

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 2, 2019

RECEIVED-POSTED

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

CLERK

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the December 12, 2018 Workshop and the December 12, 2018 Regular Meeting were submitted for approval. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to waive reading and approve the December 12, 2018 Workshop and the December 12, 2018 Regular Meeting minutes as submitted, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: *Jacob Levesque* of the P.A.L. thanked the Interim Town Administrator and Selectmen for allowing the use of the gymnasium at Memorial School, which is saving the League money. Thanked Donna for approving the non-slip wax on the flooring and LED lights that have been installed. Jacob was thanked for volunteering.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Transfer Station Temporary Stickers: *Interim Town Administrator Cesan* advised she and Executive Assistant Towle reviewed the information from the workshop and noted that there are requests from people wanting a short-term sticker. Research was done with local communities and with that information a proposal is for a \$15 sticker for residents. It was noted that the fee proposed is only for residents but it was thought that a non-resident option was forthcoming. It was explained that the requirement would be a residential street address. If approved, this would be implemented within about a month. Work would be done with the Tax Collector on implementation and education of the attendant. It would be fully integrated within the new fiscal year. A request was made for a placard with the expiration date on it become available for people to show to the attendant so it is regulated properly. The fee for the bags is the same. It was noted that compliance is a concern, and work will be done on additional signage to reinforce sticker color per year with additional signage. An evaluation is being done regarding adding an additional part time person to help the attendant keep traffic moving. The Transfer Station was noted as running at a deficit, and adding another employee would add cost. When someone is cleaning out a house it was noted that if something inappropriate is disposed of the Town gets the fine. The brochure to provide education of the Transfer Station should be done within thirty days. A suggestion was made to table this item until more information is available in March or April to be able to solidify the fees structure. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to table the approval of temporary stickers until after a review of the full fee structure for Fiscal Year 2020, second by Member Bush. Voted in opposition was Vice Chairman Nowak. Voted in favor were Chairman Duval, Members Blanchard, Hoyt and Bush. Motion passed.*

Approval of Additional Spring and Summer Transfer Station Hours: A number of residents expressed discontent at the Town not providing extended hours. A proposal was made to begin additional hours on Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. from May 1st to September 15th because of the need for longer hours in the evening. It was noted that there is incentive to get lighting at the transfer station. Board Members pointed out that some people were misinformed that the Transfer Station would be closing on Wednesday and opening another day instead. The current Transfer Station hours were noted. The attendant has been informed of the potential addition. *Motion made by Member Blanchard to approve the additional summer hours for the Transfer Station as proposed, second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.*

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NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Member Hoyt to bring the Special Municipal Employee Designations, Town Administrator Screening Committee Members up on the agenda, second by Vice Chairman Nowak. Vote: unanimous.

Special Municipal Employee Designations, Town Administrator Screening Committee Members: Member Hoyt advised that the last screening committee members were designated as special municipal employees. She explained that the status can be presented if Committee Members are not paid or part time to protect from conflict of interest. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to designate the Screening Committee Members as Special Municipal Employees, second by Member Blanchard. Vote: unanimous.*

Assignment of Town Administrator Screening Committee Members: Member Hoyt provided the Board Members with proposed names for the Town Administrator Screening Committee. Three of the parties were on the Screening Committee in the spring and agreed to serve again. The Interim Town Administrator will serve as a guiding member instead of a voting member of the Screening Committee. With approval, the Committee can begin tomorrow as the application deadline has passed. Interviews could start next week or the week after to bring finalists to the Board. Concern was expressed about there being an even number of voting members and a request was made to recruit someone else to sit on the committee to avoid a stalemate. It was noted that typically most people are clear on the direction the committee wants to go and the consultant did not have a concern. There are three categories of qualification. The consultant has not provided information on how many applicants there are. George Haddad and Terri Daigneault served in the spring and are not on the list. Town Clerk, Haley Meczywor was an addition. The Committee will meet mid-month to start the process, and then will be turned over to Interim Town Administrator Cesan by early February to bring the finalists before the Board. The intention is to be able to have an offer out in February and have the person start as soon thereafter as possible. *Motion made by Member Hoyt to appoint the voting members Paul Goyette, Jeff Grandchamp, Leah Thompson, and Haley Meczywor, Second by Member Bush. Vote: unanimous.*

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Administrator Report: Work is being done to send a letter to abutters that the Town intends to obtain a Right of Way from for the Route 8 Project, to complete before the June Town Meeting. There are over 100 properties along that stretch of Route 8, and these would mostly be temporary construction easements. There is a new requirement under the Federal Highway Administration that a formal letter be sent to each property owner. An advertisement date is expected for the fall of 2019 and work could complete in 2020. A contract has been signed for the Grant and Lincoln Streets redesign of the drainage system. Survey work will be needed of the drain lines to see if there are any obstructions and to identify pipe size. Soil investigations and sub-surface investigations will need to be done. Notification will be made to the neighborhood to let them know the survey work will begin soon. Brief discussion took place regarding the burned building on Maple Street and it was clarified that it will be demolished but must have asbestos abatement of the cellar first. The building should be able to be taken down in mid-January. It was explained that the Governor signed a law regarding AirBNBs statewide. Board Members will be looking at having a workshop regarding licensing and the impacts this law will have on the Town. It was noted that the Board of Health discussed it briefly and agreed that it would be appropriate for there to be a workshop to look at the issue comprehensively.

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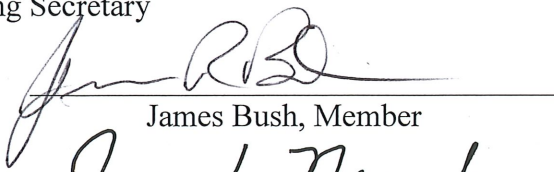
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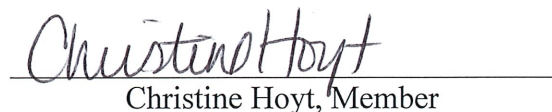
SUB-COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS: *Member Hoyt* advised in the month of December she spent a considerable amount of time on the renewal of licenses. She encouraged those whose licenses were approved to come to Town Hall to pick up their licenses. She asked for meeting agenda item at the end of January or early February regarding the review of the changes made to the Regional Agreement by the Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC), who have completed their work and would like inform the Board before it is requested to go before Town Meeting. The School District sent it to the legislation and would like them talk about it further. It was requested that the Board get a copy of the agreement to review prior to then. *Chairman Duval* advised there will be a BRPC Executive Committee Meeting tomorrow afternoon and then he advised he is running the Treasurer's meeting afterward. *Vice Chairman Nowak* went to the swearing in of Andrea Harrington, the first woman District Attorney in Berkshire County. He thanked David Capeless and Paul Caccaviello for all their work and for helping her along during the transition. He noted it was a well-attended event and her speech touched on a lot of ways to look at law enforcement issues. He explained that the Clerks and ancillary workers will be keeping their jobs.

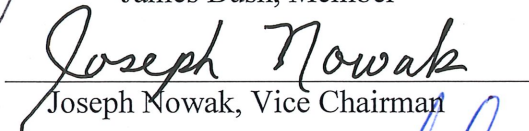
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER: Member Hoyt reminded citizens that the Mobile Food Bank runs on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The next date is January 8th. Vice Chairman Nowak inquired about moving voting into the Adams Memorial School because voting at the Highway Department is very dangerous, particularly at night. He noted that the Adams Memorial School Building is gaining a lot of use by a number of groups using it, and it would be a much safer facility. He wished all a happy, safe and productive New Year. It was noted that the goal for moving the voting would be late spring but the HVAC system is not out to bid yet and the Town Clerk needs to be talked to about this as she has notification requirements with the state.

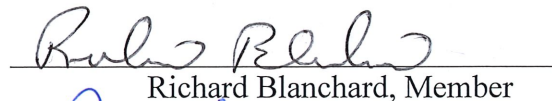
ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Member Blanchard to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Bush. Vote: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.*

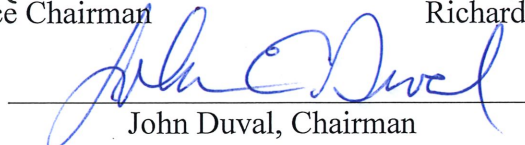
Respectfully Submitted by Deborah J. Dunlap,
Recording Secretary


James Bush, Member


Christine Hoyt, Member


Joseph Nowak, Vice Chairman


Richard Blanchard, Member


John Duval, Chairman