

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
January 8, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette and Marzec. **Also Present:** Joseph Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Public Hearing. 7:05 P.M. Massachusetts Electric Company/Request permission to locate manholes, wires, and ducts, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures along and across Northern Avenue. Present: Dana Larson, National Grid/Massachusetts Electric . Chairman Ampagoomian read the public hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Larson mentioned that National Grid/Massachusetts Electric is looking for permission to install 40' of secondary underground to a handhole to service Milford Federal Savings Bank. There being no further discussions, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to grant permission to locate manholes, wires, and ducts, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures along and across Northern Avenue in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked Massachusetts Electric Company—Plan No. 2006-159 dated December 7, 2006. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens Comments/Input. 1) Staci Flanders, 390 Cooper Road, mentioned that she was invited to speak tonight by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian because her neighbor, Dorothy Gnaidek's dog, bit her 7 year-old daughter. Ms. Flanders presented the Board of Selectmen with the details of what transpired with the dog bite. She then mentioned the numerous phone calls she made to inform the right people of what happened only to find out that the case had fallen through the cracks. She suggested that some type of protocol be put in place to avoid any future incidences like the one she had to experience. Chief Warchol spoke briefly and inform the Board of Selectmen that he met with Dan Chauvin to discuss the case. Chief Warchol said there are two areas of responsibilities for Dan Chauvin; 1) Animal Control Officer reports to the Chief of Police; and 2) Inspector of Animals falls under the authority of the Board of Health [animal bites and quarantines]. Joseph Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager, suggested that the Board of Health, Animal Control Office, and Police Department submit a report to the Town Manager's Office for the record. Mr. Montecalvo will review the reports to come up with a procedure in order to avoid such a situation in the future. **2) Robert Rolandelli, Manager, Super Wal-Mart,** came before the Board of Selectmen to introduce himself to the Northbridge Community. Mr. Rolandelli mentioned that the new Super Wal-Mart would be opening in mid-March and is in the process of hiring over 300 new employees. Continuing, he offered Wal-Mart's services if needed and noted that the store would be interested in making future donations to help support the Northbridge Community. **Sharron Ampagoomian, 41 Henry Street,** reminded the public that the Cable contract is coming up in 2008 and if anyone in Town has a cable complaint, they must report it to the Town Manager's Office.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen. Zoning Board of Appeals [Associate Member] – John Manton. The Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Thomas Hansson, was present to introduce Mr. Manton to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Manton told the Board a little about himself and why he was interested in serving on the ZBA. Therefore, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint John Manton to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Associate Member. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Subordination of Lien for property located at 420-422 Church Street, Whitinsville. Present: Ms. Jennifer Dulmaine, Community Development. Ms. Dulmaine recommended that the Board of Selectmen approve the subordination of lien. Thomas Hansson, 24 Michael Lane, Loan Officer for this property, mentioned that there is a first and second loan but his Company will only be working on the second loan [equity loan]. Ms. Dulmaine replied that because she is not an attorney, she doesn't know if they can proceed with the subordination of lien. The Board of Selectman suggested postponing this request pending further clarification needed until the next Board of Selectmen's meeting on January 22, 2007.

Community Development Block Grant/Northbridge Housing Rehabilitation. Present: Ms. Jennifer Dulmaine. Ms. Dulmaine requested that the Board of Selectmen approve the Housing Rehabilitation Program Guideline change. The change consists of changing the investor owner contribution from 50% to 25% due to the percentage of investor owner properties in the target area and the Town's commitment to provide safe, decent and affordable housing. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to change the investor owner contribution from 50% to 25%. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. [William E. Giannopoulos]/Request Change of Manager. Present: Beverly Noel, 72 Arthur Drive, Linwood. Ms. Noel appeared before the Board of Selectmen on behalf of Mr. Giannopoulos [on vacation]. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the change of

Manager for Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. from Francis Snay to William Giannopoulos. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Budget Preparation. Joseph Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager. Mr. Montecalvo spoke briefly about a visit from Deputy Commissioner, Gerard Perry and Western Regional Manager, Thomas Guilfoyle from the Department of Revenue, offering to conduct a budget workshop and provide financial forecasting for the Town of Northbridge. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to allow the Department of Revenue to conduct a budget workshop and financial forecasting for the Town of Northbridge. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Budget Presentations by Police, Fire and Public Works Department. Chief Walter Warchol, Police Department, Chief Gary Nestor, Fire Department and Richard Sasseville, Director of Department of Public Works, publicly presented their Fiscal Year 2008 budgets to the Board of Selectmen and citizens of Northbridge. Formal presentations will be presented at a later date before the Finance Committee.

Plummer's Corner/Update. Joseph Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager, spoke briefly about a meeting he attended at Mass Highway in Worcester regarding Plummer's Corner. He mentioned there was a lot of discussion surrounding the design of the corner. Attorney Henry Lane suggested waiting because of a Purchase and Sales Agreement on the property. Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, spoke about the Sutton Street Reconstruction project and advised the Selectmen of the updates. Mr. Sasseville will be hosting a public meeting with Earth Tech on January 25th @ 7 P.M. All residents that live on Sutton Street and the Eastern side of Cooper Road will be invited to attend the Public Hearing.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Davis 1) Status on Audit of the High School [SBAB], **2)** suggested to stop printing monthly reports, **3)** requested an update on the Insurance IBNR. **Selectman Audette 1)** inquired about why the decorative lights at Memorial Square were not working. **Selectman Marzec 1)** looking into the rezoning of Rt. 122 [Commercial].

Town Manager's Report. Interim Town Manager, Joseph Montecalvo 1) Looking into Community Grants for Town Hall Windows. **2)** Insurance Advisory Committee – mentioned that they have asked all the unions and departments to name a representative to participate; **3)** S & P Bond Rating – went down from A+ to A-; **4)** Northbridge Redevelopment Corporation (Church Street Landfill) – Mr. Montecalvo mentioned he attended a meeting with the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Chairman of the Planning Board, Chairman of the Board of Health, Chairman of the Conservation Committee, and 3 members of the Northbridge Redevelopment Corporation to discuss all the concerns surrounding the Church Street Landfill project; **5)** Water Rate Hearing – Chairman Ampagoomian, DPW Director Richard Sasseville, Fire Chief Gary Nestor and Mr. Montecalvo will be attending a meeting tomorrow [January 9, 2007] in Boston; **6)** Blackstone Valley Youth Leadership Academy [25 youths looking for projects to participate in – 9th & 10th graders].

Items for Future Agenda. 1) Rep. George N. Peterson, Jr. 2/5/07 @ 7 P.M., **2)** Adopt Citizens Rules & Regulations; **3)** Establish Selectmen's Office Hours; **4)** Selectmen's Email Address; **5)** Wetlands behind Peterson's Oil [Union Street].

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Union Negotiations, not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Audette/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
January 22, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. **Also Present:** Joseph J. Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes. 1) November 6, 2006 (Executive Session). Selectman Davis requested that one set of double wording in the footnote section of the minutes be removed as follows: "~~after the word~~, after the word". There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the November 6, 2006 Executive Session minutes as amended. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) December 4, 2006.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the December 4, 2006 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **3) December 12, 2006 (Town Meeting).** Selectman Davis asked whether the last sentence was incomplete and if it should be removed. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the minutes as amended by removing the last sentence. Vote yes/Unanimous. **4) December 18, 2006.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the December 18, 2006 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **5) December 18, 2006 (Executive Session).** Selectman Davis suggested that the minutes be amended as follows: **Under Executive Session #3 (First paragraph).** After the words Tappé Associates, change the word "prepared" to "preparing". Delete the second sentence, "Designed the fix and will solicit bids" and insert thereof the following sentence: "Mr. Mitchell of the Building, Planning & Construction Committee, is preparing the front end of the specifications and when complete the committee will solicit bids." **Fourth paragraph:** Add "to reimburse Mr. Vena" to the end of the sentence. **Under Executive Session #3 (Jackson Construction).** Change the last sentence in the first paragraph to read as follows: "The former owner claims the town owes Jackson Construction \$175,000.00." A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the December 18, 2006 Executive Session minutes as amended. Vote yes/Unanimous. **6) December 21, 2006.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the December 21, 2006 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

For the record, Selectman William Audette recused himself from the following agenda item as he is a Retiree.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen. Thomas Melia, Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC). Joseph Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager, advised the Board that this Committee must be re-established per recommendation of our Health Insurance Consultant and that it was up to the Selectmen to appoint a Retirees' Representative to the IAC. As such, he was recommending Mr. Melia to serve in that capacity. There being no further questions or comments, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Thomas J. Melia to the Insurance Advisory Committee as the Retirees' Representative. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec, and Ampagoomian.

Citizens Comments/Input: 1) Ken Zuidema, 2765 Providence Road, Northbridge, informed the Board he was against any rezoning of Providence Road (Route 122) and as a result, circulated a petition intended for that purpose, which was signed by many residents. **2) Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Northbridge Housing Authority,** updated the Board about a fire that recently occurred at Lake Terrace Apartments [Elderly Housing complex] and which was deemed a total loss. Ms. Powers thanked Chief Nestor for his department's assistance. Continuing, she indicated that during a conversation with Chief Nestor, she learned that the 2 positions, which were approved at Town Meeting in December, were still not filled. When asked why, Interim Town Manager Montecalvo responded that the FY '08 budget may not support keeping the positions funded and with the way things are looking for FY 2008 it wasn't sensible to hire someone now only to have to lay them off after a couple of months. Ms. Powers stated that the funding was subsidized by the Ambulance Reserves and that the 2 positions should be filled.

Agenda Outline/Vote to move the section entitled "Town Manager's Report" after the section entitled "Discussions". Selectman Davis recommended the above change to the Selectmen's agenda outline and the Board concurred. Therefore, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to revise the agenda outline as noted above. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Vote to authorize Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo to sign the Joyce Morin Settlement Agreement. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to authorize Joseph J. Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager, to sign the Joyce Morin Settlement Agreement. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Budget Presentation - Northbridge Public School District. [Present: Paul Soojian, Superintendent, and Members: Leeann Hansson, Andy Myers and Carroll Paine]. Mr. Soojian presented the FY '08 Preliminary School Department Expenditure Budget via a PowerPoint presentation. He stressed that the

numbers do not include any revenues. In addition, he noted that the School Committee would be holding a public hearing on the budget Tuesday, February 13, 2007 to comply with the new bylaw. *Budget highlights:* **Enrollment** as of October 1, 2006 = 2,660; **Per Pupil Expenditures** = \$9,062 (\$1,024 below State); **FY '07 Anticipated Total Budget** = \$23,064,628 (does not include the \$503,129 that will be turned back to the Town); **FY '08 Projected Costs: Salaries** (includes estimated step/lane, retirements, and % increase = \$18,457,081.46; **New Positions** = \$486,769.55; **Instructional Support** = \$777,820.00; **Custodial/Maintenance/Utilities** = \$2,042,611.00; **Special Ed** = \$2,437,376.90; **Transportation** = \$1,495,264.06; **Athletics** = \$31,678.00; and **Legal/Human Resources** = 91,017.00 for a total projected expenditure of \$25,819,617.97—according to Mr. Soojian—about a 12% increase overall. He also stated that they could expect a 20% decrease in grants from the State and Federal Government. Comments from the Board: Selectman Marzec requested a copy of the PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Soojian said he would email to Ms. Susienka for distribution. He also asked about the purchase on instructional supplies. The Superintendent explained that at a minimum the School Department gets the state contract price. In addition, he said that contracts are bid annually with the lowest bidder staying in place for three years. Selectman Davis asked if it were possible to project the School budget out 2-3 years and what his best guess would be for FY '08 revenue. Mr. Soojian responded that Chapter 70 aid could increase slightly and overall, should be able to match this year's revenue. Selectman Audette referred to the looming FY '08 deficit and pointed out that the school budget presented was a 26% increase over FY '07. Mr. Soojian then corrected him and said that it was just about a 12% increase.

Dog Bite [Flanders] / Status Update. As a result of the incident that occurred in October 2006, Chief Warchol revised the Police Department's policy regarding dog bites and then reviewed it with the Animal Control Officer. That said, Interim Town Manager Montecalvo directed Ms. Susienka to mail a copy of the new policy to Mrs. Flanders.

Town Manager Search Committee / Update. Chairman Ampagoomian announced that Board members received a packet of information from the Town Manager Screening Committee last weekend but considered it preliminary as the deadline to submit resumes for the position of Town Manager hadn't yet passed. Next, Mr. Montecalvo advised Board members that he received a call from Mr. Christopher Thompson, Screening Committee Chairman, informing him there were no additional candidates' names that would be submitted to the Selectmen for consideration for the Town Manager's job. That said, February 15th is the deadline for naming a new Town Manager. Comments from the Board: Selectman Marzec recommended that interviews be conducted so as to allow ample time to fully interview each candidate and suggested they be done over 3 separate nights. Selectman Audette suggested that 2 interviews be done one night and the third interview a subsequent evening. Selectman Davis mentioned that his wife has had extensive experience with hiring people and that by spreading the interviews out over 3 nights could be an advantage for the second and third candidates if they were to watch them on TV. He then suggested all three interviews be conducted in one day. The Selectmen agreed to begin the interviews as soon as possible. As such, each candidate will be contacted to schedule an interview for Monday, January 29th, as follows: one at 4:15PM, one at 5:30PM, and one at 6:45PM.

Citizen's Forum - Rules and Regulations. Selectman Audette 1) read a portion of his recommended policy and asked for the Board's support. As such, the Chairman will place this item under Decisions for the next meeting, February 5, 2007. **2)** He also suggested that the Board think about conducting office hours at Town Hall. **Selectman Marzec** added that they could also hold office hours at the Senior Center. As such, Chairman Ampagoomian will place this item (office hours) under Discussions for the next meeting, February 5, 2007.

Rules & Regulations / Use of Public Sidewalks & Ways. Present: Richard Sasseville, DPW Director. The Interim Town Manager advised that he had the Building Inspector do a survey of the Town as to where "things" were placed in/on public ways. Mr. Sasseville noted that the current town bylaw only states a permit is needed. However, the new "rules and regulations" address what can and cannot be placed in/on public ways. They also regulate certain activities such as outdoor dining, merchandise displays, signs/banners, awnings, and construction activities--for example the use of scaffolding. Selectman Davis asked whether the Town could revise bylaws without going through the Bylaw Review Committee. Mr. Sasseville responded that it could as long as the change is within the authority of the existing bylaw. He also asked about permit fees and fines. Mr. Sasseville stated that a permit is \$25 and fines are handled through the Non-Criminal Disposition bylaw. Chairman Ampagoomian will place this item under Decisions on the next agenda, 2/5/07.

Budget Timelines [Finance Committee]. Present: Chairman Mary Frances Powers, Andrew Todd, and Town Accountant Neil Vaidya. Ms. Powers presented a "draft" timeline for FY '08 budgets, which meets the requirements of the new bylaw. She stated she has had several conversations with Mr. Montecalvo and that the Town Accountant has provided some preliminary revenue numbers. He will also provide her with a spreadsheet of FY '08 departmental requests. Selectman Audette stated that he would like to start seeing some numbers as well. Mr. Montecalvo said that he would give me what he had. Mr. Vaidya asked whether it would be prudent to defer the Spring Annual Town Meeting until June. Ms. Powers said the Board must call the meeting for May but can defer the budget article. Mr. Montecalvo

mentioned that he would ask the Department Heads to level fund their budgets at FY'07 levels, however, if it isn't enough then he will use FY '06 levels. Selectman Davis requested an updated timeline from the Finance Committee for the next meeting, 2/5/07. He also stated that he would prefer to vote on the override prior to the Spring Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Davis further advised it is essential to provide proper information on what the override includes as well as what the consequences would be if it didn't pass. Continuing, Ms. Powers requested the FY '08 budget figures for the Police, Fire, and DPW Departments, however, Mr. Montecalvo said that he wants to meet with Department Heads first.

Selectman Marzec asked about the status of the revaluation. Interim Town Manager Montecalvo remarked that it is still on going and won't generate much revenue. In addition, he advised that the Town will receive about \$60,000 in taxes from Wal-Mart.

Selectmen's Concerns. 1) **Selectman Davis** mentioned that former Selectman Russell Collins made some disparaging remarks on a local cable access program regarding Mr. and Mrs. Gould as well as the Assistant Town Moderator. He felt the remarks were erroneous and suggested that Mr. Collins make a public apology. 2) **Selectman Audette** commended Mr. Montecalvo for the decorative lighting around the common and monument. 3) **Selectman Marzec** requested an update on the Union Street/Arthur Drive issues—where we stand and what we need to do to correct them. Chairman Ampagoomian will place this item under Discussions on the next agenda, 2/5/07. 4) **Chairman Ampagoomian a)** announced that emergency ladders have been placed in various places around Town for emergencies related to ice rescues. He also warned everyone about unsafe ice conditions. **b)** announced that Mr. Montecalvo was recognized by the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association during the MMA's Annual Meeting and had he remained on the Board of Selectmen would have been the next MMA President.

Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, came forth to address the Union Street Earth Tech report. He suggested that the Union Street issue be deferred to a later time so that a report can be presented to the Selectmen. In the meantime, though the issue is much greater than this, the DPW will cut back brush and pick up debris in the brook. Selectman Davis advised that he found a letter from 1997 showing the issue predated the construction of the high school fields.

Town Manager's Report. **Mr. Montecalvo** reported that he sent a memo to all Department Heads, as well as local and state officials demonstrating the dire financial circumstances that the Town will be facing for FY 2008.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Litigation [James Knott, Whitinsville Water Company Rate Hearing], not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Audette/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:02 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

s/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
January 29, 2007**

A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 4:22 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. **Also Present:** Joseph J. Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager.

Interim Town Manager Montecalvo mentioned that at the conclusion of the interviews the Board would determine how they would proceed going forward.

Interviews for the Position of Town Manager:

Chairman Ampagoomian announced that the meeting was a special meeting called specifically to interview the candidate finalists for the position of Town Manager of Northbridge: Herman Middlebrooks, Jr. from the Town of Berlin, CT; Theodore Kozak from the Town of Hopkinton, MA; and Robert Weitz, Town of Sheffield, MA.

The candidates were interviewed in the order previously stated. Each candidate introduced himself to the Selectmen and briefly reported on his qualifications, work experiences, and why he felt he was a 'good fit' for the position and the Town. After hearing these particulars, the Selectmen asked each candidate one prepared question and then were each given the opportunity to pose random questions on a wide range of topics related to the work required of the position.

Each Selectman voiced their opinion about each of the candidates, their qualifications and the way they presented themselves. That said, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to direct Interim Town Manager Montecalvo to contact Mr. Kozak and tell him the Board of Selectmen would like to offer him the position of Town Manager at their next meeting on February 5th subject to a site visit to the Town of Hopkinton. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Audette. Vote no/Mr. Ampagoomian. A site visit has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday morning, January 31st in Hopkinton.

Following the interviews, the Selectmen agreed to place the decision to appoint a permanent Town Manager on the February 5, 2007 Selectmen's agenda.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
February 5, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. **Also Present:** Joseph J. Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Presentation by Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials to Captain Marc Bullio, Veteran, U.S. Army.

The American Legion, Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials, and the Board of Selectmen formally welcomed home Captain Marc Bullio, 46 Kerry Lane, Whitinsville, who recently returned from service in Iraq. Chairman Charles Ampagoomian and Andy Williamson from the American Legion both presented Captain Bullio with a certificate of commendation thanking him for his service to our country during his tour of duty in Iraq.

Representative George N. Peterson, Jr. announced that the Revenue Hearing took place and the revenues would be roughly 800 million dollars more than last year [19.875 billion dollars]. This amount is significantly higher than last year and is about a three to five percent increase in revenues. He mentioned that 1.1 billion dollars would be spent on a maintenance budget for Health Insurance and the unfunded pension liability. Representative Peterson then discussed the following, Chapter 70 – up 2 to 5%; Lottery not doing as well – sales are down and will probably be flat or reduced; and Local Aid will probably not be increased. He mentioned that he spoke to Gerry Perry at the Division of Revenues and how they will be conducting workshops to help address budget issues. The Board asked several questions with respect to various topics including Local Aid figures, Lottery Aid, Chapter 70, Gambling, Community Policing and the Group Insurance Commission program. Chairman Ampagoomian thanked Representative Peterson for his assistance on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

Approval of Minutes. 1) January 8, 2007. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the January 8, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) January 22, 2007.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the January 22, 2007 minutes as amended by Selectman Davis. Vote yes/Unanimous. **3) January 29, 2007.** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the January 29, 2007 minutes as amended by Selectman Davis. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen. Playground & Recreation/Matthew J. White. John Phelan from the Playground and Recreation Commission introduced Matthew White. Mr. White advised the Board of Selectmen on why he would like to serve on the Playground and Recreation Commission. The Board of Selectmen thanked him for coming forward. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Matthew J. White to the Playground and Recreation Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Town Manager/Vote to Appoint Permanent Town Manager.** Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo spoke briefly about their site visit to Hopkinton. Selectmen Audette, Marzec and Davis all agreed that choosing Theodore Kozak for the Town Manager position was the best choice. Chairman Ampagoomian reiterated his support for another finalist, Mr. Weitz. Selectman Davis mentioned that Mr. Weitz is not a candidate tonight and would like to see the Board of Selectmen start off on a positive note and fully support Mr. Kozak. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to appoint Theodore Kozak as permanent Town Manager of Northbridge. Chairman Ampagoomian asked for a roll call vote: Mr. Audette/yes, Mr. Marzec/yes, Mr. Davis/yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/no. Chairman Ampagoomian announced that Mr. Kozak is the new Town Manger pending the negotiations of his contract. Interim Town Manager Montecalvo asked that a date be set up immediately to negotiate Mr. Kozak's contract. The Board of Selectmen will meet on Tuesday, February 13, 2007 at 5:30 P.M. [Town Hall]. Selectman Davis requested the Interim Town Manager to contact Mr. Kozak and see what he's looking for.

Citizens Comments/Input: None.

Safety Committee Minutes (January 17, 2007). Interim Town Manager Montecalvo mentioned that pictures were taken of Arthur Drive along with a site visit. The Safety Committee reviewed the pictures and a motion was made and seconded to allow parking on the southerly side of Arthur Drive. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of January 17, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Annual Whitin Five Mile Road Race/Linda Usher, Race Director – Request to Hold the 19th Annual Road Race, Thursday, November 22, 2007 (Thanksgiving Day). A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the above request subject to the safety requirements of the Police, Fire, and Public Works Department. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizen's Forum - Rules and Regulations/Vote to approve. Selectman Audette mentioned that despite all the rumors in Town, he has no intention of removing Citizen's Forum. The rules and regulations he has put forth are just for the sake of courtesy and decorum during the Board meetings. Selectman Davis says the policy is too detailed. He suggested keeping the original policy and changing a few words. Selectman Audette is more interested in the Citizens Forum portion. Selectman Audette then withdrew his proposal. Selectman Davis will send his proposal to Sharon Susienka to be placed on the next agenda {February 26, 2007} for discussion.

Rules & Regulations / Use of Public Sidewalks & Ways/Vote to approve. The Interim Town Manager advised there is a bylaw, however, this document would cover the entire basis and would be enforced by the Building Inspector, James Sheehan. He also mentioned that he would check with Kopelman & Paige on whether they could include Mr. Sasseville's document with the bylaw. He will then discuss this matter further at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting. Selectman Davis suggested a 90-day timeline to implement the bylaw. Chairman Ampagoomian suggested 30 days.

Spring Annual Town Meeting/Vote to close warrant Friday, March 16, 2007 @ Noon. Interim Town Manager Montecalvo asked that the Town Meeting be delayed till June 5, 2007. The Board concurred. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant on Friday, March 16, 2007 at Noon. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Selectmen's Office Hours. Selectman Audette suggested that this be handled on a voluntary basis. Once the date and time are established, the Selectmen will notify Sharon Susienka to post the office hours on cable.

Union Street/Arthur Drive Issues. Deferred to the next meeting [February 26, 2007].

Town Manager Evaluation Process. Present: Patrick McGowan. The Board of Selectmen reviews the Town Manager annually per the Charter. A review in May helps ensure that a Board member would have eleven (11) months experience working with the Town Manager. Mr. McGowan suggested that the Board of Selectmen put together a new evaluation form with measurable goals and objectives that are attainable. He also mentioned that he has a copy of Grafton's form to use as a starting point. The Board of Selectmen thanked Mr. McGowan for his contribution. Selectman Davis asked Mr. McGowan if a committee were formed would he serve on it and Mr. McGowan replied, yes. Interim Town Manager Montecalvo suggested that the Board of Selectmen discuss with the evaluator/evaluatee some goals and objectives. The Board of Selectmen will set indicators on how to meet the objectives. Selectmen Marzec recommended tabling this discussion for now and continuing it at the next meeting scheduled for February 26, 2007. Mr. McGowan thanked the Board of Selectmen for their time.

Finance Committee [Status Report]. Present: Mary Frances Powers, Chairman. Interim Town Manager Montecalvo informed the Board of Selectmen that he doesn't know what the revenues will be and that there would be a deficit in excess of \$4 Million plus in the year 2008. The reserves were used as of October 2006 so there are no reserves left. Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mary Frances Powers advised the Board of Selectmen that working with the Interim Town Manager has been a pleasure. Ms. Powers indicated that the Town Accountant has provided her with the preliminary numbers and she feels that they are very close to having a public discussion using the preliminary numbers. Interim Town Manager mentioned he will have the health numbers from EBS Forum by the end of the month and currently the Town is in negotiations with the Police and School Departments. Selectman Davis asked if the Town is getting out of self-funding and Interim Town Manager Montecalvo responded, "yes". He presented two scenarios: 1) using real revenues, and 2) using override numbers; however, the public needs to know what happens if the override passes or what happens if it fails. Selectman Davis requested the latest date an override could be called? Ms. Susienka will check with the Town Clerk. Selectman Davis suggested the Finance Committee come to the next Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for February 26, 2007. Ms. Powers replied that the Finance Committee could attend the next meeting. Selectman Marzec asked if the preliminary numbers are close? Ms. Powers explained that the budgets should be level funded for 2007 numbers. Selectmen Marzec then asked if there was any idea when the public discussion will take place and Interim Town Manager mentioned not until the numbers come from the state. Ms. Powers recommended using the 2007 revenues plus 3% to get a rough idea. Selectmen Marzec stressed the importance for the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee to be united before going to the Town meeting. Selectman Audette voiced his concern about not being able to get the information together in time for the Town meeting. Interim Town Manager advised the Selectmen that all the departments have level funded their budgets, however, he is unaware of the school department because he hasn't heard back from them.

Whitinsville Water Company/Water Rates. Interim Town Manager updated the Board of Selectmen on what occurred at the Water Rate Hearing. He mentioned that the Whitinsville Water Company filed a petition on July 17, 2006 with the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy for approval of an increase in the rates charged for water service to its customers. The first rate increase will be 23% and will take effect on February 9, 2007; the second rate increase will be 3.5% and will take effect on February 1, 2008.

Town Manager's Report. Interim Town Manager, Joseph Montecalvo 1) reported that the Citizens for the Preservation of Northbridge would be coming to the next Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for February 26, 2007. 2) Citizen complaints on snowplowing roads.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectmen Marzec had a concern regarding Charter Communications fees. He suggested that the Town look into other avenues and start negotiations. He suggested working with citizens and the cable advisory committee. **Chairman Ampagoomian** announced that on Saturday, February 10, 2007 from 11 AM to 4 PM the VFW Hall located at 875 Hill Street will be holding an "Open House" for citizens to view the renovations made to the building.

Items for Future Agenda. 1) Emergency plans for Fire/DPW; 2) Delinquent Taxes

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Negotiations and Litigation [James Knott, Whitinsville Water Company Rate Hearing], not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Audette/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:12 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
February 13, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 5:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. **Also Present:** Joseph J. Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Spring Annual Town Meeting/Vote to delay the SATM until Tuesday, June 12, 2007. Reminder: Warrant will close at Noon on Friday, March 16, 2007. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to delay the Spring Annual Town Meeting until Tuesday, June 12, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Negotiations and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Audette/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
February 26, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. **Also Present:** Joseph J. Montecalvo, Interim Town Manager, and Theodore Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Chairman Ampagoomian introduced Mr. Theodore Kozak as the new Town Manager for the Town of Northbridge. He then announced that the Northbridge Board of Selectmen and Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo invite the residents of the Town of Northbridge to meet Mr. Kozak on Sunday, March 11, 2007 from 1PM to 3PM at the Whitinsville Social Library. Mr. Kozak thanked everyone and mentioned he has enjoyed meeting different people in Town and looks forward to the challenge and working with them.

Public Hearing/7:05 PM – Application for a Class II License (Used Car Dealer's License) Bayou Auto Sales [Bashir A. Bayou], 968 Marston Road, Whitinsville, MA. Chairman Ampagoomian read the public hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. There was no one present from Bayou Auto Sales; therefore, a motion/ Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Note: There was no action taken on the license.**

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen. Jerry Bagdasarian, Historical Commission. Mr. Bagdasarian advised the Board of Selectmen on why he would like to serve on the Historical Commission. Selectman Davis mentioned that he struggled with his appointment because he is concerned about his decision-making abilities. Mr. Bagdasarian advised Selectman Davis that he would base his decisions on listening to both sides of a story. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to appoint Jerry Bagdasarian to the Historical Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens Comments/Input: None.

Samuel Drive 1) Vote to accept roadway. 2) Vote to execute the Acceptance of Deed. Selectman Marzec stated he will abstain from voting because he lives on Samuel Drive. Chairman Ampagoomian mentioned that the mylars were on file in the Town Clerk's office. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept Samuel Drive as a roadway. Selectman Audette pointed out that the letter from Kopelman and Paige questioned the location of the mylars. As such, he said that if the mylars have not been turned into the Town Clerk's office yet they couldn't move forward with approving Samuel Drive. The motion was then rescinded by Selectmen Audette and Davis. The members of the Board requested that the mylars be located and signed before accepting and executing the deed for Samuel Drive.

Dimple A. Desai, Inc. d/b/a Subway #35002/Application for Common Victualler's License [Wal-Mart Super Center, 100 Valley Parkway, Whitinsville, MA] /Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve Dimple A. Desai, Inc. d/b/a Subway #35002 for a common victualler's license located at the new Wal-Mart Super Center, 100 Valley Parkway, Whitinsville, MA. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Massachusetts Motorcycle Association [Request by Henry Trajanowski] 1) Vote to declare, proclaim, and/or resolve to participate in the State's Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Period 3/25/07 – 4/28/07. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to declare, proclaim, and/or resolve to participate in the State's Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Period 3/25/07 – 4/28/07. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Vote to authorize the placement of a 2' x 8' sign at a specific location [to be determined by BOS].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to authorize the placement of a 2' x 8' sign at a specific location [to be determined by the Chief of Police Walter Warchol and Mr. Henry Trajanowski]. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Rules & Regulations / Use of Public Sidewalks & Ways/Vote to approve. Present: Richard Sasseville – DPW Director. Selectman Davis asked if the business owners are aware of these new rules and regulations and Mr. Sasseville responded "no". Mr. Sasseville mentioned the permits would be for one year and cost \$25.00. Selectman Davis suggested changing the effective date to 35 calendar days following the adoption [February 26, 2007] of the bylaw. The bylaw would go into effect on April 2, 2007 and would give the business owners enough time to review the Rules and Regulations. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the Rules and Regulations – Use of Public Sidewalks and Ways with the above amendment. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Town Manager Contract/Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to discuss in Executive Session. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Water Rates 1) Vote to increase Fiscal '07 rates effective 2/9/07. Present: Richard Sasseville, DPW Director. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to increase Fiscal '07 rates effective February 9, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Vote to increase Fiscal '08 rates effective February 1, 2008.** A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to increase Fiscal '08 rates effective February 1, 2008. Vote yes/Unanimous.

United Presbyterian Church/Vote to authorize the posting of seven 18" x 24" signs in various locations. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to authorize the posting of seven 18" x 24" signs in various locations upon mutual satisfaction with the Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo and Ms. Joyce Feen. Vote yes/Unanimous.

School Committee and Finance Committee Budget Process. Present: Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Finance Committee, and Andy Todd, Member, Finance Committee. Paul Soojian, Superintendent of Schools and Carroll Paine, Chairman, School Committee. Mr. Soojian discussed the 2008 budget deficit and how the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee will approach the budget deficit. He mentioned that all Committees need to; **1)** decide on the approach to balance the budget; **2)** determine the number; **3)** inform the residents in Town [sell the override in a timely and successful way]; and **4)** have a game plan before the Town Meeting. Everyone involved will be impacted if the override doesn't pass. Ms. Powers has a concern with the timing of the anticipated revenues. Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo mentioned that he has asked every department to level fund their budgets and the departments have done so. With that said, even by level funding the department budgets the Town is still facing a deficit. The residents in Town will need to know that without the override some services in Town will be eliminated. Each Selectman expressed their concerns about having an override placed on the ballot. Mr. Montecalvo suggested that the Finance Committee, School Committee, and Board of Selectmen get together and come to a mutual agreement on what each department can live with. He went on to mention there is no free cash, stabilization funds or reserves to draw on. The Superintendent further mentioned that to level fund the school budget would cause devastation. He was concerned about the Spring Annual Town Meeting being moved to June 12, 2007. His cutoff date to lay individuals off is June 15, 2007. Mr. Montecalvo said if the override doesn't pass the Town Manager and department heads are going to need a plan to figure out how to balance the FY 08 budget. A joint meeting with the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, and School Committee to discuss the budget deficit will take place on March 8, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. in the Board of Selectmen's room. The Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, and School Committee will have another joint meeting on March 13, 2007, at 6:00 P.M. in the High School Media Center.

Union Street/Earth Tech. Present: DPW Director Richard Sasseville and Mr. Andrew Ogilvie, Earth Tech of Concord, MA. Mr. Ogilvie gave a PowerPoint presentation detailing the findings of a hydrologic study he prepared for the Town in August 2006 which examined the water shed that contributes to the flow in the so called "unnamed brook" that passes through the Union Street neighborhood. The study specifically looked at the drainage system in the Union Place Subdivision as well as the capacities of the various culverts that carry the storm water runoff from the area. Mr. Ogilvie reported that the drainage system in the subdivision was designed properly according to storm water management requirements and that the analysis showed that pre- and post-development flows are essentially identical. He also reported that almost all of the culverts downstream of the subdivision are undersized to some degree when analyzing 100-year storm event flow rates. He identified the culvert under the Providence and Worcester Railroad as the primary restriction that leads to the creation of a backwater condition during high flows and the resultant localized flooding along the brook. He estimated that the capacity of the railroad culvert is less than half of the capacity of the upstream culverts under Union Street. This culvert must carry all of the water coming through the Union Street culvert plus water that comes from the land downstream of Union Street. The existing culverts downstream of the railroad handle the current flows, but may be over taxed if changes were made to the railroad culvert to allow the passage of more water. His detailed analysis did not extend beyond the railroad culvert. Mr. Robert Parker of Nolet Street, across whose property the unnamed brook flows, offered his observation that more water is flowing in his yard since the construction of the development, the new high school fields and since an illegal filling of wet lands on private property took place. He indicated that the Conservation Commission had been notified of the wetland filling but no action had ever been taken. Mrs. Debra Baltramaitis of 114 Union Street reported that the brook, which also crosses her property, has widened significantly over the years and she has been seeking relief from the Town for many years without action. Members of the Board discussed various issues relative to the subdivision drainage system and the two detention basins in the subdivision. A number of questions were asked relative to possible modifications to the system. Mr. Sasseville pointed out that the brook is a system and one thing cannot be modified without analyzing the upstream and downstream impact of any changes. He pointed out the not only does the culvert under the tracks belong to the railroad, the downstream culverts under Providence Lane and Providence Road belong to the Mass Highway Department. After more discussion, the Board asked the Town Manager to make contact with representatives of the railroad and Mass Highway to set up a meeting to discuss the problem and seek their assistance in developing a solution.

Town Manager Evaluation Process. Chairman Ampagoomian mentioned he received a proposal from Mr. Patrick Magowan for a Town Manager evaluation process and asked that the new Town Manager provide a copy to the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hopkinton's evaluation process. Selectman Davis asked for Mr. Kozak to review the proposal and place it on a future agenda for discussion.

Emergency plans for Fire and DPW Departments. Selectman Davis would like to know were something to happen to the DPW and Fire Department buildings, where they would go? Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, mentioned the DPW would have to relocate the Wastewater Treatment Plant, however, the vehicles would have to be stored in several locations due to the shortage of space. Gary Nestor, Fire Chief, mentioned the Rockdale Fire Station would have to be relocated to the Whitinsville Station as long as it was temporary. They would have to dispatch everything, plus rely on mutual aid from Grafton, Upton and Sutton Departments for a quick response time. As for the Whitinsville Station, they would need to rent trailers or portable buildings for personnel quarters. The apparatus: (10 pieces of equipment) there aren't many places in Town that could accommodate fire trucks (Ladder), plus they need secure places with access to store equipment, thermal imaging cameras, cardiac monitors, breathing apparatus, etc. as these are worth thousands of dollars.

Delinquent Tax Collection Procedures. Present: Deborah Kristoff, Treasurer/Collector. Selectman Davis mentioned his reasons for following up on this is because of the significant amount of money owed to the Town for back taxes. Ms. Kristoff informed the Board that her department would be sending out another round of letters trying to recoup the money from residents who haven't paid. Selectman Davis inquired about how the City of Worcester is going to a private collection agency and asked if it's something that the Town of Northbridge should be looking into. She also mentioned that she looked into two private collection agencies but feels they will try sending out another letter before going in that direction.

Health Insurance [Russell Vanderbaan]. Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo informed the Board that Mr. Vanderbaan had to leave due to the late hour, however, will set up a meeting with the new Town Manager, Theodore Kozak, as soon as possible to discuss Health Insurance.

Town Manager's Report. Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo **1)** presented the Board of Selectmen with dimensions for the Boy Scout signs. This is the type of sign the Boy Scouts would like to place at the Common for everyone to view. The Selectmen are concerned with the site, as the common is a memorial and historical area. Interim Town Manager Montecalvo suggested placing the sign on Town Hall grounds and the Board of Selectmen agreed; **2)** mentioned complaints he received regarding the sidewalks not being plowed; **3)** Open House for the Super Wal-Mart is at 6:00 P.M. on March 12, 2007 so the Board of Selectmen agreed to schedule the Board of Selectmen's Meeting for 7:30 P.M. instead of 7:00 P.M. **4)** Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the Status of Women are recognized each year for going above and beyond and he submitted two names: Carolyn Mitchell and Sharon Susienka; **5)** accident at Memorial Square, no damage.

Selectmen's Concerns. **Selectman Marzec & Selectman Davis** – expressed their concerns on the communication regarding emergencies in Town. **Selectman Davis 1)** letters being received in the mail with no return address or name.

Items for Future Agenda. None.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Negotiations and Litigation, not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Audette/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:12 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen
Joint Meeting
w/School Committee and Finance Committee
March 8, 2007**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen, School Committee, and Finance Committee was called to order by Vice-Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. Chairman Charles Ampagoomian, Jr. was absent and it is duly recorded. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager; School Committee Members: Chairman Carroll Paine, Donald Lange, Karen Peterson, Paula Grabowski, Leeann Hansson, and Kris Burns. **Also Present:** Paul Soojian, Superintendent. Finance Committee Members: Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Mary Thompson, Plato Adams, Salvatore D'amato, James Barron, and Andrew Todd.

Vice-Chairman William Audette turned the meeting over to Town Manager Kozak.

Prior to his presentation, the Town Manager provided a handout to those present [prepared by the Financial Team] and indicated that his goal was to show what the Town will have for FY 08 revenues and where we are currently.

Mr. Kozak stated that the Selectmen could discuss the possibility of having an override at a later meeting.

With that said, the Town Manager continued with his presentation on Town finances. He explained that the worksheet consisted of miscellaneous information including a forecast of revenues, actual FY 07 figures [after December Town Meeting] FY 08 requests, and FY 08 recommendations.

Similarly, Superintendent Soojian reviewed the School's financial information and noted that under the circumstances [estimated shortfall of \$7M], there would be a devastating impact upon the Northbridge School Department.

The information is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Marzec, Clerk

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
March 12, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Vice-Chairman William Audette at 7:35 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes. **1) January 22, 2007 (Executive Session).** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the January 22, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) February 5, 2007.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the February 5, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **3) February 5, 2007 (Executive Session).** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the February 5, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **4) February 13, 2007.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the February 13, 2006 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **5) February 13, 2007 (Executive Session).** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the February 13, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

*Chairman Ampagoomian arrived at 7:45 P.M.

Presentation. Selectman Audette presented Officer George Hamm with a plaque wishing him well on his retirement from the Northbridge Police force after 35 years of dedicated service.

Chairman Ampagoomian presented Joseph Montecalvo with a plaque from the Board of Selectmen for a job well done as Interim Town Manager. His service and dedication to the Town was well recognized by all. Mr. Montecalvo thanked everyone for the honor as serving Interim Town Manager for the Town of Northbridge.

W/S Development/Vote to accept gift. Present: Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner, and Barbara Gaudette, Member, Planning Board. Mr. Bechtholdt mentioned that W/S Development donated a monetary gift in the amount of \$40,000.00, which would be donated to the Department of Public Works to buy equipment. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to accept the monetary gift from W/S Development to be earmarked for the DPW Department. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Spring Annual Town Meeting [June 12, 2007]/Vote to place the articles on the warrant (Draft #2). Town Manager Kozak provided a brief review of the articles that would be placed on the warrant by the Selectmen. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place the articles 1, 2, 4-17, 19, 20 & 23 on the warrant for the Spring Annual Town Meeting [June 12, 2007]. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Samuel Drive 1) Vote to accept roadway. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to accept Samuel Drive as a roadway. Selectman Marzec abstained from voting as he resides on Samuel Drive. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Davis and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Marzec. **2) Vote to execute the Acceptance of Deed.** Selectman Marzec abstained from voting as he resides on Samuel Drive. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to execute the Acceptance of Deed for Samuel Drive. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian and Audette. Abstain/Mr. Marzec.

Town Manager's Contract/Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the Town Manager's Contract [Theodore D. Kozak]. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Livery License Policy and Procedures. Town Manager Kozak spoke briefly on this topic due to a request that came in to the Town Manager's Office. Town Manager Kozak asked Chief Warchol to review the policy and procedures and make any necessary revisions. A further discussion will take place at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Open Space and Master Plan Update. Present: Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner, and Barbara Gaudette, Member, Planning Board and Open Space Committee. Mr. Bechtholdt advised the Board of Selectmen that Open Space Plan was prepared July 2002 and will expire October 2007. In order for the Town to qualify for certain state grants and reimbursement programs, a valid Open Space & Recreation Plan must be filed with the state. He then mentioned that a Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, 2007, to ask participants to prepare a new survey questionnaire and begin assigning tasks for the Open Space Recreation Plan update. Ms. Gaudette suggested that the Committee take a look at what is left in Northbridge for Open Space as there are no playgrounds in Town that comply with the ADA requirements. The Master Plan has an Open Space Plan component and by doing the Open Space Plan they will also be accomplishing the Master Plan Update. The Open Space Committee is looking for volunteers [preferably 11] in Town to help assist in this process. The Master Plan will be conducting a workshop on Thursday, March 15, 2007 from 6-8 PM in the Board of Selectmen's Room. The Master Plan has 9 elements within the plan and sub-committee be developed for each element. This would be a twelve to eighteen month process because it hasn't been updated since 1994. The Master Plan is provided by the Planning Board and is under M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 81D. This is a very important document that decision-making bodies should look to when they're looking at future developments within the Town.

Town Manager's Report. 1) Municipal Management Associates, Inc. – Laura Woeller. Town Manager Theodore Kozak presented Laura Woeller, Assistant Treasurer/Collector, with a certificate from the Municipal Management Associates, Inc. Ms. Woeller was recognized for being a top achiever in the collection of parking ticket revenues. The Town of Northbridge collected 92.3% of its parking tickets where collection percentages in the low to mid-70's are the norm for most municipalities. In a letter from Municipal Management Associates, Inc., they

congratulated Ms. Woeller and the Town of Northbridge for setting high standards of excellence. **2) United Presbyterian Church/Former Interim Town Manger, Joseph Montecalvo**, 279 North Main Street, provided the Board of Selectmen with an update on his meeting with Joyce Feen from the United Presbyterian Church. Mr. Montecalvo informed Ms. Feen that he met with a Planning Board member who is in the process of putting together some policies and procedures. Ms. Feen agreed to hold off until the procedures are put in place; **3) Eagle Scout Bulletin Board Update** – Mr. Montecalvo met with the Eagle Scout and he advised Mr. Montecalvo that they are in the process of getting ready to build the sign; **4) Wal-Mart Update.** **Town Manager Kozak** provided a brief update on the Private Ceremony he attended at the Super Wal-Mart. He then mentioned the public Grand Opening is Wednesday, March 14, 2007 at 7:30 A.M.; **5) FY '08 Budget Update** – Town Manager Kozak informed the Board and residents in Town of the town's deficit. He mentioned that all departments have level funded their budgets for FY '08 but he will continue to review them. There will be a joint meeting on March 29, 2007 with the Finance, BOS, and School Committee to discuss the budgets; **6) Surplus Property** – Congratulated Mr. Sasseville for selling surplus property on the internet auction site "PublicSurplus.com" and raising over \$14,954.54. Town Manager Kozak also mentioned that he does not intend to use the Town vehicle and if the Board didn't mind, he would ask Mr. Sasseville to auction off the vehicle for revenue; **7) Union Street Drainage** – A presentation by Earth Tech was conducted last week. With that said, the DPW Director, Richard Sasseville, took Town Manager Kozak and former Interim Town Manager Joseph Montecalvo for a tour to view the Union Street drainage. Town Manager Kozak contacted the Railroad and the engineering division will be coming out on Thursday, March 15, 2007 to discuss some of the issues that need addressing. He also mentioned that someone from the Town would contact the residents involved to advise them that the engineers could be stopping by their house to view the drainage area located on their property; **8) Rules and Regulations for the use of public sidewalks and ways** – updated the Board of Selectmen on his discussion with the Building Inspector James Sheehan and his role as the administrator of this project. A mailing was sent out to all business owners located on Route 122 [Providence Road] and Church Street [Whitinsville] informing them of the rules and regulations. **9) Water Main Break**, Church Street, and issues after the work had settled. The road was closed off for a while until repaired. **10) Update on Church Street regarding the telephone/utility poles.** He received a letter from Jen Dulmaine advising of the various stages of pulling the conduits out and then mentioned that poles should be down by June 2007. **11) Arthur Drive** – drainage issue. Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner has been in contact with the developer and will advise as more information becomes available. **12) Union Street** – Wetland issue still being looked into.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Audette – **1)** advised that the Playground and Recreation Committee contacted him about the fields issue. The Linwood fields will be closed for two months due to reseeded. The Playground and Recreation Committee told him that they tried discussing the use of the School District fields, with the School Department, however they are not cooperating. Selectman Audette asked that Town Manager Kozak and DPW Director, Richard Sasseville, talk to the School Department to see if something can be worked out. **2)** inquired about the computers that are piled up in a room at the School Department and if these are considered surplus. DPW Director, Richard Sasseville, responded that if it is Town property, and there is no further use of it, and under \$500 [value] it could be sold. **Selectman Marzec** – conditions on the roads in Town. He would like the residents in Town to know that the DPW is doing everything they can to take care of the potholes. **Chairman Ampagoomian** – He would like the Assessor to work with the Planning Board and Open Space Committee to see what land is available or for sale. Former Interim Town Manager Montecalvo mentioned that he has a copy of what's available and would provide the Board of Selectmen with a copy once completed.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Negotiations and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Audette/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

*** At their meeting of March 26, 2007, Chairman Ampagoomian requested the minutes be amended to reflect his arrival prior to the presentation of the plaque to George Hamm.**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
March 26, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Audette, and Marzec. Selectman Davis was absent and it is duly noted.

Also Present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Chairman Ampagoomian reminded the Board of Selectmen to speak into the microphones when talking so that the citizens in Town can hear what is being discussed.

Chairman Ampagoomian announced that the Armenian Church cordially invites the Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and citizens to attend a ceremony on April 22, 2007 at Noon commemorating the Armenian genocide.

Approval of Minutes. 1) January 8, 2007 (Executive Session). A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the January 8, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian. **2) February 26, 2007.** A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the February 26, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian. **3) March 12, 2007.** Chairman Ampagoomian requested the minutes be amended to reflect his arrival prior to the presentation of the plaque to George Hamm. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the March 12, 2007 minutes as amended by Chairman Ampagoomian with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian. **4) March 12, 2007 (Executive Session).** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the March 12, 2006 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian.

Settlement Agreement for the High School Fields/Vote to accept. Town Manager Kozak reviewed the settlement agreement and mentioned that the settlement amount was for \$415,000.00, of which \$50,000.00 was used for legal services and the net amount for the School fields will be \$365,000.00. Chairman Ampagoomian mentioned that the Building, Planning and Construction Committee had already sent bids out for the reconstruction of the fields, so that it doesn't affect the School's accreditation process. Town Manager Kozak provided an update on the Police and Middle School roofs. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to accept the settlement agreement for the High School Fields. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Audette, and Ampagoomian.

Road Acceptances [Presidential Farms and Hills at Whitinsville Subdivisions] 1)Vote to accept roadways: Kennedy Circle, Lincoln Circle, Marston Road, Nathaniel Drive, Hillcrest Road, Morgan Road, and Prospect Street. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the roadways: Kennedy Circle, Lincoln Circle, Marston Road, Nathaniel Drive, Hillcrest Road, Morgan Road, and Prospect Street. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian. **2) Vote to accept the Deeds of Easements: Kennedy Circle, Lincoln Circle, Marston Road, Nathaniel Drive, Hillcrest Road, Morgan Road, and Prospect Street.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to accept the Deeds of Easements: Kennedy Circle, Lincoln Circle, Marston Road, Nathaniel Drive, Hillcrest Road, Morgan Road, and Prospect Street. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian.

Safety Committee Minutes [February 17, 2007]/Vote to accept recommendations. Joseph Montecalvo, 279 N. Main Street, gave the Board of Selectmen a brief overview of the Safety Committee Meeting that took place on February 17, 2007. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of February 17, 2007. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Audette, and Ampagoomian.

Coinstar Entertainment Services, Inc. 1) Application for Automatic Amusement Device License/Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the Coinstar Entertainment Services, Inc. application for Automatic Amusement Device License. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Audette, and Ampagoomian. **2) Application for Sunday State Entertainment License/Vote to approve.** A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the Coinstar Entertainment Services, Inc. application for a Sunday State Entertainment License. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Audette, and Ampagoomian.

Armenian Apostolic Church/Request to hang a banner over Church Street from April 9, 2007 to April 23, 2007. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to grant permission to the Armenian Apostolic Church to hang a banner over Church Street from April 9, 2007 to April 23, 2007 in honor of Martyr's Day. Vote yes/Messrs. Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian.

Livery License Policy and Procedures. The Town Manager provided the Board of Selectmen with a copy of the policy and procedures for their review. He mentioned that the Chief of Police, Walter Warchol, reviewed the policy and procedures and made some recommendations. He then suggested that the Selectmen review the proposed changes so that at their next Board of Selectmen's meeting they could approve the Livery license policy and procedures.

Council on Aging/Budget Discussion. Present: Gail Anderson, Senior Center Director, and Constance Dion, Chairman, Council on Aging. Ms. Anderson spoke on behalf of the Council on Aging about the services they provide for the Town. She mentioned the detrimental impact [no meals on wheels, no transportation to Doctor Appointments, grocery stores and jobs, health insurance seminars/issues, filing for fuel assistance & food stamps, housing assistance, etc.] it would have on the residents and elderly in the Town of Northbridge should the Council on Aging be closed. The elderly depend on the senior center as a lifeline. Ms. Dion mentioned that the seniors are people too and these services offered by the Council on Aging mean a lot to them. She reiterated the services offered and how much fun the seniors have when they attend the Senior Center. She then asked the Selectmen not to forget the seniors when it comes to money.

FY '08 Budget Presentation. Town Manager Theodore Kozak presented his recommendations for the FY '08 Budget to the Board of Selectmen. To that end, he was recommending the following budgets be reduced to zero for FY '08: Council on Aging [reduced just over 50%], Library, Playground & Recreation, Historical Commission, Building, Planning & Construction Committee, Civil Defense, Memorials, and Recycling Committee. He also mentioned the cuts that would be made to the Departments in Town such as; Public Safety, Public Works, and the General Government. Selectman Audette and Selectman Marzec mentioned how devastating the cuts would be to the entire community should the override not pass. They suggested that the residents in town decide whether they want these services to remain in tact by passing the override. Chairman Ampagoomian mentioned that the information presented tonight would be posted on the Cable Station so that residents can see the type of financial situation the town is facing.

Policy regarding the use of Town Counsel. Town Manager Kozak reminded the Departments, Boards and Committees in Town about the policy regarding the use of Town Counsel. Each Board, Committee and Department must contact the Town Manager's Office to request permission to use Town Counsel so that the Town Manager's Office can monitor and track the expenditures during this crucial time.

Union Street Brook/Update. Town Manager Kozak and the DPW Director met with a Representative of the Railroad to review the plans and discuss the work that was done in the past on the culvert. A meeting with Mass Highway will be set up to discuss further work in the near future.

Arthur Drive/Update. Town Manager Kozak advised that a meeting took place with the developer [Jim Smith, Trees to Keys], DPW Director Richard Sasseville and Highway Superintendent Arthur Magowan concerning the Arthur Drive issues. Mr. Sasseville will present a memo to the Planning Board describing what they are looking for Mr. Smith to handle with respect to the catchbasins and other concerns. Mr. Smith mentioned that he is looking to his contractor and others to help address the areas suggested by the DPW and is hopeful to find someone this spring.

Reverse 911 Phone System – Town Manager Kozak mentioned that this is an emergency telephone system that allows departments to make telephone calls to homes informing them of an emergency. The Worcester County Sheriff's Office made a proposal that if Homeland Security funds paid for the hardware and software, then the Sheriff's Department would pay the annual maintenance cost estimated at \$40,000.00. This equipment has been purchased and is now being installed. Starting April 1st, there will be training classes offered, and thereafter, to the following Departments; DPW Directors, Fire, Police, Board of Health, Water Company, etc.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Audette suggested setting some dates to meet with the Finance and School Committee to discuss an override amount. Selectman Marzec mentioned that the Board of Health will be conducting a Rabies Vaccination Clinic on April 14, 2007, and the cost is \$10.00

Meeting Adjourned: 8:18 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

**Board of Selectmen
Joint Meeting
w/School Committee and Finance Committee
March 29, 2007**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen, School Committee, and Finance Committee was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager; School Committee Members: Karen Peterson, Paula Grabowski, Leeann Hansson, Andy Myers, Susan Brouwer and Kris Burns. **Also Present:** Paul Soojian, Superintendent. Finance Committee Members: Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Mary Thompson, Salvatore D'amato, James Barron, and Andrew Todd.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Chairman Ampagoomian reminded the folks in the audience to remain quiet when committee members are speaking.

Town Manager Theodore Kozak presented his recommendations for the FY '08 Budget to the Finance Committee, School Committee, Board of Selectmen and residents of Northbridge. With that said, he was recommending the following budgets be reduced to zero for FY '08: Council on Aging [reduced just over 50%], Library, Playground & Recreation, Historical Commission, Building, Planning & Construction Committee, Civil Defense, Memorials, and Recycling Committee. He also mentioned the cuts that would be made to the Departments in Town such as; Public Safety, Public Works, and the General Government.

Denis Latour, 88 Linwood Ave., reminded everyone about the debt exclusion of 3 million dollars for the Police and Middle School roofs.

Superintendent Paul Soojian presented his recommendations for the FY '08 School Budget. That said, he mentioned the layoffs, reductions and cuts that would take place should the override not pass.

Selectman Audette asked Superintendent Soojian when the last time the School Department made any cuts. Superintendent Soojian mentioned they had positions this year they never filled, such as a Guidance Counselor and several other positions. Selectman Audette mentioned all the positions in Town that weren't filled because the money went to the School Department. Selectman Audette mentioned that if a one million dollar override can't pass how does the School Department think a four or five million dollar override is going to pass here in Northbridge.

Superintendent Soojian pointed out a mistake on the Town's budget sheet and Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he mistakenly left out the code enforcement's salary.

After a lengthy discussion between committee members, residents in Town spoke on behalf of the override and indicated how low our tax rate is and if residents in Town want to maintain the level of services they have come to enjoy then they will support the override.

Mr. Salvatore D'Amato, Finance Committee Member, questioned Superintendent Soojian's numbers. That said, he mentioned that the school is looking for a \$6.1 million dollar increase in appropriations. Superintendent Soojian defended his present numbers.

Chairman Ampagoomian informed the Committees and residents in Town that public forums would be held to discuss the override and where the money will go if it passes and what will be cut should it not pass.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
April 9, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Audette, Davis and Marzec.

Also Present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Chairman Ampagoomian requested Item C [Northbridge Fire Department] be the first order of business.

Northbridge Fire Department/Request to hang a banner over Church Street from May 7, 2007 to May 20, 2007 to advertise the annual Spaghetti Supper to be held on May 19, 2007. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the Fire Department's request to hang a banner over Church Street from May 7, 2007 to May 20, 2007 to advertise the annual Spaghetti Supper to be held on May 19, 2007.

Livery License Policy and Procedures/Vote to accept. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the Livery License Policy and Procedures for the Town of Northbridge. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Annual Town Election [May 15, 2007]/Vote to place override question on ballot. Chairman Ampagoomian stated that before the Board of Selectmen vote on the override question, Town Manager Kozak would like to provide a PowerPoint presentation showing what the FY 08 budgets looks like with and without an override. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place the following question on the Annual Town Election, May 15, 2007 ballot: Shall the Town of Northbridge be allowed to assess an additional \$3,700,000.00 in Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes for the purposes of operating the Municipal Government and Public Schools for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

FY '08 Budget Presentation/Update. Town Manager Theodore D. Kozak mentioned that a meeting took place with the Finance and School Committee to discuss what the amount of an override should be on the ballot. The School Committee requested \$4.0 Million dollars and the Town requested \$700,000 Thousand dollars. After carefully reviewing all the numbers, Town Manager Kozak recommended \$3.7 Million dollar override be placed on the ballot. Carroll Paine, Chairman, School Committee, presented the School Department budget and how it would look with and without an override. Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Finance Committee, mentioned that the Finance Committee would not be taking a position as a committee to oppose an override.

Providence Road Development. Present: Attorney Henry Lane. Attorney Lane mentioned that his Law Office represents Whitinsville Land Associates and its affiliates, which own approximately 180 acres of land on Providence Road near Plummer's Corner. They are working on a development plan for the land, which includes the development of multi-family housing and some commercial development along Providence Road. In addition, the proposal includes the dedication of approximately half the site for open space, recreation and other non-profit and municipal uses. Attorney Lane presented the Board of Selectmen with an executive summary version of the presentation and a sketch of some of the potential municipal uses.

Town Manager's Report. 1) Letters of Commendation/Police – Town Manager Kozak read letters of commendation sent from Police Chief Warchol to Officers Chickinski, Westbury, DeJordy and Dispatcher John Inger for a job well done in the apprehension of three suspects at the scene of a residential breaking and entering on Brook Street. In addition, a letter was sent to Lieutenant Labrie, Sergeant Ouillette, and Detective Roy for a job well done concerning their investigation and subsequent arrest of two suspects in a recent armed robbery. **2) Union Street Update** –updated the Board of Selectmen on his meeting with the railroad company and the possibility of changing the culvert. He then mentioned he was still waiting to meet with Mass Highway but has done some investigating work with respect to Mr. Bob Parker and his garage. **3) Arthur Drive Update** – mentioned a meeting that took place 3 weeks ago with the Department of Public Works, Town Planner and Contractor. The Contractor has agreed to raise the crown and roads so the storm drains would work properly. A follow up meeting will be scheduled soon to discuss the progress. **4) Northbridge Redevelopment Corporation Update** – Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he met with the various Boards to discuss the progress of the landfill project. Selectman Davis asked if the State's Consultant could come in and inform the Selectmen on 1) what is being dumped at the site; and 2) what kind of testing is being performed. **5) Student Government Day** – Reminded the Selectmen that Student Government Day starts at 8:00 A.M. in the Board of Selectmen's Room.

Selectmen's Concerns. **Selectman Audette** is concerned about how the residents in Town will be educated about the override. **Selectman Marzec** concurred with Selectman Audette and then offered his time to educate people, if needed. **Selectman Davis** 1) suggested having a meeting at the Middle School Auditorium to inform residents and; 2) asked if whether NRC was still planning to give the Town land for soccer fields. **Chairman Ampagoomian** 1) available town-owned land and the possibility of leasing these parcels/pieces of land for the use if; cell towers and windmills; 2) Mass Highway (Plummer's Corner update at next meeting).

Future Agenda Item. Report from Building, Planning and Construction Committee on the cost of High School Fields Litigation.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Negotiations and Litigation, not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Audette/yes, Mr. Davis/yes, Mr. Marzec/yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:18 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
April 23, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 6:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Audette, Davis, and Marzec.

Also Present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

As part of a badge requirement, Cub Scouts [Den #3 of Pack 150] took a tour of Town Hall and joined the Selectmen's meeting to lead The Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 (Negotiations) to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Audette/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:35 P.M.

Executive Session Convened: 6:40 P.M.

Executive Session Adjourned: 7:09 P.M.

Open Session Reconvened: 7:10 P.M.

Approval of Minutes.

March 26, 2007. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the March 26, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

April 9, 2007 [Executive Session]. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve but not release the April 9, 2007 Executive Session Minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens' Comments/Input. Walter Evans, 20 Marion Drive. Mr. Evans asked the Board of Selectmen to clarify the amount of money the School would receive should the override pass. Mr. Evans inquired whether \$22,121,955 was the correct amount of money and the Town Manager responded yes that is what was being requested.

American Legion Post #343/1 Request to hold a carnival on Legion grounds from May 30, 2007-June 3, 2007/Vote to approve. Present: Andy Williamson, Philip Cyr, and Charles Lachapelle.

Mr. Williamson announced that there was a change in the dates of the carnival and that the carnival [operated by Fiesta Shows] will now take place in Northbridge from June 11, 2007 through June 17, 2007. He mentioned that the State Inspector will inspect all rides on June 11th and 12th and John Flynn, Owner of Fiesta Shows, will pull all the permits needed with the Town. He also indicated that there would be 12 to 14 amusement rides, a list of which will be provided to the Legion shortly. Selectman Audette asked if the Police Chief was aware of the carnival and Town Manager Kozak ensured him that he was and that Chief Warchol would perform CORI checks on all carnival employees. Mr. Phil Cyr noted that there would be no display of fireworks during the carnival. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the American Legion's request to hold a carnival on Legion grounds from June 11, 2007 to June 17, 2007, subject to the safety requirements of the Police Department and compliance with all Town procedures [licenses/permits] etc. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Unibank for Savings/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 14th to May 28th to advertise their "Community Appreciation Day" cookout to be held June 2nd. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve Unibank for Savings request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 14, 2007 to May 28, 2007 to advertise their "Community Appreciation Day" cookout to be held June 2, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Whitin Community Center/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 29th to June 9th to advertise the 18th annual "Picnic in the Park" event to be held June 9th. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the Whitin Community Center's request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 29, 2007 to June 9, 2007 to advertise the 18th Annual "Picnic in the Park" event to be held on June 9, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Relay for Life [ERA-Maureen Benoit]/Request to hold the Relay for Life Toll Booth Fundraiser on May 12, 2007, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M./Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the Relay for Life Toll Booth Fundraiser on May 12, 2007, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. subject to the safety requirements of the Police Department. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Butcher Block Deli & Catering Inc. /Application for Common Victualler's License, 2233 Providence Road, Northbridge, MA [Christopher Langevin]. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the

Butcher Block Deli & Catering Inc. application for Common Victualler's License at 2233 Providence Road, Northbridge. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Northbridge Redevelopment Corporation/Soil Sample Analysis [Paul Mahoney]. Present: Kip Foley, President of Northbridge Redevelopment Corporation [NRC], and Alan Benevides, Woodard and Curran, Professional Engineering firm. Town Manager Kozak mentioned he invited the above individuals to come before the Board to discuss the progress of the landfill project. He also asked NRC to provide the Board with an analysis of the soil at the site. Mr. Benevides gave the Board of Selectmen an overview of the extensive application process required by the Department of Environmental Protection –before a project can move forward. Once the process is in motion, a licensed professional engineer would provide a detailed evaluation of the site and determine by sampling the materials if it can be re-used {the goal is to keep as much material on-site as possible}. When all the criteria has been met, the DEP will then send a package to NRC with the approval of the materials needed to proceed forward on the project. Mr. Benevides informed the Selectmen that NRC is required to submit monthly the proper paperwork for the project to the Department of Environmental Protection for their review. The Board of Selectmen then asked several questions and voiced some concerns to Mr. Foley and Mr. Benevides with respect to the landfill area. Selectman Davis questioned **1)** the depth of the soil [15ft.] if in fact it is inadequate; **2)** Who the Licensed Site Professional works for. Response: The generator.; **3)** Who protects the Town? Response: The Licensed Site Professional.; **4)** When does NRC's responsibility end? Response: Never. **5)** What if anything was going to be done for the Town? Response: Soccer field too high a location and too large and expense but will try something. Selectman Audette asked about **1)** entrance to site and the dust issues--what does it contain? Is some of the soil from Fenway Park? Response: Yes, some of the soil is from Fenway, approved by DEP, and not harmful to anyone. Selectman Marzec then inquired about the erosion control tubes and what they were they made of? Response: Filter fabric geo-textile tubes filled with woodchips; they perform the same function as silt fences.

Town Manager's Report. Town Manager Kozak 1) read a statement of support for the National Guard and Reserve; **2)** Union Street Update – stated that Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, and he met with a Mass. Highway Representative concerning Union Street. Mass. Highway felt the culvert could be fixed within a year or two but the other culvert [where the bridge is] is a bigger project and would take longer to repair. Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, will be coordinating with EarthTech to see what can be done in the future; **3)** Sutton Street Project – Mass Highway should be scheduling a public hearing shortly (within the next 6 weeks) so they can move forward on the project; **4)** Plummer's Corner – Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, expects a proposal from EarthTech for the 25% design within the next week. Once finalized the project can begin; **5)** Arthur Street Update –contractor will put a crown in; **6)** Student Government Day went well and thought it was enjoyable; **7)** Override Ballot Form - note from the Northbridge Citizen's for the Override Committee inviting the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Department Heads and Public to attend an Informational Meeting on the Proposition 2½, Monday, April 30, 2007, at the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium, at 7 P.M. **8)** Reviewed the effect of the override for the Town should the override not pass; **9)** School Committee vacancy – The Board agreed to wait until after the May 15th election to fill the vacancy on the School Committee.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Audette 1) Sutton Street/Northbridge Roads – asked Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, to put some projections together on what it would cost to repair the Town roads; **2)** Retention ponds – who is responsible for these ponds: Town, Developer, or Home Owner; **Selectman Marzec** stated that the Town needs to get the override information out there sooner rather than later. **Selectman Davis** asked to place the High School Field Litigation on the next Board of Selectmen's agenda [May 7, 2007]. Should invite the Building, Planning and Construction Committee to come in and inform the residents in Town as to what transpired with this entire project. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to invite the Building, Planning and Construction Committee to the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting on May 7, 2007, to discuss the entire process of the High School Field litigation issue. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Chairman Ampagoomian/1)** Thanked Selectman Marzec, Superintendent Soojian, and Town Manager Kozak for attending the ceremony on April 22, 2007, commemorating the Armenian genocide. **2)** thanked the Fire Department for removing a 30-gallon propane tank from the Blackstone River. **3)** urged every resident in the Town of Northbridge to attend the Override Ballot Forum on April 30, 2007 at 7 P.M at the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium.

Future Agenda Item. Representative George Peterson [June 4, 2007 @ 7:00 P.M.].

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

OVERRIDE MEETING

April 30, 2007

A public informational meeting on the Override was posted for 7:00 PM, and held at the Northbridge Middle School, however no action was taken. Selectmen in attendance were: Messrs. Davis, Marzec, and Ampagoomian.

Also Present: Theodore Kozak, Town Manager.

The attached information was presented to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
May 7, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 6:15 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Audette, Davis and Marzec.

Also Present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 (Negotiations) to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Audette/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:15 P.M.

Executive Session Convened: 6:16 P.M.

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:45 P.M.

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 P.M.

Approval of Minutes.

March 8, 2007. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the March 8, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

April 9, 2007. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the April 9, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

April 23, 2007 [Executive Session]. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to approve the April 23, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Davis mentioned that several Executive Session minutes have accumulated during the past few months and recommended that they be reviewed and released.

April 30, 2007. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the April 30, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Audette.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen: Board of Registrars. 1) Sandra Ovian. Chairman Ampagoomian advised the Board that Ms. Ovian was unable to attend tonight's meeting but wished to be reappointed. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to reappoint Sandra Ovian as a Democratic Representative to the Board of Registrars. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens' Comments/Input. None.

Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant [June 12, 2007]/Vote to sign. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to sign the June 12, 2007 Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Davis had some concerns with placing Articles 8, 9 & 15 on the warrant. Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, explained in detail the reasoning for Articles 8, 9 & 15 [Sewer Articles].

Veterans' Services/Vote to accept monetary gift to defray the cost of the new Veterans' Services Office to be located at 875 Hill Street. Present: Kenneth Trajanowski. A motion/Mr. Audette, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept monetary gift of \$100 to defray the cost of the new Veterans' Services Office to be located at 875 Hill Street. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Northbridge Veterans' Council/1) Request to hold Memorial Day Parade in Rockdale and 2) Request to use the Rockdale Town Common for Services. Present: Andy Williamson, Commander, Oliver Ashton Post #343, and Harry Berkowitz, Commander, Veterans' Post #318. Selectman William Audette recused himself from the Board to be the adjutant for the Veterans' Council. Mr. Audette advised that he sent a letter to the Board of Selectmen asking for permission to parade on Memorial Day, May 28, 2007 @ 10 A.M. and to use the Town Common. Mr. Williamson mentioned that the Oliver Ashton Post [American Legion] took a vote to hold their parade on the same day as the Veterans' Council. That said, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to grant permission to hold the

Memorial Day Parade in Rockdale on Monday, May 28, 2007, at 10:00 A.M. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Audette.

2) Request to hold Memorial Day Parade in Whitinsville and 2) Request to use the Whitinsville Town Common for Services. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to grant permission to hold the Memorial Day Parade in Whitinsville on Monday, May 28, 2007, at 10:00 A.M.. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Audette.

American Legion Post #343/1) Request for Sunday State License [Carnival – June 17, 2007]/Vote to approve. Present: Andy Williamson. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the American Legion Post #343 request for a Sunday State License for June 17, 2007 – Carnival. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Alternatives' [22nd annual “Valley Friendship Tour, Saturday, June 2, 2007”]/Request to briefly close Hill Street at the start of each race beginning at 8:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., and 11:00 A.M. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the above request subject to safety requirements of the Police, Fire, and Public Works Department. Vote yes/Unanimous.

High School Field Litigation Issues [Present: David Morrow, Chairman of the Building, Planning & Construction Committee and Peter Barbadora, 111 Lea Ave. Chairman Morrow spoke briefly and mentioned that Mr. Barbadora would present the Board with a very detailed account of the entire High School Field litigation process [beginning in April, 1999 and ending in May, 2007]. Mr. Barbadora mentioned that the Building, Planning and Construction Committee started the litigation process with the Selection of Counsel: 1) Kopelman & Paige, 2) Gadsby & Hannah, and 3) John Spignesi. After careful consideration, Gadsby & Hannah was chosen to represent the Town of Northbridge in the litigation with Jackson Construction. With that said, in May 2002, Vena, Riley, Deptula Law firm was hired and Gadsby & Hannah were dismissed due to the lack of trust. Mr. Barbadora broke down the lawsuit amounts between Jackson Construction vs Town of Northbridge and Tappe Associates vs the Town of Northbridge. A detailed account of Mr. Barbadora's presentation is on file in the Town Manager's Office.

Road Maintenance Program. [Present: Richard Sasseville, Director of Public Works]. Mr. Sasseville mentioned that the Town of Northbridge is extremely dependent on the Chapter 90 program and that the Town itself has never appropriated money for roadway repairs, only on a maintenance level. That said, the Town of Northbridge usually receives \$240,000.00 from the State [Chapter 90 Program], however, this year the Town will receive \$310,000.00. Mr. Sasseville explained where the Chapter 90 money has gone; Reconstruction of Providence Road, Streetscape in Whitinsville road work [Park Street and Church Street], full depth reconstruction of a portion of Goldthwaite Road [Hill Street, Swift Road, and some of Mason Road], stone seal treatments performed on 17 roads, and the reconstruction of Mendon Road (4,000 feet). Chapter 90 funds have been used for road building equipment and will soon be used towards a new dump truck [which has recently been approved by the State]. Selectman Audette asked about the failing roads in town and if anything could be done to improve them. Mr. Sasseville mentioned that there is no money in the budget to repair these roads and even if they used the Chapter 90 money, that still wouldn't be enough to cover the cost to repair them [due to their current conditions]. Selectman Davis asked if there was a master list of all the roads in town and their current conditions. Mr. Sasseville stated that he has a study that Central Massachusetts did 10 years ago and would like to get it updated this year.

Modification of Town's Website. [Present: Robert Thayer, Systems Administrator]. Town Manager Kozak asked Mr. Thayer to discuss the Town's webpage. Mr. Thayer mentioned that he and the Town Manager visited a company on Church Street called “Hitcatcher”. They met with the President of the company [Jay Johnson] who offered to help the town out (free of charge). With that said, Mr. Johnson will work with Mr. Thayer on the graphic design of the Town's Home Page and having it be more user-friendly. In the upcoming months, there will be more content.

Appraisal Process. [Present: Robert Fitzgerald, Principal Assessor]. Mr. Fitzgerald gave an update of the evaluation process. He mentioned that the inspections have gone well and thanked the residents in Town for allowing them to do their jobs. The full analysis for the Department of Revenue, upcoming for FY 2008, will be completed by the end of August.

Town Manager's Report. 1) Worcester County Sheriff's Office/Cemetery clean up - mentioned that the Worcester County Sheriff's Department will be providing some assistance to the Department of Public Works to help clean-up the cemeteries. **2) Override Presentation – Senior Center, May 10, 2007 @ 1:00 P.M.** - Provided a quick override presentation to show the budget requests with and without the override. **3) Teacher Negotiations** – read a press release announcing a tentative agreement with the Teacher's Association and the Town of Northbridge. The parties have agreed to; restructure the existing health insurance contribution rates; over a three-year period of time, existing employees will increase their contributions towards health insurance costs from 10% to 25%; and all new employees will

immediately pay 25%. Town Manager Kozak also mentioned that a nominal cost of living increase has been negotiated for each of the three contract years at 2% in year one; 3% in years two and three. **4) Parks and Recreation Summer Program** - announced the Summer Camp and Town Beach would be closed this year due to lack of funds.

Selectmen's Concerns. **Selectman Audette** (concerning Teacher negotiations) thanked both sides for all the work they have done. **Selectman Marzec 1)** asked that Town residents educate themselves with respect to the override and encourages everyone to make the right decision. **2)** thanked the ambulance and police department for responding to a medical emergency at his house. **Selectman Davis 1)** asked the Town Manager to inform Playground and Recreation to walk the site at the Northbridge Redevelopment site- possible field; **2)** status of the high school audit; **3)** are we on track for removing the utility poles along Church Street in June; **4)** urges all the citizens in Northbridge to vote yes for the override. **Chairman Ampagoomian 1)** commended the Northbridge Police Department for responding to a missing child case (Rockdale).

Future Agenda Item. **1)** Property owned by the Town – Master List; **2)** Representative George Peterson [June 4, 2007 @ 7:00 P.M.]; **3)** Northbridge Auto; **4)** Town Manager's Goals; **5)** Information from Jim Power's regarding the Audit; **6)** Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project Overview [June 4, 2007 @ 7:00 P.M.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Audette to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Marzec, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
May 21, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Audette, Davis, Marzec and Montecalvo.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Chairman Ampagoomian welcomed back Selectman Montecalvo and thanked the Board of Selectmen for an interesting year. He also thanked the citizens in Northbridge for coming out to vote regardless to the outcome.

Reorganization of the Board of Selectmen:

Chairman Ampagoomian turned the gavel over to Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager, to proceed with the reorganization of the Board. Mr. Kozak polled the Board of Selectmen for **Nominations for Chairman**: A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to nominate Joseph Montecalvo as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to nominate William Audette as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Selectmen Ampagoomian and Montecalvo expressed their opinions as to why Mr. Montecalvo should be elected Chairman. After no further comments, Town Manager Kozak asked for Roll Call Votes for Joseph Montecalvo: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/No, Mr. Marzec/No, and Mr. Audette/No. Continuing, Town Manager Kozak asked for Roll Call Votes for William Audette: Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Audette/Yes, Mr. Montecalvo/No and Mr. Ampagoomian/No. As Selectman Audette received the majority of the votes, the Town Manager announced William Audette as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Audette assumed the Chair and called for **Nominations for Vice-Chairman**: A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to nominate James Marzec as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Hearing no further motions for the position of Vice-Chairman, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to close nominations. Chairman Audette called for a vote on the main motion: Vote yes [to elect James Marzec as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen]/Unanimous. Chairman Audette called for **Nominations for Clerk**: A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Audette to nominate Joseph Montecalvo as Clerk of the Board of Selectmen. Hearing no further motions for the position of Clerk, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close nominations. Chairman Audette called for a vote on the main motion: Vote yes [to elect Joseph Montecalvo as Clerk of the Board of Selectmen]/Unanimous.

Approval of Minutes.

April 23, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the April 23, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Audette, Marzec, and Ampagoomian. Mr. Montecalvo/Abstain.

May 7, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the May 7, 2007 Executive Session as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Audette, Marzec and Ampagoomian. Mr. Montecalvo/Abstain.

Citizens' Comments/Input. Karen Peterson Kittredge, Country Club Drive, came before the Board of Selectmen as a citizen to mention an error pertaining to the School that was in the Telegram & Gazette. Linda Bock will rerun the article with the correct information on May 22, 2007.

2007 Annual License Renewals: Bowling, Billiards, and Sunday State Entertainment. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the above mentioned license renewals subject to the payment of all outstanding liens. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Safety Committee Minutes – Site Visit [April 3, 2007]/Vote to approve. Selectmen Montecalvo provided a brief update on the North Main Street site visit. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of April 3, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Safety Committee Minutes [May 9, 2007]/Vote to approve. Selectmen Montecalvo provided a brief overview of the Safety Committee Meeting that took place on May 9, 2007. Mr. Marzec will abstain due to living on Samuel Drive. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of May 9, 2007. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Audette. Abstain/Mr. Marzec.

Bond Anticipation Notes – the Selectmen deferred this item to the June 18th agenda.

Master Plan/Open Space – Update. Present: Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner and Barbara Gaudette, Vice Chairman of the Planning Board. Mr. Bechtholdt provided the Board with the Master Plan and Open Space update. Both plans were done in-house and a workshop was held back in March to discuss the Master Plan and Open Space update. Mr. Bechtholdt then mentioned that a questionnaire and survey would be distributed to the residents in town at the Spring Annual Town meeting for them to review, complete and send back.

Talent Bank Applications – Planning Board and School Committee. Town Manager Kozak provided an update that the appointments for the Planning Board and School Committee will take place on June 18, 2007. If anyone is interested in either committee, they can come to the Town Manager's Office and fill out a talent bank application. A notice of the openings will be placed on the Town's cable/web site and in the Telegram and Gazette. All applications must be submitted by June 12, 2007 in order to be considered for the vacancy.

Town Manager's Report. Town Manager Kozak 1) discussed a letter and phone call received from Gerard Perry at the Department of Revenue. He mentioned that Mr. Perry is ready to assist the Town of Northbridge in any legal capacity resources allowed. Mr. Perry asked that the town submit to his office a pro-forma recap sheet before July 1, 2007, for budget purposes only. This request is being made in an effort to insure that the Town of Northbridge has a balanced budget and that it will meet the necessary standards for the setting of our tax rate later in the year. Town Manager Kozak then mentioned that the library would be closed on May 26, 2007, and that the Senior Center hours have been reduced. 2) Church Street road repair by Whitinsville Water Company – per Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, the repairs to the road on Church Street are completed [due to the water main break]. 3) The Boy Scouts have been working with the DPW Department on the bulletin board in front of the Town Hall and they plan to have the sign completed by the end of next week. 4) mentioned that a draft copy of his goals and objectives were in the Board of Selectmen's packets for them to review and discuss at a future meeting. 5) MMA letter regarding Verizon's Cable Legislation – spoke briefly about raising awareness to preserve local cable and video franchising authority. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept the MMA 3 Quick Action requests regarding emailing the MMA to sign our community onto the enclosed letter inviting Verizon to file a franchise in our town, email the MMA to sign up to attend and testify against the Verizon legislation at the June 5th public hearing at the State House and email to request an electronic copy of this Cable Franchising Campaign Kit. Vote yes/Unanimous. 6) MORE Regional Purchasing Organization – great opportunity and met with several Town Managers locally to discuss purchasing.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Ampagoomian 1) are the flags in Rockdale up for Memorial Day. 2) the School Article for the Town meeting – Town Manager Kozak mentioned the article itself should be put on the warrant and is legal and proper, however, Town Counsel has stated that it is inconsistent with the budget process within the Town Charter. 3) Volunteer program – library will be open 10 to 12 hours a week. **Selectman Marzec** 1) rain events over the past few days, is there any new information regarding Union Street. Town Manager Kozak mentioned there is no new information. **Selectman Davis** 1) congratulated Mr. Ampagoomian and Mr. Montecalvo for being re-elected to the Board of Selectmen and then went on to congratulate all the other individuals who were elected to a Board at this past election. He also sent his deep appreciation and thanks to Mr. Donald Lange for serving 36 years in the community; 2) status of the audit? **Neil Vaidya, Town Accountant** provided a brief update and mentioned that the audit is 80% complete. 3) status on the removal of the utility poles for Church Street; Town Manager mentioned that the Community Development and Planning Office are working diligently with the utility company to get them removed. Selectman Davis read aloud two statements: 1) urged everyone in Town including the School Department to attend town meeting unified by working together, and maintaining a positive attitude. 2) he will not be seeking re-election next May as he has served the Town of Northbridge for over 30 years and will retire from political activity upon completion of his term. **Selectman Montecalvo** 1) utility poles; 2) condition of roads and sidewalks and suggested looking at this as a capital adventure. **Chairman Audette** 1) Thursday, May 24, 2007 at the Northbridge High School there will be a Memorial Day Observance for all the Veterans in town. 2) Memorial Day will be celebrated on Monday, May 28, 2007. The Whitinsville parade will begin at Pine Grove Cemetery at 10 A.M. The Rockdale parade will also be on Monday, May 28, 2007 and begin at 10 A.M. 3) letter carriers @ Linwood Post Office – residents in Town are not receiving their mail in town. 4) would like for the Playground and Recreation to attend the next Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss their current status pertaining to the recent resignations of two board members.

Items for Future Agenda.

- 1) Powers and Sullivan [June 18, 2007]
- 2) School Committee and Planning Board Appointments [June 18, 2007]

Chairman Audette made a brief statement and thanked the members of the Board for supporting his nomination as Chairman and mentioned that it is time to move forward and work together as a unified Board for the common good of the town.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Negotiations, not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Meeting adjourned: 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
June 4, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Montecalvo. Selectman Ampagoomian was absent and it is duly noted.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Chairman Audette asked that everyone remain standing after the Pledge of Allegiance to recognize the passing of Angela Zanchetti. Ms. Zanchetti passed away on Monday, May 28, 2007, after an illness. Chairman Audette mentioned that she was the first woman elected to the Northbridge Board of Selectmen in 1977, and served two terms along with working in the Assessor's Office for 15 years. Our condolences go out to her family and friends. Chairman Audette then asked for a moment of silence in her honor.

Approval of Minutes.

May 7, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the May 7, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Audette, and Marzec. Abstain/Mr. Montecalvo.

May 21, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the May 21, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Audette, Marzec and Montecalvo.

May 21, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the May 21, 2007 Executive Session minutes as present with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Audette, and Montecalvo.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen. Theodore Haringa, Council on Aging. Mr. Haringa, 713 Fowler Road, Northbridge, MA, told the Board of Selectmen a little about himself and his past service on Town committees. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Theodore Haringa to the Council on Aging. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Montecalvo and Audette.

Chairman Audette announced that Selectman Ampagoomian recently had knee surgery and wished him a speedy recovery.

Citizens' Comments/Input. None.

China Pacific Alcohol Violation Hearing/Vote to postpone two weeks. Chief Warchol mentioned that he would not be able to attend the next Selectmen's meeting, June 18, 2007 due to family obligations; however, he will provide Lieutenant Labrie with his recommendations concerning the alcohol violation that occurred at the China Pacific on May 12, 2007. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to postpone the China Pacific Alcohol Violation Hearing until Monday, June 18, 2007. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Marzec and Audette.

Fire Department/Request permission to hang a banner over Church Street from June 24th – July 7th to advertise the Fireworks to be held July 6, 2007 @ Northbridge Middle School. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to grant permission to the Northbridge Fire Department to hang a banner over Church Street from June 24, 2007 to July 7, 2007 in order to advertise the annual Fireworks to be held July 6, 2007, at Lasalle Field [Northbridge Middle School]. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Library Budget Update. Present: John "Jack" Rauth, Library Trustee. Selectman Davis explained that he requested Mr. Rauth to attend tonight's Board of Selectmen's meeting to provide an update on the Library budget. Mr. Davis explained that at a previously held Whitinsville Library Board of Trustee's meeting, Mr. Rauth gave an override presentation and discussed certain grants (one grant in particular totaling 2.1 million). That said, Selectman Davis asked if those funds could be used to help offset some of the costs for the library to maintain the minimum standards of the State's guidelines. He then suggested that Mr. Rauth give the Town an update as to where those funds come from and what they can be used for. Continuing, Mr. Rauth provided the Board with some informational history of the Library beginning when it was founded in 1844. At the time, people had to pay \$.50 to join the library and \$1.00-a-year dues to use the library. In 1858, the library was incorporated and became the Whitinsville Social Library Corporation. The Corporation voted to become a free public library in 1878. In 1917, the library building was given to the Town Of Northbridge for \$1.00. At the annual town meeting in 1917, it was voted to accept the library building with certain provisions established by the Whitin brothers as follows:

1) that the Town maintains the building and the grounds, and 2) the Whitinsville Social Library Corporation operates the library and has permanent access and residence in the library. As a result, the corporation owns everything inside the Whitinsville Social Library. Over the years, the Corporation has accumulated funds through people passing on and leaving money to the Corporation. The endowment today for the Corporation now has 2.2 million dollars due to the very astute investment committee. The library funds are restricted and they cannot touch the trust money of the Library Corporation. Mr. Rauth mentioned that the Trust has hired three of the current library employees who will work 6 hours a day, two days per week [Wednesdays 2 P.M. to 8 P.M. & Thursdays 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.]. They also hired a janitor for 4 hours a week. At the conclusion of Mr. Rauth's update, the Board of Selectmen thanked him for coming in and for the information presented.

Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project. Present: Timothy Deschamps. Mr. Deschamps provided the Board with a handout regarding what the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project provides for the Town of Northbridge. He indicated that the Department of Revenue sets the amount to be spent for each Town. The amount of money to be spent by the Town of Northbridge for the Mosquito Control Project is \$37,000 for FY '08.

Riverdale Mills/Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Update [MEPA]. Present: James Knott, Owner, and Richard Sasseville, DPW Director. Mr. Knott came before the Board tonight to discuss his plans for a Riverdale Water Supply. He mentioned that this water supply well would serve the Riverdale Mills Corporation along with the 22 apartments located on Quaker Street in Northbridge. A public hearing has been scheduled for Friday, June 8, 2007 @ 10 A.M. at Riverdale Mills, 130 Riverdale Street, Northbridge, MA, should anyone want more details. Mr. Sasseville, DPW Director, mentioned that the MEPA process is one of the hoops that Mr. Knott has to go through to enable him to start his own water system.

Parks and Recreation Update. Present: Scott Mackintosh, Chairman, and John Phelan, Vice Chairman. Chairman Audette mentioned he was concerned with two recent Playground and Recreation member's resignations and that he would like assurance that everything is going well. Mr. Mackintosh reassured the Board that everything is okay and despite the loss of their recent chair, Craig Bachman, they are still moving forward. He further mentioned that on November 17, 2007, his committee would be holding a bazaar at the Northbridge High School Field House.

Spring Annual Town Meeting [June 12, 2007]/Vote positions on warrant articles. Present: Mary Frances Powers, Finance Committee Chairman and member Andrew Todd. Also present: Richard Sasseville, Director of Public Works. Chairman Audette read each warrant article aloud and the Board voted their positions as follows: **Article 1 (FY '07 Bills of a prior year):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 1. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 1. **Article 2 (FY 07 Budget Adjustments):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 2. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec, and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 2. **Article 3 (FY '08 Omnibus Budget):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 3. Vote yes/ Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 3. **Article 4 (FY '08 Override):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to pass over Article 4. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 4. **Article 5 (Reimbursement of direct/indirect costs from Sewer Division):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 5. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 5. **Article 6 (Amendment to reduce the amount needed to operate the Sewer Division for FY '07):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 6. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 6. **Article 7 (FY '08 Sewer Enterprise Operation):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 7. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 7. **Article 8 (Design /Installation of upgrades for aeration equipment at WWTP):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 8. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 8. **Article 9 (Project to upgrade/modernize sludge management equipment at WWTP):** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to pass over Article 9. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 9. **Article 10 (Preparation of a comprehensive wastewater management plan):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to pass over Article 10. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 10. **Article 11 (Reimbursement of direct/indirect costs from Water Division):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 11. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 11. **Article 12 (Amendment to increase the amount needed to operate the Water Division for FY '07):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to support Article 12. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 12. **Article 13 (FY '08 Water Enterprise Operation):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 13. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee

voted to support Article 13. **Article 14 (Design/Installation of Repair/Replacement of water main beneath Route 122 “Ross Rajotte Bridge”):** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 14. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 14. **Article 15 (Design of a project to extend water mains on portions of Union Street, Quaker Street, and Church Street):** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to pass over Article 15. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 15. **Article 16 (School Comm. FY’08 budget article):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to pass over Article 16. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 16. **Article 17 (Transfer funds from Medicaid Reimbursement to School Dept. to replace generator at Middle School):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo not to support Article 17. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted not to support Article 17. **Article 18 (Use of surplus funds from sale of vehicles to purchase of mechanic’s tools for DPW):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to pass over Article 18. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 18. **Article 19 (Use of Chapter 90 Funds to repair Town roads):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to support Article 19. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 19. **Article 20 (FY ’08 Authorization for Treas/Coll. to enter into compensating balance agreement(s)):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 20. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 20. **Article 21(FY’08 Reauthorization of revolving account for Recycling Comm.):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 21. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 21. **Article 22 (FY ’08 transfer from Receipts reserved to Debt Principal):** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 22. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 22. **Article 23 (Acceptance of Chapter 260, Section 12 of the Acts of 2006 – deferment of taxes for active duty Veterans):** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 23. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 23. **Article 24 (Funding to comply with DEP’s post closure and monitoring requirements of Quaker St. landfill):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 24. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 24. **Article 25 (Roof repair at Fire Station):** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 25 for the Town to borrow \$250,000.00 instead of \$3,400,000.00. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. The Finance Committee voted to support Article 25.

Town Manager’s Report. 1) School Committee Meeting – mentioned that the last payment from the state was \$237,000 and was inadvertently closed to free cash and not kept in a separate account for school choice. Town Manager Kozak asked Kathy Reed from the Department of Revenue if a transfer could be made to the School Department and she responded, no. She recommended that an article be placed on the Fall Annual Town Meeting warrant to transfer funds to the School Department. Selectman Davis noted that all certified free cash went to the School Department and that the Town should research this before transferring any additional money to the School Department. 2) Electrical Inspector Position – This position is vacant and if anyone would like to apply they may contact the Building Inspector, James Sheehan. 3) Linwood Post Office – Town Manager Kozak spoke to the Postmaster at the Linwood Post Office to see if residents in Town could pick up their mail in the afternoon, however, since there is no personnel they have to close the office. 4) Site Visit [Town Fields] - Town Manager Kozak went for a site visit to view all the conditions of the fields in Town with the Building, Planning and Construction Committee and Playground and Recreation Commission. He will be looking into whether employees of the School Department [employees who take care of the grounds] can work overtime and help with the fields such as mowing the lawns, trimming trees, etc. 5) The Recycling Committee would like to come before the Board of Selectmen on June 18, 2007 to discuss fees for the recycling operation.

Selectmen’s Concerns. **Selectman Montecalvo/1)** asked why the flower buckets are not out in front of Memorial Square. DPW Director Sasseville responded that the woman who takes care of this called and said the buckets were not yet ready but will call the DPW once they are ready. **Selectman Davis/1)** Joint appointments of the School Committee and Planning Board – make sure that all the individuals are notified and present at the June 18th meeting. 2) Requested a separate list of people that may be interested in the seats that are up for reappointment as of June 30th [to be kept separate from the master list] so that the BOS can evaluate all applications. 3) Progress with the Northbridge Teacher’s Association? 4) Thanked the folks who sent along their thoughts and prayers to the Davis family due to the recent passing of his mother. **Selectman Marzec/1)** Updates on the telephone poles? Three poles will be down in the next 2 to 3 weeks. 2) Information regarding school budget issues and asked residents to make sure they get the facts first before forming an opinion. **Chairman Audette 1)** mentioned that the Unibank Picnic was a big success. 2) Stated that he would be sitting as a member of the Trustees of Soldiers’ Memorials when they start their meetings this year.

Items for Future Agenda. 1) Powers and Sullivan [June 18, 2007]; 2) School Committee and Planning Board Appointments [June 18, 2007]; 3) Representative George Peterson, Jr. [June 18, 2007];

4) China Pacific Restaurant Alcohol Violation Hearing [June 18, 2007]; 5) Hearing to review the rates and sewer enterprise funds.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 Negotiations & Litigation, not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, and Mr. Audette/Yes. Absent: Mr. Ampagoomian.

Meeting adjourned: 9:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
June 11, 2007**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 6:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Marzec, and Montecalvo. Selectman Ampagoomian was absent and it is duly noted.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager, Paul Soojian, School Superintendent, and George Murray, Director of Operations. **School Committee Members:** Kristin Burns, Chairman, Karen Peterson Kittredge, Michael Lebrasseur, Susan Brouwer, Mary Contino, and Leeann Hansson. **Finance Committee Members:** Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Walter Drew, and Andrew Todd.

Chairman Audette mentioned that the budget is ready to go and asked Superintendent Soojian and Chairman Burns to explain the rumor that is circulating around town about the School having \$2.5 million in available funds. Continuing, Mr. Soojian handed out a document explaining that the money the school has is because of their revolving accounts, such as: Residential Tuitions, Special Ed Grants, Heat, Special Education Transportation, Special Ed Contracted Services, Substitutes, Custodial Supplies, Electricity, Circuit Breaker and Tuition Revolver. He further explained that the Special Education accounts have to be paid upfront at certain times of the year and then the State reimburses the School at a later date.

In addition, Mr. Soojian stated that the Aldrich School would be closing for good sometime in June/July 2007, and at that time the School Department would turn Aldrich School back over to the Town for maintenance. Selectman Davis envisioned that some day the Town would have to sell the building because the cost to maintain would be too expensive. Mr. Soojian also indicated that the cost to re-open Aldrich School would be astronomical, and for it to be used as a school again it would have to be brought up to code, and given the financial situation of the town, he does not foresee this happening in the future.

Selectman Marzec mentioned that he has received several phone calls from angry parents about the elimination of bussing for students in Grades 7th – 12th and asked if the School Department had discussed the issue and what, if anything, were they going to do about it. Mr. Soojian responded that there is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 13, 2007 at 9 a.m. to discuss the situation. Selectman Marzec also remarked that if the School Committee made it easier for people to comprehend their budget then the residents in town might not be so apprehensive when it comes time to vote. He felt that if the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee had a hard time understanding the School Department's budget then how is the general public going to understand it.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee.

Meeting adjourned: 7:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Spring Annual Town Meeting
June 12, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William J. Audette at 6:50 PM, Northbridge High School Fieldhouse, 427 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Montecalvo, and Ampagoomian.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager; Sharon L. Susienka, Asst. to the Town Manager; Donna Gosselin, Adm. Asst.; and Attorney David J. Doneski, Kopelman & Paige, P.C.

Spring Annual Town Meeting [June 12, 2007] – Article 21 – Vote to recommend the reauthorization of the revolving account for the Northbridge Recycling Committee for FY '08.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to recommend the reauthorization of the revolving account for the Northbridge Recycling Committee for FY 2008 provided that the maximum amount expended does not exceed \$10,000. Vote yes/Unanimous.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Audette to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 6:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

/sls

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
June 18, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 6:15 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Montecalvo and Ampagoomian.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

Representative George N. Peterson, Jr. spoke briefly about a House Bill with respect to towns and cities joining a Group Insurance Commission program and then discussed the hearing that took place last week regarding Charter and Verizon utilities. The Board of Selectmen thanked Representative Peterson for coming in.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Public Hearing. 7:05 P.M./Alcohol Violation Hearing: China Pacific Restaurant. Present: Lieutenant Timothy Labrie, Officer Daniel Lamoureux, Attorney Gerald Shugrue and Fuan Wing Lee, Manager. Attorney Shugrue was present on behalf of his client, Mr. Fuan Wing Lee, Manager of the China Pacific Restaurant. Lt. Labrie read aloud a letter from Chief Warchol with the circumstances of what occurred at this establishment on the evening of the violation. He mentioned that the Northbridge Police Department was dispatched to the China Pacific Restaurant on May 12, 2007 at 1:00 A.M. Upon arrival at the scene, officers determined that three pedestrians had been struck by a motor vehicle. After an investigation by officers at the scene of the accident, the operator of the motor vehicle was located, arrested and charged with several offenses including operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol. Officers obtained statements indicating that the operator was under age and served alcohol in the China Pacific Restaurant by the two bartenders working that evening. As a consequence, Chief Warchol recommended suspending the China Pacific Restaurant's liquor license for 45 consecutive days, installing a drivers' license scanning machine to verify a patron's age prior to allowing them to enter the bar area. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept the recommendations of the Chief of Police to suspend the China Pacific Restaurant's liquor license for 45 consecutive days beginning July 2, 2007. Discussion on the motion: Selectman Ampagoomian requested proof of training for all staff on the use of the driver's license scanning machine. He also asked if the bartenders would be removed and Mr. Lee responded yes, but they could serve food. The Board of Selectmen further recommended that a new policy be implemented for verifying a patron's age prior to them entering the bar area and when a false I.D. is detected by the scanning machine that the police be notified immediately. The Board also asked that Mr. Lee come before them prior to his license being returned to assure them that he has met the above requirements. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Approval of Minutes.

June 4, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the June 4, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Davis, Montecalvo and Audette. Abstain/Mr. Ampagoomian.

June 4, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the June 4, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Davis, Montecalvo and Audette. Abstain/Mr. Ampagoomian.

June 11, 2007

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the June 11, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Davis, Montecalvo and Audette. Abstain/Mr. Ampagoomian.

June 12, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the June 12, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and School Committee. Present: Chairman Kristin Burns, and members Leann Hansson, Mary Contino, Paula Grabowski, Andrew Myers, Susan Brouwer, and Michael Lebrasseur. Absent: Karen Peterson Kittredge. The following applicants were present for the School Committee appointment with the exception of Russell Whittaker, who sent a letter explaining that he would be out of Town and Selena Livingston, who withdrew her name from the running: **1)** Kimberly Morrison; **2)** Russell Whittaker; **3)** Richard DeLuca; **4)** Gregory Fuller; and, **5)** Heather McKeon Mawn. Candidates introduced themselves and indicated why they wanted to be a member

of the School Committee. After a lengthy question and answer session, Chairman Audette asked for nominations. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mrs. Susan Brouwer to nominate Kimberly Morrison to the School Committee. A motion/Mr. Myers, seconded/Ms. Contino to nominate Gregory Fuller to the School Committee. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to nominate Mr. Richard DeLuca to the School Committee. A motion/Mrs. Susan Brouwer, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to nominate Heather McKeon-Mawn to the School Committee. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the nominations. Vote yes/Unanimous. Chairman Audette asked for a show in hands in favor of each nominated candidate. Kimberly Morrison received 5 votes; Richard DeLuca received 2 votes; Gregory Fuller received 5 votes, and Heather McKeon Mawn received 0 votes. There being a tie between Kimberly Morrison and Gregory Fuller, Chairman Audette asked that the School Committee and Board of Selectmen vote for either Kimberly Morrison or Gregory Fuller. Kimberly Morrison received 6 votes and Gregory Fuller received 6 votes. After a brief discussion about each candidate, Chairman Audette called for one more vote. Kimberly Morrison received 6 votes and Gregory Fuller received 6 votes. Due to the tie vote, a joint meeting between the School Committee and Board of Selectmen was set for June 26, 2007 at 7 P.M. in the High School Media Center.

Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board. Present: Chairman Barbara Gaudette and members Edward Palmer, James Vitello and George Martin. Applicants Present: Janet Dolber and Cindy Key. Chairman Gaudette called her Board to order. Candidates introduced themselves and indicated why they wanted to be a member of the Planning Board. After a brief question and answer session, Chairman Audette asked for nominations. A motion/Mr. Edward Palmer, seconded/Mr. James Marzec to nominate Cindy Key to the Planning Board Committee. A motion/Mr. Charles Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to nominate Janet Dolber to the Planning Board Committee. Chairman Audette thanked the candidates for running and asked for a show in hands in favor of each nominated candidate. Janet Dolber received 5 votes and Cindy Key received 4 votes. There being a 5-4 vote in favor of Ms. Janet Dolber, she was appointed to the Planning Board.

Appointments/By the Town Manager. Wiring Inspector and Assistant Wiring Inspector. Present: Richard Wallis and George Duhamel. Each candidate spoke briefly about their qualifications and work experience. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Richard Wallis as the Wiring Inspector. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint George Duhamel as the Assistant Wiring Inspector. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Annual Reappointments/By the Board of Selectmen – Vote to approve.

Selectman Davis asked that a hold be placed on reappointments for the Cable Advisory Committee and the Cultural Council because there are other candidates interested in these committees. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to reappoint all those who signified yes to their reappointments excluding the Cable Advisory Committee. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. Vote no/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to reconsider the above vote and remove Conservation Commission off the reappointment list because there are other candidates interested in those positions as well. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian. Vote no/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. Selectman Ampagoomian asked for a point of order to mention that the Board needs to be consistent when appointing/reappointing members to all committees. Chairman Audette advised that motion was made and passed.

Annual Reappointment/By the Town Manager – Vote to affirm. [See listing attached]. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the Town Managers reappointments. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens' Comments/Input. None.

Bond Anticipation Notes. Ms. Deborah Kristoff, Treasurer/Collector, informed the Board of Selectmen that she had to do a temporary borrowing in the amount of \$4M+ for the following items:

1. Whitinsville Sewer Interceptor	\$1,261,000.00
2. Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$ 355,000.00
3. Sewer Siphon	\$ 169,000.00
4. Roof Architect Fees	\$ 130,000.00
5. Police Roof	\$ 190,000.00
6. Middle School Roof	\$2,170,000.00

Ms. Kristoff mentioned that Bank of America was awarded the bid since they came in at the lowest rate of 3.78%. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sign the bond anticipation notes for the purposes and amounts stated above. Vote yes/Unanimous.

St. Patrick's Church/Request permission to hang a banner over Church Street from September 8, 2007 through September 22, 2007 to advertise their annual Fall Festival. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to allow St. Patrick's Church to hang a banner over Church Street from September 8, 2007 through September 22, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Sewer Rates/Vote to set FY '08 Rates. Present: Richard A Sasseville, DPW Director, and Mark Kuras, Sewer Superintendent. Mr. Sasseville showed a PowerPoint presentation on the current sewer rates and provided his recommendations for FY '08 sewer utility rates, which are based on the volume of water used. A motion/Mr. Davis to accept Option 2 of Mr. Sasseville's presentation [Reduced low volume rate 20-22 percent]. No second, the motion dies. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept Option 2 of the presentation with a 10% increase. Selectman Davis called a point of order to mention that Option 2 is not at a 10% increase, it is a 20-22% increase. No vote was taken and therefore, a motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept Option 2 of the presentation with a 10% sewer rate increase. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian and Montecalvo. Vote no/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. Motion does not carry. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept Option 2 of Mr. Sasseville's presentation [Reduced low volume rate 20-22 percent]. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. Vote no/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian.

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
SEWER SYSTEM

SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR SEWER SERVICES
QUARTERLY BILLING CYCLE

Effective Date: July 1, 2007

QUARTERLY RATES

The rates for sewer services that are billed quarterly will be:

For usage of 800 cubic feet or less per quarter	\$ 50.00
For the first 900 to 2,000 cubic feet used or fraction thereof	\$ 73.70
For each additional 100 cubic feet thereafter	4.62
For residential customers only, the rate for each additional 100 cubic feet used in excess of 4,000 cubic feet shall be reduced by 25-percent to	3.46

Each sewer service shall be billed in accordance with the above rate schedule. Quarterly usage shall be determined using 100-percent of the quarterly metered water consumption figure to arrive at sewer usage.

CONNECTION FEES FOR NEW SERVICES

A connection fee for a new service connection to Residential, Commercial or Industrial premises will be charged by the Northbridge Sewer System at the time application is made for service, as follows:

<u>Type of Connection</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Existing single family residence	\$ 924.00
Existing multi family residence (first unit)	924.00
Each additional existing unit	528.00
New single family residence	7,920.00
New multi family residence (first unit)	7,920.00
Each additional unit	6,600.00
Commercial or Industrial (minimum)	9,240.00
Commercial or Industrial (whichever is greater)	462.00 per fixture

The term "fixture" as used above is defined as: water closets, urinals, lavatories, service sinks, laundry sinks, washing machines, dishwashers, garbage disposal units, etc.

The term "existing residence" as used above is defined as one that was occupied prior to July 1, 1997.

Whenever a commercial or industrial premise is served by more than one connection to the Town's mains, the connection fee schedule above shall apply to each connection. The total number of fixtures will not be added together to determine the connection fee.

Sidewalk Sign Policy/Vote to revise. Selectman Montecalvo mentioned that Mr. James Sheehan, Building Inspector, was recommending that a minor change be made to the sidewalk sign policy that was established by the Board at their February 26, 2007 meeting. The Building Inspector felt that the sign policy as it stands [before revising] would impede too many businesses. As such, he suggested a revision to the policy that would require signs to be a minimum of 7 feet 6 inches and anything below those dimensions would require a permit. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept the recommended changes to the Rules and Regulations of Public Sidewalks and Ways. Vote yes/ Unanimous.

Recycling Committee/Vote to approve fee schedule. Present: Marilyn Baker and Denis Latour. Mr. Latour spoke about how their committee plans to fund their operation with the money they have saved in their revolving account. As such, the Recycling Committee is asking that the Board of

Selectmen vote in favor of allowing them to reword the language concerning their revolving account so that they may accept fees. Mr. Latour mentioned that the expenses would be offset by a \$10.00 per year user fee and the present .20/lb electronic fee. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the fee schedule set forth by the Recycling Committee. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Playground & Recreation Commission/Request to use the Whitinsville Town Common on 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9, and 8/16 [Thursday evenings from 5 P.M. to 9 P.M.] for the Summer Concert Series. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the Playground and Recreation Commission to use the Whitinsville Town Common for their Summer Concert Series on the above requested dates. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Powers & Sullivan [Jim Powers]. Present: James Powers, Powers & Sullivan, Neil Vaidya, Town Accountant, Deborah Kristoff, Treasurer/Collector, Robert Fitzgerald, Principal Assessor, and Robert Thayer, System Administrator. Mr. Powers provided the Board of Selectmen with an overview of the audit his Company performed for the Town of Northbridge for FY '06. Mr. Powers reviewed each of the following areas: **1)** Role of the Town Accountant; **2)** Reconciliation of Treasurer/Collector's Cash and Receivables to the General Ledger; **3)** Student Activity Accounts; **4)** Chapter 90; **5)** Reconciliation of the Detail Receivable Ledgers to the Collector's Control Accounts; **6)** General Journal Entries; **7)** Automation of Treasurer's Office; **8)** Maintenance of a Comprehensive Debt Schedule; **9)** Betterment Receivable Maintenance; **10)** Treasurer/Collector's Pursuit of Tax Foreclosures; **11)** Oversight of the Whitinsville Water Company; **12)** Use of a Lockbox to Process Municipal Payments; **13)** Internal Control Policies and Procedures Manual; **14)** Budgeted Estimated Revenues; **15)** Fixed Asset Account Maintenance; **16)** Chart of Accounts; **17)** Bank Accounts Using the Town's Federal I.D. Number; **18)** Excess Bank Accounts; **19)** Police Special Detail; **20)** Tailings; **21)** Planning Board Deposits; **22)** Withholding Accounts; **23)** General Long Term Obligations Account Group; **24)** Security of the Town Hall Mailroom; **25)** Town Clerk's Office Pre-Numbered Documents; and **26)** Statement No. 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. For further details, the complete Management Letter can be found on file in the Town Manager's Office and Town Accountant's Office.

Town Manager's Report. **1)** Town Manager recommended that the mileage rate be changed from .44 cents to .35cents to save money. **2)** Streetlights – 167 lights will be shut off with a savings of approximately \$10,000.00. **3)** Whitinsville Water Company – the Town Beach is closed. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he spoke to Don Bunker, General Manager of the WWC about the causeway. Mr. Bunker mentioned their attorney would be reviewing the deed to the causeway and will be in touch with the Town Manager. **4)** Town Manager Goals and Objectives – he recommended a workshop be held to discuss the goals and objectives of the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen's Concerns. **Selectman Ampagoomian/1)** reviewed the letter from Mr. Jolles on the fire station land; **2)** present with the Building, Planning, and Construction Committee a design and cost factor analysis for a new fire station and DPW garage at the Fall Town Meeting; **3)** donating money to different departments; **4)** Plummer's Corner. **Selectman Montecalvo/1)** Puccio Land; **2)** agenda way too long. **Chairman Audette** passed out a document and asked that it be kept confidential (land on Casey Road). This will be on a future agenda. **Selectman Marzec/1)** Church Street--Can the tree that is down in front of Highland Farms be replaced? **2)** Citizen complaint about a Cable show that aired late at night and was very graphic.

Town Manager Kozak mentioned that Representative George Peterson provided him with a gift of \$500 towards the Northbridge Fireworks. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to accept the gift. in the amount of \$500.00 from Representative Peterson for the Town fireworks. Vote yes/Unanimous.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 12:30 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen
Joint Meeting
w/School Committee
June 26, 2007**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge High School Media Center, 427 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Marzec, Montecalvo, Davis, and Ampagoomian. **School Committee Members:** Chairman Kristin Burns, Andrew Myers, Susan Brouwer, Michael Lebrasseur, Karen Peterson Kittredge, Paula Grabowski, and Leeann Hansson,

Also Present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager, Superintendent Paul Soojian, George Murray, Director of Operations, and Joanne Melia, Secretary.

Executive Session. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 (Negotiations) and to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 7:03 P.M.

Executive Session Convened: 7:04 P.M.

Executive Session Adjourned: 7:42 P.M.

Open Session Reconvened: 7:45 P.M.

School Committee Vacancy/Joint Appointment of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee:

Mr. Gregory Fuller withdrew his name for contention, which left Kimberly Morrison as the only candidate. A motion/Ms. Susan Brouwer, seconded/Ms. Karen Peterson Kittredge to appoint Kimberly Morrison as the School Committee member until the next annual town election. Vote yes/Unanimous.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to accept the Town Manager's proposal to all union bargaining units. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian, and Marzec. Abstain/Mr. Audette.

China Pacific Alcohol Violation Penalty/Vote to commence a 45-day license suspension beginning Wednesday, June 27, 2007 at 8:00 A.M. through the close of business August 10, 2007. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to implement the 45-day suspension as stated at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on June 18, 2007; that the suspension commence on Monday, July 2, 2007 through the close of business on August 15, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Recap Sheet/Vote to approve and sign. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the A2 forms submitted for the water and sewer enterprise funds. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Selectmen's Concerns: 1) Parking on sidewalk at Brian's Restaurant – referred to Safety Committee for handling.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to adjourn the meeting.

Open Session Adjourned: 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph J. Montecalvo, Clerk

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
July 9, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Montecalvo and Ampagoomian.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Selectman Montecalvo sent happy birthday wishes to his mother-in-law who is 100 years old.

Approval of Minutes.

June 18, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the June 18, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

June 26, 2007 [Joint Meeting w/School Committee]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the June 26, 2007 Joint Meeting with the School Committee minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

June 26, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the June 26, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Public Hearing. 7:05 P.M./FY 2006 Community Development Block Grant [Village Improvements Project] Present: Jennifer Dulmaine. The proposed amendment will expand the scope of the town's previously approved Village Infrastructure Improvements Project, which includes the design and construction of Phase I Border Street from Main Street to D Street. This discussion will expand the design to include, A Street, B Street, C Street, and D Street as part of this phase, pending funding availability. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A requirement by DHCD to make any changes to an existing program, such as expanding and eliminating, a program amendment process needs to be conducted [public hearing] along with a vote by the Board of Selectmen approving the change. On April 23, 2007, a bid opening for the construction portion of Phase 1 Border Street from Main Street to D Street took place. The bid came under budget by \$60,000. Mr. Richard Sasseville mentioned that he wholeheartedly supports this project. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to expand the scope of the Community Block Grant Program. Vote yes/Unanimous. Ms. Dulmaine provided a quick update on the removal of the utility poles on Church Street.

Appointments/By the Town Manager. Sealer of Weights and Measures – Present: Louis H. Sakin. The Town Manager introduced and recommended Louis H. Sakin for the Sealer of Weights and Measures appointment. Mr. James Sheehan, Building Inspector spoke briefly about the candidates past experience and recommended him for the position. Mr. Sakin informed the Board of Selectmen that he has been a certified Sealer of Weights and Measures since 1999. He mentioned that he would be looking at the fee schedule and recommending a change. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to confirm the Town Manager's appointment of Louis H. Sakin as the Sealer of Weights and Measures. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen. Cultural Council - Present: Selena Livingston – 192 Shannon Drive, Stacie Murray – 43 Tipperary Drive, and Jill LeBallister-Dudka – 322 Samuel Drive.** All three candidates introduced themselves and provided the Board of Selectmen with a brief update on why they would like to serve on the Cultural Council. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to appoint Selena Livingston, Stacie Murray and Jill LeBallister-Dudka to the cultural council. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Davis mentioned that he made a public disclosure by submitting a note to the Town Clerk mentioning that his brother Anthony Davis is on the cable committee. He exercised his rights to vote on the next appointment, as he felt there is no conflict of interest in doing so. **Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen. Cable Advisory Committee - Present: Harry Berkowitz, David Miedema, III, Anthony Davis, Shelley Buma, Ronald Guillaume, and Steven Holm.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to reappoint Harry Berkowitz, David Miedema, III and Anthony Davis to the Cable Advisory Committee. Selectman Ampagoomian made a motion to reappoint these three candidates to the Cable Advisory Committee. Selectman Davis indicated he would like all the candidates interviewed first before making a decision. Chairman Audette mentioned there is a motion on the floor. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian and Montecalvo. Vote no/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. Candidates introduced themselves and spoke briefly, on why they were interested in serving on the Cable Advisory Committee. Selectman Davis questioned the failure to file minutes with the Town Clerk's office. ***Selectman Davis also questioned**

Mr. Berkowitz on his TV show “3 on 11” and not airing the tape developed by Sal D’Amato for the Election bid”. Selectman Ampagoomian called a point of order in reference to Selectman Davis’ questions and comments relative to filing Cable Committee minutes ***and further stated that Selectman Davis should separate his issues in respect to the cable advisory committee versus the cable shows”**. He further commented that Mr. Berkowitz should not be punished for things that occur on his cable show at night. Chairman Audette thanked all the candidates for coming forward and showing interest. Sharron Ampagoomian spoke about all the purchases she has made while being on the Cable Advisory Committee. She expressed her feelings of concern for the way Harry Berkowitz was mistreated this evening and felt that he was attacked personally. There being no further comments, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to appoint Harry Berkowitz to the Cable Advisory Committee. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian. Vote no/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Shelley Buma to a three-year position on the Cable Advisory Committee. Selectman Ampagoomian called a point of order to address the order of business with respect to the reappointments and the vacancy position. ***He mentioned that the Board of Selectmen should not have reappointed the Conservation Commission position, for they to had an applicant applying for a position**. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Audette and Davis. Vote no/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to reappoint David Miedema, III to a three-year term on the Cable Advisory Committee. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to appoint Ronald Guillaume to a three-year term on the Cable Advisory Committee. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Audette. Vote no/Messrs. Marzec and Davis. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Steven Holm to the vacancy appointment on the Cable Advisory Committee. Vote yes/Unanimous. Chairman Audette thanked all the candidates for applying. With that said, he asked the candidates that were not appointed to try again in the future.

Citizens’ Comments/Input. Chairman Audette asked that all Citizens’ address the Chair with their questions, not the Board of Selectmen. **Jill Redding, 1791 Providence Road, Vice-President of the Teacher’s Association** discussed Health Insurance and made the Selectmen aware that the Teacher’s Union did not bargain the increase in their co-payments. The Teacher’s Union only negotiated the increase in their contributions to their Health Insurance premium. The other issue Ms. Redding addressed was COBRA. The teacher’s laid off in June were told they owed COBRA payments, in which, Ms. Redding informed the Selectmen the teacher’s were paid through September and worked the allotted 185 days of school. **Mr. Lou Cornacchioli, Massachusetts Teacher’s Association** spoke on behalf of the Northbridge Teacher’s Association. He addressed M.G.L. Chapter 150E Collective Bargaining and 32B - Health Insurance Law and felt the Town of Northbridge is in clear violation. With that said, a person who works in the School system has their Health Insurance taken out of their pay for 26 payments, which brings them through the summer, even if the person were to be laid off in the summer. Mr. Cornacchioli mentioned that the Teacher’s Association couldn’t bargain with the Town side, only the school committee with respect to their Health Insurance. He mentioned the Town would lose this case if they continue to move forward with the increase in co-payments. The School Committee is the only one the Teacher’s Union can bargain with, not the Town. **Dianne Mimmo, 30 Green Meadow Court**, passed out a handout to each Selectman with respect to the Full Day Kindergarten program. After reviewing all the information, Ms. Mimmo mentioned that once FY 2009 and FY 2010 arrive, the Town would actually face a deficit by cutting the Full Day Kindergarten program. She briefly discussed the analysis that was done by Superintendent Soojian regarding the salaries for full day kindergarten vs. half-day kindergarten. That said, she mentioned that she spoke with Mr. Soojian and the School Committee and asked them to hold an emergency meeting to discuss their budget line items. **Paul Cloutier, 150 Olivia Drive**, briefly spoke on why he moved to the Town of Northbridge 2 years ago. He and his wife Vickie researched alot of towns before choosing Northbridge as the town they wanted to reside in. They have a daughter going to kindergarten this year and he and his wife are upset that this program was eliminated. He tried contacting five members of the School Committee and the Superintendent of Schools to discuss his concerns but received no response from either party. As a parent and taxpayer, he is troubled with their lack of response. He asked the Board of Selectmen to pressure the School Committee into looking at the big picture. **Jeffrey Travers, 23 Devon Drive**, suggested that the Board of Selectmen give some directive to the School Committee and Superintendent to hold a meeting to discuss the funding of the full day kindergarten program.

Northbridge Youth Soccer Association/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from August 10th through August 25th for their Annual Fall Kick-Off Festival to be held on August 25, 2007 at the Rockdale field from 11 AM to 4 PM. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the above banner request. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Safety Committee Minutes [June 20, 2007] /Vote to accept recommendations. Selectmen Montecalvo provided a brief update; **1)** decide upon a street name in Carpenter Estates. The new street name would be Hannah Drive. **2)** Increased traffic near the Northbridge Middle School was tabled to another meeting. **3)** Non-Regulatory Signs – the Safety Committee recommends that the Board of Selectmen establish a policy for the installation of signs. **4)** Town Beach “No Parking Signs” – Chief Warchol will instruct his officers to police the Town Beach more frequently to cut down on parking on both sides of the road. **5)**

Streetlight “Turn Off’s” – Mr. Sasseville provided a list of all the streetlights in town and requested the Police Department make recommendations as to which lights are turned off. These recommendations would take into consideration the street light criteria adopted in 1995. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of June 20, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Fusions Dance Centre [Maria Dick] /Vote to approve Dance permit. Present: Maria Dick. Ms. Dick informed the Board that she lives in Spencer and has taken over the Dance Centre located at 167 Church Street, Whitinsville. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve Fusions Dance Centre permit. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Faith Fellowship [Pastor Gil Parmley]/Request permission to use the Balmer School parking lot and Vail Field on Sunday, August 19, 2007 for their 3rd annual End of the Summer Community Outreach. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the above request. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Anonymous Donation of Office Equipment/Vote to accept non-monetary gift. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that an anonymous donor would like to donate a plotter machine to the building department. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the non-monetary gift with appreciation. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Fall Annual Town Meeting. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that per the town’s charter, the Board of Selectmen need to vote to close the warrant. He asked that the Board start looking at dates to close the warrant. Selectman Davis advised Town Manager Kozak to discuss this with the Town Moderator.

Whitinsville Water Company/Town of Northbridge Water Distribution Systems. Present: Richard Sasseville. Mr. Sasseville provided an update on the previous study done in 1994 on whether the town should purchase the Whitinsville Water Company. The bottom line had three proposals and none of them were recommended; 1) Town should attempt to acquire the assets of the Whitinsville Water Company and own the entire water system that serves the Town of Northbridge. 2) The converse which was that the Town should sell its assets in the Northbridge Water System, without specifying selling to whom, but at least offer it up for sale, with the thought of the Whitinsville Water Company would be the purchaser of the water system. 3) Do nothing. The majority voted to do nothing to the water system back in 1995. Selectman Davis suggested this topic be brought to the forefront to discuss the options of purchasing the system. That said, the Board suggested that the Town Manager contact the Whitinsville Water Company to pursue further discussion of the chance to purchase the water distribution systems.

Formation of Sewer District. Present: Richard Sasseville. Town Manager Kozak received a letter from the former fire chief, Cornelius Madigan inquiring about sewer rates and forming a sewer district. Mr. Sasseville mentioned that he researched information regarding forming a sewer district on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts website and found that sewer districts are established by legislation of the State. The formation of a sewer district would separate the operation of the Northbridge sewer system treatment plant and collection system from the Town Government. This would mean that the Board of Selectmen would no longer serve as the sewer commissioners but would have an elected Board.

Town Manager’s Report. 1) Building, Planning, and Construction Committee Update. Town Manager Kozak provided the Selectmen with an update on the Police Station and Middle School roofs. The Police Station roof has been completed and paid for with the exception of a 10% retainer fee. The Middle School is ahead of schedule and going well. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the school department is in the process of trying to find equipment and time to start the renovation process of the fields. Discussion of Town Hall - future work needed and the School Committee turning the Aldrich School Building over to the Town Hall. Pro’s and Con’s on selling the Aldrich Building. Fire Station and DPW projects would be reviewed this summer with representatives. Moving forward on the skateboard project. 2) M.O.R.E. Update – Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he attended the M.O.R.E. Regional Purchase Group meeting. 3) Whitinsville Water Company [Town Beach] – mentioned a discussion he had with Don Bunker about people using the Town Beach as long as signs were posted stating “No Lifeguard”. The Board [with the exception of Selectman Montecalvo] agreed to residents using the town beach. Selectman Montecalvo feels this is a safety issue. 4) Gift Accounts - Town Manager provided the Board of Selectmen with a list of gift accounts. 5) Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he had a discussion with the Chairman of the Finance Committee with respect to this being the last week to transfer funds within line items. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the Chairman of the Finance Committee has recommended the Board of Selectman vote tonight to authorize the Chairman and Town Manager Kozak to authorize the transfer of funds. A motion/Mr. Davis seconded/Mr. Marzec to allow Town Manager Kozak and Chairman William Audette to authorize the transfer of funds if needed. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. Vote no/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian.

Selectmen’s Concerns. Selectman Ampagoomian 1) congratulated Selectman Montecalvo for being chosen as the Acting Town Manager of Millbury. 2) Inquired about the Town Manager providing an

overview to the residents about a previous held meeting. Town Manager Kozak provided a brief update on the Health Insurance. He mentioned that the Board of Selectmen voted to approve his proposal to all union bargaining units. **Selectman Audette 1)** recent fire on Church Street; thanked the police chief, police department and Town of Uxbridge for their help **2)** Ocean State Job Lot is Open; **3)** Vail Fields scoreboard is gone; **4)** on vacation until July 19, 2007 **5)** Concert on the Common “Summer Concert Series” – Admission is free and is held on the Town Common from 6 to 8 PM. If it rains, it will be held at the Northbridge Middle School. **Selectman Ampagoomian** mentioned that Guy Glodis would be holding his annual barbeque at the Singletary Rod and Gun Club, in Oxford, on July 28th from 12 to 4 PM. Kids are free. Please contact Selectman Ampagoomian at home, if you are interested in buying a ticket.

Items for Future Agenda. 7/19/2007 – [6:00 P.M.] Board of Selectmen & Town Manager’s Goals and Objectives Workshop.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 9:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

At their August 20, 2007 meeting, upon Selectmen Ampagoomian’s requests, the Board of Selectmen voted to amend the July 9, 2007 minutes as follows: In the section titled Appointments/Cable Advisory Committee, Amendment #1 [Paragraph 3, Line 25], insert the following language: “Selectman Davis also questioned Mr. Berkowitz on his TV show “3 on 11” and not airing the tape developed by Sal D’Amato for the Election bid”. Amendment #2 [Paragraph 3, Line 30], insert the following language: “and further stated that Selectman Davis should separate his issues in respect to the cable advisory committee versus the cable shows”. Amendment #3 [Paragraph 3, Line 41], insert the following language: “He mentioned that the Board of Selectmen should not have reappointed the Conservation Commission position, for they to, had an applicant applying for a position.

**Board of Selectmen
Joint Meeting
with Finance Committee
July 16, 2007**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee was called to order by Vice-Chairman James Marzec at 6:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian and Montecalvo. Chairman William Audette was absent and it is duly recorded.

Also Present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager; Finance Committee Members: Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Mary Thompson, Plato Adams, and Andrew Todd.

FY 2007 End-of-year transfers/Vote to approve. The board was informed that the following end-of-year transfers were needed to cover the FY 2007 Health Insurance deficit.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the following transfers from the Police Department budget to Non-Departmental / Employee Benefits. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Davis, Marzec and Montecalvo.

Police Department

01009100-517000	Non-Departmental / Employee Benefits	\$30,000
01002100-514000	Police-Crt/Trng/Hol	\$9,400
01002100-524015	R&M-Computer Equipment	\$4,900
01002100-530000	Prof & Tech Services	\$1,496
01002100-530500	Training & Seminars	\$1,286
01002100-531000	Contractual Svcs	\$498
01002100-534100	Telephone	\$2,160
01002100-534400	Postage	\$1,224
01002100-542100	Minor Equipment	\$1,808
01002100-548001	Gasoline	\$2,785
01002100-550000	Medical Supplies	\$2,592
01002100-585001	Add'l Equipment	\$1,851

The Finance Committee voted 4-0 in favor of the above transfers.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the following transfers from the Fire Department budget to Non-Departmental / Employee Benefits. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Davis, Marzec and Montecalvo.

Fire Department

01009100-517000	Non-Departmental / Employee Benefit	\$21,000
01002200-530500	Training/Seminars	\$2,500
01002200-548001	Gasoline	\$6,000
01002200-558001	Fire Protection	\$12,500

The Finance Committee voted 4-0 in favor of the above transfers.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the following transfers from the Ambulance Department budget to Non-Departmental / Employee Benefits. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Davis, Marzec and Montecalvo.

Ambulance

01009100-517000	Non-Departmental / Employee Benefit	\$19,700
01002310-511000	Salary Regular	\$15,000
01002310-524003	R&M Vehicle	\$4,000
01002310-548000	Vehicle Supplies	\$700

The Finance Committee voted 3-0-1 in favor of the above transfers.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the following transfers from the DPW Highway Department budget to Non-Departmental / Employee Benefits. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Davis, Marzec and Montecalvo.

DPW Highway Division

01009100-517000	Non-Departmental / Employee Benefits	\$36,900
01004200-512000	Salary Temporary	\$4,150
01004200-514000	Add Gross-Other	\$2,834
01004200-517100	Auto Non-Cash	\$1,572
01004200-521000	Energy	\$28,344

The Finance Committee voted 4-0 in favor of the above transfers.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the joint meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Davis, Montecalvo and Marzec.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
July 23, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Montecalvo and Ampagoomian.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes.

July 16, 2007 Joint Meeting with Finance Committee

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the July 16, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen: Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission: Second Delegate and Alternate. Chairman Audette mentioned that the above commission needed two individuals to be appointed to their committee. Selectman Davis mentioned that he spoke to the person [Mr. Lawrence Adams] that ran the program and asked if he could attend, one of the Selectmen's meetings to explain what they do and how the Selectmen can be of assistance. Chairman Audette will hold off on the appointments until the Board of Selectmen meet with Mr. Lawrence Adams.

Citizens' Comments/Input. Sal D'Amato, Finance Committee Member, passed out a seven-page document entitled "School Tuition Expense & Encumbrances" for the Board of Selectmen to review. He mentioned that the School Department has \$500,000.00 of unencumbered funds on hand that could be used to keep full day kindergarten and to restore other programs. After review of the document, he estimated that there was approximately "an available balance of \$501,698.00." **Kristin DeJong**, 35 Fowler Road, President of the Northbridge Teacher's Association, presented the Board of Selectmen with a letter outlining her concerns regarding remarks that were made by the Town Manger indicating that the Northbridge Teacher's Association refused to negotiate changes in the health plan design. She went on to mention this could not be further from the truth. The proposal for the changes to the health plan design were never formally presented at a bargaining session of the successor agreement and it wasn't until contract negotiations had been completed, a tentative agreement had been signed, and school had been dismissed, that the issue of health design plan changes were formally brought to the NTA. **Mr. Lou Cornacchioli**, Northbridge Teacher's Association Representative, mentioned that a five- page memorandum from Kopelman & Paige, dated July 19, 2006, was sent to all communities referencing Section 19, Chapter 32B, Coalition Bargaining. He referred the Board of Selectmen to page 4 of this memorandum and read the top paragraph to see that it is a clear violation on what the Town has done regarding the bargaining of the health plan design changes. **Amanda Donati**, 49 Heights of Hill Street, and **Kayla Sullivan**, 21 First Avenue, representatives of the Social Justice Group, came before the Board of Selectmen to inform them that the Group would like to donate the \$25,000.00 that they raised for the Skate Park to the Preservation of the Aldrich School System in memory of Margaret Schofield. Chairman Audette thanked them for coming in and giving such a wonderful presentation and asked them to come in and speak to the Town Manager regarding how the process works when turning over money.

Fall Annual Town Meeting/Vote to set the date. Fall Annual Town Meeting/Vote to close the warrant. After a brief discussion about when to hold the Fall Town Meeting, the Town Manager suggested the date of October 30, 2007 but the Board of Selectmen agreed to October 23, 2007. That said, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to set the Fall Annual Town Meeting date for October 23, 2007 in accordance with the town bylaws. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Davis, and Audette. Vote no/Mr. Montecalvo. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the warrant on Friday, September 7, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Town Manager-Board of Selectmen Goals and Objectives Workshop/Reschedule. Town Manager Kozak suggested that all Board members be present. Selectman Ampagoomian suggested that a one-on-one be more appropriate. The consensus of the Board was to have all members present. Chairman Audette will contact Sharon Susienka to pinpoint a date.

Northbridge Education Foundation/Presentation on the reinstatement of athletics and extra-curricular activities. Present: Kathryn Ducey, 32 Ivy Lane, **Paula Grabowski**, 60 Lea Ave. and **Fred Beauregard**, 75 Kennedy Circle. The above group came before the Board of Selectman to advise them of who they are and what they are trying to accomplish. They are representatives of the Northbridge Education Foundation to discuss the funding of the Northbridge School System. Mrs. Ducey mentioned that their organization has a multi-talented board that included finance and accounting, education, marketing, technology, fund-raising and law. The officers on this Board are: Kathryn Ducey, President; Marty Green, Vice President; Matthew White, Treasurer; Jane Rutana, Secretary and they have over 150

volunteers and is growing weekly. Mrs. Ducey mentioned that they filed their articles of organization with the Secretary of State and are applying for a 501C3 Status so they can function as a non-profit organization. Their website is www.northbridgefoundation.com. Mr. Beauregard mentioned that he is on the Event Committee, which consists of 8 members, and they gather once a week to evaluate all the different events that people in the town bring to them to try and raise money to fund the organization.

Northbridge Education Foundation/1) Request to use the Whitinsville Town Common on Saturday, September 22, 2007; and 2) Hang a banner across Church Street from August 20th through August 25th to advertise a “Concert for Kids” benefit. Present: Paula Grabowski. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to allow the Northbridge Education Foundation to use the Whitinsville Town Common on Saturday, September 22, 2007 for a fund-raising event from 8 AM to 1 PM subject to the safety requirements of the Chief of Police and DPW Department. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Marzec asked if they could advertise their fundraising events on the Town Hall sign. Town Manager Kozak informed the organization of the procedure and to send some type of notification to the Town Manager’s office requesting the event be displayed on the bulletin board. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the Northbridge Education Foundation to hang a banner over Church Street from August 20, 2007 to August 25, 2007 to advertise a “Concert for Kids” benefit. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Armenian Apostolic Church/1) Request to hang a banner over Church Street from August 13, 2007 to August 20, 2007 to advertise their Annual Picnic to be held Sunday, August 19, 2007. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the above request as presented. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec and Audette. Abstain/Messrs. Ampagoomian and Montecalvo. **2) Request for one-day Wines and Malt Liquor License for the Annual Picnic, August 19, 2007.** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the one-day license request. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Davis and Audette. Abstain/Messrs. Ampagoomian and Montecalvo.

Mass DEP/Mass Recycles Paper Campaign/Vote to support the campaign in the form of a resolution. Present: Marilyn Baker, Chairman of the Recycling Committee. Ms. Baker recommends that if the Board of Selectmen adopt this resolution then they need to have someone in charge to follow through with the requirements of the campaign. Chairman Audette suggested this topic be placed on a different agenda for further discussion. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Marzec to adopt and support the MASS. DEP/Mass Recycles Paper Campaign in the form of a resolution. Selectman Davis suggested more research be done on this before adopting. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Montecalvo and Audette. Vote no/Mr. Davis.

Preservation Massachusetts/Vote to nominate Castle Hill Farm property. Present: Barbara Gaudette, Chairman of the Planning Board. Ms. Gaudette mentioned that Preservation Massachusetts is a non-profit preservation advocacy organization and is currently soliciting nominations for 2007. The Planning Board met to discuss what valuable historic sites and landscapes were in the Town of Northbridge. Their board identified and is recommending that Castle Hill Farm be nominated for the most endangered historic resource program. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to nominate Castle Hill farm property for the 10 most endangered historic resource program. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Whitinsville Water Company [Don Bunker, General Manager]. Mr. Bunker provided the Board with an update on where the Water Company stands with the planning and construction of the Water Treatment Facility for the Sutton Well field. He stated that a consent order was signed last year with Mass DEP to plan, design, and construct the water treatment facility at Sutton Well field. This was a requirement of DEP because of changes and additions to their business regulations. He then mentioned they are going through the final design changes and are now in the process of developing the preliminary design report. All testing was performed at the well have gone accordingly. Mr. Bunker mentioned that the project is on track and the consent order by DEP has to be operational by September 30, 2009. The amount of money estimated to build this treatment plant is around 5 million dollars.

Funding Full Day Kindergarten. Selectman Davis suggested a proposal to help save full day kindergarten. The proposal he suggested was to transfer the funds received from the settlement of the High School field negotiations to reinstitute the Full Day Kindergarten program. This would mean that the Board of Selectmen need to agree to transfer the funds and School Committee and Superintendent would need to agree to support/fund the full day program. This was just a proposal and could help the School receive all their Chapter 70 funds the following year. **Mr. Jeffrey Travers**, 23 Devon Drive, provided a brief overview on the costs of preserving the full day kindergarten program. With that said, he provided figures to the Board of Selectmen and mentioned the loss of Chapter 70 funds in an amount of \$338,148.00 and forfeiting \$134,000 in state grants. **Selectman Montecalvo** mentioned that he is not in favor of using the settlement money for the fields to fund the kindergarten program. He advocated that in the past, the municipal side has always given monies to the Schools, and they have never once helped the municipal side. He then mentioned that the library will be losing their accreditation and the Senior Center will lose state aid/grants. By giving the School this money to fund the full day kindergarten program, it will only be a temporary fix. *He also stated that the Town Manager should not have gone before the

School Committee about this issue without the full consent of the Selectmen. *Selectman Davis stated that Mr. Kozak appeared before the School Committee at his request. **Selectman Ampagoomian** is not in favor of giving up the field settlement funds to support the full day kindergarten program. He mentioned there are many areas in town that need assistance too, such as, the DPW, Fire Station, etc., and felt since this money was a settlement agreement and should only used for what its intended for. **Selectman Marzec** was in favor of preserving the full day kindergarten and feels that if the money is just sitting there why not use it to fund the program. Chairman Audette mentioned he felt it was a good proposal but whether or not the School Committee supports the idea would be decided upon Thursday, July 26, 2007. **Mr. Peter Mimmo** asked the Board of Selectmen if they would be present for the School Committee Meeting on Thursday night and thanked them for their support in preserving the full day kindergarten program.

Town Manager Kozak 1) provided the Board of Selectmen with an update from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue on the FY2008 pro forma recap. DOR mentioned that the Town of Northbridge has met the requirements and that our budget is balanced. **2)** commended 5 Police officers for a job well done in their assistance to rescue two victims from a recent house fire on Church Street. The officers names were: Sgt. Stephen Zollin, Detective Donald Roy, Off. Joshua Nadeau, Off. Matthew Leonard and Off. Jeffrey White. **3)** Department of Housing Community Development Grant Program – Town Manager Kozak informed the Selectmen that the Town of Northbridge’s FY 2007 Community Development Block Grant would not be funded. With that said, Ms. Dulmaine CDBG Program Director will re-apply in the next round of funding applications in hopes to regain funding for the next fiscal year. **4)** The Town of Douglas is looking for the Town of Northbridge to support the CMRPC {Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Committee} Regional Economic Development initiative. This initiative would give the much-needed support for all of our economic development planning efforts. The Town Manager recommended that the Board of Selectmen support this and send a letter of support to the attention of Lawrence Adams, Executive Director at the CMRPC by July 27, 2007. **5)** A list of streetlights to be turned off has been provided to all Board of Selectmen. This list was published on cable and the town website for citizens to review. **6)** Health Insurance plan designs have been instituted and well receptive.

Selectmen’s Concerns. Selectman Davis 1) Status on all legal issues for the next meeting. **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** update on the fire station and DPW facility, revisit proposal from Mr. Jolles on the West End School Site. **2)** plans on joining the MORE organization. Town Manager Kozak mentioned due to the funding they are limited this year, however MORE is allowing him to attend the meetings even though he is not a member. **3)** mentioned that the Town Accountant, Neil Vaidya should also be commended for helping with the Uxbridge fire at Bernat Mills. **4)** addressed a comment made by Mr. Sal D’Amato, under citizen’s forum – the money that was set aside for the detention basins on Linwood Ave. wasn’t given out by the former town manager but it was done in Executive Session with the recommendation of the Building, Planning and Construction Committee to offset the legal costs for litigation. **5)** passed out a document to each of the Selectmen and Town Manager to review. **Selectman Marzec 1)** two residents called regarding their concerns with the increase in their water and sewer bill. **Chairman Audette 1)** commended and thanked the Northbridge firefighter’s for the mutual aid they provided to the Uxbridge firefighter’s during the recent fire at Bernat Mills. He offered his thoughts and sympathy to all the businesses that were lost.

Town Manager Kozak read aloud a statement he prepared to address a personal incident that took place on Friday, July 13, 2007, where he was involved in the operation of a motor vehicle violation in South Hadley and was legally charged. However, at this time he was advised by legal counsel not to comment on this issue. He mentioned he would not let this interfere with the performance of his job as Town Manager. Chairman Audette offered his support.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned: PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

***At their meeting of August 20, 2007, at Selectman Ampagoomian’s request, the Board of Selectmen agreed to amend the minutes as follows: Paragraph 12 [Funding Full Day Kindergarten], Line 14, add the following sentence “He also stated that the Town Manager should not have gone before the School Committee about this issue without the full consent of the Selectmen. *Selectman Davis further amended it as follows “Selectman Davis stated that Mr. Kozak appeared before the School Committee at his request”.**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
August 6, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Vice Chairman James Marzec at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo and Ampagoomian.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes.

June 18, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the June 18, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen: Election Officers (Republican, Democrat, Unenrolled) –

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to appoint the Republican, Democratic and Unenrolled Election Officers as listed in the Selectmen's agenda packets. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Conservation Commission: Mark Godfrey. Vice Chairman Marzec announced Mr. Mark Godfrey withdrew his name for consideration.

Citizens' Comments/Input. None

The Village Congregational Church (Pastor Robert G. Sherwood) 1) Request permission to use the Town Common for the Annual Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 29, 2007 from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. (Rain date: 9/30/07, from 12 P.M. – 3 P.M.). A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the above request. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Request to block off Church Street from in front of the Church to the intersection of Park Street.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the above request subject to the safety requirements of the Police Department and Department of Public Works. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Community Opportunities Group [Wayne Darragh, COG Representative, Jennifer Dulmaine, OCD and Richard Sasseville, DPW Director] 1) FY 08 Grant Award, 2) Proposed Projects for 2008. Town Manager Kozak stated he originally invited Mr. Peter Sanborn in this evening to discuss this topic however due to unavailability Mr. Darragh was present to discuss what happened with the grant application process, why the Town was not accepted, and how they can better prepare for next year. Ms. Jennifer Dulmaine provided the Board of Selectmen with a packet of information with respect to the Village Infrastructure Improvements Project. With that said, the Town of Northbridge's FY 2007 CDBG application was not funded. However, Ms. Dulmaine provided the Board with the scoring for the towns that submitted applications and mentioned that she is not discouraged because she feels the project is worthy of funding and will apply again in FY 2008. Mr. Darragh explained the process and how the DHCD scored the Town of Northbridge's projects versus other towns. He mentioned that the application process has changed substantially with submitting on-line applications versus hard copy applications. He suggested that maybe the data/activity did not translate well online. Other potential changes on the horizon, including the requirement to have a separate more comprehensive public outreach effort prior to the application preparation in conjunction with the community development strategy. There is discussion with the reduction of maximum grant awards and changing the bonus points scoring. That said, the Town of Northbridge has been funded since 1995, and Mr. Darragh was very surprised to find out that Northbridge would not be funded this year. Selectman Davis had asked if the New Village Infrastructure Project would be completed, and Ms. Dulmaine replied, that it was a multi-phase project so it would not be considered complete. However, Border Street will be designed and constructed because it had been approved under the 2006 grant. Ms. Dulmaine provided the Board of Selectmen with a PowerPoint presentation on the New Village Infrastructure Project. The presentation included the target area [Border Street, Overlook Street and Crescent Street], funding source [FY 2006 Grant Funding and Chapter 90 Highway Funding], commitment [neighborhood support, Board of Selectmen support, strong public support during concept and design workshops, New Village Target area certified as a Slum and Blight area], project scope [public investment, ADA handicapped accessible sidewalks, roadway repairs/repaving, drainage improvements, tree planting, and aesthetic enhancements] and recommendations [support design of subsequent phases using remaining grant funds, continue submitting CDBG grant applications, and use of Chapter 90 for design and construction of North Main Street (not part of CDBG Target Area). After a brief question and answer session, Vice Chairman Marzec thanked Ms. Dulmaine, Mr. Sasseville and Mr. Darragh for taking time out of their busy schedules to discuss the future projects and funding for the town.

Daily Bread Bakery and Café [Christopher Sohigian] / Planning a “BYOB” event. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the Board of Selectmen could approve the permit; however, Mr. Sohigian was not present to discuss. Vice-Chairman Marzec suggested this be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

Playground and Recreation/Update on Fields and Future Projects. Present: Playground & Recreation Committee Members: Bruce Frieswick, Scott Macintosh, Bridget Curley and John Phelan. The Playground and Recreation Committee provided the Board of Selectmen with a handout to review during their PowerPoint presentation. John Phelan discussed the progress his committee made in the past year with respect to the updates and repairs of the Linwood Field, Vail Field, Balmer Field, Riverdale Field and Rockdale Field. With that said, in order to continue making progress in the fields, the Linwood Fields would be closed from August 17, 2007 through next summer of 2008 in order to have the field in playing condition. The Playground and Recreation Committee thanked the Board of Selectmen for their support. The Board of Selectmen mentioned having the Town Manager contact the Sherriff’s Department to see if the inmates could rake and mow the fields. Town Manager Kozak will contact the Sherriff’s Department this week.

Town Manager Kozak 1) updated the citizens in town on the Meadow Pond Spill. He mentioned that the Whitinsville Water Company and the Fire Department were contacted and notified of 5 gallons of food grade vegetable-based oil that had been released into Meadow Pond due to a pump breaking. From Saturday to Wednesday, TMC Environmental Services and Tinio Corporation removed the oil from the pond. The DEP was notified and aware of the current conditions. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that at no time was there any toxic material released to the environment. **2) MORE Update** – attended a meeting and mentioned they are still looking into EPA and State Regulations for water and sewer usage. Town Manager Kozak mentioned attending the MORE Annual meeting in September 21, 2007 but will provide more details at a later date. **3) Recycling** – A representative from DEP discussed the towns recycling center and thought our community would be willing to expand our recycling site. Town Manager will be inviting them in to discuss their issues with our recycling committee. **4) Aldrich School Usage** – the School Committee will be turning the Aldrich building over to the town. Mr. James Sheehan, Inspector of Buildings conducted a preliminary review of the Aldrich School for possible usage. **5) Town Manager Kozak met with Lou Sakin, Weights & Measures Inspector to discuss Inspection Fees and the possibility of raising the fees.** Mr. Sakin will come to a future Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss his ideas and concerns relative to the fee structure. **6) Hiring of Reserve Officers - Training will be paid for by grants, per Police Chief Warchol.** The Board of Selectmen and Town Manager were in favor of hiring reserve officers.

Selectmen’s Concerns. Selectman Ampagoomian 1) adopting recycling policy, the planning board does recycle. **2) Inspector Generals Office** – have they responded regarding the Veteran’s Office. **3) Budgetary Process – Line Items 4) Goals and Objectives for the Town Manager** – discuss after a Selectmen’s meeting. **5) Mass Highway Project [Brian’s Restaurant]** – meeting on August 15th. **6) American Legion - 3rd Annual Car Show on Sunday, August 12, 2007.** **Selectman Marzec 1)** mentioned he spoke to a woman who is willing to help elderly and citizens in town with their oil cost. **Selectman Ampagoomian** asked if there would be a conflict with Selectman Montecalvo signing the Armenian Church One Day Beer and Wine License because he abstained when voting. Town Manager Kozak responded no. **Vice-Chairman Marzec** personally thanked all the individuals in town who contributed their time to the restoration of the fields.

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
August 20, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 6:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Montecalvo, Marzec and Ampagoomian. **Also present:** Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

Executive Session. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B #3 (Litigation) and (Negotiations) and to reconvene in open session. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, and Mr. Audette/Yes. Selectman Davis was absent and is duly noted.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:01 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:02 PM

***Selectman Davis arrived at 6:04 P.M.**

Executive Session Adjourned: 7:05 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:06 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Public Hearing. 7:05 PM Steve Tran d/b/a North Main Variety/1) Application for Change of Location from 205 North Main Street, Whitinsville, to 206 North Main Street, Whitinsville; 2) Application for Change of DBA from North Main Variety to 1Quikstop. Chairman Audette read the public hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to open the public hearing. Present: Attorney Kevin Quinlan, Lane & Hammer and Steve Tran, Owner. Attorney Quinlan announced that due to an earlier discussion, with Sharon Susienka from the Town Manager's Office, Mr. Steve Tran would need to go before the Board of Health and Safety Committee before the Board of Selectmen could approve the change in location. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to continue the public hearing on September 24, 2007 after Mr. Tran has had time to meet with the other boards to go over some concerns/issues. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Approval of Minutes.

July 9, 2007

Selectman Ampagoomian asked that the minutes be amended as follows: In the section titled Appointments/Cable Advisory Committee, Amendment #1 [Paragraph 3, Line 25], insert the following language: "Selectman Davis also questioned Mr. Berkowitz on his TV show "3 on 11" and not airing the tape developed by Sal D'Amato for the Election bid". Amendment #2 [Paragraph 3, Line 30], insert the following language: "and further stated that Selectman Davis should separate his issues in respect to the cable advisory committee versus the cable shows". Amendment #3 [Paragraph 3, Line 41], insert the following language: "He mentioned that the Board of Selectmen should not have reappointed the Conservation Commission position for they had an applicant applying for a position". A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the July 9, 2007 amended minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

July 23, 2007

Selectman Ampagoomian suggested the minutes be amended by adding the following verbiage, Paragraph 12 [Funding Full Day Kindergarten], Line 14; add the following sentence "He also stated that the Town Manager should not have gone before the School Committee about this issue without the full consent of the Selectmen. Selectman Davis further amended it as follows: "Selectman Davis stated that Mr. Kozak appeared before the School Committee at his request". A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the July 23, 2007 minutes as amended with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens' Comments/Input. Representative George Peterson, Jr. appeared before the Board of Selectmen to see if they had any concerns or questions he could answer. With that said, he mentioned there hasn't been much activity going on at the State House, however after Labor Day things would be picking up. Chairman Audette asked Representative Peterson about a letter that the Board of Selectmen/Town Manager received by the Group Insurance Commission and is wondering why cities and towns are only having a couple months to deal with this situation. Representative Peterson responded that the Governor just signed the bill a couple weeks ago and there would be informational meetings scheduled within the next few weeks to discuss the bill. Selectman Montecalvo asked if the vetoes would be taken up again. Representative Peterson mentioned the veto overrides would be taken up again after

Labor Day. He further stated that Selectman Montecalvo could contact the Speakers office or the Chairman of Ways and Means, Representative Bob DeLeo, because they make the primary decision on what veto's are being taken up. Selectman Davis inquired about a letter received from Mass Highway on the bridge project [Mumford River]. Representative Peterson mentioned that the plan was not accepted by the State but the bridge replacement program has reviewed it however, the program would not allow them to use the Building, Planning and Construction Committees plan. Selectman Marzec mentioned that a number of citizens in town are expressing concerns on the conditions of our roads and asked if he could assist the town in anyway. Representative Peterson asked that the town submit specific roads and projects to him and he will look into moving them up on the list. He then mentioned contacting our representative on the Central Mass Regional Planning Committee [Richard Sasseville, DPW Director]. Mr. Sasseville spoke up, informed Representative Peterson that he is the contact, and asked if he could help move the Sutton Street project along. The original bid/design work was higher than expected so Mass Highway was going to talk with the engineer and firm to renegotiate a price. Chairman Ampagoomian thanked Representative Peterson for attending the Armenian Church Picnic. With that said, he mentioned if the Governor decides to mandate full day kindergarten he hopes the State will also pay for it.

Joseph Baldwin/Request to use the Rockdale Common for his wedding on August 25, 2007 from 10 AM to 11 AM. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve Joseph Baldwin's request to use the Rockdale Common for his wedding on August 25, 2007 from 10 AM to 11 AM. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Northbridge Fire Department/Requests permission to conduct a "Fill the Boot" drive for Muscular Dystrophy Association on Saturday, August 25, 2007 from 9 AM to 12 PM, at Memorial Square. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian subject to the Town's Boot Drive policy. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Forsythe Farm Road [Quaker Ridge Development]/Vote intent to lay out Forsythe Farm Road as a public way. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to lay out Forsythe Farm Road as a public way and notify the planning board of this vote. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Rosemary Scrivens [Central Mass. Metropolitan Planning Organization]/Vote to appoint Second Delegate and Alternate. Ms. Rosemary Scrivens mentioned she was present to discuss a new advisory committee that is being formed for the Central Mass. Metropolitan Planning Organization. She mentioned they are looking for an array of experts to join this committee and have limited the amount of people to 20. These folks will be making recommendations/decisions on how the federal dollars that come to the region for transportation will be spent (Transportation Improvement Program).

Sealer of Weights & Measures [Lou Sakin]/Vote to approve fees. Present: Lou Sakin. Town Manager Kozak mentioned Mr. Sakin has reviewed our current fee structure and noted that they have not changed in 4 to 5 years. With that said, Mr. Sakin made some suggestions/recommendations and they were placed in the Selectmen's packets for their review. After a brief question and answer period, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the fee schedule as presented by Mr. Lou Sakin as of September 1, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Fall Annual Town Meeting – DRAFT #1 [October 23, 2007]/Vote to place articles 1-6 on warrant. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place articles 1-6 on the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mary Frances Powers asked that the articles be read aloud so that the committees and residents of Northbridge know what is being placed on the warrant. Chairman Audette read aloud each article. Town Manager mentioned the agenda was incorrect and the Board should vote on placing articles 1-7 on the warrant. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to amend Draft #1 and place articles 1-7 on the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. After a brief discussion about the articles, the Board of Selectmen decided to hold a Special Meeting on September 5, 2007 @ 6 PM to discuss further and then they will vote to place articles 1-7 on the warrant.

Klocek Property/Donation of land to Town [Present: Attorney Michael Zinni]. Attorney Zinni presented the Board of Selectmen with a plan design on a parcel of land that his client Mr. Klocek would like to donate to the town for use of the public. The approximate size of the property is 2 to 3 acres. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that Mr. Klocek should contact the Conservation Committee and Planning Board to make them apprised of what's going on and eventually it will have to be placed on a warrant for town meeting.

China Pacific Restaurant/Return of Liquor License. Present: Chief Warchol and Manager of the China Pacific, Mr. Lee. Chief Warchol advised the Board of Selectmen that he met with Mr. Lee last Wednesday, August 15, 2007, and noted, that Mr. Lee complied with the conditions that were set forth by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Montecalvo mentioned to Mr. Lee that if this happens again his liquor license would most likely be revoked for good. Mr. Lee understands and further mentioned that he has fired the two bartenders and would be handling the bar area himself.

Announcements by Richard Sasseville, Director of Public Works. DPW Director, Richard Sasseville discussed three items: 1) Department of Public Works will be sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, September 8th from 9 AM to 1 PM at the High School parking lot [Linwood Avenue]; 2) Acknowledged a gift received by Georgette Bishop to the Department of Public Works for the purchase of tools. Mr. Sasseville then mentioned that the Board of Selectmen would need to vote to accept the donation by Georgette Bishop. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept the cash donation to purchase tools for the Department of Public Works. Vote yes/Unanimous. 3) National Security Act of 1947, on September 17, 2007, the United States Air Force will celebrate their 60th Anniversary. In recognition of that, Mr. Sasseville presented the Town of Northbridge with a plaque [Flag of the United States Air Force] to be displayed at the Veteran's Hall on Hill Street and the United States Air Force flag. With that said, he requested for the month of September, the flag of the United States Air Force be flown below the Prisoner Of War flag on the flag pole at the Town Hall. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept the gifts from Mr. Sasseville. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Town Manager Kozak 1) Town Manager Kozak provided an update on the School fields to the Board of Selectmen. The school fields have been cut and look good. Town Manager Kozak spoke to Don Bunker at the Whitinsville Water Company to see if they would donate some water to irrigate the fields. Mr. Bunker will send a representative from his company to meet with someone at the School Department with respect to the use of their sprinkler system. With that said, the prisoner's from the Sheriff's Department will be coming out to work on the fields from August 21st through August 24th. **2)** Met with the Senior Center to see how they were doing and mentioned things are going well pending their low funding. That said, if anyone would like to help volunteer please contact the senior center as they are always looking for help. **3)** Met with the Building, Planning and Construction Committee to discuss projects they are working on. Town Manager Kozak mentioned the BPCC are working on the school field specifications, Plummer's Corner, Skate Park and still looking at the sites for the DPW and Fire Station.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Ampagoomian 1) inquired if a letter went out to Mr. David DerMugrditchian thanking him for building the bulletin board for the town. **2)** received a phone call regarding the Aldrich School system and asked if the tuition was returned back to the parents since the full day kindergarten failed. **3)** update on the Management Letter from Powers and Sullivan. **4)** send a "Thank You" letter to Georgette Bishop thanking her for her contribution to the DPW. **5)** mentioned he received a request from an individual asking if the DPW could cut the curb grass on North Main Street [village]. **Selectman Marzec 1)** suggested that Mr. David DerMugrditchian be present at a Board of Selectmen's meeting so the Board can formally say "thank you". **2)** did the Town Manager get in touch with a woman he referred to him regarding the purchase of fuel? **Chairman Audette 1)** mentioned he was at the Senior Center and Ocean State Job Lot showed up with a large pallet of food and materials for their food bank. He thanked Ocean State Job Lot and the Senior Center personally for doing such a great job at the Food Bank. **2)** received a letter from a resident in town asking about the Aldrich School and why the school isn't being turned into an Administration building.

Items for Future Agenda. 1) Articles for a new DPW and Fire Station. **2)** Goals and Objectives meeting on September 5th @ 6 P.M. **3)** Division of an override for Municipal side and override for the School side.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Negotiations and Litigation and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
September 5, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 6:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Montecalvo, Marzec and Ampagoomian. **Also present:** Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 23, 2007]/Vote to place the articles on the warrant. Present: Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mary Frances Powers. Town Manager Kozak provided the Board of Selectmen with a copy of the articles for their review while he read each article aloud. **Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the High School Fields and Linwood Avenue detention pond restoration projects; or take any other action relative thereto.** Chairman Audette questioned the wording of article 1 and suggested that this article be under the direction of the Building, Planning and Construction Committee. Selectman Davis agreed and asked that the following verbiage be added to line 2, after restoration projects; "under the direction of the Building, Planning and Construction Committee". A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 1 as amended on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 5K of Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws in order to allow the Selectmen to establish a program whereby property owners over the age of 60 on July 1st of any given year may provide volunteer service to the Town, at the State minimum wage, in exchange for a reduction in their real estate tax bills of up to \$750 per Fiscal Year, in addition to any other abatements for which they may be eligible; or take any other action relative thereto.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to place Article 2 as presented on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 3 of the 2007 Spring Session of the Annual Town Meeting (June 12, 2007), appropriations and transfers under the Omnibus Budget Article as follows: NON-DEPARTMENTAL: Line 40: Employee Insurance Benefits; By decreasing the amount previously raised and appropriated by \$15,000.00 and transfer said amount to new Line 40A Life Insurance; or take any other action relative thereto.** Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mary Frances Powers suggested changing the wording to the following: "By transferring \$15,000.00 from the sum previously raised and appropriated the amount from Line 40 Employee Insurance Benefits the sum of \$15,000.00 to a new Line item 40A Life Insurance"; A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 3 with the following verbiage "by transferring the amount of \$15,000.00 from Line 40 to Line Item 40A Life Insurance" on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 3 of the 2007 Spring Session of the Annual Town Meeting (June 12, 2007), appropriations and transfers under the Omnibus Budget Article as follows: NON-DEPARTMENTAL: Line 40: Employee Insurance Benefits; By decreasing the amount previously raised and appropriated by \$ _____; or take any other action relative thereto.** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 4 as written on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 3 of the 2007 Spring Session of the Annual Town Meeting (June 12, 2007), appropriations and transfers under the Omnibus Budget Article as follows: NON-DEPARTMENTAL: Line 43: Stabilization – By increasing the amount previously raised and appropriated by \$ _____; or take any other action relative thereto.** Mary Frances Powers, Chairman of the Finance Committee suggested changing the wording of line 4 above to: "by transferring from available funds from the treasury the sum of ". A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to place Article 5, as amended above, on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the proceeds of the sale of surplus property account the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of purchasing mechanic's tools for use by the Department of Public Works for maintenance and repair of departmental vehicles; or take any other action relative thereto.** Selectman Davis suggested changing the wording to the following: "to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a transfer from available funds and/or the proceeds from the surplus account the sum of \$10,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing mechanic's tools". A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to place Article 6 as amended on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec, Ampagoomian and Audette. Vote no/Mr. Montecalvo. **Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund a complete appraisal of the Aldrich School building located at 14 Hill Street, Whitinsville, MA; or take any other action relative thereto.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo not to place Article 7 on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds (free cash) the sum of \$237,000 to account number 26043000-424820 School Choice Tuition; or take any other action relative thereto.** Selectman Montecalvo mentioned that Article 8 is the same as Article 16 however, Article 16 is asking for \$16 dollars more. Mary Frances asked the Board of Selectmen if the School Committee voted to place the Articles 16 & 17 on a warrant at a posted meeting. That said, she suggested that the Board of Selectmen ask the School Committee to submit minutes on how the vote went on these two articles. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo not to place Article 8 on the Fall Annual Town Warrant.

Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund Town Hall security and ADA accessibility projects; or take any other action relative thereto.** Selectman Marzec suggested changing the wording of the article to read, “to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds to be expended by the Town Manager a sum of money to fund Town Hall security and/or ADA accessibility projects. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 9 as amended on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Audette and Davis. Vote no/Mr. Montecalvo.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Map of the Town of Northbridge incorporated into its Zoning Bylaws by rezoning from Heritage (H) to Business One (B-1) the Aldrich School property located on the corner of Hill Street and Cottage Street designated as 14 Hill Street, Assessors Map 15-A Parcel 131 and consisting of 35,312 square feet; or take any other action relative thereto. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec not to place Article 15 on the Fall Annual Town Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mary Frances Powers, Chairman of the Finance Committee asked if a decision was made on the \$19,000.00 that the Town received from the Blackstone Valley Vocational Tech School. She requested a copy of the ruling from the Department of Revenue dated May 15, 2006 [rebates]. That said, she asked that the Town Manager submit the documentation from both the School Committee and Conservation Commission [articles] that they in fact acted at a publicly posted meeting.

Board of Selectmen & Town Manager’s Goals and Objectives/Evaluation Process. Chairman Audette mentioned that he received some feedback on the Town Manager and asked that Selectman Montecalvo assist him with how to start this process. Town Manger Kozak read aloud his goals and objectives. Each Board of Selectmen provided the Town Manager with their suggestions, additions and/or deletions with respect to his goals and objectives. Chairman Audette will sit with Town Manager Kozak to determine the most important goals and place in some sort of order.

A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
September 10, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Vice Chairman James Marzec at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo and Ampagoomian. **Absent:** Chairman Audette was absent and is duly noted.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Vice Chairman Marzec mentioned that Tuesday, September 11, 2007, marks the 6th Anniversary on the attack at the World Trade Center. The flag will be hung at half mass to show our support for the individuals who lost their lives because of this attack.

Approval of Minutes.

August 6, 2007

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the August 6, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

August 20, 2007 [Executive Session #1]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the August 20, 2007 Executive Session #1 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

August 20, 2007 [Executive Session #2]

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the August 20, 2007 Executive Session #2 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

Appointments/By the Town Manager: Plumbing and Gas Inspector [Larry P. Wiersma] and Asst. Plumbing and Gas Inspector [Peter B. Harper]. Present: James Sheehan, Building Inspector.

Each candidate introduced themselves and then provided the Board of Selectmen with their qualifications. After a brief question and answer period, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the appointment of the Town Manger to appoint Larry P. Wiersma as the Plumbing and Gas Inspector. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the appointment of the Town Manager to appoint Peter B. Harper as the Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

Citizens' Comments/Input. Peter Cavalieri, 118 Goldthwaite Road, asked if funds were available to repair traffic lights in front of the Fire Station due to safety reasons. The Board of Selectmen and/or Town Manager will follow-up with the Director of Public Works to see about getting it fixed. Selectman Davis mentioned that at their next meeting he would like an update on this situation.

1) Ash Street [Alteration and Extension]/Vote intent to lay out road as a public way. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to vote to intent to lay out road as a public way. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec. **2) A portion of Brookway Drive (From Allyn Road to the end of the cul-de-sac)/Vote intent to lay out road as a public way.** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to vote to intent to lay out road as a public way. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

Town Manager Kozak informed the Board of Selectmen that Item D has been removed off the agenda.

St. Camillus Health Center/ Request for one-day Beer & Wine License for a fundraising event to be held Friday, October 26, 2007 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Selectman Davis asked if the Board of Selectmen should start thinking about putting together a policy for these types of licenses. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the one-day beer & wine license request. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

Playground & Recreation/Request to hang a banner over Church Street from November 5th through November 17th to advertise a "Holiday Bazaar" to be held Saturday, November 17, 2007. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the above request as presented. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

Northbridge Association of Churches/Request to hold the annual Blackstone Valley Cropwalk, Saturday, October 13, 2007 at 9 AM. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the above request as presented. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

Walmart (Donation of money to DPW)/ Vote to accept gift in the amount of \$750. Town Manager Kozak and DPW Director Richard Sasseville attended a brief ceremony at Walmart to accept the donation in the amount of \$750.00 from Walmart to use towards the purchasing of tools. Selectman Ampagoomian asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Walmart for their generous donation. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to accept the gift for the DPW in the amount of \$750. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian and Marzec.

Town Manager's Report – Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he received an email from Chairman Audette who was unable to attend tonight's meeting because of a physical condition. **1) National Grid Update** – Town Manager Kozak met with Mike Peterson, Representative from National Grid to discuss the upcoming project (transition lines) they will be pursuing in Northbridge. **2) Grant Application (Sewer Relief Fund and Recycling)** – Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, has applied this week for these funds to help cover the funds for the Sewer Department. The Recycling committee would like to expand the recycling center in Northbridge (at the Fire Station) and open it up to Sutton and Uxbridge residents as a regional facility. The grant application will help with the technical assistance and funds to implement this project going forward. **3) Facilities projects** – met with the Building, Planning and Construction Committee to discuss the land for the new Fire Station and the possibility of using money to test the soil. He then mentioned that the DPW Director, Richard Sasseville attended a meeting a couple weeks ago with the Building, Planning and Construction Committee to discuss the site for a new DPW facility. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that after a discussion with the BPC they thought it would be better to handle the lower fields now and then work on the upper fields and drainage at a later date. The Linwood fields are looking great and the grass is growing well.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Montecalvo 1) suggested that the Selectmen get a debt exclusion going for the DPW facility. **Selectman Davis 1)** concerned about the petition submitted by the school department [\$237,036] and asked that the Town Manager talk to the School Superintendent and the Chairman of the School Committee to see; a) where they think the money is going to come from?; and b) what are they going to do with it? **2)** would like to know if the Building, Planning and Construction Committee could inform the Board of Selectmen on how much money they need to fix the fields before the town meeting. **3)** place the Aldrich School on the next agenda for discussion? Should it be used as an annex building? **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** Mass Highway – parking in front of Brian's Restaurant. **2)** Project Update from Mass Highway on Plummer's corner. **3)** mentioned that he read in the Beacon that the governor released 12 billion dollars worth of funding for various capital projects and thought maybe, we should contact our representatives to see if the town can receive any funds for their projects. **4)** mentioned on Saturday, at the Uxbridge Fair Grounds, there was a benefit for the businesses that burnt down due to the fire at Bernat Mills. With that said, there was a "Firefighter's Chili Cook-off" and the Northbridge Firefighter's took first place. **Vice-Chairman Marzec 1)** would like an update to the poles on Church Street; **2)** he noticed that the Riverside Restaurant and American Legion had graffiti sprayed on their buildings. **3)** Board of Health would like for residents in town to be aware that their have been a couple cases of rabid skunks and animals. **4)** Chairman Audette asked the he read this statement aloud: September 21, 2007 will be proclaimed by President George W. Bush as National POW MIA Recognition Day. Chairman Audette would like everyone to remember there are 74,384 missing from World War 2, there are 6,043 that were buried at sea, there were 8,178 missing from the Korean War, 1,773 missing from the Vietnam War, 40 from Massachusetts, 1 missing from the Persian Gulf War, and 4 missing from the Operation Iraq Freedom. On Saturday, September 15, 2007, the Blackstone Valley Nam Vets will be holding a 24-hour vigil to remember all POW MIA's and especially those 40 missing from Vietnam. A flag burning ceremony will be held at 6 PM. The public is welcomed to attend and tour the Veteran Hall's to view the newly renovated building.

Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that Officer Stephen Buma has resigned from the Northbridge Police Department. He further stated that he has accepted a position at the Framingham Police Department and wished Officer Buma well in his new position. A letter of appreciation from the Town of Northbridge will be sent to Officer Buma thanking him for his years of service.

Items for Future Agenda. 1) Use of the Town Fields; **2)** Discussion about naming the new high school fields.

Town Manager Kozak mentioned that Sharon Susienka provided the Board of Selectmen with a tentative schedule for their September and October Board of Selectmen's meetings. After a brief discussion, the Board of Selectmen agreed to meet on 9/24, 10/1, 10/15 and 10/29.

Correspondence. Vice-Chairman Marzec read aloud a letter from the District School Committee of the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District. With the letter came a check in the amount of \$19,040.79 that represents Northbridge's share of the remaining projects stabilization funds.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Negotiations and Litigation and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
September 24, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 6:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Marzec and Ampagoomian. **Also present:** Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Negotiations and Litigation and to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:02 P.M.

Executive Session Convened: 6:03 P.M.

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:50 P.M.

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes.

August 20, 2007

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the August 20, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

September 5, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the September 5, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

September 10, 2007

Chairman Audette pointed out that under the appointment for Peter Harper, the Selectmen's names were left out by accident on who made and seconded the motion. Donna Gosselin, Administrative Assistant in the Town Managers Office, added that Selectman Davis made the motion and Selectman Ampagoomian seconded the motion. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the September 10, 2007 minutes as amended with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Public Hearing – Continued. 7:05 PM: Steve Tran d/b/a North Main Variety. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to reopen the public hearing in regards to Steve Tran d/b/a North Main Variety. Vote yes/Unanimous. Attorney Kevin Quinlan mentioned that Mr. Tran has received approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Health, and the Safety Committee. Chief Warchol had one concern with respect to parking on the street and Mr. Tran informed the Chief that there would be five parking spaces out front. That said, there being no further discussions, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. **1) Application for Change of Location from 205 North Main Street, Whitinsville, to 206 North Main Street, Whitinsville;** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the change of location from 205 North Main Street, Whitinsville, to 206 North Main Street, Whitinsville. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Application for Change of DBA from North Main Variety to 1Quikstop.** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the application for change of DBA from North Main Variety to 1Quikstop. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Appointments/By the Town Manager/Vote to affirm. Present: Deb Kristoff, Treasurer/Collector and Linda Houde. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the appointment of Linda Houde as a part-time Collection Clerk. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Present: Richard Sasseville, DPW Director, Mark Kuras, Sewer Superintendent and Philip Pascarelli.** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to affirm the appointment of Philip Pascarelli as the Assistant Plant Operator for the Sewer Division. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen/Vote to approve. Present: Burnham Miller and Winifred Sears.** Ms. Sears spoke briefly about herself and informed the Board that she is retired from New England Electric. She mentioned she is a resident of Northbridge for 37 years and has been driving individuals to their medical appointments for the Council on Aging. Mr. Miller mentioned that they need one more person for their Council on Aging Committee. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the appointment of Winifred Sears to the Council on Aging Committee. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Miller spoke briefly about himself and then mentioned that he is interested in serving as the Northbridge Delegate for the Blackstone River and Canal Commission. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the appointment of Burnham Miller as the Northbridge Delegate for the Blackstone River and Canal Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous

Citizens' Comments/Input. None

Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant/Vote to sign. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the Board of Selectmen had the final version of the warrant in their packets and that he met with Harold Gould, Town Moderator. The Town Moderator asked whether the Town meeting should be conducted at the High School Field House or the Middle School Auditorium. The Board of Selectmen agreed to hold the Fall Annual Town Meeting at the Middle School Auditorium. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to sign the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Safety Committee Minutes [September 19, 2007]/Vote to accept recommendations. Director of Public Works, Richard Sasseville updated the Board of Selectmen on the business that was discussed at the Safety Committee Meeting. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of September 19, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles: 1) Board of Health – Chairman, Paul Mckeon was present to answer and discuss any questions the Board of Selectmen had relative to the Board of Health articles. **2) Petitioners of School Department Articles** – Chairman of the School Committee, Kris Burns and Member of the School Committee, Karen Kittredge were present to answer and discuss Articles 15 & 16 with the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Audette would like Ms. Burns to tell the Selectmen where the \$237,036.00 is going to come from. Ms. Burns said this amount is owed to the School Department to replace the School Choice funds that were inadvertently expended by the Town. Selectman Davis disagreed with Ms. Burns and mentioned the school received around \$900,000.00 from the Town and \$237,036.00 was included in that amount. *Mr. Davis asked Ms. Burns and Dr. Kittredge if the funds the petition sought for the generator were in the budget and if the School Committee was looking for reimbursement? Ms Burns responded but did not answer the question. Chairman Audette indicated that if the Town has to give this amount back to the school department, the Town side would need to make some major cuts. That said, Chairman Audette asked Ms. Burns if the School Committee could discuss this at their next meeting.

Sewer/Water Policies. Present: Director of Public Works, Richard Sasseville. Mr. Sasseville mentioned that prior to July 2005 the Highway Department received 100 to 120 abatement requests per year for irrigation systems. In July 2005, the policy changed and abatements for irrigation were eliminated. Residents can go to: <http://www.northbridgemass.org/pdf/abatepolicyandformrev071205.pdf> to review the current policy. He further stated, instead of granting individual abatements to those who applied, a new step was added to the rates that reduced the unit price per 100 cubic feet by 25% once usage exceeded 4,000 cubic feet per quarter. A review of billing information revealed that by adding this step to the sewer rates, approximately 3,300 sewer bills per year would be reduced. The estimated reduction in sewer revenue in FY 2006 resulting from the new step was about \$125,000. This compares to \$17,000 in individual abatements that were granted in FY 2005. Residents can go to: http://www.northbridgemass.org/pdf/sewer_rates_fy2008.pdf to review the current sewer rates. That said, this year they added a lower first step to the rates for the very low volume users. If they use 800 cubic feet or less, they now pay a fixed charge of \$50.00 per quarter, which is a reduction of about 24% from the FY 2006 rates that they paid.

Wastewater Treatment Plant/Odor Complaints. Present: Director of Public Works, Richard Sasseville. Mr. Sasseville mentioned that he has received a number of calls concerning an odor coming from the sewer plant. Sewer Superintendent, Mark Kuras believes it might occur during the aeration cycle of the treatment process. There are large volumes of compressed air being pumped into the SBR tanks. That said, causing a “plume of odors” being released during the aeration cycle and possibly coming from the gravity thickeners. There are two tanks into which the sludge from the plant is pumped to allow it to settle before it is hauled off by the tanker trucks. He further stated the flows into the plant drop significantly during the summer, particularly during this very dry season. As a result, there is little or no inflow/infiltration to dilute the sewage. Because the sewage reaching the plant has a much higher concentration, (less ground and rainwater) it could have an especially strong odor. Mr. Sasseville informed the Board of Selectmen that the sewer plant has had a project in their capital plan for several years to modernize the sludge handling equipment. In addition to adding a second sludge pump, they have only one with no installed back up, and that this would replace the existing sludge handling equipment and might add a covered holding tank and provide a filtration system to capture and treat the sludge odors. This project is estimated at around \$300K and has been passed over several times. Selectman Marzec asked Mr. Sasseville about a complaint he received from a resident regarding the condition of Quaker Street road. Mr. Sasseville agreed with Mr. Marzec on the condition of Quaker Street, however, the roads are prioritized based on the volume of use.

Town Manager's Report – Town Manager Kozak 1) announced that the Board of Selectmen and he are invited to attend a special meeting for the Blackstone Valley Board of Selectman on Thursday, October 4, 2007 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional Technical

High School. The major topic will be “The Future of Rail Service in the Blackstone Valley” and will be presented by CMRPC; **2)** Traffic lights on Main Street & Hill Street. Chief Nestor looked into the street light concern on Hill Street due to the lights being shut off and feels that no additional hazard exists. He then further stated that the traffic signals in front of the Whitinsville Fire Station has been out of service for several months not. The internal switch that operates the time delay for the lights is defective and needs to be repaired or replaced. That said, because this is an old system, the parts needed for the necessary repairs are hard to find. He has received quotes from two different companies that specialize in traffic system repairs. **2A)** Information was provided to the Board of Selectmen on the ABCC Regulation for Special Licenses for their review on moving forward with one-day liquor licenses; **2B)** Brian’s Restaurant on-street parking – the safety committee has reviewed the parking and agrees that no one should be parking on the side of the road. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he contacted Mass Highway to see what their recommendations are and they too noted that no one should be parking on the side of the road. The Board of Selectmen would like a “no parking” sign displayed near Brian’s Restaurant. **2C)** Graffiti at Riverside Restaurant and the American Legion – Chief Warchol mentioned these are random acts and people tend to flee the scene. He then mentioned they have no leads. **2D)** Village Planning Study – attended a planning board meeting to see what areas could be improved. **2E)** Northbridge Redevelopment Corporation – the landfill area on Church Street. He received a complaint regarding the fill that was being brought in so he contacted DEP and they sent an inspector out to review what was being distributed there. **3)** mentioned that he successfully negotiated the Police Department contract.

Selectmen’s Concerns. **Selectman Montecalvo 1)** suggested a priority listing of where monies would go should the Town receive any money. **Selectman Davis 1)** any word from the school on the Aldrich Building. Town Manager mentioned the school has turned the building over to the Town. **2)** Cable Advisory Building – should the Cable Advisory Committee move into the Aldrich Building instead of paying rent monthly for their building. Selectman Davis suggested a walk through of each building. **3)** Bylaw changes at the Town meeting last year, are we going to budget money to update? **4)** School Committee appointment. **5)** Thanked the Town Manager, Kopelman & Paige, Police Chief, and Police Officers for coming to an agreement on the Police Contract. **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** 3 Fence Complaints – Mr. Glennon contacted the Building Inspector, and Mr. Ampagoomian would like Denis Latour, fence viewer, to visit Mr. Glennon’s property to view his neighbor’s fence. That said, he mentioned there are no bylaws governing fences. He feels that a bylaw should be established for the Spring Annual Town Meeting to avoid future issues. **Selectman Marzec 1)** more information on the Town website; **2)** Business Development in Town - Current state vs tax rate [Brainstorm ideas]; **3)** School Committee Joint Appointment. **Chairman Audette 1)** School Committee Joint Appointment; **2)** Congratulated the Gaudette family on the dedication of the Gerry Gaudette pavilion; **3)** St. Patrick’s Festival went off well. **4)** Pile of dirt (Fire Station Site) – is there money for the testing of the soil? Town Manager Kozak mentioned he is looking into this and will get back to the Selectmen.

A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 9:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

*** At their meeting of October 1, 2007, the Board of Selectmen voted to amend the September 24, 2007 minutes as follows: Under Fall Annual Town Meeting #2, “Selectman Davis asked Ms. Burns and Dr. Kittredge if the funds the petition sought for the generator were in the budget and if the School Committee was looking for reimbursement? Ms. Burns responded to the question but did not answer it”.**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
October 1, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 6:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Marzec and Ampagoomian. **Also present:** Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Board convened at 6:00 P.M. to conduct a walk through of the Cable Studio and Aldrich School Buildings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes.

September 24, 2007

Selectman Davis would like the following added under the Fall Annual Town Meeting #2: "Mr. Davis asked Ms. Burns and Dr. Kittredge if the funds the petition sought for the generator were in the budget and if the School Committee was looking for reimbursement. Selectman Davis said that Ms. Burns responded to the question but did not answer it and asked if the Town Manager would follow up with her. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the September 24, 2007 minutes as amended with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Public Hearing – 7:05 PM: 1) Liquor License Transfer from San-Fran Corp. d/b/a The Grill [Francis Carelli] to The Pardee Group, Inc. d/b/a The Grill [John A. Pardee]. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Present: Frank Carelli and John Pardee.** The Board of Selectmen thanked and wished Mr. Carelli well in his future endeavors. Mr. Pardee mentioned that he would be making some changes to update the grill. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the liquor license transfer from San-Fran Corp. d/b/a The Grill [Francis Carelli] to The Pardee Group, Inc. d/b/a The Grill [John A. Pardee]. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Transfer of Common Victualler License** from San-Fran Corp. d/b/a The Grill [Francis Carelli] to The Pardee Group, Inc. d/b/a The Grill [John A. Pardee]. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the transfer of Common Victualler license from San-Fran Corp. d/b/a The Grill [Francis Carelli] to The Pardee Group, Inc. d/b/a The Gill [John A. Pardee]. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens' Comments/Input. None

Street Acceptance Articles: Vote to layout the following roads or portions thereof as public ways: Present: Ed Palmer, George Martin, Members of the Planning Board and Barbara Gaudette, Chairman of the Planning Board. 1) Forsythe Farm Road; 2) Ash Street; 3) A portion of Brookway Drive. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the Planning Board has voted to approve the acceptance of the above streets and noted that the plans and mylars are here tonight to be signed. That said, the legal descriptions have been forwarded to town counsel with minor changes. Attorney Henry Lane stated that there is an alteration to Ash Street and should be noted in the minutes. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to layout Forsythe Farm Road, the alteration and extension of Ash Street and a portion of Brookway Drive there of as public ways. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles: 1) Planning Board – Articles 10-14, 18-21; Chairman of the Planning Board, Barbara Gaudette read aloud the Planning Board warrant articles and then presented their recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Gaudette mentioned that the Planning Board only voted to passover Article 11. Selectman Davis asked whose responsibility is it to present the Planning Board articles the night of Town Meeting. Ms. Gaudette mentioned that the Planning Board would handle if the petitioner wasn't present and then asked if there was a policy in place. The Board of Selectmen agreed that the petitioner should be responsible; that said, Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he would have Sharon Susienka contact the lead petitioners to advise them of this. **2) Conservation Commission – Article 15;** Chairman of the Conservation Commission, Wyatt Mills was present to discuss Article 15. Mr. Mills mentioned that his committee proposed some significant changes to the Conservation Commission by-laws and has provided a copy of them to the Board of Selectmen. Attorney Henry Lane stated that there isn't enough time for people to review the proposed changes before the Town Meeting and then referred to the conservation commissions document and suggested that these by-law changes never be adopted. He respectfully asked the Board of Selectmen to take some time to review the provisions and not address this article at the Town Meeting scheduled for October 23, 2007. The Selectmen agreed and suggested to Mr. Mills that his committee pass over this article and present it at the next Spring Annual Town Meeting so the Board of Selectmen have more time to review.

Town Manager's Report – Town Manager Kozak 1) Blackstone Valley Bikeway – received some correspondence that the project has moved forward for \$4 million. 2) M.O.R.E Meeting Update – Town Manager Kozak provided the Board of Selectmen with an update on a M.O.R.E meeting that he went to.

At the meeting, a discussion took place on budgets, grant funds for energy programs, working towards regional purchasing of office supplies, energy supplies, telecommunications, and computer supplies. He said they were also looking into programs for power contracts in different communities to see if they could save money, along with solid waste and recycling programs. Town Manager Kozak then mentioned that the Town of Northbridge has applied for a grant to help with the recycling area behind the Fire Station. That said, he mentioned an interesting workshop took place on casino gambling. **3)** he attended a Building, Planning and Construction Committee meeting and mentioned that the Fire Station roof bid came back higher than originally estimated. That said, he spoke to Mark Anderson from Heritage Design to discuss the site for the new fire station and plans to meet with him sometime in the near future. He also mentioned that he and Richard Sasseville, Director of Public Works went on a site visit to the Sewer Department.

Selectmen's Concerns. **Selectman Davis 1)** will the Building, Planning and Construction Committee have the cost for the fields and detention basin on October 15th? Town Manager Kozak said the committee is going to ask for the full \$366,000.00; **2)** Tour of the Aldrich School Building and what are we going to do with it; **3)** Status of the Cable Contract; **4)** School Committee appointment and have we received any applications. Town Manger Kozak informed him we are received a number of inquiries. Copies of the talent bank applications will be provided to the Board of Selectmen as soon as they are received by Town Managers office; **5)** update on Oakhurst Road future truck stop. Town Manager Kozak mentioned down by WalMart there is a proposal for a truck stop in Sutton, however a portion of it is in Northbridge. He spoke to the Sutton Town Administrator to advise him that our town would like to be involved in the development. Our Town Planner, Gary Bechtholdt is aware of the project and mentioned that there would be a Public Hearing on October 22, 2007 in Sutton. He mentioned that a Public Hearing would be held sometime in November in Northbridge. **6)** letter sent to other commissions regarding the West Street site - future fire station. **Selectman Marzec 1)** tour of the cable studio and Aldrich Building – is there a grant out there the Town could apply for due to the building being historical; **2)** asked the Town Manager to see if there is any interest in putting together a group of businessmen to discuss ideas for business development in town; **3)** could the fields be cut one more time? **Chairman Audette 1)** Yard Sale signs – he read aloud the sign policy and asked that residents in town adhere to the policy. He also mentioned that if you hang a sign up, you are responsible for taking it down.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 8:07 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
October 15, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Vice-Chairman James Marzec at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, and Ampagoomian. **Also present:** Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager. **Absent:** Chairman Audette was absent and is duly noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Vice-Chairman James Marzec announced that Chairman William Audette had back surgery and is recuperating. That said, the Board of Selectmen sent their wishes to Bill for a speedy recovery.

Approval of Minutes.

March 29, 2007 [Joint Meeting]

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the March 29, 2007 minutes with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

September 10, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the September 10, 2007 Executive Session minutes with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

September 24, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the September 24, 2007 Executive Session minutes with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

October 1, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the October 1, 2007 minutes with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

Public Hearing – 7:05 PM: Steve Tran d/b/a North Main Variety. Selectman Davis asked for an explanation as to why this topic was on the agenda again. Town Manager Kozak explained that the public hearing notice was never advertised in the newspaper so this is why the Board of Selectmen needed to take up this matter again. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Attorney Quinlan was present in case the Board of Selectmen had any questions. There being no further questions and/or comments, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. **1) Application for Change of Location from 205 North Main Street, Whitinsville, to 206 North Main Street, Whitinsville.** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the change of location from 205 North Main Street, Whitinsville, to 206 North Main Street, Whitinsville. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. **2) Application for Change of DBA from North Main Variety to 1 Quikstop.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the application for change of DBA from North Main Variety to 1 Quikstop. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

Appointments/Resignations. Neal Mitchell, Building, Planning & Construction Committee/Vote to accept resignation. Vice-Chairman Marzec asked that a letter be sent to Mr. Mitchell thanking him for his years of service that he dedicated to the Town of Northbridge. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept the resignation of Neal Mitchell. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Marzec. Vote no/Mr. Davis.

Citizens' Comments/Input. None.

Oliver Ashton Post #343 (American Legion)/Application for Entertainment License. Present: Andy Williamson, Commander, Harry Berkowitz, Jr. Vice Commander. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to grant the entertainment license for the Oliver Ashton Post #343 (American Legion) on the condition that all events cease at 1 A.M. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce/Application for one-day Beer & Wine license for Friday, October 19, 2007, 7PM – 10PM. Present: Sandra Haagsma, Director of Member Services and Events for the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the one-day beer and wine license for the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce fundraising event to be held on October 19, 2007, from 7 PM to 10 PM. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

William R. Roy d/b/a The Valley Café'/Application for Common Victualler's License. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to table this to the next Board of Selectmen meeting since Mr. William Roy was not present to answer questions. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

Fall Annual Town Meeting/Vote positions on articles. Present: Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mary Frances Powers. Article 1 [Funding for High School Fields and Detention Pond Restoration Projects]. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 1 pending free cash certification. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted no position pending free cash certification. **Article 2 [Acceptance of MGL, c.59, §5K (Tax break for Seniors 60+)].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 2. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 2. **Article 3 [\$15,000 transfer from Line 40 Health Ins. to new Line 40A Life Ins.].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to support Article 3. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 3. **Article 4 [Budget**

decrease to offset any unexpected deficit in FY 07 Health Ins.]. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to pass over Article 4. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 4. **Article 5 [Transfer from Line 40 Health Ins. to Line 43 Stabilization Fund].** Town Manager recommends that if there is additional funds, that amount of money [\$150,000] we put into stabilization be held for the health insurance account for FY 2009. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 5. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 5. **Article 6 [\$10,000 transfer from free cash or proceeds from the sale of surplus property account to purchase tools for the DPW].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 6 (raise and appropriate). Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 6 (raise and appropriate). **Article 7 [Town Hall security system and/or funding for ADA doors at main entrance].** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to pass over Article 7. Town Manager Kozak recommends to raise and appropriate \$25,000. Vote yes (to pass over)/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian. Vote no/Messrs. Marzec and Davis. There being a tied vote, Selectman Davis suggested that the Selectmen take no position on Article 7 and let the town meeting voters decide. Therefore, this issue will be re-voted prior to the Town Meeting on October 23, 2007. Finance Committee voted to support Article 7 (raise and appropriate). **Article 8 - Board of Health [Acceptance of MGL. C. 129 §15 changing appointing authority of Animal Insp. from Town Manager to Board of Health].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 8. After a brief discussion, Selectmen Davis and Marzec withdrew their motion to support Article 8. The Selectmen agreed to take no position. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to take no position on Article 8. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted not to support Article 8. **Article 9 – Board of Health [Update Town bylaw in accordance with Article 9].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to take no position on Article 9. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted not to support Article 9. **Article 10 – Planning Board [Amend Zoning Bylaw 173-23 (Signs permitted in any business district) and 183-2B (Terms defined).]** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 10. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 10. **Article 11 – Planning Board [Amend Zoning Bylaws 173-2B (Terms defined) by clarifying the definition of Lot Width.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to pass over Article 11. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 11. **Article 12 – Planning Board [Amend Zoning Bylaws 173-12 (Table of Use Regulations) by adding permitted use provisions in I-1 and I-2 Zoning Districts].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 12. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 12. **Article 13 – Planning Board [Amend Zoning Bylaws 173-16 (Permitted uses in Limited Industrial District I-2) to include I-1 Zoning District].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 13. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 13. **Article 14 – Planning Board [Amend Zoning Bylaws 173-47B (2) (Planned Business Development) by adding provisions for I-1 Zoning District.** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 14. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 14. **Article 15 – Conservation Commission [Amend 4-307 and 7-700 (Wetlands Protection Bylaw)].** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to pass over Article 15. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 15. **Article 16 – Petition [Transfer \$237,036 from available funds, free cash, or Stabilization to School Choice].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian voted not to support Article 16. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted not to support Article 16. **Article 17 – Petition [Transfer \$53,200 from available funds, free cash, or stabilization to reimburse the School District for replacement of generator at NMS].** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian voted not to support Article 17. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted not to support Article 17. **Article 18 – Petition [Street Acceptance – Forsythe Farm Road].** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 18. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 18. **Article 19 – Petition [Street Acceptance – Ash Street (alteration and extension)].** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 19. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 19. **Article 20 – Petition [Street Acceptance – portion of Brookway Drive].** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis to support Article 20. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 20. **Article 21 – [Acceptance of Open Space in Graystone at Northbridge].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 21. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted to support Article 21. **Article 22 – [Acquisition of Sewer Pump stations located off Marston Road].** A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian not to support Article 22. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Selectman Davis suggested that a letter be sent to the petitioner for more information and ask that they come before the Board of Selectmen before the Spring Annual Town Meeting. Finance Committee voted not to support Article 22. **Article 23 – [Rezone parcel of land between Prov. Rd. and Upton Street from R-2 and R-3 to B-1].** A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 23. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. Finance Committee voted no position on Article 23.

School Committee Vacancy/Vote to set deadline for Talent Bank Applications. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to set the deadline [2 vacancies] for submittal of talent bank applications at the close of business, Wednesday, October 24, 2007. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to set the joint appointment for the School Committee vacancies on November 5, 2007. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

Alternatives/Request permission to hang a banner over Church Street from October 22, 2007 through November 5, 2007 to promote the “Help Pave the Way” campaign. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the above request to hang a banner over Church Street from October 22, 2007 through November 5, 2007. Vote yes/ Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, Montecalvo and Marzec.

Town Manager's Report – Town Manager Kozak 1/a) mentioned that businesses on Church Street are violating the sign policy and our Building Inspector, Jim Sheehan will be contacting the businesses to remind them of the bylaw. **1/b)** no parking signs have been placed on Route 122, Brian's Restaurant, however they are on the wrong side of the street. **2)** Oakhurst Farm Plaza Update – service facility in Sutton [truck stop]. A technical meeting took place on October 11, 2007 to meet with the developer, engineers and department heads to review the site for environmental, traffic, drainage, diesel fuel and noise issues. A public hearing at the Northbridge Town Hall will be held on November 13, 2007. **3)** Streetlight Policy – receiving complaints/inquiries from individuals who have used streetlights as a security reason. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the streetlights in town have been reviewed by the safety committee and the ones that remain on are because of safety reasons. **4)** Email Policy – received a phone call from Lauren Goldberg [Kopelman & Paige] asking that he address the email policy again with public officials and remind them to adhere to this policy. **5)** Linwood Mill [water draw down] – a company called American National Power in Milford is in need of water so they asked the owner of Linwood Mill if they could draw water from the pond. Town Manager Kozak wanted the residents in town to know that the owners of Linwood Mill gave American National Power permission to draw water from the pond. **6)** Skateboard Park – Richard Sasseville and Arthur Magowan are working with Matt Perry and other members of the Skateboard Park on finding a company to donate asphalt for the paving of Plummers Park field.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Davis 1) liability of the town for any programming on the cable channels. Town Manager will send a letter to all active and inactive producers; **2)** follow-up on letters sent to other committee members regarding the West End site; **3)** Review of all appointed Boards and Commissions to see where they stand. **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** received a phone call from Mr. Glennon stating that the fence viewer has not shown up. **2)** asked that the Town Manager follow-up with the school department to find out why the High School student hasn't received their Scholarship award. **3)** Pre-School tuition needs to be returned back to the parents. **Vice-Chairman Marzec 1)** citizen approached him regarding the truck stop issue bordering Sutton and Northbridge. **2)** letter from Ms. Contino inviting the Board of Selectmen to attend a meeting on October 16, 2007, at the Northbridge High School Auditorium for 7 P.M. She mentioned that Mr. Roger Hatch, Associate Commissioner of Finance, from the Department of Education, will be speaking about Chapter 70 funding.

Executive Session. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Negotiations and Litigation and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Meeting adjourned: 8:07 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
[Fall Annual Town Meeting]
October 23, 2007

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Vice-Chairman James Marzec at 6:30 PM, Northbridge Middle School Auditorium, 171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Ampagoomian, and Marzec. Chairman William J. Audette and Selectman Joseph J. Montecalvo were absent and it is duly noted.

Also present: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager, and Sharon Susienka, Asst. to the Town Manager.

Town Manager Kozak advised the Board that free cash was certified today in the amount of \$1,200,000. He said that a large part of it was made up of the \$366,000 from the high school fields settlement and the approximate \$640,000 held back from last year's Health Insurance deficit.

Selectman Davis suggested that the Town Manager say a few words to town meeting voters about the town's current financial situation. Mr. Kozak remarked that he already informed the Town Moderator that he wished to say a few words this evening.

Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles/Revote positions on Articles 7, 8, and 9.

Article 7: Town Hall security system and funding for ADA accessible doors at main entrance.

Mr. Kozak informed the Board that he contacted Ms. Jennifer Dulmaine, Community Development Program Manager, about any possible grant programs that may be available for doing the ADA and security work at Town Hall but that nothing was available for this type of work. Selectman Ampagoomian stated that he was originally against this article; however, since free cash was certified at \$1.2 million and there being such a small amount needed for this work, he had since changed his mind. That said, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to **support** Article 7. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec, and Ampagoomian.

Town Manager Kozak then read the Selectmen the opening statement he prepared to read to town meeting voters this evening. Selectman Davis commented that it was good.

Article 8: Acceptance of MGL c. 129, §15 changing appointing authority of Animal Inspector from Town Manager to Board of Health. Discussed the appointment of the Animal Inspector. Selectman Ampagoomian advised that he was against giving the Board of Health the authority to appoint the Animal Inspector noting that they do not have the authority to sign contracts. Mr. Marzec stated that he thought it was a 1099 position and not a contracted position. After discussion, the Board recommended asking the Board of Health to pass over this article. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec **not to support** Article 8. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Marzec, and Ampagoomian.

Article 9: Update Town bylaw in accordance with Article 8. For the record, the Board noted that if Article 8 did not pass that Article 9 was not needed. They also discussed upholding their original vote of "No Position" on Article 9. That said, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to vote "**No Position**" on Article 9. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Davis, and Ampagoomian.

Selectmen's Meeting [October 29, 2007]/Vote to cancel. Mr. Kozak asked the Board if they were in favor of cancelling next Monday's meeting. He advised that there really was no business to conduct plus the fact that it would mean four consecutive weeks of Selectmen's meetings. Therefore, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to cancel the October 29, 2007 Board of Selectmen's meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Davis, and Ampagoomian.

School Committee Vacancies [Joint Appointments]. Because this matter will be taken up at the next Selectmen's meeting on November 5th and because the last interview process was so lengthy, Selectman Davis suggested a different format by which to conduct the interviews. * Selectman Ampagoomian voiced his disagreement with Selectman Davis' recommendation on how to conduct the interviews with the School Committee applicants. He stated that he would like to ask his own questions and any follow-up questions he felt were appropriate. [Selectman Davis had suggested the following process--Candidates would be seated at the Selectmen's desks; The two chairmen would do the questioning from the table in front of the candidates; Allow each candidate a one-minute opening statement; To have five main questions (Chairs would solicit board members for a list of questions); In no particular order, ask each candidate one of the questions and allow all others to respond if they so choose; Limit the initial answer to approx. two minutes and each response to one minute. Allow each candidate a one-minute closing statement; Accept nominations from the two boards with each vacancy to be voted on separately.] Vice Chairman Marzec also recommended that the Chairpersons of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee get together to discuss and come up with a list of questions and suggested that the Town Manager send an email to both Chairpersons requesting a list of questions to ask the candidates.

There being no further business at this time, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's meeting at the same time the Town Moderator adjourns Town Meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 9:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Marzec, Vice-Chairman

s/

***At their meeting of November 5, 2007, the Board voted unanimously to amend these minutes as follows:** Under the heading entitled School Committee Vacancies, he would like the following comments added: Selectman Ampagoomian voiced his disagreement with Selectman Davis' recommendation on how to conduct the interviews with the School Committee applicants. He stated that he would like to ask his own questions and any follow-up questions he felt were appropriate. [Selectman Davis had recommended the following process--Candidates would be seated at the Selectmen's desks; The two chairmen would do the questioning from the table in front of the candidates; Allow each candidate a one-minute opening statement; To have five main questions (Chairs would solicit board members for a list of questions); In no particular order, ask each candidate one of the questions and allow all others to respond if they so choose; Limit the initial answer to approx. two minutes and each response to one minute. Allow each candidate a one-minute closing statement; Accept nominations from the two boards with each vacancy to be voted on separately.]

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
November 5, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Marzec and Ampagoomian. **Also present:** Theodore D. Kozak Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Representative George Peterson was present to discuss local aid. He distributed a document to the Board of Selectmen containing information about an amendment change to the Massachusetts Municipal Finance Relief Act of 2007. The amendment is to transfer \$450,000,000 from the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund to the General Fund. However, the amendment was defeated and now has to be filed as a piece of legislation (House Docket #4651). That said, to have this amendment pass, it is going to take a lot of time and effort, which he is willing to invest his time, by discussing at MMA meetings, Selectmen Associations and anywhere he can to get the message out. If passed, Northbridge would receive a one-time fund of around 1.2 million dollars. Each of the Selectmen discussed their frustrations with the House of Representatives when it comes to voting and mentioned how the state mandates everything, however, they do not provide the funding for the programs to the Town's.

Public Hearing – 7:05 PM: FY 2008 CDBG Application. Present: Jennifer Dulmaine, Community Development Program Director. Chairman Audette read the public hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Ms. Dulmaine mentioned the Community Development Strategy has to be evaluated on a yearly basis. The four criteria that must be met: 1) CDS must describe the manner in which a community has identified and will accomplish projects and activities which include, but are not limited to, the subject CDBG application; 2) CDS must conclude with a list of projects and activities in order of the priority in which the community intends to undertake them; 3) CDS must identify the geographic target areas; 4) CDBG applications must document that a CDS and its priority list were discussed at a separate public forum, meeting or hearing at least two months prior to submission of a CDBG application in order to allow for timely community input. Compliance with this requirement must be documented by copies of meeting announcements, attendance lists and minutes. Minutes must reflect that the CDS and priority list have been presented and the discussion has occurred.

The Office of Community Development is starting the process to apply for FY 2008 Community Development Funds. The application is due by February 15, 2008. The first public hearing is scheduled for November 19, 2007 at 7:05 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Dulmaine mentioned that the multi-phase New Village Infrastructure Project is still on-going; however, the Town was not funded for 2007. All projects and programs need to meet one of the following national objectives: 1) benefit a majority of low to moderate-income persons (51%); 2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight; 3) meet an urgent condition posing a serious threat to the health and welfare of the community and where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs. That said Ms. Dulmaine briefly discussed the remainder of the projects for FY 2005 and FY 2006. She is requesting that the Board of Selectmen hold a public hearing to reallocate funds (\$20,000) for additional survey work. If these funds are not reallocated the State can take the money. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Approval of Minutes.

October 15, 2007

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the October 15, 2007 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

October 15, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the October 15, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

October 23, 2007 [Fall Annual Town Meeting]

Selectman Ampagoomian requested that the October 23, 2007 minutes be amended as follows: Under the heading entitled School Committee Vacancies, he would like the following comments added: Selectman Ampagoomian voiced his disagreement with Selectman Davis' recommendation on how to conduct the interviews with the School Committee applicants. He stated that he would like to ask his own questions and any follow-up questions he felt were appropriate. [Selectman Davis had recommended the following process-- Candidates would be seated at the Selectmen's desks; The two chairmen would do the questioning from the table in front of the candidates; Allow each candidate a one-minute opening statement; To have five main questions (Chairs would solicit board members for a list of questions); In no particular order, ask each candidate one of the questions and allow all others to respond if they so choose; Limit the initial answer to approx. two minutes and each response to one minute. Allow each candidate a one-minute closing statement; Accept nominations from the two boards with each vacancy to be voted on separately.] There being no further amendments, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the October 23, 2007 minutes as amended by Selectman Ampagoomian. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Middle School Lockdown [November 2, 2007]. Present: Fire Chief Gary Nestor, Police Chief Walter Warchol, School Superintendent Paul Soojian. Chief Nestor mentioned that on Friday, November 2, 2007, the Northbridge Fire Department received a call at 12:53 P.M. from the School Maintenance Department regarding an odor in the Middle School. Due to a house fire, the Rockdale Fire Department was dispatched and the Uxbridge Fire Department. Upon arriving, Mr. Paul Halacy informed the Fire Department that Freon was leaking in a maintenance area. The School Personnel and First Responding Officers decided to evacuate that one area and the

rest of the School would remain in place. All students that were affected or feeling ill were brought to the Auditorium to see the school nurse and EMT's. After further evaluation, some students were transferred to a hospital so they could be treated. There were 121 students that were evaluated and only 29 were transported to a hospital. The Division of Environmental Protection showed up later (after the fire department ventilated the building) and found no problem and then the Board of Health declared the building safe to be occupied. Chief Warchol spoke briefly and thanked the Fire Department and School Department for handling the situation appropriately. Superintendent Soojian thanked Chief Nestor and Chief Warchol for handling the situation so professionally. The Board of Selectmen thanked Chief Nestor, Chief Warchol and the School Department for handling the situation so well. Selectmen Ampagoomian thanked Dispatcher Bill Davis, from the Fire Station for informing him of the incident.

Citizens' Comments/Input. Middle School Students [Ms. Sherri Travers] – Invite Board of Selectmen to Veterans' Day Celebration. Present: Sherri Travers, Elizabeth Belanger, Amber Brock, The students cordially invite the Board of Selectmen to their 3rd Annual Veteran's Day Breakfast. The breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2007, in the Middle School Cafeteria from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and everyone is welcomed.

Appointments/Board of Selectmen and School Committee [Joint Meeting]. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to open the Joint Meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Ampagoomian asked when did the format of the appointments change and when was the vote taken. Chairman Audette mentioned that at the last School Committee appointment, the meeting lasted quite late because 14 people asked several questions of the candidates. That said, he thought this process would be quicker and the School Committee members agreed. Selectman Ampagoomian stated that next time there is a change in the process, a discussion amongst the other Board members would be appreciated. Chairman Mary Contino called the School Committee meeting to order. **School Committee Candidates:** Richard DeLuca, 119 Alana Drive, Diane Mimmo, 30 Green Meadow Court, Julie Gawlak, 211 Jessica Way, Jay Athanas, 21 Jefferson Ave., and Michael McGrath, 302 Samuel Drive. The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen William Audette and the Chairman of the School Committee Mary Contino asked the five candidates to introduce themselves and then asked each of them the same number of questions before voting. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to open the nominations for the school committee vacancies. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Vacancy #1 NOMINATIONS: A motion/Ms. Morrison, seconded/Mr. Davis to nominate Diane Mimmo. A motion/Ms. Kittredge, seconded/Ms. Hansson to nominate Jay Athanas.** Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/no, Mr. Davis/no, Mr. Marzec/no, Mr. Ampagoomian/no, Mr. Audette/no, Mr. Lebrasseur/no, Ms. Morrison/no, Ms. Brouwer/no, and Ms. Contino/no. Ms. Kittredge/yes, Ms. Hansson/yes. **A motion/Ms. Hansson, seconded/Ms. Kittredge to nominate Julie Gawlak. A motion/Mr. Lebrasseur, seconded/Ms. Morrison to nominate Michael McGrath. A motion/Ms. Brouwer, seconded/Ms. Morrison to nominate Richard DeLuca.** Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/yes, Mr. Davis/yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/yes, Mr. Marzec/yes, Mr. Audette/yes, Ms. Kittredge/no, Ms. Hansson/no, Ms. Contino/no, Mr. Lebrasseur/yes, Ms. Morrison/yes, Ms. Brouwer/yes. Mr. DeLuca, an engineer, received eight votes to fill Ms. Grabowski's unexpired term. Selectmen Davis, Montecalvo, Marzec, Ampagoomian, Chairman Audette, and School Committee members Michael Lebrasseur, Kimberly Morrison and Susan Brouwer, voted yes. School Committee members Karen Kittredge, Leann Hansson and Chairman Contino, voted no. School Committee member Andrew Myers did not attend the meeting.

Vacancy #2

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to open the nomination for the School Committee position with the remaining four applicants. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Jay Athanas** - Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/no, Mr. Davis/no, Mr. Marzec/no, Mr. Ampagoomian/no, Mr. Audette/no, Ms. Kittredge/no, Ms. Hansson/no, Ms. Contino/no, Mr. Lebrasseur/no, Ms. Morrison/no, and Ms. Brouwer/no. **Julie Gawlak** - Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/no, Mr. Davis/no, Mr. Ampagoomian/no, Mr. Marzec/no, Mr. Audette/no, Ms. Kittredge/yes, Ms. Hansson/yes, Ms. Contino/yes, Mr. Lebrasseur/no, Ms. Morrison/no, Ms. Brouwer/no. **Michael McGrath** – Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/yes, Mr. Davis/no, Mr. Ampagoomian/no, Mr. Marzec/no, Mr. Audette/no, Ms. Kittredge/no, Ms. Hansson/no, Ms. Contino/no, Mr. Lebrasseur/no, Ms. Morrison/no, Ms. Brouwer/no. **Diane Mimmo** – Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/no, Mr. Davis/yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/yes, Mr. Marzec/yes, Mr. Audette/yes, Ms. Kittredge/no, Ms. Hansson/no, Ms. Contino/no, Mr. Lebrasseur/yes, Ms. Morrison/yes, Ms. Brouwer/yes. Ms. Mimmo, Director of state taxes at a Boston firm, received seven votes to fill Ms. Burns' unexpired term. Selectmen Davis, Marzec, Ampagoomian, Chairman Audette and School Committee members Michael Lebrasseur, Kimberly Morrison, and Susan Brouwer, voted yes. Selectman Montecalvo, School Committee members Karen Kittredge, Leann Hansson and Chairman Contino, voted no. Ms. Mimmo also serves as Chairman of a parent advocacy group, Northbridge Parents Supporting Quality Education, formerly known as Northbridge Parents for Full-Day Kindergarten. The group was successful in spearheading efforts this year to reinstate the popular program after the winter break.

Economic Development. Present: Brian Houlihan, 191 Olivia Drive. Mr. Houlihan passed out a SWOT analysis [Strength's, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats] on the Town of Northbridge for the Board of Selectmen to review. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that Mr. Houlihan is working on a project towards his Masters Degree in Economic Development. Mr. Houlihan stated that in any community, change is inevitable. You can either seek to guide change, or you can just sit back and let it happen. Choices must be made. He suggested that a successful economic committee would help to promote sustainable economic development by focusing on the recruitment of business operations to the region, assisting in the expansion or retention of business operations within the region or assisting in the start-up of new businesses within a region. That said, he highlighted some strength's, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for the Town of Northbridge. He thanked the Board of Selectmen for allowing him the time to present his findings and asked if they had any questions or comments. Selectman Montecalvo asked how he arrived at the information he presented. Mr. Houlihan mentioned that he met with several different people in town and out of town to gather his information. He mentioned, Gary Bechtholdt, Northbridge Town Planner, Realtors, Grafton Town Planner, and the Millbury Town Planner. He would like to see Northbridge develop an Economic Development Committee. Selectman Ampagoomian advised Mr. Houlihan that Northbridge

currently has a TIF Program [Tax Increment Financing], which 3 businesses participate in, they are: Old Colony, PolyFoam, and Riverdale Mills. Selectman Marzec thanked Mr. Houlihan for coming in and mentioned he would be interested in sitting in on an Economic Development Committee.

Plowing Rates/Winter 2007. Present: Arthur Magowan. Under the provisions of § 2-203 of the Northbridge Town Code, “the Board of Selectmen shall establish and set the fees or charges for all services provided by the Department of Public works”. Under the provisions of § 222-34 of the Code, developers of subdivisions are responsible for maintenance of their unaccepted subdivision roadways. The term maintenance as defined in the Code includes plowing and sanding. “If the town has to do maintenance work on said roadways, the applicant and/or his successor shall reimburse the town for the expense.” The Board of Selectmen need to establish and set the following fees for providing plowing and sanding services on unaccepted subdivision roadways in the event the subdivision developer fails to provide the services or if public safety necessitated the performance of these services by the town. Plowing: \$38.00 per 1/10 mile per event, with a minimum charge of ½ mile. Sanding: \$28.00 per 1/10 mile per event, with a minimum charge of 1/2 mile. Each time a roadway is sanded or plowed shall constitute a separate event. With the approval of the Board of Selectmen, these rates shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the rates as submitted for plowing and sanding services on unaccepted subdivision roadways in the event that the subdivision developer fails to provide the services or if public safety necessitated the performance of these services by the town. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Mass. Highway Project [Richard Sasseville] – Deferred to next meeting.

Town Manager’s Report – Town Manager Kozak 1) Budget Process – Town Manager Kozak provided the Selectmen with a spreadsheet showing them his 3-year projection for Northbridge. He then mentioned that he has met with all the Boards and Committees and all the major departments have submitted their budgets [with the exception of the School Department, as they will be submitting in two weeks]. That said, Town Manager Kozak would like to put together a capital plan even though there is no money. **2)** Congressman Neal Update – a letter inviting Congressman Neal to Northbridge was sent and he is trying to coordinate a date [possibly the end of November] however, he does not attend Board of Selectmen meetings. **3)** M.O.R.E. Meeting – Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he attended the meeting and the following discussions took place on FY 09 Procurement package for office supplies and energy, and innovative energy contracts to try and help communities reduce the costs of energy, new building assessment programs, and energy catastrophe planning. **4)** Committee Vacancies – a list has been provided to each Selectman for their review. The list is on cable and the website. Town Manager Kozak recommended that the Board/Committee vacancy list be enclosed with the Town Census. He has spoken to the Town Clerk and she has agreed to enclose the list with this year’s census. **5)** Cable Committee – he attended the last few meetings and mentioned the continuous discussions about the cable contract. A discussion took place on whether or not to move the cable studio to the Aldrich Building.

Selectmen’s Concerns. Selectman Montecalvo 1) discuss where the town money should go and put in a place a priority list. **Selectman Davis 1)** put together a charter review commission. **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** asked if the Town Manager Goals and Objectives completed; **2)** has the Senior Work Program started? Town Manager Kozak informed him that the program would not go into effect until next year. **Selectman Marzec 1)** Holiday Bazaar will be on November 17th at the Northbridge High School, from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M., and is being sponsored by the Northbridge Playground and Recreation Commission. **Chairman Audette 1)** thanked everyone for their support during his recovery process. **2)** Bob Parker from Linwood called regarding the progress on the brook at Union Street.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Litigation and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Meeting adjourned: 10:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
November 19, 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Marzec. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes.

November 5, 2007

Selectman Davis recommended the minutes be revised under School Committee Vacancy 2 to reflect one motion nominating all four candidates and the subsequent roll call votes for each candidate. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the November 5, 2007 minutes as amended with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

November 5, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to approve the November 5, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Public Hearing. 1) 7:05 P.M./FY 2008 Tax Rate Classification Hearing. Present: Robert Fitzgerald, Principal Assessor. Chairman Audette read the public hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to open the Public Hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. The DOR requires this hearing each year. Mr. Fitzgerald passed out a handout. It allows the Selectmen to decide whether to shift the tax allocation between the classes of property. It will not increase the revenue, but just shifts the tax burden. There was a 5% increase over last year. The handouts were explained in detail. The idea is to shift some of the tax burden away from the residential and move it to the commercial, industrial and personal property classes. However, the commercial and industrial classes increased in the last year. The Board of Assessors recommends maintaining a single rate for all properties.

Selection of residential exemption distributes the taxes between the residential classes. It is up to a 20% discount and is based on the average valuation of a home. This year the average is \$328,200. The average assessed for commercial increased 15% and industrial increased 20%. They completed the full measure and list of all properties in town but are now in compliance with the Department of Revenue regulations. The Board of Assessors reviewed this and felt that it is not worthwhile to do this in Northbridge at this time.

The small commercial exemption would give us a tax break of up to 10% of the valuation for the small commercial properties. The definition to qualify is less than 10 employees and valued at less than \$1 million. Around 100 businesses qualify. If you give the tax break for them, then it needs to be made up by the businesses that are over \$1 million. There are only a few communities in the Commonwealth that use this exemption. The Board of Assessors does not recommend this exemption

Mr. Fitzgerald also mentioned that in regards to the excess levy capacity, it looks to be \$11,000.00, which means, that every penny has been taxed to the community. Translated into taxes is about half of one penny.

There being no further comments, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the Public Hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous.

A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian for the Town of Northbridge to adopt the single tax rate to include residential, commercial, and industrial. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian not to adopt a residential exemption. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Davis not to adopt a small commercial exemption. Vote yes/Unanimous.

2) 7:30 P.M./FY 2008 Community Development Block Grant (cont). Present: Jennifer Dulmaine, Program Director. Chairman William Audette read the Public Hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to open the Public Hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Ms. Dulmaine began her presentation by asking the Board of Selectmen if they had any questions or changes to the Community Development Strategy. The Board of Selectmen had no questions or changes. She read aloud the seven strategies; **1)** Revitalize neighborhoods and improve town infrastructure; **2)** Upgrade public facilities; **3)** Promote Economic Development; **4)** Encourage affordable housing; **5)** Promote open space; **6)** Support social services; and **7)** Encourage environmental awareness in education to citizens. Continuing, Ms. Dulmaine mentioned the FY 2008 Community Development Block Grant application is due February 15, 2008. The Office of Community Development will be accepting eligible proposals for the grant

application. All proposals will need to have a preliminary review for compliance with one of the three national objectives; **1)** Benefit a majority of low to moderate-income persons (51%); **2)** Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight; or **3)** Meet an urgent condition posing serious threat to the health and welfare of the community and where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs. To date, she has not received any proposals from the community. She will be putting forth Phase II of the Village Infrastructure project. That said, Ms. Dulmaine provided the Board of Selectmen with an update on the FY 2005 and FY 2006 Grants. **FY 2005:** **1)** Housing Rehabilitation Program has 4 projects representing 7 units in process and 5 projects representing 11 units that had been completed. They will be finished by March 31st. **2)** The Outreach Scholarship Program is 100% complete and provided 133 family memberships to Northbridge residents. **3)** The Senior Center ADA 2nd floor bathroom is 100% complete. **FY 2006:** Village Infrastructure Project – Final Paving was completed as of November 14, 2007; curbing is 100% complete; sidewalks are 85% complete; and driveways aprons/ramps are in progress. Ms. Dulmaine mentioned a discussion she had with Town Manager Kozak about sheds/garages that are located on C Street [town owned property]. That said, she informed the Board of Selectmen that she could put a small grant application in (slum and blight) but would cost around \$50,000 to \$70,000 to demolish the garages. She asked the Selectmen if it was an immediate concern because the grant would not be awarded until June/July and the funds would not be received until August/September. DPW Director Richard Sasseville suggested to the Board that the Town ask the owner of the condominium if they would be interested in purchasing the property. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to continue the public hearing at the next Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for December 3rd. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen/Vote to appoint. Personnel Board. Present: Phyllis DiPalma. Ms. DiPalma informed the Board that she has only lived in Northbridge for a couple years but was very active in committees and boards in Braintree. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Phyllis DiPalma to the Personnel Board. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Industrial Development Finance Authority & Commission.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to appoint Brian Houlihan to the Industrial Development Finance Authority & Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens Comments/Input. Chairman Audette mentioned that there have been rumors around town that the Board of Selectmen are trying to stop people from coming under Citizens Comments. This rumor is not true and still exists, however, the Board of Selectmen have limited the amount of time people could discuss there issue to 5 minutes.

2008 Holiday Calendar. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve the 2008 Holiday Calendar. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Retirees' Health Insurance/Vote to change contribution rate percentage. Chairman Audette recused himself from this topic of discussion, as he is a retiree. Vice Chairman Marzec took over. Town Manager Kozak spoke briefly about changing the retirees' health insurance contribution rate because all the major collective bargaining units have agreed to shifting the burden of the contribution rate by 5% of this fiscal year. Selectman Ampagoomian asked why this wasn't under discussions at a previous meeting. After a brief discussion amongst the Board of Selectmen, a motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to table this item to the next agenda under decisions. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Ampagoomian, and Marzec. Chairman Audette resumed his position on the Board.

Winter Parking Ban [December 1, 2007 to April 1, 2008]/Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the Winter Parking Ban from December 1, 2007 through April 1, 2008 during the hours of 1:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M. as requested by the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Schedule of Equipment Rates/Vote to approve. Present: Richard Sasseville. A handout was provided to the Board of Selectmen previously for them to review. The proposed Schedule of Equipment Rates lists various items of equipment used by the Department of Public Works. On occasion, the Department employs Town equipment in instances where reimbursement of costs is warranted. Example. When Town property is damaged as a result of a motor vehicle accident and Town labor and equipment are used to make repairs. The costs of equipment used are included in insurance claims for damage recovery filed by the Town. The rate schedule is based on the current Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) schedule of reimbursement rates that are applicable to Federal disaster responses. Once the rates are approved by the Board of Selectmen, these rates will remain in effect until amended or rescinded. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the schedule of equipment rates as presented by the Director of Public Works to take effect on December 1, 2007 and remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that in the future, these types of items should be placed under discussion first before a vote is taken. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Special Licenses Rules and Regulations/Vote to approve. Present: Police Chief Walter Warchol.

Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he met with Sharon Susienka and the Police Chief to put together a rules and regulations packet for persons applying for one-day liquor licenses. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the Special Licenses Rules and Regulations as presented in the memorandum from Assistant to the Town Manager Sharon Susienka. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Middle School Lockdown Update. Present: Fire Chief Gary Nestor and Police Chief Walter

Warchol. On Thursday, November 8, 2007, the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Town Manager Kozak, and School Superintendent Paul Soojian and his staff met to discuss the events that happened at the Middle School on November 2, 2007. During this meeting, they critiqued the events to see if there were any areas that they could identify that needed improving or changing. They identified the internal areas: communication problems with the school radio system, Connect Ed – use of Emergency vs. Community Outreach broadcast, the need for more emergency kits, phone/contact information [hard copy], sheets for assessment and transport of staff students to hospitals, medical release forms, emergency medical supplies, nurse coverage for other buildings, identify one person from school to coordinate when/if hospital transportation is required, and staging area for buses at all school locations. External areas identified as: one person from administration to inter-face with police and fire regarding questions/decisions, review of process/decision to seal off roadway to allow emergency vehicles in and out without interface, better way to communicate who is being transported where, establishment of one location for an Information Release Center at the site, and transportation of students when parents cannot be reached after dismissal. Selectman Montecalvo feels that one person should be in charge of coordinating an emergency. * Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that he found out about the lockdown by a phone call from Firefighter William Davis, not the Town Manager or Chairman of the Board of Selectmen”.

Mass. Highway Project [Richard Sasseville]. Richard Sasseville provided the Board of Selectmen with an update on two projects with Mass Highway; Sutton Street and Plummer’s Corner. Sutton Street Project – Earth Tech is in the process of reviewing the design and will be meeting with Mass Highway before the public hearing is scheduled. Plummer’s Corner Project – Earth Tech has submitted proposals to Mass Highway and there are some changes in acquisition of land. Based on the potential for changes in property ownership Earth Tech will be proceeding with the 25% design. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the Department of Public Works were picking up leaves. Mr. Sasseville replied yes.

Discuss budget process and strategies. Present: Chairman of the Finance Committee Mary Frances Powers. Ms. Powers discussed a previous held meeting in August 2007, with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the School Committee, the Superintendent, Business Manager, Town Manager and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee to discuss the budget format. At this meeting, the committee has agreed to utilize a particular form, so she finds it hard to believe that the school committee is saying they do not know what forms to use. At the next Selectmen’s meeting [December 3, 2007], Ms. Powers suggested that the three boards meet prior to the meeting to discuss the actual budget process, format and calendar. The Selectmen agreed.

Town Manager’s Report. Town Manager Kozak **1)** provided an update on the West Street School site [Fire Station] and mentioned that the Building, Planning and Construction Committee are working on specifications with the Licensed Soil Scientists to test the soils on the site. As for the DPW site, he mentioned that he contacted the engineering firm [CDM] for some information on digital plans for the location. The Building, Planning and Construction Committee are working on specifications for the fields.

2) Economic Development – met with Brian Houlihan to revitalize the Industrial Development Finance Authority & Committee. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he would be meeting with Brian Houlihan, President of the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Planner to discuss goals. **3)** received a letter from the owner of Linwood Mills advising the town of work being done at the mill and how they want to come before the Board of Selectmen for a Tax Increment Financing agreement. **4)** Cable Advisory Committee put together a list of equipment that they need and how they have been discussing the pros and cons of moving to the Aldrich Building. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he met with the new manager [who took over Mr. Spillane’s role at Charter] and they had questions regarding the INet. **5)** Emergency Planning update – a meeting took place last week with the Board of Health, Clerk, and the Fire Chief. These individuals are in the process of preparing a plan in case of a Pandemic. Once they have something in place they will come before the Board of Selectmen to discuss. **6)** Church Street landfill site – material can come from out of state as long as the material is tested properly. They are estimated to be here one more year.

Selectmen’s Concerns. Selectman Montecalvo **1)** reiterated the budget season priorities and discussed implementing the services we cut last year. Selectman Davis **1)** made a public statement with respect to the Northbridge Education Foundation. He thanked them for all their support. Selectman Ampagoomian **1)** Town Manager Goals and Objectives. Chairman Audette mentioned they have been provided to the Town Manager for his review. **2)** Municipal parking lot [behind Sports Minded], traffic flow between the buildings. The Safety Committee will handle. **3)** received a phone call from a citizen regarding the

Rockdale Village lights that are out. **4)** asked Selectman Davis or the Town Manager to explain the meeting with Consigli Construction. Selectman Davis responded that the Town Manager felt uncomfortable with the metal building project so he offered * to set up a meeting with Consigli Construction to review the new guidelines to ask Consigli Construction to come in and provide the Board with some guidelines [design bid]. **5)** Citizen's Forum – encourage more citizens to come before the Board of Selectmen to discuss their items. **Selectman Marzec 1)** is anyone interested in discussing some dialogue for the Economic Development of the Town, if so, please contact him. **2)** mentioned the Holiday Bazaar at the High School was successful and hopes it continues next year. He thanked Bridget Curley and the Parks and Recreation committee for handling and doing such a great job. **Chairman Audette 1)** thanked Mr. Michael Gauthier, Principal of the Middle School and the 8th Graders for the Veteran's Day breakfast and then thanked the Playground and Recreation Committee for a great job. **2)** Cable Situation – Quaker Street lost cable last week, however, when individuals called the Cable Company they were connected to Nova Scotia and Georgia. He suggested that residents look in the phone book and not call the telephone number provided on their bill. **3)** Chairman Audette wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving on behalf of the Board of Selectmen!

Items for Future Agenda.

1. Naming the fields at the High School.
2. Town Manager Goals and Objectives

Correspondence. Letter from the Northbridge Historical Commission should be entered into the Board of Selectmen minutes regarding the Aldrich School.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Negotiations and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

***At the Board of Selectmen meeting dated December 17, 2007, upon Selectman Davis's requests, the Board of Selectmen voted to amend the November 19, 2007 minutes as follows: Last page, first line, strike the following words "to ask Consigli Construction to come in to" and insert the following word language: "to set up a meeting with Consigli Construction to review the new guidelines". Selectman Ampagoomian suggested the following verbiage be added to the end of the Middle School Lockdown Update; "Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that he found out about the lockdown by a phone call from Firefighter William Davis, not the Town Manager or Chairman of the Board of Selectmen".**

**Board of Selectmen
Joint Meeting
w/School Committee and Finance Committee
December 3, 2007**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 6:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Marzec. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager. **School Committee Members:** Chairman Mary Contino, Susan Brouwer, Richard DeLuca, Leeann Hansson, Karen Peterson Kittredge, Michael Lebrasseur, Kim Morrison and Diane Mimmo. Absent: Andrew Myers. **Also Present:** Superintendent of Schools, Paul Soojian. **Finance Committee Members:** Chairman Mary Frances Powers, Mary Thompson, Salvatore D'amato, James Barron, Homer Rajotte and Andrew Todd. Absent: Plato Adams.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Town Manager Kozak mentioned the purpose of tonight's joint meeting is to review and discuss the FY 09 Budget Calendar. After discussing the budget process with the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Superintendent of Schools, it was agreed upon, that a meeting be held for all boards to come together and understand the budget timelines. Town Manager Kozak distributed the FY 09 Budget Calendar to each Board member so that he could discuss the changes made to the bylaws last year that were implemented for this year. Chairman Powers mentioned that all boards have agreed to use forms that she created for the budget process and these forms will reflect a level funded program.

Town Manager Kozak announced that last week he received a draft audit report from the Massachusetts School Building Authority regarding the Northbridge High School. He mentioned that in this report they are questioning some of the expenses that were made during the construction of the high school. The Town has 10 business days to accept or not accept the report. The Chairman of the Board and Superintendent of Schools will have to authorize the appeal before sending it back to the State. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appeal the audit report to the State. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if agenda item I is to be discussed now or later. Town Manager Kozak suggested that since Superintendent Soojian is here why not discuss it now. Superintendent Soojian responded that he was not the Superintendent back then and hopes that the Building, Planning and Construction Committee can assist the Board of Selectmen with the audit report. Chairman David Morrow suggested this item be placed on a future agenda so that other committee members could be present to assist with questions. A motion/Ms. Brouwer, seconded/Ms. Kittredge to allow Superintendent Soojian, Chairman of the School Committee, Ms. Contino, and the Business Manager to sign the appeal for the audit report to the State. Vote yes/Unanimous. Town Manager Kozak asked if anyone could assist the Building, Planning and Construction Committee with digging through paperwork would be greatly appreciated.

Approval of Minutes.

November 19, 2007 [Executive Session Minutes]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the November 19, 2007 Executive Session minutes as amended with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Public Hearing. 1) 7:05 P.M./FY 2008 Community Development Block Grant (cont). Present: Jennifer Dulmaine, Program Director. Ms. Dulmaine mentioned she is just continuing the Public Hearing. She updated the Board of Selectmen on the design for Phase II, which is going to be part of her recommendation for FY08 Community Development Block Grant Application. The design will consist of the remaining work on Border Street and Crescent Street sidewalks [on the school side]. The estimated cost of the project is \$600,000. In addition, the demolition of the Town's property on C Street is eligible for Community Development Block Grant funds. The estimated cost is approximately \$50,000-\$75,000. This property is within the New Village Target Area, which has been designated as slum and blight. By removing, the dilapidated garages that are currently on the property will help improve the condition of the area. That said, she also received a proposal from the Senior Center requiring funding to expand and repair the existing parking lot and to have sidewalks comply with the ADA regulations. They are eligible for funding under the 51% MLI due to their clientele. Ms. Dulmaine stated that they have made a commitment to the residents in the village to move forward with the multiphase infrastructure project and suggests spending the remainder of the funds on the target area. That said, she would begin preparing her recommendations for submission. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to continue the public hearing for the FY 2008 Community Development Block Grant to December 17, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Appointments/Resignation. Northbridge Housing Authority – Lorraine Bell. Selectman Ampagoomian asked that a letter be sent thanking her for serving on the Northbridge Housing Authority. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the resignation of Lorraine Bell from the Northbridge Housing Authority. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens Comments/Input. None.

Community Development/Certificate not to encumber the property located at 36 A/B Elm Place, Whitinsville, MA. Present: Jennifer Dulmaine. Ms. Dulmaine mentioned that she received a request from an attorney on November 19, 2007 regarding property located at 36 A/B Elm Place, Whitinsville. That said, Ms. Dulmaine mentioned that back in February, this family was assisted with the Housing Rehabilitation Program. There is a certificate not to encumber in effect for 15 years. Repayment of the loan is triggered when the property is sold, transferred, mortgaged or otherwise encumbered. The attorney is requesting to put their home in a trust because the owners are developing an estate plan that will provide for the continued care of their special needs child upon their death. The owners are not withdrawing any equity from the property and they will be the owners of the property in their role as sole trustees of the trust. Ms. Dulmaine recommends the Board waive the current Certificate not to Encumber. That said, the Board of Selectmen can only approve removing the current Certificate not to Encumber and require a new Certificate not to Encumber in the trust name be recorded against the property. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to grant the Certificate Not To Encumber only when the date of the new certificate is recorded at the Worcester Registry of Deeds. Selectman Davis suggested making a general motion until receiving clarification on the correct wording from Town Counsel. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Safety Committee Minutes [November 27, 2007]\Vote to accept recommendations. Selectman Montecalvo mentioned that the Oakhurst Farm Plaza application was withdrawn and that the Border Street signage plans have been approved. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of November 27, 2007. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Davis asked that the Safety Committee provide verification that all the posted signs in Town are legal. Selectman Montecalvo mentioned that the Town relies on the Police Chief to provide the Department of Public Works with this information.

2008 Board of Selectmen's Meeting Schedule. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to accept the 2008 Board of Selectmen's Meeting Schedule. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Sparetime Recreation [Ken Couture]: Transfer of wines and malt license to Sparetime Enterprises, Inc. d\b\ a Sparetime Recreation [Wayne Couture]. Town Manager Kozak advised the Board of Selectmen that back in November/December of 2003, Mr. Wayne Couture submitted an application to transfer Sparetime Recreation's Wines and Malts Liquor License from Kenneth Couture, Mgr., to Sparetime Enterprises, Inc. d\b\ a Sparetime Recreation [Wayne D. Couture]. At that time, a public hearing was held before the Board of Selectmen on January 5, 2004, at which time the application received local approval. The next day, January 6, 2004, the application package was sent to the ABCC. In late March 2004, the Town was notified that the transfer was "Disapproved due to failure to comply with Mass. Tax Laws". On March 31, 2004, Mr. Coughlin wrote a letter to the ABCC asking them to summarize the details of the above decision. There is no documentation in the file to show that the ABCC ever followed up with Mr. Coughlin, however, a letter was sent [via first class] to Mr. Kenneth Couture on August 17, 2004, notifying him that the ABCC did not approve the transfer for the reason stated above. Mr. Kenneth Couture is now asking that the Board of Selectmen approve the new Form 43 and submit to the ABCC for their approval. Selectman Ampagoomian asked that this topic be placed on the next agenda, under Decisions, and find out if the taxes have been paid.

Ms. Jennifer Dulmaine interrupted the Board to discuss the Certificate Not To Encumber. She mentioned that it has been brought to her attention that in order for the property to be transferred into the trust, there cannot be any Encumbrances on the property. Ms. Dulmaine asked if the vote by the Board be amended or changed. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to rescind the motion in regards to Item D, Community Development Certification Not to Encumber the property located at 36 A/B Elm Place, Whitinsville. Vote yes/Unanimous. This item will be placed on the next [December 17, 2007], Board of Selectmen's Meeting, under Decisions.

Voting Precincts [Combine precincts 1, 3 and 4 and relocate to Northbridge High School Field House] Present: Doreen Cedrone, Town Clerk. Ms. Cedrone mentioned this was supposed to be implemented in FY 2007 but because of the Town's shortfall in money, the funds were returned. After a brief discussion, the Board of Selectmen agreed to vote their decision at their next meeting [December 17, 2007] in order to give time for residents to comment on the change in location.

Northbridge High School Audit Report. The Board of Selectmen discussed the Northbridge High School Audit Report and what steps they are planning on taking so that they can provide their timely

response to Melanson and Heath. *Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that he asked Town Manager Kozak for a copy of all the invoices mentioned in the school audit report.

Letter from Northbridge Housing Authority Regarding Vacancy/Vote to Schedule Joint Meeting for 12/17/07. Present: Mary Frances Powers, Chairman. Selectman Montecalvo asked if the position was posted. Ms. Powers mentioned that the charter states that they do not have to post the vacancy. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that if anyone is interested in the position please submit a talent bank application by Wednesday, December 12, 2007. A joint meeting will be held on December 17, 2007 to select a candidate for the Northbridge Housing Authority.

Town Manager's Report. Town Manager Kozak **1)** mentioned that the MMA Annual Trade Show [Boston] – is on January 11th & 12th. That said, Assistant Sharon Susienka would like to attend and asked if the Board of Selectmen had any concerns relative to her attending. The board was in favor. **2)** Walmart – trash/debris on Main Street. Town Manager Kozak spoke to the manager of Walmart [Rob Rolandelli] and advised him that he received a complaint from a citizen regarding trash and debris in their yard. Mr. Rolandelli informed Town Manger Kozak that they try to maintain the area and if it continues, he will consider putting up a fence. **3)** Water Quality – Don Bunker from the Whitinsville Water Company sent Mr. Kozak a news release regarding the discoloration of the water. Selectman Montecalvo suggested that Mr. Leonard White and Don Bunker from Whitinsville Water Company come to the next Board of Selectmen meeting. **4)** FY '08 Municipal Sustainability Grant from DEP [\$20,000]. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the Town of Northbridge received a grant, for \$20,000.00 from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for the Regional Recycling Facility. **5)** sent a letter to Representative Peterson and Senator Moore regarding the lottery funds. **6)** a note from the Planning Board regarding Oakhurst Truck Stop facility has been withdrawn from Northbridge (not Sutton). **7)** he received a request from the Cultural Council to use the Aldrich School building in the spring for a book sale.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Davis 1) Tax program. **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** review the Town Manager Goals and Objectives. **Selectman Marzec 1)** mentioned he is in the process of discussing with people and real estate agents, their interests for bringing in business to the town. **Chairman Audette 1)** congratulated the Northbridge Rams for their victory at that Super Bowl. **2)** thanked everyone for their offers of sympathy with the recent passing of his father-n-law.

Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Litigation & Negotiations and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

* At their meeting of December 17, 2007, the BOS voted to amend the December 3, 2007 minutes by inserting the following language at the end of the Northbridge High School Audit Report: "Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that he asked Town Manager Kozak for a copy of all the invoices mentioned in the school audit report".

**Board of Selectmen
Joint Meeting w/the Housing Authority
December 17, 2007**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Housing Authority was called to order by Chairman William Audette at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Davis, Montecalvo, Ampagoomian and Marzec. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager. Housing Authority Committee: Chairman Mary Frances Powers, Barbara Chandler, Janet King, and Carolyn Lavallee.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Approval of Minutes.

November 19, 2007

Selectman Ampagoomian suggested the following verbiage be added to the end of the Middle School Lockdown Update; "Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that he found out about the lockdown by a phone call from Firefighter William Davis, not the Town Manager or Chairman of the Board of Selectmen". Selectman Davis suggested the November 19, 2007 minutes be amended as follows: In the last page, first line, change the following language "to ask Consigli Construction to come in" to "to set up a meeting with Consigli Construction to review the new guidelines". A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the November 19, 2007 minutes as amended. Vote yes/Unanimous.

December 3, 2007

Selectman Ampagoomian asked that the following sentence be added at the end of the Northbridge High School Audit Report; "Selectman Ampagoomian mentioned that he asked Town Manager Kozak for a copy of all the invoices mentioned in the school audit report". A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the December 3, 2007 minutes as amended. Vote yes/Unanimous.

December 3, 2007 [Executive Session]

A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the December 3, 2007 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Public Hearing. 1) 7:05 P.M./FY 2005 Community Development Block Grant Amendment. Present: Jennifer Dulmaine, Program Director. Chairman Audette read aloud the public hearing notice. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Ms. Dulmaine mentioned that the FY 2005 Community Development Grant award would have a remaining balance of approximately \$20,000; however, there is not enough time to open a new housing rehabilitation case. She proposed an amendment to the correct grant to utilize the remaining funds for survey/design work in the New Village Target Area, and the defined area will depend upon the estimates for survey and design work. The target area is defined as A Street, B Street, C Street, D Street, Crescent Street and Border Street. That said, she mentioned that the more design work that is completed will aid the next phase of the New Village Infrastructure Improvements Project. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to amend the FY 2005 Community Development Block Grant Program as discussed. Vote yes/Unanimous.

2) 7:15 P.M./FY 2008 Community Development Block Grant (continued from 12/2/07). Present: Jennifer Dulmaine, Program Director. Chairman Audette mentioned this is a continuance from a previous public hearing. Ms. Dulmaine provided the Board of Selectmen with her recommendations for the FY 2008 Community Development Block Grant application. She provided the Selectmen with a description of the project and an estimate of the cost. Project I – Targeted Neighborhood Infrastructure Project – Ms. Dulmaine proposed Phase II of the New Village Infrastructure Improvements Project, which will consist of the remaining work on Border Street from D Street to the end (roadway and sidewalks) and Crescent Street from North Main Street to Swift Road (installing new sidewalks on one-side of the roadway that abuts the school). She is recommending funding for this project in the amount of \$650,000. Project II – Demolition of C Street Property (Town Property). Ms. Dulmaine informed the Selectmen that this project is eligible for Community Development Block Grant funds because it addresses the elimination of slums and blight. By removing, the dilapidated garages that are currently on the property this will help improve the condition of the area. She recommends funding for this project in the amount \$100,000. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to authorize the Chairman of the Board and other elected/appointed officials to sign the application certification forms as required and to authorize Jennifer Dulmaine to submit the FY 2008 application online. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the submittal of multi-activity application for the Targeted Infrastructure and Demolition Projects in the designated target area generally referred to as the Village/New Village and as defined in the FY 2008 application. The application request will be for up to \$1 Million. Such application will be submitted to the Department of Housing and Community

Development prior to the grant deadline of February 15, 2008. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to authorize submittal of the Community Development Strategy as discussed. Vote yes/Unanimous. Ms. Dulmaine approached Chairman Audette and asked if Item J, Under Decisions could be brought forward so that she doesn't have to wait 2 hours. Chairman Audette approved her request.

Community Development/Certificate not to encumber the property located at 36 A/B Elm Place, Whitinsville, MA. Present: Jennifer Dulmaine. After a brief discussion with Town Counsel, they recommended the verbiage given to Ms. Dulmaine be used when the vote is taken. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to consent to the transfer of the property located at 36 A/B Elm Place, which is subject to an Assistance Agreement dated November 9, 2006 and a Certificate Not To Encumber dated February 1, 2007 under the Northbridge Housing Rehabilitation Program, from Harry and Francine Smith to Harry and Francine Smith as trustees of a grantor trust, as described in a November 19, 2007 letter from Attorney James Miller, counsel for the Smiths, to the Town Manager, subject to the execution and recording of a new Certificate Not To Encumber upon the recording of the deed to the grantor trust at the Registry of Deeds. Vote yes/Unanimous.

3) 7:20 PM – a) Transfer liquor license [All Alcohol Package Store] from Gary's Variety, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Gurmit Pabla] to Jyoti Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Harshad Patel]. b) Transfer Common Victualler's License from Gary's Variety, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Gurmit Pabla] to Jyoti Enterprise, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Harshad Patel]. Chairman Audette read aloud the public hearing notice. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Harshad Patel was present along with his brother Govind Patel, who is representing Harshad because his attorney was in a car accident. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. There were no comments from those present. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the transfer of the liquor license [All Alcohol Package Store] from Gary's Variety, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Gurmit Pabla] to Jyoti Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Harshad Patel] and submit the application packet to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to transfer the Common Victualler's License from Gary's Variety, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Gurmit Pabla] to Jyoti Enterprise, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety [Harshad Patel]. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Cable Advisory Committee/Cable Contract. Present: Sharron Ampagoomian, Chairman, and Members: Ronald Guillaume, Steven Holm, Jerry Bagdasarian, David Miedema III, Shelley Buma, and Attorney William August. Attorney William August is representing the Town of Northbridge in their Cable Contract Renewal Process. He gave a brief overview of the renewal process and mentioned the Cable Advisory Committee has pulled together and adopted a document with some general objectives for negotiations. Mr. Ronald Guillaume presented the preliminary ascertainment report and recommendations of the Northbridge Cable Television Advisory Board to the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen for any feedback and/or comments they may have. This document reflects the Northbridge Cable Advisory Committee's ascertainment activity to identify the Town of Northbridge's cable television needs. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Davis to adopt the preliminary ascertainment report and recommendations of the Northbridge Cable Television Advisory Board as the preliminary ascertainment findings of the Board of Selectmen as cable television licensing authority subject to Selectmen reservation of right, at a later time, amend and modify as needed. Vote yes/Messrs. Davis, Audette and Marzec. Vote no/Messrs. Montecalvo and Ampagoomian.

Appointments: Vincent Tynan, Northbridge Housing Authority. (Joint appointment of the Selectmen and Northbridge Housing Authority) Present: Mary Frances Powers, Chairman, Northbridge Housing Authority, and Committee Members: Barbara Chandler, Janet King and Carolyn Lavallee. At this time, Chairman Powers called the Housing Authority's meeting to order. A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept the recommendation of the Northbridge Housing Authority to appoint Vincent Tynan to the Northbridge Housing Authority. Vote yes/Unanimous. There being no further discussion, a motion/Ms. Lavallee, seconded/Ms. King to close the Northbridge Housing Authority's meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen: Karl Gustav Hjertberg, Blackstone River and Canal Commission (Associate Member).** Mr. Hjertberg told the Board a little bit about himself. He mentioned that he was a civil engineer and is interested in the environment. He enjoys biking, skiing, sailing and canoeing. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Karl Gustav Hjertberg to the Blackstone River and Canal Commission as an Associate Member. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Citizens Comments/Input. Carrie Maynard, 16 East Street, Whitinsville. Ms. Maynard mentioned there is a MEPA Site Visit on Thursday, December 19, 2007 at 10 AM for the Berkowitz Trucking Facility to discuss a 217% percent tonnage increase per year. Richard Sasseville, DPW Director and Arthur Magowan, Highway Superintendent advised the Board of Selectmen and the residents in town of a situation they have because of all the bad weather Mother Nature has dumped upon us recently. The problem the Highway Department is faced with is an inability to obtain a sufficient supply of salt for use on the town roads. The Town of Northbridge belongs to a consortium of 17 cities and towns in Central

Massachusetts that join together and bid out their salt contracts for a bulk rate. That said, the salt company has not been good about delivering their salt. Right now, there are 20 loads of salt on order and it's been on order for several weeks now. DPW Director Richard Sasseville mentioned there is a shortage of salt and that they only have 50 tons of salt left in the salt shed. That said, because of the weather we've been having lately, they don't have the material needed to treat the roads properly. They are asking that residents in Town be very careful when driving around the surrounding areas because every Town is experiencing the same situation as Northbridge.

Voting Precincts [Combine precincts 1, 3 and 4 and relocate to Northbridge High School Field House] Present: Doreen Cedrone, Town Clerk. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to adopt the recommendation of the Town Clerk to move precincts 1, 3, and 4 to the Northbridge High School Field House. Discussion on the motion: Selectman Davis voiced his concerns with a letter that was received by the American Legion regarding rental fees. ~~*Selectman Davis would like to amend the motion by including moving Precinct 2 to the Northbridge High School Field House. No vote taken on the main motion.~~ A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to amend the first motion as follows: To relocate Precincts 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the Northbridge High School Field House. Vote taken on the motion by Selectman Ampagoomian as amended: Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. Vote no/Mr. Ampagoomian". ~~Selectman Ampagoomian withdrew his motion.~~

2008 Annual Liquor License Renewals/Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve all the 2008 Annual Liquor License Renewals subject to the payment of all outstanding taxes. Vote yes/Unanimous.

2008 Miscellaneous License Renewals [Common Victualler, Class II, Class III, Automatic Amusement Devices, Entertainment, etc.]/Vote to approve. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Montecalvo to approve all the 2008 Miscellaneous License Renewals subject to the payment of all outstanding taxes. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Oliver Ashton Post #343 (American Legion) Liquor License/Request Change of Manager. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the Oliver Ashton Post's request for a Change of Manager from Camille Labrecque to Harry Berkowitz and to submit the application packet to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Blanket vote to re-affirm all regulatory traffic signs in Town. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to re-affirm the authorization for all existing regulatory traffic signs in the Town of Northbridge, i.e. stop signs, no parking signs, do not enter signs, and all other regulatory traffic signs now in place. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Sparetime Recreation [Ken Couture, Mgr.]: Request to transfer the Wines and Malt [General on Premises] liquor license to Sparetime Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Sparetime Recreation [Wayne Couture, Mgr.]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Davis to grant local approval on the transfer of the above license from Kenneth Couture d/b/a Sparetime Recreation to Sparetime Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Sparetime Recreation [Wayne Couture] and to submit the application packet to the Alcoholic Beverages and Control Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Class II – Used Car Dealers' Licenses/Report by Northbridge Police Department. Present: Police Chief Walter Warchol. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that after a review of the Class II renewals and license transfers, there was a question that arose with respect to what exactly is a "premises" under Massachusetts General Law. He mentioned that Sergeant Conrad Chickinski spoke to a Massachusetts State Trooper [Trooper Springer], who informed him there are set criteria that would have to be met to consider the location a legitimate dealership. The criteria are: 1) a sign with the dealership's name and hours of operation; 2) A used car record book that is kept on the premises detailing all vehicles bought and sold and their final disposition; 3) Legal documents that accompany all vehicles during transfer of ownership, titles, registrations and bills of sale or copies of the documentation. Chief Warchol mentioned that he would like to investigate further and feels that the Selectmen shouldn't issue licenses especially when the business has no documentation on site to conduct a legitimate business.

Town Manager's Goals and Objectives. Chairman Audette mentioned that he asked all the Selectmen to review the goals and objectives [as it pertains to the Town Manager's job] for this evenings meeting. After a brief discussion, Chairman Audette suggested that if any Selectmen had a goal that wasn't on the list [already provided at a previous meeting] to provide it to him by January 1, 2008. *Selectman Ampagoomian stated that the goals and objectives were part of the Town Manager's job function as described by the Charter". A motion/Mr. Davis, seconded/Mr. Marzec to adopt the 8 goals and objectives that the Town Manager and Chairman submitted and schedule a Goals and Objectives meeting for the first meeting in February. Vote no/Mr. Ampagoomian. Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette.

Town Manager's Report. 1) M.O.R.E. Update – monthly meeting in Worcester went well. A discussion was held on Regional Purchasing, Transportation Issues and Energy Contracts. A presentation on Recycling took place and Marilyn Baker from our Recycling Committee was presented with an award for all her hard work and dedication. 2) Linwood Mill Site Visit – Town Manager Kozak met with Mr. William Giannopoulos, Manager of Linwood Mill, LLC. to view the mill and discuss the development of the mill. Mr. Giannopoulos mentioned that he is interested in the TIF Program. 3) Playground and Recreation Commission Policy – A meeting was held at the High School last week with the Playground and Recreation Committee, School Superintendent, Chairman of the School Committee, Chairman Audette and Principals to discuss their proposals and use of the Town fields. 4) Evergreen Center Wreath Presentation – December 11, 2007 – received a wreath from the Evergreen Center, which is hanging on the Douglas Road side of Town Hall. 5) Reverse 911 – received a visit from the Sheriff's Department and they provided a presentation to some individuals in the Town on the Reverse 911 program.

Selectmen's Concerns. **Selectman Montecalvo/1)** commitment from the Selectmen that funds will be available for certification of the library. **Selectman Davis/1)** Did the Superintendent submit his budget to the Town Manager? Town Manager Kozak responded, "yes". 2) Have any other Department's looked at the Aldrich Building space for utilization. Town Manager responded, "no". **Selectman Ampagoomian/1)** Request for the audit invoices. Town Manager advised Selectman Ampagoomian that the Town Accountant will provide him with a copy. **Selectman Marzec/1)** Businesses in Town – need to bring in more revenue for the Town of Northbridge. **Chairman Audette/1)** mentioned the possibility of splitting the override, one for the municipal side and one for the school side. 2) On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, he wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and asked that everyone remember the troops overseas.

Executive Session. A motion/Mr. Montecalvo, seconded/Mr. Marzec to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B#3 Litigation & Negotiations and not to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Montecalvo/Yes, Mr. Davis/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes and Mr. Audette/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph J. Montecalvo, Clerk

dg/

*At their regularly scheduled meeting of January 28, 2008, the Board voted to amend the December 17, 2007 minutes as follows:

1) Selectman Ampagoomian requested the following statement be inserted under the heading Town Manager's Goals and Objectives: Selectman Ampagoomian stated that the goals and objectives were part of the Town Manager's job function as described by the Charter.

2) Selectman Davis requested the following changes be made under the heading Voting Precincts: a) Delete the following language found in lines five, six and seven: "Selectmen Davis would like to amend the motion by including moving Precinct 2 to the Northbridge High School Field House. No vote taken on the main motion". b) Delete the word "first" in the seventh line. c) Delete the last sentence: "Selectman Ampagoomian withdrew his motion" and insert the following verbiage as the last sentence: "Vote on the motion by Selectman Ampagoomian as amended:". Vote yes/Messrs. Montecalvo, Davis, Marzec and Audette. Vote no/Mr. Ampagoomian".