water over two hundred times a month. Brief discussion took place on the different ways water could become contaminated. Polyphosphate, a food preservative, is injected into the system to inhibit coliform growth, and the combination of hot and cold temperatures and severe storms churning up the water supply is a probable cause of growth. The District regularly tests for lead and copper. He noted that the District has been one of the few communities that do not chlorinate, and water can still have coliform with chlorination but it is less likely. It was pointed out that borrowing money will increase the water costs. The system is old and needs maintenance that it has not been done. The hope is to raise rates at a steady pace, slowly over time rather than a large sudden increase.

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It was noted that other communities in the Commonwealth had the same “boil water order” issue. He advised that every year a Consumer Confidence Report of everything that was tested is produced with the results. *Superintendent Barrett* stated the water in Adams is rated second and tied with Cheshire for the least amount of toxins in the water. The water testing and reporting process was reviewed briefly and it was explained that the District cannot notify the public before samples are confirmed twice. Everything is legal and has to be sent to the MassDEP with exact timeframes, documentation and chain of custody. He was thanked for coming and invited by the Board to give regular updates.

Liquor License Multiple Amendment Application: *Adams Lodge of Elks #1335, 63 Center Street, Adams, MA 01220.* The application included a Change of Manager from Richard Pansecchi to Cynthia Krzeminski and a Change of Club Officers to Cynthia Krzeminski, President; Barbara Dow, Treasurer; Ronald Wonderlick, Secretary/Clerk; Robert Dow, Director/Trustee; Dale Krzeminski, Director/Trustee; Edward Duquette Jr., Director/Trustee. The Licensing Sub-Committee and Town Counsel reviewed the documents prior to the meeting. ***Motion made by Member Hoyt to approve the Multiple Amendments Application Change of Manager to Cynthia Krzeminski as submitted, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous. Motion made by Member Hoyt to accept Change of Officers as outlined, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.***

Facility Use Request, Town Common: *Adams Community Bank, Sunday, November 25, 2018, 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. for Holly Days:* Adams Community Bank was thanked for hosting this event. A request was made for lights on the horse drawn carriage for safety. ***Motion made by Member Nowak to approve the use of the Town Common by Adams Community Bank on Sunday November 25, 2018 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. for Holly Days, second by Member Hoyt. Vote: unanimous.***

Discussion of Commercial Street Zoning: Zoning discussion is needed to focus on growing the community. It was explained that Adams needs growth to attract people into the community and help with the tax rate. A zoning map developed in the 1970s was recently looked at and it was noted that not much has changed since then. It is time to review and make appropriate changes to reflect the goals of the community. A recent training with Zoning, Planning and Board of Selectmen personnel initiated discussions of ideas and proposed changes. Decisions need to go to Town Meeting but changes will go through the Planning Board and Interim Town Administrator for creation. The Town Charter needs to be reviewed and updated to support the Town to grow. A recent meeting was held by the Zoning and Planning Boards, and situations that need to be addressed in the community were brought up. Board Members discussed putting together a team to start the process and to review the zoning map. The Interim Town Administrator met with the Planning Board recently and informally discussed working together on potential changes and on a number of bylaw revisions. Community Development is ready to work with the Planning Board. The State Enabling Laws indicate the Board of Selectmen should initiate a formal review, and once started a Sub-Committee may be put in place. Discussion took place about signage bylaws, and a small group of people need to work on it in sub-groups working with two Boards on specific items and the map issues. ***Motion made by Member Hoyt to formally ask the Planning Board to start the review process of the Zoning Map, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.***

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Administrator Report: Community Development met with architects and selected to begin the design process at the former Hoosac Valley Coal and Grain property. This will be funded by 2017 CDBG funds, and the Town also received cleanup funds from the Environmental Protection Agency.

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The Town is looking for a contractor to do the cleanup work. It was noted as being a small one acre site with two buildings on the property. Consideration is being given to the future use of the buildings, and work will be done on the park. It has flood control and is visible from both the Scenic Railway and the Ashuwillticook Bike Trail. This is part of the Downtown Development Plan, and one of the recommendations was to have a series of pocket parks. This would be the third and final one, and possible the best one. A Steering Committee hopes to kick this off in December and have a public meeting in January. This is the first time the Town has worked with Wagner Hodgkin Architects and is partnering with Tighe & Bond for engineering. They have done a lot of park work and are excited about the grain elevator. The Board noted that a Landscape Architect is needed for the Adams Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee (ASCCC) to work with the sculptor of the Susan B. Anthony statue for proper placement. There are active discussions with a number of designers. Hopefully there will be a decision by December 1st. It was noted that participants of a banquet for the Scenic Railway last week were excited about the grain elevator as it is the most photographed building in town.

SUB-COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS: *Member Hoyt* advised the Personnel Subcommittee met prior to this meeting and reviewed the job descriptions for the Senior Planner, the DPW Operations Supervisor and the Parking Attendant. These will come before the full Board on Dec 5th. *Chairman Duval* advised there is a meeting at Berkshire Regional Planning Commission with Senator Hinds and he will attend and discuss major concerns with him. Vice Chairman Nowak advised he attended the ASCCC meeting they are actively working to make a successful event in 2020 to celebrate the 200th birthday of Susan B. Anthony, and the 100th anniversary of women having the right to vote. Volunteers and donors are needed to help defray the cost, and anyone interested may contact Pam Duval or Deb Dunlap at Town Hall to provide their information. Member Bush advised the repairs at Glen Street and East Road are going well. He is working with the DPW, which is handling potholes. He noted the DPW has a small crew but they are working hard to correct things.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER: *Vice Chairman Nowak* advised the Hoosac Valley Hurricanes will be in Worcester for semi-finals against St. Bernard. He wished them well. *Member Bush* advised he had the opportunity to go to the Berkshire County House of Corrections and review the 911 system, which was impressive. He also had a "Ride Along" with Officer Hicks of the Police Department and Officers Cunningham and Hicks were very professional during an arrest with Officer Baker backing them up. He noted he was very pleased with how well it was handled.

ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Member Hoyt to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Bush. Vote: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,
Recording Secretary

James Bush, Member

Christine Hoyt

Christine Hoyt, Member

Joseph Nowak

Joseph Nowak, Vice Chairman

Richard Blanchard, Member

John Duval

John Duval, Chairman