

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
January 05, 2015**

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. Marzec and Melia. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager. **Absent:** Selectmen's James Athanas and Daniel Nolan were absent and it is duly noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Presentation: Certificate of Appreciation – Senator Richard T. Moore. Chairman Ampagoomian presented an Award to Senator Richard T. Moore in recognition of his 35 years of outstanding leadership and service on behalf of the Town of Northbridge. Jeannie Hebert, President & CEO of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce presented a small token of appreciation to Senator Moore on behalf of the entire Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce. Senator Moore expressed his gratitude, noting that it had been a great experience serving the people of Northbridge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. December 1, 2014. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia, to approve the December 1, 2014 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/1) 7:05 PM: National Grid and Verizon New England - Petition for Joint Pole Location [Present: Crystal Tognazzi] - Petition to install Pole 27-5 50' to the easterly direction of Pole 28. Installing pole to bring a new service to building at 369 Douglas Road. [Plan #17530997, dated 10/7/2014 and revised 11/18/14]. Chairman Ampagoomian read the petition aloud. "Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. request permission to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures necessary in the following public way or ways: Douglas Road Pole #27-5. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian. Ms. Tognazzi mentioned that National Grid petitions to install pole 27-5 50' to the easterly direction of pole 28. Installing pole to bring a new service to building 369 Douglas Road. Wherefore they ask that after due notice and hearing they be granted joint or identical locations for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as they must find necessary, said poles to be located substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked: Plan No. 17530997 Dated: 10/07/2014. Also for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes. Your petitioners agree to reserve space for one cross arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes." Chairman Ampagoomian asked if the DPW Director and/or any abutters have any questions or concerns. There being no further comments, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to allow the Petition to install Pole 27-5 50' to the easterly direction of Pole 28. Installing pole to bring a new service to building at 369 Douglas Road. [Plan #17530997, dated 10/7/2014 and revised 11/18/14]. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian. **2) 7:10PM: National Grid and Verizon New England - Petition for Joint Pole Location [Present: Crystal Tognazzi] – Petition to remove 2 guys and anchors off customer's private property in parking lot of 117 Church Street and to replace P#14 with a larger pole slightly to the right of the old pole setting at the very edge of the sidewalk closest to Church Street.** Chairman Ampagoomian read the petition aloud. "Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. request permission to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures necessary in the following public

way or ways: Church Street Pole #14. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian. Ms. Tognazzi mentioned that National Grid petitions to remove 2 guys and anchors off customer's private property in parking lot of 117 Church Street and to replace P#14 with a larger pole slightly to the right of the old pole setting at the very edge of the sidewalk closest to Church Street. This will allow more sidewalk room for handicap accessibility. Wherefore they ask that after due notice and hearing they be granted joint or identical locations for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as they must find necessary, said poles to be located substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked: Plan No. 17183556 Dated: 11/24/2014. Also for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes. Your petitioners agree to reserve space for one cross arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes." Selectman Melia asked when this project would begin and Ms. Tognazzi explained as soon as the Town approves the request. Chairman Ampagoomian asked if the DPW Director and/or any abutters have any questions or concerns. There being no further comments, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to allow National Grid to remove 2 guys and anchors off customer's private property in parking lot of 117 Church Street and to replace P#14 with a larger pole slightly to the right of the old pole setting at the very edge of the sidewalk closest to Church Street. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian.

RESIGNATION. Carole Sweeney, Council on Aging. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to accept the resignation of Carole Sweeney from the Council on Aging and send a letter of appreciation thanking her for her service to the Town. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT – Local Business Spotlight: Featuring - Irrigation Automation Systems [Brett Niver]. Mr. Niver explained that his company started 10 years ago and develop products for remote irrigation control, a remote engine/motor control software (*HarvestWatch*) and multiple hardware solutions that are fed by "state of the art" wireless, air/plant temperature and soil moisture transmitters. Ms. Jeannie Hebert, President & CEO of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce announced that Mr. Niver's Company was the winner of one of their business awards and explained that his company saves a lot of water by what they do every day. Ms. Hebert noted that his Company works with other Companies across the United States, including Canada. Ms. Hebert also mentioned that his Company works with growers and vineyards.

DECISIONS - Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 5, 2015]/Vote to close the warrant on March 6, 2015 at 12 Noon. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the Spring Annual Town Meeting warrant on Friday, March 6, 2015 @ Noon. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian.

Special Town Meeting/1) Vote to call a Special Town Meeting at 7PM on February 24, 2015 at the Middle School Auditorium. Town Manager Kozak explained the reason for calling a Special Town Meeting. He mentioned that the article would be to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax increment financing plan with WGM Fabricators, LLC pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 59 of the General Laws, in connection with the development of said property; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions as are necessary to obtain approval of the certified project application and to implement the tax increment financing plan. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that by having the Special Town Meeting, Mr. Roger's [Owner of WGM Fabricators, LLC] can seek approval from the Town and Board of Selectmen for a TIF agreement, which Mr. Roger's can then approach the state to request additional assistance to lower his taxes. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to schedule a

Special Town Meeting for February 24, 2015 @ 7 P.M. at the Middle School Auditorium. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian. **2) Vote to close the warrant on Friday, January 16, 2015 at 1:00PM.** A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the warrant on Friday, January 16, 2015 at 1:00 PM. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Linda Usher/Request to hold the 27^h Annual Whitin Five Mile Road Race, Thursday, November 26, 2015. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to grant permission to Linda Usher to hold the 27th Annual "Whitin Five Mile Road Race" on Thursday, November 26, 2015 at 8:10 A.M., subject to the safety requirements of the Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian.

St. Patrick's Church [Gracia Casey]/1) Request to hold a 5K Road Race fundraiser on Saturday, June 6, 2015 at 9AM. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to grant permission to St. Patrick's Church [Gracia Casey] to hold a 5K Road Race fundraiser on Saturday, June 6, 2015 @ 9:00 A.M., subject to the safety requirements of the Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian. **2) Request for a one-day Beer and Wine License for Sunday, June 7, 2015 [Polish Picnic] from 11AM to 4PM on the grounds of the old Scout House, 22 Cross St., Whitinsville.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve St. Patrick's Church [Gracia Casey] one-day Beer and Wine license for Sunday, June 7, 2015 [Polish Picnic] from 11 AM to 4 PM on the grounds of the old Scout House, 22 Cross Street, Whitinsville. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Good Energy, LP [Stefano Loretto]/Professional Energy Consulting Services Agreement. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that at the last Board of Selectmen's Meeting [December 15, 2014], they agreed to join the Southeastern Regional and Economic Development District. He mentioned that the Town will move forward with the aggregation proposal for the community and residents. He then mentioned that Good Energy, LP was selected by the Southeastern Regional and Economic Development Group and this will be the agreement for the Town of Northbridge to join Good Energy, LP. Town Manager Kozak also mentioned that Town Counsel has approved this agreement. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the Good Energy, LP, Professional Energy Consulting Services Agreement. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Arcade Realty Trust/Vote to accept monetary gift in the amount of \$3,900 for a flood study review. Town Manager Kozak explained that this is a gift to pay for the third party review of the flood study done by Tighe & Bond for the property located at 355 Main Street, Whitinsville. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the monetary gift in the amount of \$3,900.00 for a flood study review from Arcade Realty Trust. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

DISCUSSIONS – None.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT -1) Senior Center Luncheon: Attended a luncheon at the Northbridge Senior Center to celebrate Victoria Sotek's 100th birthday. **2) Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor:** Attended a meeting in Woonsocket to celebrate the designation of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, which includes the Village of Whitinsville, as the newest National Park. Federal legislation was filed by the U.S. Senate and signed into law by President Obama on December 19, 2014. **3) EPA Stormwater Update:** The EPA is currently beginning the process of awarding a permit to communities in Central Mass. for stormwater regulations. The comment period has been extended to the end of February to allow the State to hold a public meeting in January regarding this topic. **4) Christmas Tree Recycling Day:** Announced that Christmas Trees can be dropped off at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, 644 Providence Rd., Whitinsville, on Saturday, January 10, 2015, from 9AM TO 2PM. **5) 2040 Providence Road Reuse Study:** Announced the Planning Board will be holding a Public Workshop on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 7PM in the Town Hall.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Marzec 1) Mentioned that a citizen in town suggested that the Town use their website [or use Survey Monkey] to solicit ideas from the public with respect to the Town's financial crisis and how to move forward. **2)** Economic Development – mentioned that he spoke to several business owners in Town to see about getting together to discuss ideas on economic growth for the Town of Northbridge. He mentioned that the Town needs to increase their business profile a little more. **Selectman Melia/Mentioned** that he received a phone call reporting that it's very dark on Route 122, near the Klocek property and Rockdale Sports Bar area. Mr. Melia then mentioned he drove by there before coming to tonight's meeting and noticed that some streetlights were out. He asked James Shuris, DPW Director to look into this matter. He noted, the streetlights might be out due to the Town's streetlight policy and if that's the case, could he ask the Safety Committee to review this area. It's very dark and there are parents who pick up their kids at a daycare center that is located next to the Rockdale Sports Bar. **Chairman Ampagoomian/1)** Wished Ms. Sotek a Happy 100th Birthday. **2)** Mentioned that he hopes the Town will receive funding (tourist dollars to fix Quaker Street, Scenic Quaker Street and Church Street Extension) with the recent designation of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. **3)** He mentioned that it's important for the residents of the Town of Northbridge to attend the Public Workshop on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 7PM in the Town Hall because a discussion will take place on how to best use this area. All input is welcomed.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to adjourn the January 5, 2015 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:51 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/dg

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

January 5, 2015

Presentation: Copy of Certificate of Appreciation for Senator Richard T. Moore.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Copy of the December 1, 2014 minutes.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

B. 1) a. Copy of National Grid letter, **b.** Copy of petition, **c.** Copy of map, **d.** Copy of public hearing notice to abutter's, **e.** Copy of memo to Assistant Assessor requesting abutter's list, **f.** Copy of abutters list.

B. 2) a. Copy of National Grid letter, **b.** Copy of petition, **c.** Copy of map, **d.** Copy of public hearing notice to abutter's, **e.** Copy of memo to Assistant Assessor requesting abutter's list, **f.** Copy of abutters list.

III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:

C. Copy of Carole M. Sweeney's Resignation

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT – Local Business Spotlight: Featuring –Irrigation Automation Systems [Brett Niver]. – **No Documentation.**

V. DECISIONS

D. Spring Annual Town Meeting – No documentation.

E. Special Town Meeting – No documentation.

F. Copy of Linda Usher's email requesting permission to hold the 27th Annual Thanksgiving Whitin Five Road Race on November 26, 2015 @ 8:10 AM.

G. 1) Copy of Gracia Casey's email dated 12/31/14 requesting permission to hold a 5K Road Race fundraiser on Saturday, June 6, 2015 @ 9AM **2)** Requests for a one-day Beer & Wine license for Sunday, June 7, 2015 [Polish Picnic] from 11AM to 4PM. **3)** Copy of map.

H. Copy of Services Agreement/Professional Energy Services to a Municipal Aggregator/Good Energy, L.P.

I. Copy of letter [dated 12/22/14] from WRT Management Corp/Arcade Realty Trust regarding a monetary gift in the amount of \$3900.00 to the Town of Northbridge.

VI. DISCUSSIONS

None.

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

J. 1) Senior Center Luncheon – **No documentation.**

2) Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor – **No documentation.**

3) EPA Stormwater Update – **No documentation.**

4) Christmas Tree Recycling Day – **No documentation.**

5) 2040 Providence Road Reuse Study – **No documentation.**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – No Documentation.

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – None.

X. CORRESPONDENCE – None.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
January 12, 2015**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 6:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Marzec, Athanas and Melia. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager. **Absent:** Selectman Daniel Nolan was absent and it is duly noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. December 15, 2014. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the December 15, 2014 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT – Local Business Spotlight:

Special Town Meeting [February 24, 2015]/Vote to place article(s) on warrant. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to place Article 1 [TIF – WGM Fabricators] on the Special Town Meeting warrant. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Melia and Ampagoomian.

Water Meters. Town Manager Kozak advised that he spoke to Randy Swigor, Manager of the Whitinsville Water Company, about a new meter proposal and that Mr. Swigor would like to bring it back to Town Meeting for a more in-depth discussion. He mentioned that the Whitinsville Water Company would change the meters and bill the Town over a 20-year period. He suggested to schedule meter changes over 5 years instead of one big expense on the first year. Town Manager Kozak would like Randy Swigor to come to a future Selectmen's meeting to discuss this matter further.

Pine Grove Cemetery. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that he is looking for a new method/deed to make it easier to buy lots and then advised the Board that he sent the paperwork to David Doneski, Kopelman and Paige, to review.

Mass. Municipal Association's Annual Meeting/Trade Show. Town Manager Kozak reminded the Board of the upcoming Mass. Municipal Association's Annual Meeting/Trade Show [January 23rd through January 25].

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Melia 1) Mentioned that Good Energy is sending letters to the townspeople, which is confusing many residents and stated that this is not a town issue yet. **2)** Asked to bring in Football Coach Kenneth Lachapelle so that the Board of Selectmen could present him with a proclamation in recognition of being the winningest coach in state history. **3)** Said that the School Committee discussed an override. They also voted to place three articles on the Special Town Meeting warrant: 1) \$36K for repairs made to the Balmer School kitchen; 2) \$28,940 for the Middle School Auditorium air-condensing unit; and 3) \$24,288 Middle School Locker Room air units. Town Manager Kozak said the articles will be sent to Town Counsel for review. **Selectman Marzec/**Asked to check on visitor center at The Shop [a/k/a The Whittin Machine Shop] through state and federal representatives. **Selectman Athanas 1)** Pot holes—Contact the State to address Sutton Street. **2)** Look into applying for a grant for the Great Hall.

Chairman Ampagoomian announced that the sprinkler system went off at the Cotton Mill Apartments and caused damage to four floors.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Melia and Ampagoomian.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/dg

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

January 12, 2015

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A.** Copy of the December 15, 2014 minutes.
- II. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None**
- III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen - None**
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT - None**
- V. DECISIONS**
 - B.** Copy of draft warrant article
- VI. DISCUSSIONS**
 - C.** Water Meters – **No documentation**
 - D.** Pine Grove Cemetery – **No documentation**
 - E.** Mass. Municipal Association Annual Meeting – **No documentation**
- VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - None**
- VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – None**
- IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – None**
- X. CORRESPONDENCE – None**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
January 30, 2015**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Charles Ampagoomian at 4:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Marzec, Athanas and Melia. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager. **Absent:** Selectman Daniel Nolan was absent and it is duly noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. January 5, 2015. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the January 5, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Athanas. **January 12, 2015.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the January 12, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen. Retirement Board [Selectmen's Appointee]: Sharon Susienka. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to re-appoint Sharon Susienka to a 3-year term on the Retirement Board. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT – Local Business Spotlight: NONE

Special Town Meeting [February 24, 2015]/Vote to sign the warrant. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to sign the Special Town Meeting warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Melia and Ampagoomian.

Conflict of Interest/Vote to grant exemption to Timothy Labrie. Selectman Melia recused himself from this decision item as Timothy Labrie is his son-in-law. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to grant an exemption to Timothy Labrie [L & M Landscaping, Inc.] under section 20(b) of the conflict of interest statute, G.L. c. 268A, §20(b). Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Melia.

Annual Town Election Warrant [May 19, 2015]. Vote to give notice to the Town Clerk to place vacancies from elected boards and committees on the Town Election Warrant. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to notify the Town Clerk of the following vacancies and to place said vacancies on the May 19, 2015 Town Election Ballot: Housing Authority: One 1-year term, Redevelopment Authority: One 1-year term, Redevelopment Authority: One 2-year term, Redevelopment Authority: One 3-year term. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Melia and Ampagoomian.

WGM Fabricators Draft TIF Agreement. Town Manager Kozak reviewed the draft TIF Agreement with the Board of Selectmen. He stated final agreement will be ready for the next Board meeting on February 9th. He will review with Counsel and invite representative from the Company to attend.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT. 1) Town Manager Kozak asked the Board of Selectmen for permission to carry over five (5) vacation days to be used by June 30, 2015. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to allow Town Manager Kozak to carry over five (5) vacation days to be used by June 30, 2015.. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Melia and Ampagoomian. **2)** Announced on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 that South Middlesex Opportunity Council will have an Open House at 75 Church Ave. Housing and Urban Development will be there.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. None.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Melia and Ampagoomian.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:41 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/dg

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

January 30, 2015

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. 1) Copy of the January 5, 2015 minutes. 2) Copy of the January 12, 2015 minutes.**
- II. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None**
- III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen**
 - B. Copy of Sharon Susienka's letter requesting to be reappointed as the Selectmen's appointee to the Retirement Board.**
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT - None**
- V. DECISIONS**
 - C. Copy of Special Town Meeting warrant [February 24, 2015].**
 - D. Copy of motion for Conflict of Interest/Vote to grant exemption to Timothy Labrie.**
 - E. Copy of memo dated January 21, 2015 from Doreen Cedrone, Town Clerk, regarding vacancies in Town Offices.**
- VI. DISCUSSIONS**
 - F. WGM Fabricators Draft TIF Agreement – Copy of agreement.**
- VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - None**
- VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – None**
- IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – None**
- X. CORRESPONDENCE – None**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
February 10, 2015**

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. Marzec, Nolan and Melia. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager. **Absent:** Selectman James Athanas was absent and it is duly noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION TO KENNETH LACHAPELLE

Chairman Ampagoomian presented Mr. Kenneth Lachapelle with a proclamation from the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen. He read aloud the proclamation and congratulated him on being a great football coach and leader for the Town of Northbridge. Selectman Melia congratulated Mr. Lachapelle and commended Coach Lachapelle for his remarkable dedication to teaching, inspiring, and coaching many young athletes. Mr. Lachapelle thanked everyone and stated that he takes pride in what he does and appreciates the Town acknowledging him. Representative David Muradian and Senator Michael Moore presented Mr. Kenneth Lachapelle with a citation from the Massachusetts General Court recognizing Mr. Lachapelle for the winningest high school football coach in Massachusetts state history.

Presentation: SENATOR LOU BERTONAZZI FOUNDATION – OUTSTANDING

CITIZENSHIP AWARD presented to Town Clerk's Office staff Doreen Cedrone and Linda Zywiec. Present: Doreen Cedrone, Town Clerk, Linda Zywiec, Office Clerk, Senator Lou Bertonazzi. Senator Bertonazzi congratulated the Town of Northbridge for winning the second such Senator Louis P. Bertonazzi Foundation Citizenship Award. He explained that the Citizenship Award is a voting competition amongst nineteen towns. The process consists of Town Clerks forwarding election information to the foundation consisting of the number of registered voters and the actual number of people who voted in each town for the past 4 elections. The 4 elections included the Special State Election in June 2013, the 2014 Town Election, the State Primary in September, and the Special State Election in November. The updated standings are released after each election and then the final tally represents the cumulative total of all elections. Senator Bertonazzi presented Town Manager Theodore Kozak and Board of Selectmen with an inscribed plaque to be placed in the Northbridge Town Hall for the next two years. He then presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to Town Clerk Doreen Cedrone to be used as they see fit to enhance voter participation in future elections. With that done, he presented a banner to the Town of Northbridge that read "Citizenship Award, Best Voting Community, Northbridge". Mr. Bertonazzi noted that Town Clerk Doreen Cedrone and the past Town Clerk are the most efficient and effective Town Clerk's in the entire area and he has enjoyed working with both of them.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. January 30, 2015. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia, to approve the January 30, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Marzec. Abstain/Mr. Nolan.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

APPOINTMENTS/None.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT None.

Town Manager Kozak announced that the order of the agenda needs to be revised. He asked that Item D. – WGM Fabricators TIF Agreement be discussed first so that the Owner, Mr. Chip Rogers can leave due to another appointment this evening. Town Manager Kozak explained that a "draft" TIF Agreement was

presented to the Board of Selectmen at their last meeting and tonight the “final” TIF Agreement needs approval by the Board. He mentioned that Mr. Roger’s attorney and the Town’s attorney have both reviewed and approved the agreement. Town Manager Kozak also mentioned that the agreement is for five years on the addition of the building, located at 369 Douglas Road. The current building is valued at \$1.9 million, but the addition to the building is valued at \$800,000. Town Manager Kozak then explained that the TIF percentage for the 1st year will be 50%, 2nd year 45%, 3rd year 40%, 4th year 35% and 5th year 30% and feels this is a fair proposal. That said, a motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the TIF Agreement for WGM Fabricators, LLC. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Town Manager Kozak asked if Item E - Special Town Meeting [February 24, 2015] could be taken up next on the agenda because Ms. Walker and Mr. Lebrasseur need to attend tonight’s School Committee meeting.

Special Town Meeting [February 24, 2015]/ Vote positions on articles 1 through 4. Present: Christopher Thompson, Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee, Melissa Walker, Business Manager for the School Department and Michael Lebrasseur, Chairman of the School Committee.

Article 1 [Tax Increment Financing Agreement WGM Fabricators] – A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to support Article 1. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 1. **Article 2 [\$36,800 for repairs made to Balmer School kitchen]** – Mr. Thompson mentioned that the Finance Committee has met and they support Article 2, 3 and 4. The repairs are necessary maintenance projects. Town Manager Kozak explained that the money will be coming from “free cash”. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 2. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 2. **Article 3 [\$28,940 for replacement of the Middle School Auditorium condensing unit]** - A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 3. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 3. **Article 4 [\$24,288 for replacement of the Middle School Locker Room air units]** – A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 4. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 4.

DECISIONS – Cemetery Deeds – Vote to approve Pine Grove Cemetery Deed and Riverdale Cemetery Deed. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the Town needed a cemetery deed for Pine Grove Cemetery and then noted that he had Town Counsel review both the Pine Grove Cemetery deed and the Riverdale Cemetery deed to make sure they are in compliance. That being said, both deeds are in compliance. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve both the Pine Grove Cemetery Deed form and Riverdale Cemetery Deed form. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deed/Lot No. 24A – Locust Avenue South [David J. Westbury]. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to sign the Pine Grove Cemetery Deed for Lot #24A – Locust Avenue South – David J. Westbury. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deed/Lot No. 4 – Locust Avenue South [Richard & Ria Jorritsma]. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to sign the Pine Grove Cemetery Deed for Lot #4 – Locust Avenue South – Richard & Ria Jorritsma. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

DISCUSSIONS - Water & Sewer Abatement Appeal [James M. Knott]. Present: James Shuris, DPW Director, Randy Swigor, General Manager @ Whitinsville Water Company and James Knott Jr., Riverdale Mills Corporation. Mr. Knott advised that Riverdale Mills Corporation is requesting an abatement on their water [\$21,220.50] and sewer [\$7414.18] bill based on the Town’s failure to read the water meter on a timely basis from February 2014 through October 2014. During this time, the Riverdale Mills Corporation average daily usage increased from a few hundred cubic feet per day to 3000 cubic feet per day, unbeknownst to them. Mr. Knott mentioned that on November 26, 2014, the Northbridge

Department of Public Works denied their request for an abatement. They are now appealing the DPW's denial of request pursuant to Section 198A-4 of the Northbridge Code. James Shuris, DPW Director mentioned that Randy Swigor, General Manager of the Whitinsville Water Company brought this item to his attention back in November 2014. He then advised that the Operation Manager at Riverdale Mills was aware of the leak in February of 2014. Mr. Shuris was informed that the leak was repaired in August of 2014. He stated that Mr. Knott was correct about receiving their bill in October, instead of July. Mr. Shuris then noted that based on the facts that he saw before him, the leaky valve existed from February 2014 to August 2014. Mr. Randy Swigor, General Manager of Whitinsville Water Company advised that his Company wasn't able to get a meter reading in April, due to the outside equipment having some type of issue so they had to estimate the bill. However, Mr. Swigor then announced that 3 months later [July], the Whitinsville Water Company meter reading equipment died and unfortunately, the Riverdale Mills account was never sent a bill. In October, the Whitinsville Water Company read the Riverdale Mills water meter and noticed that the reading was quite high. At that point, they contacted Riverdale Mills Corporation to notify them that the amount of water used was extremely high. Mr. Swigor stated that his Company was informed by Riverdale Mills that a valve had been left open back in February and repaired in August. Mr. Shuris mentioned that Riverdale Mills has a water meter that measures the amount of water used and a sewer meter that measures the amount of sewer used. Town Manager Kozak said that because Mr. Shuris wasn't aware of the sewer bill abatement he asked that this item be discussed after Mr. Shuris has time to review it. Mr. Knott mentioned that both the water and sewer abatement forms were sent certified to the Town of Northbridge. Mr. Swigor stated that he was not aware of the sewer bill problem and mentioned that Riverdale Mills Corporation has received all of their sewer bills on time and currently has a zero balance owed. He noted that the sewer meter is completely separate and has nothing to do with the water consumption. Mr. Knott disagreed with Mr. Swigor and said that the sewer bill is based on the water consumption and that the Riverdale Mills sewer bill was eight times more than what they usually pay. Mr. Swigor stated that he would go back and review the bills. Selectman Melia asked Mr. Shuris to explain his response to Mr. Knott's claim and Mr. Shuris explained that he based his response on the emails from the Whitinsville Water Company. Mr. Swigor mentioned that in the rules and regulations, failure to receive a bill does not relieve the customer of their obligation to pay their bill. Chairman Ampagoomian mentioned that the Board of Selectmen will take this matter under advisement and contact Mr. Knott with their findings.

Purchase of Water Meters. Present: Randy Swigor, General Manager of the Whitinsville Water Company. Town Manager Kozak announced that this item was discussed at a previously held meeting and noted that at the Fall Annual Town Meeting there was an article to borrow funding and utilize retained earnings to purchase the meters for the Town side of the system, however this article did not pass. That being said, the Whitinsville Water Company would like to know if the Town wants to purchase new meters through a rate increase. Town Manager Kozak then suggested placing another article on the Spring Annual Town Meeting to see if residents would pass the purchase of water meters if the Whitinsville Water Company were to purchase the meters. Mr. Swigor advised that the Whitinsville Water Company feels that the installation of the new meters would be a cost savings to the Town due to the improved accuracy of the meters.

Roads/Snow & Ice Update/Present: James Shuris, DPW Director and Jamie Luchini, Highway Superintendent. Chairman Ampagoomian read aloud a letter commending Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini for doing a great job. Mr. Shuris provided a brief update to the Board with respect to the 27 snow events and noted that the Town has exceeded over 80 inches of snow in the past several weeks. He mentioned that he doesn't have an exact dollar amount for the costs of all the snowstorms yet but at the end of January [blizzard] he did submit a \$140,000 dollar request to MEMA for 75% reimbursement. The dollar amount includes: equipment, overtime, supplies and materials. Mr. Shuris advised that Mr. Luchini had put together a snow removal plan and will continue to use this plan until all the streets, roads and sidewalks are cleared up and in good shape. He also mentioned that MEMA will be delivering a piece of equipment to Northbridge [snow blower] to help clear the sidewalks and streets at no cost to the

Town. Mr. Luchini thanked the residents of Northbridge for their patience and mentioned that the DPW workers and contractors are doing everything possible to keep up with snow removal in the Town of Northbridge. Both Mr. Shuris and Mr. Luchini commended their staff and all the snow plow drivers for their hard work and dedication during these extreme weather conditions. Mr. Luchini noted that because of all the snowstorms their salt consumption was getting low so they have been using it sparingly to treat the roads. That being said, MassDOT located on Route 16 Uxbridge/Douglas allowed the Town of Northbridge to borrow 100 tons of salt so they wouldn't run out during the next storm. The Town will replenish the salt borrowed from Mass DOT once the Town receives their delivery. Selectman Melia stated that he hasn't received any complaints regarding the streets and sidewalks in town and then commended the Highway Department for doing a good job. Town Manager Kozak commended the Highway personnel for doing such a good with little staff.

Invitation to Governor Baker to visit Northbridge. Chairman Ampagoomian mentioned that Governor Baker has been visiting towns and cities to see what their needs are and suggested that a letter be sent inviting Governor Baker to Northbridge. Town Manager Kozak will contact the Governor to see if he can visit the Town of Northbridge.

Selectmen's Meeting Schedule. Town Manager Kozak asked the Board of Selectmen to consider changing the Selectmen's Meeting Schedule in March from March 9th and 23rd to March 2nd and March 16th. This will give him more time to try and work with the departments on any articles they may want to submit for Town Meeting. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to take the Selectmen's Meeting Schedule out of discussion and move into decision. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Nolan and Ampagoomian. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to change the March Selectmen's Meeting Schedule from March 9th and March 23rd to March 2nd and March 16th. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Nolan and Ampagoomian.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - 1) Mass. Municipal Association Annual Meeting & Trade Show: Attended workshops and trade show in Boston. **2) Senior Center Luncheon:** Attended a luncheon at the Northbridge Senior Center to celebrate Irene St. Martin's 100th birthday. Also, presented Ms. Martin with a citation honoring her special day. **3) Energy Supply Purchase:** Reminder that this will not go into effect until next summer. Individuals should be cautious if they enter into any agreements before receiving notification directly from the Town. Town Manager Kozak mentioned there is a link on the Town's webpage with information regarding energy suppliers. **4) Special Town Meeting:** Deadline for Voter Registration. – Announced the deadline for Voter Registration is Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 9 AM to 8 PM. **5) Posting Agendas Electronically:** The new open meeting law, effective 7/1/10, requires meetings notices for all public bodies to be posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours. Initially, municipalities were not allowed to use their websites as the 24/7 means of compliance in regards to posting meetings – that is why we purchased the TV for the police station...cable was one of the options. Attorney General's Office decided that Municipalities could use the internet as a means of 24/7 compliance. We would still post the meetings on cable.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. **Selectman Marzec/1)** Stressed the importance of shoveling roofs to homeowners, especially if you have a flat roof. **2)** Status of cemetery – is the Town vaulting people? Mr. Jamie Luchini advised that they don't vault people anymore and then stated that there are two burials scheduled for this week and next week. **Selectman Melia 1)** Attended the MMA Conference in Boston. **2)** Attended Irene St. Martin's 100th birthday celebration. **3)** Asked Mr. Shuris if he had a chance to discuss with the Safety Committee or review the streetlight policy for Route 122, near the Klocek property. Mr. Shuris stated that the Safety Committee has not met but based on the streetlight policy there is one light that is required to be lit and noted that National Grid has been notified but it usually takes them a couple weeks to follow through. **Chairman Ampagoomian 1)** Asked Mr. Shuris to send all documents pertaining to Mr. Knott's abatement to the Town Manager's office for distribution to the Select Board. **2)** Announced that the Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2015

at 7 PM at the Northbridge Middle School. 3) Mentioned Senator Michael O. Moore is sponsoring a Town Hall Meeting tomorrow night at the UMASS Medical Center, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. This will give people an opportunity to speak with the Senate President Stan Rosenberg and the Minority Leader Bruce Tarr. Chairman Ampagoomian announced that he received a letter from Senator Richard T. Moore thanking the Board of Selectmen for taking the time to honor him for his many years of service. Senator Moore and his wife appreciate the recognition and support and wished the Town of Northbridge well.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to adjourn the February 10, 2015 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Nolan and Ampagoomian.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/dg

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

February 10, 2015

Copy of Proclamation to Kenneth Lachapelle.

Copy and photo of SENATOR LOU BERTONAZZI FOUNDATION – OUTSTANDING CITIZENSHIP AWARD presented to Town Clerk's Office staff Doreen Cedrone and Linda Zywień.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Copy of the January 30, 2015 minutes.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:

None.

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT – Local Business Spotlight: Featuring –Omni Control Technology [Mr. Peter Bedigian] – No Documentation.

V. DECISIONS

B. Cemetery Deeds – Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed and Riverdale Cemetery Deed.

C. 1) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed/Lot No. 24A – Locust Avenue South for David J. Westbury. **2)** Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed/Lot No. 4 – Locust Avenue South for Richard and Ria Jorritsma.

D. Copy of WGM Fabricators TIF Agreement.

E. Copy of warrant articles.

VI. DISCUSSIONS

F. 1) Copy of letter dated January 22, 2015 from Mr. James M. Knott, Sr. regarding a water and sewer abatement at the Riverdale Mills Corporation. 2) Copy of application for utility abatement, water and sewer. 3) Copy of email from James Shuris dated January 30, 2015. 4) Copy of letter dated November 21, 2014 from Debra Krikorian, CFO of Riverdale Mills Corp. 5) Copy of Whitinsville Water Company's billing and payment. 6) Copy of water and sewer bills. 7) Map of town water supply at Riverdale Mills.

G. Purchase of Water Meters - No documentation.

H. Roads/Snow & Ice Update – No documentation.

I. Invitation to Governor Baker to visit Northbridge – No documentation.

J. Selectmen's Meeting Schedule – No documentation.

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- K. 1) Mass. Municipal Association Annual Meeting & Trade Show – No documentation.**
- 2) Senior Center Luncheon – Irene St. Martin's 100th birthday celebration – No documentation.**
- 3) Energy Supply Purchase – No documentation.**
- 4) Special Town Meeting – Deadline for Voter Registration – Copy of notice.**
- 5) Posting Agendas Electronically – No documentation.**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – No Documentation.

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – None.

X. CORRESPONDENCE – None.

- L. Copy of letter from Senator Richard T. Moore**

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

February 24, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:30PM by Chairman Ampagoomian, Northbridge Middle School Auditorium, 171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Melia and Nolan. Selectman Athanas was not present at this time. Selectman Marzec was not present and it is duly recorded.

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

Town Meeting Business. There was no town meeting business before the Board so they continued with the rest of the meeting agenda.

National Grid Transmission Line/Vote to approve early operating hours for emergency snow removal operations through April 15, 2015 as follows: Monday through Friday, 7AM to 8PM; Saturdays and Sundays, 7AM to 5PM. Town Manager Kozak informed the Board that he received a request from National Grid for earlier operating hours on a temporary basis so they can perform emergency snow removal operations. He also stated that Mr. Michael Peterson from National Grid advised him that he spoke to both abutters and they indicated they had no issue with the schedule listed above. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve National Grid's request to operate as follows until April 15, 2015 for the purpose of emergency snow removal operations: Monday through Friday, 7AM to 8PM; Saturdays and Sundays, 7AM to 5PM. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, and Ampagoomian.

Selectman Athanas arrived at 6:35 PM.

Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition/Vote to sign letter of support. The Town Manager advised the Board that signing this letter of support will help the Town. A motion/ Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to sign the letter of support. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Personnel Vacancy. Mr. Kozak advised the Board that Ronald Tetreau, Veterans Services Director, has resigned from his job and that the job will be posted on the MMA's website, in the Beacon, and in the Telegram & Gazette. The Town Manager also advised them that he had a meeting with Mr. Tetreau and Ms. Cleary, the part time Veterans Clerk, and was told that the Town of Uxbridge wants to leave the district and go on their own for Veterans Services. The Town of Uxbridge also indicated that they would like to move the Veterans Office to Uxbridge by July 1st or they will leave the district. Mr. Kozak was told that the Town of Uxbridge has asked Ms. Cleary to be their full-time Veterans Agent if they go on their own. Ms. Cleary told Mr. Kozak that she doesn't like the idea of being alone in the current location [875 Hill Street]. Board members expressed to the Town Manager that they would like to see what the other two towns in the district [Sutton and Douglas] think of Uxbridge's proposal. If the office does move

to Uxbridge, the Town Manager suggested giving the building to the Veterans Council.

On a different matter, Mr. Kozak notified the Select Board that a hearing was held on Friday, February 20th, concerning the extended absence of the Treasurer/Collector and that there is still no determination of when she will be able to return to work. Selectman Nolan asked if she had representation at the hearing and the Town Manager responded no. The Town Manager said he would make a decision concerning her employment based on the information received at the hearing.

Selectman Melia inquired about whether the Town Manager's Office received a letter from a Detective Sergeant concerning municipal fraud. Mr. Kozak responded he did not.

Selectman Athanas asked about the snow/ice deficit and bussing fees and whether the School has made a decision about charging bussing fees. The Town Manager responded that he didn't know.

There being no further business before the Board at this time, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to adjourn the Selectmen's Meeting at the conclusion of the Special Town Meeting this evening. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Melia, Nolan, and Athanas.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

s/

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

February 24, 2015

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None

PUBLIC HEARING/None

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

DECISIONS

A. Town Meeting Business/No documentation

B. National Grid Transmission Line/Vote to approve early operating hours for emergency snow removal operations through April 15, 2015 as follows: Monday through Friday, 7AM to 8PM; Saturdays and Sundays, 7AM to 5PM/No documentation

**C. Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition/Vote to sign letter of support
-Copy of the letter of support**

DISCUSSIONS

D. Personnel vacancy/No documentation

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
March 2, 2015**

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. Athanas, Marzec, Nolan and Melia. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

Chairman Ampagoomian announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session and declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the body.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21#3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations– and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:31 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:32 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:52 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Northbridge Firefighter Appointment [Nicholas Shelburne]. Fire Chief Gary Nestor introduced Nicholas Shelburne, Firefighter/Paramedic, and welcomed him to the Northbridge Fire Department. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified that it was not an added position but a replacement of a firefighter who had resigned. The Board of Selectmen welcomed Mr. Shelburne to the Northbridge Fire Department and wished him well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. February 10, 2015. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the February 10, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Marzec, Ampagoomian and Nolan. Abstain/Mr. Athanas.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

APPOINTMENTS/None.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT. Local Business Spotlight: Featuring – Eastern Acoustic Works [Matt Moniz]. Mr. Moniz stated that he is the Vice President of Operations at Eastern Acoustic Works [EAW]. He noted that the company was founded in 1978 and has been in Northbridge at the Whittin Machine Shop location (next to the Town Hall) for over 30 years. The company designs loud speakers and is a manufacturing company. They offer a multitude of services on site, principally design engineering, manufacturing, warehousing, shipping and logistics, parts, service and design assistance for customers. Mr. Moniz stated that in 2003, EAW was acquired by a business centered in Seattle at which time EAW was largely shifted in an effort to outsource manufacturing overseas. In 2011, EAW was successful in convincing their ownership group that it was in the best interests of EAW to restore manufacturing in Whitinsville. Mr. Moniz noted that 75% of their revenue comes from their factory in Whitinsville. They do primarily woodwork and paint along with some electronics manufacturing, final assembly, test, and shipping. EAW is a full-service organization that works directly with sporting teams, theme park ownership groups and concert tours to design custom solutions for permanent installation or

on the road usage. Some installations that EAW has designed are TD Garden, Gillette Stadium, Fenway Park, BC Eagles Stadium, and the new city field in New York City. Speaking for the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Ampagoomian noted that the Board tries to be as “business friendly” as possible. He offered the Board’s support to Eastern Acoustic Works as it continues to expand. Mr. Moniz responded that this was very much appreciated. **Michael Lebrasseur, 295 Hillcrest Road, Whitinsville, and the Chairman of the School Committee.** Mr. Lebrasseur mentioned that he wanted to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Northbridge who came to the Town Meeting last week to support their three warrant articles related to the school building repair projects. He also thanked the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Town Manager for their support. Mr. Lebrasseur noted that together they were able to find an existing funding source to cover the costs, which the School Committee greatly appreciates. He added that he wanted to provide an update for the School Committee’s FY16 budget. Mr. Lebrasseur reported that they have reduced their bussing to save approximately \$200,000 and implemented a bussing fee, which is projected to generate about \$40,000. In addition they have increased other fees across the board including preschool tuition, athletic and activity fees, the rental of their facilities and others. These increases are projected to possibly generate \$100,000 in revenue. This is on top of the ongoing efforts that the School Department has taken in the past with such things as reducing energy consumption, to creating programs to retain special education students within the district, saving the district more than a million dollars. In addition, all non-union personnel have not received raises for the past 2 years. Mr. Lebrasseur added to this the responsible negotiations with the teachers and all school employee unions, which resulted in a partnership between both sides recognizing the fiscal challenges that we face as a town and that we are in this together. He cautioned that despite all of this the School Committee would meet tomorrow night to discuss cutting more than \$300,000 from the budget including a reduction of 4.3 staff members and other services and programs. Mr. Lebrasseur added that they were hopeful that the Governor’s budget soon to be released would at least provide the minimum increase of \$25.00 per student that they have received in the last couple of years. He added that they look forward to the Town Manager’s initial budget presentation to the Finance Committee on Wednesday night. He noted that the School Committee, for the second year in a row, is trying to avoid a reduction of staff and services.

Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 5, 2015]/ Vote to place articles on warrant [Draft 2]. Town Manager Kozak presented the following draft articles to the Board for their review and recommended that they vote to place them on the Spring Annual Town Meeting warrant: **ARTICLE 1 [Bills of a prior year]:** Town Manager Kozak mentioned that there are no prior bills but in case one appears he suggested keeping this article on the warrant. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to place Article 1 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 2 [FY 2015 Budget Adjustments]:** A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Nolan to place Article 2 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 4 [FY 2016 Sewer Enterprise Operation]:** A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Athanas to place Article 4 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/ Unanimous. **ARTICLE 5 [FY 2016 Water Enterprise Operation]:** A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 5 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/ Unanimous. **ARTICLE 6 [Chapter 90]:** A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Nolan to place Article 6 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 7 [Treasurer/Collector Compensating Balance agreement(s)]:** A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Melia to place Article 7 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 8 [FY 2016 Play & Rec revolving account re-authorization]:** A motion/Mr. Melia seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 8 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 9 [Creation of a Compensated Absences Fund]:** A motion/Mr. Athanas seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 9 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 10 [2015 Transfer funds to the Compensated Absences Fund]:** A motion/Mr. Melia seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 10 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 11 [2016 Transfer funds to the Compensated Absences Fund]:** A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 11 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 12 [Transfer funds to the**

Health Insurance Stabilization Fund]: A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Athanas to place Article 12 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 13 [Transfer funds to the Stabilization Fund]:** A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Athanas to place Article 13 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 14 [Transfer funds from the Pine Grove Cemetery Trust to fund the operations of Pine Grove Cemetery for FY 2016]:** A motion/Mr. Athanas seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 14 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 15 [2015 Elgin Pelican NP Dual Street Sweeper]:** Noting that street sweeping is a critical part of DPW operations, DPW Director James Shuris pointed out the ineffectiveness of the existing sweeper from 1998. Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini added that the present sweeper had more sand coming out from it due to rot than was staying inside and he didn't expect it to last much longer. He also believed that it was bought second-hand. Mr. Luchini noted that the new sweeper is basically a no-frills model used by most towns. He estimated that the cost of a new sweeper would be \$175,000 to \$190,000. Mr. Luchini stated that the sweeper is used almost every day starting in April. Mr. Kozak recommended that this purchase be subject to a capital exclusion and put on the ballot. He added that this would come under a 5-year capital plan that had been expected. A motion/Mr. Melia seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 15 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 16 [2015 International 7400 Combination Dump Truck w/ wing plow]:** Mr. Shuris noted that similar to the sweeper the existing dump truck having a wing plow and sander dates back to 1998 and has an estimated replacement cost of \$190,000. Mr. Luchini noted that the truck no longer sands properly due to rotting and a body that tilts up. He concluded that the truck, which basically breaks down every other storm has outlived its usefulness. Mr. Shuris noted that the DPW was working with the Building, Planning and Construction Committee on an option for a new DPW metal building of about 8,000 square feet to work on, store and protect equipment, extending vehicle life. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Melia to place Article 16 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Kozak clarified that this would also be subject to a capital exclusion. **ARTICLE 17 [2015 4-wheel drive utility body truck w/plow, etc]:** Mr. Kozak explained that the Sewer Department needs a new truck. The truck would be replaced utilizing the Sewer Enterprise Fund and would not result in taxation. Mr. Shuris noted that the existing vehicle is a 2003 utility truck with a crane and plow for winter snow removal. He added that Sewer Superintendent Mark Kuras uses it to maintain the pumping station and it is in dire need of replacement with a cost estimate of \$80,000. A motion/Mr. Melia seconded/Mr. Nolan to place Article 17 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 18 [Purchase of ambulance and associated equipment]:** Fire Chief Gary Nestor explained that the back-up vehicle is a 2009 Ford chassis with over 100,000 miles and it cannot be repaired. He added that each ambulance handles 1,000 ambulance calls a year and they get pretty beat up. Chief Nestor gave a replacement cost of \$177,000 with another \$35,000 for equipment. Mr. Kozak noted that there is some money in the Ambulance Fund and Free Cash, some of which was going to be used for a new dispatch department. Although this might cause a delay in getting funding for the new ambulance Mr. Kozak recommended putting the article on the warrant. A motion/Mr. Melia seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 18 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 19 [Purchase of ambulance and associated equipment]:** Mr. Kozak explained that this article is an alternative to Article 18 in case the receipts aren't high enough. He also advised that going this route isn't his first choice. Selectman Melia voiced his concern with putting too much on a capital exclusion that it could all fail. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan **not** to place Article 19 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 20 [Purchase and installation of water meters/meter reading system]:** Mr. Kozak recalled that this article was voted down at the Fall Annual Town Meeting but he felt it was worth re-evaluating. He explained that the Whitinsville Water Company is proceeding with the meters on their system and not doing anything on the Northbridge system would necessitate the Town hiring a meter reader. He added that they could at least install the radio equipment, which would cost about \$300,000 to be paid from retained earnings through the water rate payers. He suggested that the Town have one quarter of the meters installed each year to extend payment over a couple of years. Mr. Kozak added that the cost would get adjusted into the water rates. Mr. Shuris stated that the new meters would provide greater accuracy to meter reading and leaks would be detected

immediately rather than waiting a quarter and having a high meter reading. He further emphasized that the meters would be remote controlled by control towers. Mr. Shuris noted that the total package is a little under \$600,000 with \$240,000 for the materials and \$60,000 for meter installation. He added that the tower is being installed now at a cost of \$170,000, which Whitinsville Water would split with the Town. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 20 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 21 [Meals Tax]:** Mr. Kozak asked that this be reconsidered since it would bring in much-needed revenue noting that other communities in the area are doing it. Mr. Nolan voiced that he was against this article due to principle: that it is being used to raise money with no specific purpose. Mr. Melia explained that due to the article being turned down twice he would not support it. Mr. Athanas stated that he also would not support it. Mr. Marzec noted that unless the tax would be earmarked for a specific purpose such as economic development, he would not support it. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Marzec **not** to place Article 21 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 22 [Funding work recommended in the 2014 Flow Monitoring Report]:** DPW Director Shuris recommended that this be put on hold until the Fall Annual Town Meeting. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Melia **not** to place Article 22 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 23 [Funding for NPDES reporting and document preparation]:** Mr. Shuris noted that the DPW could make physical improvements (“tweaking”) rather than promoting a capital exclusion, which would be very costly. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Article 23 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 24 [Creation of a Board of Health revolving account for food permits, etc. – max allowed to spend is \$20,000]:** Mr. Kozak explained that since this department does inspections it would make sense to use a revolving account rather than a general account for this use. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Athanas to place Article 24 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **ARTICLE 25 [Creation of a Board of Health revolving account for compost site stickers, etc. – max allowed to spend is \$10,000]:** Mr. Kozak explained that the reasoning behind this article was similar to that of Article 22. Town Accountant Neil Vaidya came forward to state that about \$6,000 to \$8,000 is collected annually from composting fees. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Melia to place Article 25 on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Proposed Article to extend the sewer line on Carpenter Road:** Mr. Kozak explained that since the road was being torn up the idea was that the timing might be right to extend the sewer line there. Mr. Kuras, Sewer Superintendent, noted that the betterment fees would be about \$20,000 per resident at that location. Mr. Kozak didn’t think a sewer line installation was a good idea since it would mean higher costs for the homeowners and there wasn’t an existing problem with the Board of Health. No vote was taken. **Proposed Article [Override vote]:** Mr. Kozak explained that this would be a place holder and not applicable to a specific department but an opportunity for discussion. Mr. Marzec labeled it a divisive issue, noting budget problems in the town. Mr. Nolan pointed out that the Board had no data and Mr. Melia was opposed to this article due to financial uncertainty, adding that previous overrides were unsuccessful. He noted that town departments, notwithstanding the school department, were generally having financial problems. Mr. Athanas was concerned that the article would be open-ended. School Committee Chairman Michael Lebrasseur expressed concern and disappointment that the issue seems to have become the schools vs the Town. Finance Committee Chairman Plato Adams emphasized that the proposed article would be a placeholder for the possibility of the need for additional revenue. He added that the Town has very limited means for raising revenue. Mr. Kozak discussed the possibility of the town receiving additional local aid through the Governor. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Nolan to **not support** an override on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Marzec, and Ampagoomian. Vote no/Mr. Athanas.

List of warrant posting locations. Current posting locations: Precinct 1: Whitinsville Post Office and Brian’s Restaurant. Precinct 2: Office of Polyfoam Corp., Gary’s Variety, and Northbridge Post Office. Precinct 3: 1 Quickstop and Town Clerk’s Office. Precinct 4: VFW Hall and Town Hall Annex. Revised Posting. Revised posting locations: Precinct 1: Whitinsville Post Office and Salvation Army. Precinct 2: Gary’s Variety, and Northbridge Post Office. Precinct 3: 1 Quickstop and Town Clerk’s

Office. Precinct 4: VFW Hall and Town Hall Annex. Mr. Kozak explained that some of the posting locations were either difficult to get into to post or no longer in business. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Melia to revise and approve the list as presented. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Flood Plain Study/Present: Justin Arbuckle, Chairman of the Conservation Commission and the Certified Flood Plain Manager with Tighe and Bond which prepared the study. A peer review of the Mumford River Flood Analysis for Application for Revision of Floodplain Boundaries in Northbridge was performed by GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. The review focused on the Application for Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) submitted to FEMA in January 2012, and the subsequent Tighe and Bond responses to FEMA comments. The Town of Northbridge engaged GZA to assist them in evaluating the LOMR application and in qualitatively understanding the risks associated with the Town providing the required acknowledgement and certification. The property/site for the LOMR application is located at One Main Street, Whitinsville, and is owned by Arcade Realty Trust. Mr. Arbuckle explained that their initial issue with the study performed by GZA was the verbiage on page 9 of the FEMA paperwork. He cited wording that the Town accepts responsibility should the calculations be wrong; this could lead to someone dropping their flood insurance but then experiencing flood damage. Mr. Arbuckle noted that he asked Mr. Kozak to check with Town Counsel to see if this was acceptable, which it basically was. Mr. Arbuckle stated that the key issue would be ownership of the culvert. The Certified Flood Plain Manager explained that it would take about six months for the entire process to be completed. Mr. Arbuckle noted that the Mumford River looks ok; however, GZA needs to see what's going to happen because of where this culvert is located. He added that the flooding might not come from the Mumford but may actually come from across the street at the "Arcade". Building at the site might be affected and the lengthy application process might discourage businesses from building there. Mr. Ampagoomian asked Mr. Kozak to provide follow-up.

Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials/1) Request to install two monuments in Memorial Park, and 2) Proposal to refurbish the World War I Memorial in Rockdale. Chairman Ampagoomian noted that he is an ex-officio member of the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials and he would refrain from participating in the Trustees' discussion. 1) Member Ron Massey explained that some veterans were denied having their names on the Vietnam Memorial since they were not residents of Northbridge when they enlisted or were drafted. In view of this, the Trustees purchased a stone with the wording "To thank all veterans who are serving past, present and future for their services for the United States of America". They would like to put the stone in Memorial Park at the split at Linwood Avenue and Church Street in part to honor Vietnam Veterans. The memorial [stone] to honor veterans of Desert Storm is located in front of the Town Hall but due to the obstructed view, the Trustees would like to move that monument to Memorial Park in a designated safe area. If anyone has objections to this the Trustees would like to have feedback. Mr. Massey cautioned that movement of the stone might be a challenge due to the presence of concrete around the stone. This would require professional help. Mr. Gallagher concluded that the Trustees were requesting permission from the Board of Selectmen to proceed with installation of the two monuments in Memorial Park. 2) Jim Gallagher, member of the Trustees, estimated that the World War I Memorial in Rockdale was built in 1922 and erected for the people of Rockdale who served in World War I. He noted that there are 99 servicemen listed on the 3 plaques, 4 of whom were Rockdale residents who died in service. Over the years, there have been many repairs to the monument. In 2000, the Building, Planning and Construction Committee retained an expert to evaluate all the monuments of Northbridge. The World War I Memorial was considered to be in poor shape at the time with an estimated cost to refurbish of \$20,000. After 15 additional years of exposure to the elements, the estimated repair cost is \$50,000. Pictures were distributed that showed deterioration of the monument and it's getting worse. Some of the joints are coming apart. Ron Massey noted concerns for safety and that they have consulted with an architect, engineers, and masons. He added that the Trustees are not asking the Selectmen for money, knowing the financial problems in the town. He made a plea for the townspeople to come forward to form a committee to help out the Trustees. Member Dick Trier noted the importance of remembering veterans no matter how long ago they served. He added that the Trustees would need guidance in

obtaining documentation as a nonprofit organization. Phil Cyr of the American Legion in Northbridge, came forward to discuss providing assistance to the Trustees. Mr. Ampagoomian directed interested residents to contact the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials. At the suggestion of the Selectmen, the Trustees agreed to wait 60 days to allow residents of the community to respond to the Trustees' discussion with the expectation that the matter would again be on the agenda after that.

2015 Partnership Program Grant Application [Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc.] Mr. Kozak explained that Town Planner Gary Bechtholdt applied for the grant, which could provide the town with funds in the amount of \$5,000 to \$15,000 to be used to repair damaged plaster and paint within the Great Hall. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Nolan to move this item: 2015 Partnership Program Grant Application from **DISCUSSIONS to DECISIONS**. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the submittal of the 2015 Partnership Program Grant Application. Vote yes/ Unanimous.

Veterans Services. Mr. Kozak informed the Selectmen that the Town's Veterans' agent would be leaving his employment in the district soon and our four town district would need to hire a new agent. The Town Manager in Uxbridge indicated that his Board of Selectmen would like to move the Veterans' Services Office to Uxbridge, which would provide more visibility. He noted that this would be a big decision for our community with the other caveat being that if we do not support moving the office to Uxbridge, Uxbridge would withdraw from our district and that would be unfortunate because our cost would increase from 33% to 50%. Mr. Melia and Mr. Kozak discussed the possibility of continuing with the four towns and moving the Veterans' Office to the Annex with offsite office hours of once a week of which Douglas and Sutton have been supportive. Mr. Kozak agreed with Mr. Ampagoomian's suggestion to table the matter until more information was available following discussions with veterans and the Town of Uxbridge.

Pennsylvania and New York Departments of Transportation: Letters thanking them for their help with snow removal. Mr. Ampagoomian advised that workers from Pennsylvania and New York Departments of Transportation recently helped Northbridge with snow removal, which they continued to do although ordered to report to Worcester. Jamie Luchini noted that the assistance provided by the out of state workers was a tremendous help because the Town's snow removal equipment couldn't handle it. He added that these workers "went above and beyond". Mr. Luchini also expressed thanks to Chief Nestor and Town Manager Kozak for their support during a very trying time. There was general agreement that sending the thank you letters would be a good idea.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - 1) Northbridge Unsung Heroes: Announced that the Northbridge Senior Center was featured in Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts' *Healthy Times Magazine*. "Unsung heroes" of the Northbridge Senior Center mentioned were John Orasy, Susan Smith, Jeannine Dionne and Adele Gentry. **2) Meeting with State Senator Stan Rosenberg and other Legislative Leaders:** Attended a meeting with the Chairman of the Select Board at UMASS Medical to meet the new President of the Senate and other Senate Leaders from the Legislature. This meeting was an opportunity to create dialog with the residents and organizations in Central Massachusetts. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that he asked the Senate to reconsider prevailing wages, which destroys municipal budgets by 30%, settle unfunded mandates for the schools, acknowledge their obligation to cities and towns for local aid and lottery receipts and improve on Chapter 70 funding for the schools. He added that he and Mr. Kozak were the only attendees representing the community. **3) Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 5, 2015]:** Reminder that the warrant closes on Friday, March 6, 2015 at 12 Noon. **4) Legislative Breakfast:** Attending a legislative breakfast on Friday, March 6, 2015 for FY 16 State budget. Mr. Kozak added that he attended and took part in the Community Reading Program for a local kindergarten class and read a Dr. Seuss book to the children.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. **Selectman Athanas**/Asked Mr. Shuris what the deficit was from snow plowing. Mr. Shuris noted that we have had 104 inches of snow during 33 snow events and last year it cost us \$5200 per inch of snow. The most recent estimate for January and February was about \$310,000. He characterized the pothole situation as "exceeding our capabilities" and that they were still trying to stay on top of it. Mr. Shuris also indicated that there were many problems with leakages in town-owned buildings. **Selectman Marzec/1)** Recommended that residents tend to snow accumulation on their roofs to avoid roof collapses and injuries, especially if they hear popping or cracking noises. **2)** Attended a meeting with a group called "Northbridge Needs Change". They came up with a detailed list of things that they would like to see happen, one of which was the communication aspect and making sure that we have the proper information out there to disseminate in the community for future projects and future growth in this town. Another topic that was brought up was economic development, which Mr. Marzec noted he would continue to discuss with other community members to brainstorm about land in the town. Lastly there was a list of questions provided to Mr. Marzec that the members would like to see addressed.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to adjourn the March 2, 2015 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:36 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/pf

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

March 2, 2015

- I. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Copy of the February 10, 2015 minutes.
- II. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.**
- III. **APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:**
None.
- IV. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT – Local Business Spotlight: Featuring –Eastern Acoustic Works [Matt Moniz] – No Documentation.**
- V. **DECISIONS**
 - B. Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 5, 2015] – Copy of draft warrant articles.
 - C. Copy of listing of current and revised warrant posting locations.
- VI. **DISCUSSIONS**
 - D. Flood Plain Study - Copy of letter from GZA dated January 30, 2015.
 - E. Copy of Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials letter dated January 20, 2015 and photos
 - F. Copy of 2015 Partnership Program Grant Application.
 - G. Veterans Services – **No documentation.**
 - H. Pennsylvania and New York Departments of Transportation – **No documentation.**
- VII. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**
 - I. 1) Northbridge Unsung Heroes – **Copy of magazine article.**
 - 2) Meeting with State Senator Stan Rosenberg and other legislative leaders – **No documentation.**
 - 3) Spring Annual Town Meeting – **No documentation.**
 - 4) Legislative Breakfast – **No documentation.**
- VIII. **SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – No Documentation.**
- IX. **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – None.**
- X. **CORRESPONDENCE – None.**
- XI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – No documentation.**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
March 16, 2015**

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. Nolan and Melia. Selectman Marzec and Selectman Athanas were absent and it is duly recorded. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 1) February 24, 2015 [Spring Annual Town Meeting] A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the February 24, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

2) March 2, 2015 [Executive Session] A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve but not release the March 2, 2015 Executive Session minutes. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / None.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen. 1) Annual Reappointment: Mary Contino, Board of Registrars [Democratic Designee]. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to reappoint Mary Contino to the Board of Registrars. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager. 1) Rochelle Thompson, Inspector of Animals. Mr. Kozak explained that Rochelle Thompson has worked with the Board of Health, who recommends that Ms. Thompson be reappointed. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to affirm the Town Manager's nomination of Rochelle Thompson as Inspector of Animals. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan. **2) George Hamm, Special Police Officer.** A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to affirm the Town Manager's reappointment of George Hamm as Special Police Officer. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan. **3) Annmarie Cleary/Interim Veterans' Services Director.** Mr. Kozak explained that the previous Veterans' Services Director, Mr. Tetreau, left the Veterans' Office for other employment. He noted that Mr. Tetreau recommended Annmarie Cleary, his assistant, to be the Interim Veterans' Services Director until a replacement can be found. The Town Manager also advised that he had discussed this with the other towns involved—Sutton, Douglas and Uxbridge. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Tetreau's service to veterans over the years, noting that Mr. Tetreau had done a great job and that he was sorry to see him leave. Mr. Melia voiced his agreement. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Annmarie Cleary as Interim Veterans' Services Director. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan. **4) Phil Cyr/Interim Veterans' Services Clerk.** Mr. Kozak explained that this is similar to the prior interim appointment. Noting that Ms. Cleary was the previous Veterans' Services Clerk [under Mr. Tetreau], Mr. Kozak recommended Phil Cyr to be the Interim Veterans' Services Clerk to assist Ms. Cleary until the vacancy is filled. A motion /Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Phil Cyr as Interim Veterans' Services Clerk. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that Phil Cyr is a combat veteran of the Vietnam War era, bronze star recipient, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross and was with the ROTC program at WPI. Mr. Kozak added that Mr. Cyr is skilled and would be a great asset to Veterans' Services Office as Interim Clerk.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT / None

National Grid /Request to work on State Holidays: Patriots Day, Columbus Day & Veterans Day.

A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support National Grid's request to work on the State Holidays of Patriots Day, Columbus Day and Veterans Day. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan. Mr. Nolan noted that the two abutters were in agreement with the request.

Veterans' Services. Mr. Kozak explained that this was a follow-up to a previous discussion two weeks ago in which Uxbridge had requested to have the Veterans' Services Department moved from Northbridge to Uxbridge at the front of the Town Hall. He noted that the other two communities [Sutton and Douglas] voiced no opposition and he has no opposition; adding that the move makes sense monetarily. Town Manager Kozak cautioned that if we do not make the move, Uxbridge might drop out of the four-town Veterans' Services group. Mr. Kozak also noted the Uxbridge Town Manager would not be opposed to Northbridge having Veterans' Service office hours one day a week in our community. He suggested that the Northbridge Office be located in the Annex where there is space. He further stated that it would cost Northbridge an additional \$23,000 if Uxbridge were to drop out of the four-town group. Mr. Nolan voiced concerns from residents over the prospect of moving the Veterans' Department, which has been in Northbridge for about 15 years. However, he concluded that at this point we don't have any other option. Mr. Melia referred to the move as a slight inconvenience but felt that it was something that we have to do. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve a change of location for Veterans' Services to the Town of Uxbridge [Town Hall] with office hours one day a week in Northbridge. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan. Mr. Ampagoomian directed Mr. Kozak to inform the Town of Uxbridge as well as the other two communities [Sutton and Douglas] of the Board's decision.

Tri-Valley Front Runners, Inc. [Michael Nixon]/Request permission to hold the "Frank Nealon Memorial Boston Tune-Up" Road Race [15K] on Saturday, April 4, 2015 @ 10 AM, subject to the safety requirements of the Police Department. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the event subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

Alex Rogozenski/Request to change location for the "Race of Rams" [to be held on Sunday, May 17, 2015] from Northbridge High School to Osterman Commerce Park. Mr. Rogozenski apologized for the short notice but was unaware that the race crossed from Upton into Northbridge. He explained that they are a club out of Milford that serves the whole Blackstone Valley and many of the members are from Northbridge. The race is a 15K (about 9.3 miles) that benefits the Pan Mass Challenge and the Jimmy Fund; it is a big event for the club. It is named after Veteran Frank Nealon, one of the founders of the club, who ran with local legend Larry Olson and has since passed away. The club's website is www.tri-valleyfrontrunners.com. Mr. Kozak said that he would make note of the race on the town's website. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the change of location for this event subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

School Department/Present: Paul Halacy. 1) Vote to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit a Statement of Interest to the Mass. School Building Authority for W. Edward Balmer School. Mr. Halacy explained that by approving the Statement of Interest this allows the W. Edward Balmer School to be on a list with the State to receive possible funding for renovations and/or additions. There is no guarantee there will be funding but if the school qualifies there is no obligation by the town to proceed further. Chairman Ampagoomian then read the following Statement of Interest aloud: Having convened in an open meeting on March 16, 2015, the **Board of Selectmen** of Northbridge, in accordance with its Charter, by-laws, and ordinances has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated March 9, 2015 for the **W. Edward Balmer School** located at 21 Crescent Street, Whitinsville, which describes and explains the

following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: #5 replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related cost in a school facility, #7 replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements, and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits Northbridge to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support the submittal of a Statement of Interest to the Mass. School Building Authority for W. Edward Balmer School. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Vote to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit a Statement of Interest to the Mass. School Building Authority for Northbridge Elementary School.** Mr. Halacy once again explained that by approving the Statement of Interest this allows the Northbridge Elementary School to be on a list with the State to receive possible funding for renovations and/or additions. There is no guarantee there will be funding but if the school qualifies there is no obligation by the town to proceed further. Chairman Ampagoomian read the following Statement of Interest aloud: Having convened in an open meeting on March 16, 2015, the **Board of Selectmen** of Northbridge, in accordance with its Charter, by-laws, and ordinances has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated March 9, 2015 for the **Northbridge Elementary School** located at 30 Cross Street, Whitinsville, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: #5 replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related cost in a school facility. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support the submittal of a Statement of Interest to the Mass. School Building Authority for Northbridge Elementary School. Vote yes/Unanimous. **3) Vote to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit a Statement of Interest to the Mass. School Building Authority for Northbridge Middle School.** Mr. Halacy once again explained that by approving the Statement of Interest this allows the Northbridge Middle School to be on a list with the State to receive possible funding for renovations and/or additions. There is no guarantee there will be funding but if the school qualifies there is no obligation by the town to proceed further. Chairman Ampagoomian read the following Statement of Interest aloud: Having convened in an open meeting on March 16, 2015, the **Board of Selectmen** of Northbridge, in accordance with its Charter, by-laws, and ordinances has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated March 9, 2015 for the **Northbridge Middle School** located at 171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: #5 replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related cost in a school facility. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support the submittal of a Statement of Interest to the Mass. School Building Authority for Northbridge Middle School. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Halacy then explained that this is an annual occurrence to submit an application to the Mass. School Building Authority to get on their list for potential school projects. This is the beginning of the process, which would be followed by the formation of a school building committee, a feasibility study to be done for all the schools, and ultimately a decision by the Mass. School Building Authority. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to move the three items for the School Department from **DISCUSSIONS to DECISIONS** for a vote. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit a Statement of Interest to the Mass. School Building Authority as illustrated above for the W. Edward Balmer School, the Northbridge Elementary School, and the Northbridge Middle School. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

Good Energy, L.P. [Stefano Loretto]/Aggregation Program. Mr. Kozak explained that the Town was moving forward on the purchase of aggregate power and would be utilizing Good Energy as our consultants to help us with the application process. He noted that he asked Stefano Loretto to talk about the first steps that we have to take in order to go forward with the DPU (Department of Public Utilities), adding that a letter was provided to the Selectmen describing the process and which was read aloud by Chairman Ampagoomian. The letter details the objectives of the program and the responsibilities of Good Energy, L.P. Mr. Loretto discussed that they are ready to submit the plans to the DPU but first they need a two-week review period by the citizens. After that, upon approval by the Board of Selectmen, they will submit the plan to the DPU. Mr. Loretto noted that when Northbridge joined the group, the number of towns involved was 8 or 9 but has since increased to 14 indicating that the buying group has grown and it would provide tremendous leverage when they go out to bid. Mr. Loretto clarified that the program would be starting for the rate change that takes place for next winter, occurring in November 2015, and continuing through April 2016. Toward the end of the summer they would be looking to go out to bid. The website for information is: www.srpedd-muniagg.com. There is a direct link to it on the Town of Northbridge's website. Mr. Loretto encourages all residents to go to the website to learn about the program and to register to be kept up to date on the program's progress. He stated that the program would go from 18 months to 4 years with a different price depending on the term. Just before the program starts there will be mailings to inform the residents. Mr. Kozak commented that the plan is on the town's website and in the Town Manager's Office. Citizens are encouraged to attend the next Board of Selectmen's meeting on April 6, 2015 and offer comments. Following the meeting, the plan would be submitted to DPU.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/1) Legislative Breakfast. Mr. Kozak attended the Mass. Municipal Association's Legislative Breakfast for Central Mass. communities. One of the discussions included the Governor's proposed budget and how it will affect our communities. It appears that the Governor's budget will hold and no radical changes are expected. **2) WGM Fabricators TIF Agreement Hearing.** We have been notified by the Mass. Office of Business Development that a hearing will be held in Worcester at 10:00 am on March 26, 2015 for WGM Fabricators LLC's proposed TIF Agreement and other economic incentives by the State. Mr. Kozak plans on attending. **3) South Middlesex Opportunity Council [SMOC] Open House.** Mr. Kozak attended the SMOC Open House at 75 Church Avenue in Northbridge. The structure was rebuilt following a fire about a year and half ago. **4) Sutton Sewer Expansion to Walmart.** Mr. Kozak attended a meeting with Mark Kuras, Sewer Superintendent, and representatives from Sutton and Walmart on a proposed sewer line expansion for Walmart. The project will be heading into the engineering phase. **5) Economic Development Strategies Meeting.** Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner, has organized a meeting with representatives from various businesses and land developers to discuss economic opportunities in the community and how the town can assist in this process. Of concern is a large tract of land owned by the Town on Route 122 which is under-utilized.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Melia/1) Asked how is the budget progressing? Mr. Kozak responded that he has presented a proposed budget to the Finance Committee. It is a balanced budget and the public hearing will be held this week. Mr. Kozak anticipates that it will be ready for the town meeting in May. **2)** Asked how the increase in State Aid affected the town budget overall? Mr. Kozak responded that it was a plus and they were able to maintain town services and increase some of the services such as the dispatch services, which will start in July. They were also able to apply some of the funds to the school budget. **3)** Does our town have insurance for motor vehicles with damage caused by potholes? Mr. Kozak noted that the question is complicated. If the damage is a result of the Town neglecting to fix the pothole within a reasonable amount of time, then it may be covered. **Chairman Ampagoomian/1)** Asked if there is a way that excise tax abatements could be handled electronically so that individuals don't have to fill out abatement applications? Mr. Kozak responded that he would check with the Treasurer/Collector and Assessor's Offices.

On a different matter, Mr. Kozak mentioned that at the April 6th meeting the Board will vote to approve and sign the final warrant including the budget and discuss if the Board wishes to have any Capital Exclusion questions placed on the annual Town Election warrant.

A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to adjourn the March 16, 2015 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/pf

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

March 16, 2015

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. 1) Copy of the February 24, 2015 minutes.
- 2) Copy of the March 2, 2015 Executive Session minutes.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

III. APPOINTMENTS

B. By the Board of Selectmen:

- 1) Annual Reappointment: Copy of letter dated 3/9/15 to Mary Contino requesting if she wants to be reappointed to the Board of Registrars as the Democratic Designee

C. By the Town Manager:

- 1) Annual Reappointment: Copy of letter from Comm. of Mass. regarding the nomination of Inspector of Animals.
 - Copy of Nomination form for Rochelle Thompson
 - Copy of memo from Board of Health dated 3/9/15, recommending Ms. Thompson's reappointment
- 2) Reappointment: George Hamm, Special Police Officer / **No documentation**
- 3) Copy of Town Manager's letter to Annmarie Cleary dated 3/10/15, appointing her to the position of Interim Veteran's Services Director
- 4) Copy of Town Manager's letter to Phil Cyr dated 3/10/15, appointing him to the position of Interim Veteran's Services Clerk

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT / None.

V. DECISIONS

- D. Copy of email from Michael Peterson of National Grid dated 3/9/15, requesting to work on the following State Holidays: Patriots Day, Columbus Day & Veterans Day from 7AM to 5PM

E. Veterans Services / **No documentation**

- F. Copy of email from Michael Nixon, Race Director for Tri-Valley Front Runners, dated 3/12/15, requesting permission for the runners to pass through Northbridge during their "Road Race" to be held on Saturday, April 4, 2015 @ 10 AM.

-Copy of Course Map

-Copy of email from Police Chief Walter Warchol dated 3/13/15 indicating he has no issues with the Tri-Valley runners passing through Northbridge.

- FF. Copy of email from Alex Rogozenski dated 3/6/15, requesting to change the location for "Race of Rams 10K" [to be held on Sunday, May 17, 2015] from Northbridge High School to Osterman Commerce Park

-Copy of Course Map

-Copy of race details

VI. DISCUSSIONS

- G. Copy of Closed School Information – 4 pages

-Copy of Statement of Interest documentation for Balmer School.

-Copy of Statement of Interest documentation for Northbridge Elementary School.

-Copy of Statement of Interest documentation for Northbridge Middle School.

H. Good Energy, L.P. Aggregation Program
-Copy of Outline of the Aggregation Plan

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- I. 1) Legislative Breakfast - No documentation**
- 2) WGM Fabricators TIF Agreement Hearing - No documentation**
- 3) South Middlesex Opportunity Council [SMOC] Open House - No documentation**
- 4) Sutton Sewer Expansion to Walmart - No documentation**
- 5) Economic Development Strategies Meeting - No documentation**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS - No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA / None

X. CORRESPONDENCE / None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION / None

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
April 6, 2015**

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. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Athanas. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

Chairman Ampagoomian announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session and declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the body.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21#3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations– and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:31 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:37 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:50 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

APPOINTMENTS/None.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT / Local Business Spotlight: Featuring – Valley Café [Paulette and Jeff Ruth, Owners] Paulette Ruth noted that the Valley Café, located at 98 A Church Street in Whitinsville, directly across the street from Jack Walker Realty, has been in business for almost 6 years. She added that they are open from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM every day and Friday night until 8:00 PM during fall, spring and winter. Breakfast is served all day. They are a “BYOB” (beer and wine) business. Ms. Ruth noted that the restaurant features great seafood and all fresh foods (“no can, no bag, no box”). Their breads, purchased from bakeries, have no preservatives. There are various size serving portions to fit everyone’s appetite and budget. Ms. Ruth added that there is ample parking in front of and in the rear of the building. They do catering for various types of events and during the holidays they offer fresh pies. The restaurant tries to accommodate people with food allergies and sensitivities and everything is made to order. Mentioning that the Selectmen have all visited the restaurant, Ms. Ruth noted that the business has been very successful. Stating that this was one of the first restaurants in town to offer “BYOB”, Mr. Nolan asked how it was working out. Ms. Ruth responded that it was working out well, adding that this feature cuts down on the usual cost that restaurants charge when they serve beer and wine. Mr. Melia offered congratulations to Ms. Ruth on being in business for 6 years and doing a great job. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that there is outside eating at the restaurant and nice photographs and artwork inside the establishment. Ms. Ruth added that the photographs are available to be purchased online at www.yourvalleycafe.com.

Gary Rosenberg addressed the Board and shared some information with them. He added that he and other citizens had a meeting with the town manager. They collected a lot of questions from citizens in the town and presented what they could at the meeting, leaving a full packet with the town manager to review and hopefully share with the Selectmen. Mr. Rosenberg noted that the meeting was some time ago but that he hadn't heard back from the town manager. He stated that one of the most asked questions was where the tax rate should be spawning a dialogue about why the taxes weren't raised as needed to the allowable level over past years. Mr. Rosenberg summed up the questions as "How did we get into this mess...how did we fall so far behind other towns?" He added, "We all know Northbridge takes pride in being a low tax town, but in reality we all know that some type of correction is needed." Mr. Rosenberg continued that they started speaking with town departments about what was needed to be on better footing. The dialogue led to the conclusion that they honestly don't know where we need to be. Mr. Rosenberg noted that the most common reason for the citizens voting no on a tax override was that there was a lack of trust in government. Mr. Rosenberg added that he was informed that the town manager told the departments not to answer their questions, which Mr. Rosenberg does not understand. Mr. Rosenberg feels that if citizens ask a question of the government, it should try to answer the question. He believes that we could get more money into the town to maintain the low tax rate. He concluded that he expected the government to address the citizens' questions and not try to block them from trying to right an "obvious mistake in funding". Mr. Rosenberg indicated his belief that Board members know how to contact him when they need to.

Good Energy's Aggregation Energy Plan / Vote to support and submit Good Energy's Plan to the Department of Public Utilities. The Town Manager advised the Board that as part of the DPU process, the Town was asked to post the proposed energy plan [that will go before the Department of Public Utilities] on its website as well as to accept any public comments. He then stated, to date, we have not received any comments. Continuing, Mr. Kozak stated that the Town did additional due diligence by placing a public comment section relative to this matter on tonight's agenda in case there were any individuals that wanted to talk or ask questions about the proposed energy plan. He also said that since no one has come forward with any comments, he recommended that the Board should now move forward and take a vote. Mr. Kozak further pointed out that Mr. Ross, who helped the Town through this process, was present in the audience in case anyone did have any comments/questions. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support the submission of Good Energy's Aggregation Plan to the Department of Public Utilities. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 5, 2015] / 1) Vote to sign warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel. Mr. Kozak stated that the warrant has been reviewed by Town Counsel and is now complete. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to sign the warrant. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas, and Ampagoomian. **2) Vote positions on warrant articles. Present:** Plato Adams, Chairman – Finance Committee. **Article 1 – Prior year bills.** As there are no prior year bills, the Town Manager recommended that this article be passed over. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Melia, to pass over Article 1. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams noted that the Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 1. **Article 2 – Budget Transfers.** Mr. Kozak noted that this article concerns budget transfers and reviewed the list for the Board's benefit as follows: **General Government.** To transfer \$1,671 from Line 23A - Landfill Analysis to Line 10A - Planning Board Personnel. **Public Safety [Police Dept.]** To transfer \$15,000 from Line 14A Police Personnel to Line 14B Police Expenses to help pay for some of the upgrade of the department's equipment, dispatch and any other small needs for the rest of the year. **[Fire Department]** To transfer \$60,000 from Line 14A Police Personnel to Line 15A Fire Personnel and to transfer from Line 40 Unemployment to Line 15A Fire Personnel. Town Manager Kozak explained the majority of this transfer is to cover the overtime needs of the department and fill a vacancy in the department. **Public Works.** To transfer \$12,000 from Line 21A - DPW Personnel to Line 21B - DPW Highway Expenses, for repairs and other winter expenses. **Human Services [Board of Health]** – To transfer \$1,066 from Line 23A - Landfill Analysis to Line 22A - Board of Health Personnel. **Non-Departmental – [Medicare]** – To transfer \$10,000 from Line 26B - Veterans

Expenses to Line 36 -Medicare. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to support Article 2. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams noted that the Finance Committee voted unanimously to support passage of Article 2. **Article 3 – Omnibus Budget article.** Mr. Kozak explained that the budget is basically flat with some increases in public safety for dispatch personnel (partially funded), resource officer, and contractual obligations (cost of living or step increases). There was good news in the health insurance line with savings due to copay changes and reduction of the appropriation request next year by \$100,000. In addition, they are advocating transferring \$150,000 in funds that they were able to save to go to next year's school department budget. Mr. Kozak noted that they would be able to increase the School Department's budget by \$500,000 for next year due to saving money. Also they have been working hard to bring the rates down for liability insurance (Worker's Compensation), which saved about \$50,000. Mr. Kozak summed up that he felt that they have done pretty well; the town government has been run efficiently and they are able to go forward for another fiscal year. Mr. Adams commented that the Finance Committee feels that with the savings and the departments' work they continue to do well with the limited funds that are available. He made particular note of the additional \$500,000 to be moved to the schools but cautioned that the schools still need to dip into their reserves and should be maintaining reserves as well as cuts. Mr. Adams explained that with the additional \$500,000, the reserves, and the cuts, it comes very close to the number that the schools were predicting they would have to cut this year. He pointed out, however, that most likely those funds will not be there next year. Mr. Adams noted that the Finance Committee also has a question regarding the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical School in the way that they count students, which they hope to get answered this Wednesday night. He added that the Finance Committee had voted to support the budget as is minus the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical School Line 20C, in the amount of \$1,152,230.00. He said he hopes to have the whole budget resolved at Wednesday night's meeting. Mr. Kozak assured Mr. Adams that someone from Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Tech would be coming to the meeting to address the Finance Committee's question. Mr. Kozak noted that there had been a request for an increase in the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Tech budget of about \$177,000 for the operating budget. Mr. Melia suggested to Mr. Kozak that many people would be interested in seeing the percentage differences from last year to this just for general knowledge. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 3. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Kozak pointed out to the Board that the Finance Committee still needed to answer the question about Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical School before they could complete their vote to support Article 3. A motion Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to amend the motion to support Article 3 with the added wording "as presented by the Town Manager". Vote yes/Unanimous. **Article 4 – Sewer Enterprise Fund.** Noting that this is a standard article each year balanced by the operation of fees, Mr. Kozak explained that it seeks to appropriate funding in the amount of \$2,242,656 for the operation of the Sewer Enterprise Operation. He said they have some additional funds, approximately \$24,000 to be broken down between the Water and Sewer Departments, to put towards the purchase of about 25% of the water meters over a 4-year period; however it would be taken care of entirely through the rates of the Sewer Department. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 4. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 4. **Article 5 – Water Enterprise Fund.** Mr. Kozak noted that this article is similar to Article 4 with the total amount of funding at \$1,645,005 for the operation of the Water Enterprise Operation. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to support Article 5. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams noted that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 5. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified that passage of Articles 4 and 5 pertain to the Sewer and Water Enterprise Funds and the amount of money being appropriated applies only to the residents of Northbridge who are connected to the Town's sewerage system or water system and has nothing to do with the Whitinsville Water Company. **Article 6 – Chapter 90 Funding.** Mr. Kozak explained that this annual article allows for the utilization of Chapter 90 road funds and that he expects to receive \$478,000 for this year, however, it hasn't been voted by the State legislature yet. The article also allows the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of receiving those funds. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 6. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 6. **Article 7 – Compensating balance agreement.** Mr. Kozak noted that this is an annual article

authorizing the Treasurer/Collector to enter into agreements with banks and to manage Town funds. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to support Article 7. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 7. **Article 8 – Reauthorization of the Playground & Recreation Commission’s revolving account not to exceed \$20,000.** Mr. Kozak explained these funds are utilized to support the operation of the Town’s playgrounds and recreation activities. To Mr. Melia’s question of what this pays for, Mr. Adams responded that it pays for the fees that are required for sports participation, upkeep of the outhouses and equipment purchases. Mr. Kozak added that the account also helps to pay for extraordinary repairs if needed. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 8. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 8. **Article 9 – Creation of a Board of Health Revolving Account not to exceed \$20,000.** Mr. Kozak noted that this article seeks to create a revolving account for the Board of Health from funds received for fees related to Board of Health duties and to be utilized to pay the part-time Health agent who conducts restaurant inspections up to a maximum of \$20,000. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 9. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 9. **Article 10 – Creation of a Board of Health Revolving Account not to exceed \$10,000.** Mr. Kozak explained that this article seeks to create a revolving account for the Board of Health from funds received from the sale of compost site stickers to carry out compost monitoring duties of the Board of Health up to a maximum of \$10,000. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to support Article 10. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 10. **Article 11 – Creation of Compensated Absences Fund.** Mr. Kozak noted that this article seeks to create a reserve fund, to be known as the Compensated Absences Fund, advocated by our auditor for future payment of accrued liabilities. This would be for compensated absences owed to employees and full-time officers of the Town when they terminate employment. Mr. Melia pointed out that this would eliminate the need particularly of the larger departments to wait to hire an employee when one retires and needs to be compensated from the department’s funds. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 11. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 11. **Article 12 – Transfer of \$49,750 to the newly created Compensated Absences Fund for FY15.** Mr. Kozak explained that the purpose of this article is to transfer funds to the newly created Compensated Absences Fund for FY15. He added that they have \$24,750 for the transfer as well as \$25,000 from their property and liability accounts to put into this Fund to start building up revenue for the account. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 12. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 12. **Article 13 – Funding of the newly created Compensated Absences Fund for FY2016 in the amount of \$25,000.** Mr. Kozak noted that the purpose of this article is to fund Compensated Absences Fund for FY 2016 in the amount of \$25,000. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 13. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 13. **Article 14 – Transfer of money to the Health Insurance Stabilization Fund.** Mr. Kozak explained that this article seeks to transfer \$150,000 from savings in the Fiscal Year 2015 budget to the Health Insurance Stabilization Fund. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 14. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 14. **Article 15 – Transfer of funds to the Stabilization Fund.** Mr. Kozak noted that this article seeks to transfer funds, if available, to the Stabilization Fund. He noted that at this time there are no funds to transfer so he recommends the Board to pass over Article 15. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to pass over Article 15. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passing over Article 15. **Article 16 – Transfer funds from the Pine Grove Cemetery Trust.** Mr. Kozak explained that the purpose of this article is to transfer funds from the Pine Grove Cemetery Trust to be used for the operation of the Pine Grove Cemetery for FY 2016. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 16. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of Article 16. **Article 17 – Purchase of a 2015 Street Sweeper.** Mr. Kozak explained that the purpose of this article is to finance the purchase of a 2015 Street Sweeper for use by the Highway Division of the Department of Public Works. The purchase will also be subject to a capital outlay expenditure exclusion under Proposition 2½. Jamie Luchini,

Highway Superintendent, addressed the Board reading from a narrative that he had written for his meeting with the Finance Committee. He noted that the article seeks to replace an existing 1998 Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper. This piece of heavy equipment is one of the most vital in the day to day operations of any highway department. It is solely responsible for the yearly spring cleanup of all the sand and salt spread on all roads and public ways over the course of the winter in Northbridge totaling over 83 miles of roadways as well as all town parking lots including those of municipal buildings and all schools. It is also tasked with the ongoing cleanup through the year of roadways for such events as road races and other special events that take place on our public ways. In addition, this equipment is used to clean up after accidents and many other spills and messes that occur throughout the year. The sweeping up of all road sand before it enters the waterways via catch basins is also an important part of the Storm Water Act and will continue to be so as regulations surrounding this act become more stringent in the upcoming years. The current machine that is deployed by the Northbridge DPW is on its last legs. Last fall, it lost its ability to sweep gutters by way of a broken gutter broom shaft, which was a costly but necessary repair to maintain any functionality at all. Structurally, this machine is a severe risk. The whole floor of the hopper is rotted out due to years of salt and sand collection. The big tub in front of the sweeper that collects everything has holes all through it and the corner welds that hold it all together are cracked. The DPW mechanic pieced together metal to overlay the floor so they could send the sweeper out this spring. How long it will hold is anybody's guess. In addition a major problem was detected and patched before it was tucked away in the basement of the fire station for winter storage. The street sweeper they are seeking approval for is a 2015 Elgin Pelican NP. This machine is the industry standard for street sweeping in the state and can be found in virtually any town throughout the Commonwealth. The bid for this street sweeper is available for purchase in the Plymouth County Cooperative and the NGPA contract. Mr. Luchini concluded that it is his hope that the Board would support this article as it would facilitate the DPW to better serve the Northbridge taxpayers and keep the town's streets clean. He added that this purchase would be subject to a capital outlay expenditure exclusion and it would cost each taxpayer approximately \$37.24 based on an average house value of \$266,000. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 17. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 17 in an amount not to exceed \$192,500. **Article 18 – 2015 Combination Dump Truck w/wing plow.** Mr. Kozak noted that the purpose of this article is to finance the purchase of a 2015 Combination Dump Truck with Wing Plow for use by the Highway Division of the Department of Public Works. The purchase will also be subject to a capital outlay expenditure exclusion under Proposition 2½. Mr. Luchini again shared his narrative from his meeting with the Finance Committee. He explained that the existing 2001 vehicle is the only combination dump truck sander with a wing plow attachment at the highway department. Mr. Luchini noted that drastic improvisations had to be made on this truck just to allow it to be used last winter. The main drive shaft was broken in the front assembly making it impossible to drive the vehicle. There was also extensive body rot so that the mechanic could not weld anything on it to stop salt and sand from pouring out the bottom of the dump. Eventually, the dump body could not be lifted to salt and sand the streets. It could only be used as a plow with no capability to treat the roads it was plowing. The main hydraulic valve bank, which makes everything else in the truck move, also failed. This truck's large coverage area is the Mendon Road, Quaker and Church Street area, a very heavily traveled area in town. When the truck failed, other trucks had to be taken off their routes to sand and salt this area, which led to very long delays in between plowing and treating the road surface for safety and traffic flow. The new truck they are seeking will be a replacement for this front-line snow fighter. The vehicle also comes with all the technical and practical options that Mr. Luchini feels are necessary to make this truck a front-line snow fighting piece of equipment. This bid was put together with overall cost in mind without foregoing all that is needed in this truck. To Mr. Melia's question, Mr. Kozak responded that both vehicles in Articles 17 and 18 would cost the average homeowner about \$71.82 in additional taxes for one year or just about a \$4 quarterly increase over last year's \$300,000 capital outlay for the roads--which is coming off the tax rolls this year. Mr. Marzec asked what are we are going to do to protect the new vehicles. Mr. Luchini acknowledged that housing of the vehicles is a big concern but it will have to be addressed at a later date. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 18. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr.

Adams noted that this purchase would be subject to a capital outlay expenditure exclusion costing each taxpayer approximately \$34.58 for a one-year one-time tax increase. The Finance Committee supports passage of Article 18 in an amount not to exceed \$189,000. **Article 19 – 2015 4-Wheel Drive Utility Body Truck.** Mr. Kozak explained that the purpose of this article is to finance the purchase of a 2015 4-wheel drive utility body truck with snow plow (with foil), hydraulic crane, radio and light safety package for use by the Sewer Division of the Department of Public Works. Mr. Shuris appeared before the Board noting that similar to the highway division, the sewer division equipment is getting very old. He described this piece of equipment as a utility truck with a crane, 4-wheel drive and a plow. They use it to plow snow in the winter for the highway department and it operates 7 days a week. Mr. Shuris noted that the truck that they have is in dire need of replacement. The new truck will be funded using retained earnings, which at this time has over \$1,100,000. He added that out of two bids received, approximately \$73,000 was the high bid. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 19. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 19, not to exceed \$73,000. **Article 20 – Ambulance.** Mr. Kozak noted that this article seeks funding to purchase an ambulance. Fire Chief Gary Nestor addressed the Board explaining that in 2009 they took the body off a 2002 ambulance, transferring it to a 2009 chassis and it has been running for 6 years. The new ambulance will cost \$205,000. The existing ambulance to be replaced has about 110,000 miles on it and by the time they get the new ambulance the mileage would be up closer to 130,000 or 135,000. This will be paid through ambulance receipts and Free Cash. Mr. Kozak clarified that they have \$109,972 in Free Cash. They had earmarked about \$200,000 from Free Cash to go towards capital items. They did successfully use some of the funds through town meeting for the school department. The balance of the \$200,000 would be going toward the ambulance. The rest of the money would come from ambulance receipts which would be \$95,028. To Mr. Melia's question, Chief Nestor noted that the duration of an ambulance is about 6 years. The patient compartment is now 13 years old. With about 1,000 ambulance calls a year it is getting pretty beaten up and they are not allowed to change the body again. Mr. Melia asked about the mileage for the new ambulance to which Chief Nestor responded that it is around 60. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to support Article 20. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee voted to support passage of Article 20 in an amount not to exceed \$205,000. **Article 21 – Radio equipment for meter reading system.** Mr. Kozak explained that this article seeks funding for the purchase and installation of radio communication equipment for a water meter reading system for the Town of Northbridge Water Distribution System. Mr. Shuris noted that Northbridge has approximately 2,214 water meters, which are read manually by a meter reader basically swiping a wand in front of the touch pad. The article provides for purchasing and installing 2,214 meters so they have a fixed network system, meaning they have a tower with a radio read that submits the information directly to Whitinsville Water Company. The cost is \$300,000 for 2,214 water meters and the plan is to have about one quarter of them installed each year over the next 4 years or less. Mr. Shuris characterized this as the companion for the water meters that they are purchasing under the budget. He added that the water meters would be purchased using 65% Water Enterprise Funds and 35% Sewer Enterprise funds, which would be a win-win for the town. The readings would be instantaneous so that you wouldn't have to wait months to find out if you have a water leak. Whitinsville Water would call the customer to notify him or her of the problem. Mr. Shuris remarked, "We should have very minimal abatements in the future with the new meters." A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 21. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee voted to support passage of Article 21. **Article 22 – EPA requirements for Sewer Discharge Permit.** Mr. Kozak noted that this article seeks funding for EPA related needs for the Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES discharge permit. Mr. Shuris explained that in 2010, the Town moved forward to appropriate money for the comprehensive wastewater management plan; since that time they have completed that plan. Also since that time the EPA issued a new 5-year permit with which we have to comply. The requirements are much stricter and involve more data collection, more mapping and more notifications. These funds will be used to pay for the completion of a detailed O&M plan, reporting to the EPA, assist our sewer division crew using engineering consultants to walk us through the system and meet the permit limits. Mr. Shuris' budget carries \$2,000,000 for upgrades to the treatment plan. Because of this new permit they are hoping that by the

way they operate the system they can achieve the same results with this funding in the amount of \$140,000. It will come out of the Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund, which currently has a balance of \$1,128,000 in Retained Earnings. This will not increase the tax rate and is not coming out of the tax base. It is paid by Retained Earnings that we have accumulated. It is a required unfunded mandate by the Federal Government (the EPA). A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Melia to support Article 22. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Committee supports passage of this article in the amount of \$140,000.

Annual Town Election [May 19, 2015]/Vote to place ballot questions on the annual town election warrant. Mr. Kozak clarified that there are 2 articles on the Spring Annual Town Meeting warrant that are contingent upon a capital outlay expenditure exclusion under Proposition 2½. He explained that these can be presented as separate questions or combined into 1 question, which must be placed on the Annual Town Election warrant. Mr. Kozak recommended combining the articles into 1 question, adding that they are both needed very much and keeping them separate might not make as much of an impact. Selectman Melia responded that he would support combining the articles into 1 question. Mr. Athanas agreed with combining the articles. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to combine the 2 articles into 1 ballot question. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Doreen Cedrone, Town Clerk/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 10, 2015 to May 20, 2015 to advertise the Annual Town Election to be held Tuesday, May 19, 2015. Mr. Kozak noted that the funds that are being used for the banner are from the Louis Bertonazzi voting attendance award. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to grant permission to hang the banner. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Water and Sewer abatement appeal [James M. Knott, Jr.] / Vote to approve. Mr. Kozak noted that this was the result of a reading that wasn't taken for a quarter during which a water leak was detected. Mr. Shuris explained that they looked at a 2-year average for water use; he came up with one result while Mr. Knott Jr. came up with another resulting in a difference of \$88.00. Mr. Knott agreed to request an abatement for \$8,692.87. Mr. Kozak felt that this was a fair compromise. Mr. Knott had also requested a sewer abatement, which he withdrew. Mr. Shuris explained that the metered sewer measurement was based on sewer outflow and therefore accurate. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the Water and Sewer abatement appeal as stated above. Vote yes/Unanimous.

NEXAMP /1) Solar Pilot Agreement [Lasell Road]. Mr. Kozak recalled that we went to Town Meeting and approved a 20-year solar agreement for building on Lasell Road with a vote that the Town would receive \$19,149.00 a year for 20 years. Mr. Kozak noted that this is similar to another solar agreement that was done about 3 years ago with Northbridge, Sutton and NEXAMP. He added that he felt that this is a fair agreement. To Mr. Athanas' question about the account to which these funds would be deposited, Mr. Kozak responded that they would go into the account for maintenance of the town buildings. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support, approve and sign the Solar Pilot Agreement on Lasell Road as presented. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Gravel Rights' Agreement [Lasell Road] per Town Meeting vote.** Mr. Kozak explained that they had also gone to Town Meeting where there was an article to determine whether the Town had rights for gravel removal on Lasell Road. The Town Meeting allowed for the deed to be freed up if the Town had no gravel rights. However, there is no gravel there and this vote would release the gravel rights. Mr. Nolan noted that this agreement was from 1882 suggesting that it is outdated. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the Gravel Rights' Agreement on Lasell Road per Town Meeting vote as presented. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Blackstone Valley Regional Recycling Center/Present: William T. Walsh. Mr. Walsh noted that he appeared before the Board in March of last year with a proposal to move the regional recycling operation from behind the Fire Station to Berkowitz Trucking where they operate a waste facility. He had hoped that they could combine both enterprises for the residents. Since that time, there were some permitting

issues with Berkowitz Trucking. The Recycling Center had their permits in line and Berkowitz Trucking had their issues. The summer had passed and the horrendous winter would not allow the Recycling Center to do anything. About a month ago, Mr. Berkowitz came before the Recycling Center organization wanting to establish a composting program at his location despite the Recycling Center's prospective move to that site. The Recycling Center staff first became aware of the proposed composting facility from Mr. Kozak's phone call and viewing the site plan that did not include the Recycling Center. Knowing that there was some controversy surrounding the composting facility, Mr. Walsh said that the Recycling Center staff would rather stay at the present location behind the Fire Station and withdraw their request to move to the Berkowitz Trucking site. They would repaint their building and put up more signage. Mr. Walsh noted that the Fire Chief would like the Recycling Center to remain at the present location behind Fire Headquarters. Mr. Melia agreed with what Mr. Walsh is doing and thanked him for his honesty and coming forward when he spotted the issues. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to move Item G: Blackstone Valley Regional Recycling Center presentation from **DISCUSSIONS to DECISIONS**. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to rescind the Board of Selectmen's decision of February 24, 2014, to relocate the Blackstone Valley Regional Recycling Center to Berkowitz Trucking, 279 Douglas Road. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Northbridge Veterans' Council / Memorial Day activities – Present: Bill Audette. Mr. Audette introduced the Northbridge Veterans' Council represented by the Oliver Ashton Post 343 of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and the AmVets. Mr. Audette noted that Memorial Day would be celebrated on Monday, May 25th. He added that the Veterans' Council met and decided that there would be one parade in the Town of Northbridge. The reason for the decision is that Pine Grove is becoming overcrowded with 2 bands, vehicles and marching units, making it difficult to maneuver. They will still honor the veterans buried at Pine Grove Cemetery but the new route will start at Colonial Drive and continue to Memorial Park. He added that parade vehicles would be provided. Mr. Audette noted that they would like to see more motorcycles and antique cars in the parade, local business participation with floats, more family involvement, non-profit organization participation, and more community involvement. He added that they are having work done to improve the sound system. Mr. Audette extended an invitation to the public to attend and share ideas at the next Veterans' Council Meeting to be held Wednesday, April 15th at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Hall on Hill Street. In order to expedite the parade plans Mr. Marzec suggested moving this item from **DISCUSSIONS to DECISIONS** contingent upon any of the Police Chief's recommendations. Mr. Melia expressed his support of the new parade plans. Mr. Audette expressed concern with the lack of Veteran participation in Veterans' Organizations and activities. Mr. Marzec confirmed that the assembly would begin at 9:00 AM and the parade would start at 10:00 AM on Monday May 25th. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to move this item from **DISCUSSIONS to DECISIONS**. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes. A motion/ Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the new route for the Memorial Day Parade [Colonial Drive to Memorial Park] with organizations and groups assembling at 9:00 AM and the Parade commencing at 10:00 AM on Monday, May 25th and subject to any requirements the Police Chief may have. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Roads Program Update / Present: James Shuris, DPW Director. Mr. Shuris stated that they are very satisfied with the results that they had last year with the roads. He noted the Piece it Together program and that they spent about \$670,000 working on roads all over the town, using different types of applications. They have a preconstruction meeting on April 23rd and a bid opening on April 29th. This year they will be using \$425,000 of town funds, \$300,000 that was appropriated at the last Town Meeting, a little over \$500,000 from Chapter money, \$125,000 that was appropriated 4 years ago, and the \$71,257 they received from pothole money. Mr. Luchini commented on the Piece it Together program, emphasizing that the pothole money can be used to perform patch work on parts of Church Street, Linwood Avenue and other areas. He explained that they haven't forgotten about Fowler Road and Cooper Road but they have to complete Sutton Street first. Mr. Luchini also mentioned the deplorable

condition of Carpenter Road that needs attention. Mr. Shuris added that Carpenter Road is the only street that they will have to reclaim. He noted that Main Street and downtown would have to wait until school gets out.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/1) Open Meeting Law [24/7 compliance]: The Town Manager announced that effective April 1st, the new method for 24/7 compliance relative to the Open Meeting Law will be the Town's website. **2) Senior Center 100th birthday luncheon:** Mr. Kozak attended a 100th birthday luncheon at the Senior Center at which Mr. Matthew Dykstra was honored and received a citation from the State. **3) State Economic Assistance Coordinating Council Hearing [WGM Fabricators project certification]** – The Town Manager attended this hearing on March 25th where WGM Fabricators' project certification was approved by the Board for additional tax incentives. **4) Northbridge economic benefit meeting** – Town Planner Gary Bechtholdt organized a meeting for large land owners and developers in the community to discuss how Northbridge can help out with economic development. Ideas discussed were: zoning changes, coordination of permitting and marketing. **5) 2nd Annual Celebration of Learning at Northbridge High School** – The Town Manager attended the above event where students displayed science and other innovative projects that they worked on during their course of study.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/ Selectman Athanas / Asked Mr. Luchini about the DPW barn progress. Mr. Luchini noted that they met with Mr. Kozak today and that they are working on it. They are trying to get vehicles out of the elements. Mr. Kozak described the structure as an 8,000 square foot metal building. Mr. Luchini added that they are trying for the Fall to have the structure in place. **Selectman Melia /** Noted that the Selectmen received a letter from the Chairman of the School Committee that the Chairman had sent to our State Representative. The Chairman had expressed concern about the State decreasing State Aid and unfunded mandates. Mr. Melia asked the Chairman to let the Board know if there was anything that they could do to help. **Chairman Ampagoomian/1)** Noting the traffic difficulties at Plummer's Corner he asked Mr. Luchini about getting a bigger light on top. Mr. Luchini agreed to check into it. **2)** Ovia Square – he asked if the sign could be replaced by a larger one. Mr. Luchini said he would check into it. **3)** Asked Mr. Kozak how things are progressing with flood plain issues. Mr. Kozak responded that more information is needed regarding the culvert.

Chairman Ampagoomian noted that the town recently lost a beloved World II veteran, Joseph Kmiotek. Noting that Mr. Kmiotek generously let the Northbridge children use his tools to fix their bicycles and that he and his wife Shirley were married for 67 years, Mr. Ampagoomian expressed his condolences to the family.

EXECUTIVE SESSION / Under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:56 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/pf

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

April 6, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

III. APPOINTMENTS/None.

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Public comments concerning the Good Energy Aggregation Program – **No documentation.**
Local Business Spotlight: Featuring – Valley Café [Paulette and Jeff Ruth, Owners] - **No documentation.**

V. DECISIONS

A. Good Energy's Aggregation Energy Plan – Copy of Aggregation Documents:

- Copy of Petition for approval of municipal aggregation plan
- Copy of Attachment No. 1 – Aggregation Plan
- Copy of Exhibit A: Solicitation for Services by Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District [SRPEDD]
- Copy of Exhibit B: SRPEDD letter dated January 6, 2015, describing the aggregation consultant selection process
- Copy of Exhibit C: Certification by Town Clerk of Town Meeting vote to accept the Municipal Aggregation Warrant Article.
- Copy of Exhibit D: Energy related Services Agreement
- Exhibit E: Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Consultation Letter –**No documentation**
- Exhibit F: Certification by Town Clerk of vote by Board of Selectmen to approve the Aggregation Plan – **No documentation**
- Copy of Exhibit G: Customer Enrollment, Opt-Out, and Opt-In Procedures
- Copy of Exhibit H: Sample Notification Letter and Opt-Out Postcard
- Copy of Attachment No. 2 – Public Outreach and Education Plan
- Copy of Exhibit A: Sample of Available Media Outlets
- Copy of Attachment No. 3 – Electric Services Agreement

B. Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 5, 2015] / **1)** Vote to sign warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel - Copy of warrant, copy of budget transfers, and copy of FY 16 budget **2)** Vote positions on warrant articles - Copy of position paper

C. Annual Town Election [May 19, 2015]/Vote to place ballot questions on the annual town election warrant - Copy of ballot questions

D. Doreen Cedrone, Town Clerk/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 10, 2015 to May 20, 2015 to advertise the Annual Town Election to be held Tuesday, May 19, 2015
-**No documentation**

E. Water and Sewer abatement appeal [James M. Knott, Jr.] / Vote to approve

- Copy of Utility Abatement Approved application
- Copy of email from Jim Shuris dated March 30, 2015 with his recommendation to approve the abatement.

F. NEXAMP /**1)** Solar Pilot Agreement [Lasell Road] / Vote to approve and sign

- Copy of PILOT Agreement

2) Gravel Rights' Agreement [Lasell Road] per Town Meeting vote / Vote to approve and sign

- Copy of Deed of Release

-Copy of Certified Town Meeting vote regarding Lasell Road

VI. DISCUSSIONS

G. Blackstone Valley Regional Recycling Center/Present: William T. Walsh – **No documentation**

H. Northbridge Veterans' Council / Memorial Day activities – Present: Bill Audette -**No documentation**

I. Roads Program Update / Present: James Shuris, DPW Director – **No documentation**

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

J. 1) Open Meeting Law [24/7 compliance]: New method for 24/7 compliance will be the Town's website – Copy of email from Linda Zywiec dated March 23, 2015 of new Open Meeting Law compliance procedure

2) Senior Center 100th birthday luncheon – **No documentation**

3) State Economic Assistance Coordinating Council Hearing – WGM Fabricators project certification – **No documentation**

4) Northbridge economic benefit meeting – **No documentation**

5) 2nd annual Celebration of Learning at Northbridge High School – **No documentation**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

X. CORRESPONDENCE

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

K. Under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations. – **No documentation,**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
April 14, 2015**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.

APPOINTMENTS/None.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None.

Northbridge Firefighters/Request to hang a banner over Church Street from April 26th through May 10th to advertise their annual spaghetti supper to be held on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 4PM to 8PM. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve this request. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Armenian Apostolic Church/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from April 15th to April 26th in honor of "Martyrs Day". A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve this request. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Coordination of Town's response to news of a fallen Northbridge soldier. Police Chief Walter Warchol discussed the proposed route for the funeral procession beginning at Carr Funeral Home [Whitinsville] to St. Gabriel's Church [Upton] and then to Pine Grove Cemetery [Whitinsville]. He advised he will need approximately 70 traffic set ups. Chief Warchol said that as of today, dates have still not been set for wake/funeral services.

For now, the plans are as follows: Annmarie Cleary, the Interim Veterans Agent, will coordinate all Veterans' units for wake/funeral services.

Master Sergeant Paul Reis will be stationed at the Church to call the Veterans to Arms and to coordinate the logistics of Veterans attending.

Currently, the funeral Mass will begin at 11:00AM and calling hours will be held the previous day.

Overflow parking is available at the High School and Middle School. Shuttle buses will also be available for rides.

Once information is available, social media will be notified and a Reverse 9-1-1 call will go out.

Rep. David Muradian, Jr. and MA Secretary of Veterans' Services, Francisco Urena [State Liaison] will be attending.

The Patriot Guard riders [volunteers who attend funerals of fallen soldiers] expect to have about 100 bikes attending services.

Bill Audette suggested outside speakers at Church in case of an overflow crowd. He also suggested a

condolence message be put up on the outdoor bulletin board at Town Hall. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve putting a condolence message on the outdoor bulletin board at Town Hall. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Last discussed was the donation of three lots at Pine Grove Cemetery to the Dawson family. Town Manager Kozak stated that Master Sgt. Reis had asked if the Town would consider donating 3 lots at Pine Grove Cemetery to the Dawson family. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the donation of 3 lots at Pine Grove to the Dawson family. Vote yes/Unanimous.

There being no further business before the Board, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to adjourn. Vote yes/Unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION / None.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/s

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

April 14, 2015

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None.**
- II. PUBLIC HEARINGS/None.**
- III. APPOINTMENTS/None.**
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None.**
Local Business Spotlight:
- V. DECISIONS**
 - A.** Copy of memo from Fire Department dated April 10, 2015, containing the banner request
 - B.** No documentation
- VI. DISCUSSIONS**
 - C.** Coordination of Town's response to news of a fallen Northbridge soldier
-Copy of Press Release from 101st Airborne Division Association
- VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None.**
- VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/None.**
- IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None.**
- X. CORRESPONDENCE/None.**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.**

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
April 27, 2015

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. Nolan, Melia, and Athanas. Selectman Marzec was absent at the start of the meeting and it is duly recorded. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Mr. Melia spoke on behalf of the Northbridge Board of Selectmen offering sincere condolences to the family of U.S. Army Corporal John Dawson. He thanked the citizens of Northbridge for the outpouring of support to the Dawson family in their time of need. Mr. Melia noted that he and other Selectmen attended the wake, funeral and burial services. He added that the military procession to and from the church and hundreds of town residents holding flags on the side of the road were nothing short of breathtaking. He also noted the contributions of so many in organizing the event. He gave special thanks to the Northbridge Police and Fire Departments, the mutual aid towns who were involved, our highway department for filling in potholes and cleaning up roadways that the procession used, veterans agencies for passing out hundreds of U.S. flags and their unwavering support to young people in the military, countless volunteers who made yellow ribbons in bows and placed them on telephone poles along the entire procession route, the citizens who anonymously donated money so many more flags could be purchased and placed on the grounds, and U.S. Army Master Sergeant Paul Reis who was one of the U.S. Army soldiers who had to notify the family of Corporal Dawson's death. Mr. Melia added that Master Sergeant Reis was and is still assigned to the Dawson family during their time of need. He commented that Master Sergeant Reis' professionalism during this time and the helpful coordination of the police and fire departments were second to none. Finally, Selectman Melia commented to the Dawson family that he didn't know how one moves on from here but with your belief in God and the support of family and friends you will. Mr. Melia added that our support and prayers will always be with the Dawson family and their son, John.

Senator Ryan Fattman and Ryan Chamberland, Director of the Governor's Office in Central and Western Massachusetts were present. The Senator addressed the Board regarding what is happening on Beacon Hill, specifically with the State budget, and to take any questions that the Selectmen or residents might have. Senator Fattman mentioned how moved he was watching the services for Corporal John Dawson, which in some ways renewed his own patriotism. He related his meeting with Governor Baker who had tears in his eyes discussing the impact of Corporal Dawson's death. Senator Fattman thanked Corporal Dawson sincerely for his service and added that on Thursday, April 30th, the Senate and House would adjourn to honor Corporal Dawson's memory. He noted that it is their great hope that a bridge will be named after Corporal Dawson. The Senator recalled his background as a Selectman for the Town of Sutton and as State Representative. He noted some financial difficulties within the State, characterizing it at one point as level-funding and adding that Governor Patrick and Governor Baker have cut the budget by millions of dollars. Senator Fattman thinks, however, that the State has turned the corner. He said that Governor Baker increased Chapter 70 by \$100,000,000 and he increased Local Aid. Senator Fattman said that although kindergarten block grants had been cut that money was put back into the budget. The Senator explained that there was a Senate Listening Tour in Worcester attended by Senators and others, including the Northbridge Selectmen. He mentioned the Pacheco Law that would add 20% to the cost of public works projects and which the House budget froze for 5 years. Senator Fattman feels the money would be better spent on things like public education or roadways rather than adding to the cost of public works projects. He announced that he plans to file a local budget amendment, which would give Towns the local option of adopting or getting rid of the Pacheco Law. Senator Fattman noted that he supported

Governor Baker restoring Chapter 90 money, which gave Towns a significant benefit and couldn't have come at a better time with the severe weather we had last winter. He added that the Senate created a \$30,000,000 pothole fund to try to help cities and towns that were especially hit hard. The Senator explained that the first round of Federal funding has been reviewed and is expected to be distributed shortly after the end of this Fiscal Year. He noted discussion in Northbridge about replacing worn out equipment and capital projects and that he would be happy to help in any specific way that he can. Senator Fattman explained that Representative Muradian has filed an item, which is basically a matching grant for \$450,000 for a turf field at Northbridge High School that Senator Fattman would be happy to support if it is a priority for the Selectmen. He noted that there has been a lot of talk about budget priorities in the future. The Senator added his thoughts that the local cities and towns would be the top priority and there would be a lot of shrinking in the size of government. He noted that the early retirement bill had just been put forward in the Senate and would be negotiated in the next 2 weeks. Senator Fattman explained that Governor Baker had been faced with a \$1.8 billion dollar budget deficit that he had to close and he stayed true making sure that there was investment in local accounts while trying to shrink the budget. One of the ways the Governor decided to accomplish this was to offer an early retirement program to about 4,500 State employees in the Executive Office, which would save about \$178,000,000. The Senator added that they were working on provisions restricting the completion of project work by retired State employees to within 90 days of retirement. This would lessen the impact of continuing State employment after retirement. Lastly, Senator Fattman explained that he has been working on ELL (English Language Learner students), which he has been discussing with the Chairman of the School Committee. He noted that this issue does not affect Northbridge as much as other towns in the District; however, the number of these students has increased. The State mandates partial payment for this by the Towns (the State pays for 48 cents on the dollar, which the Senator feels is underfunded). Senator Fattman is working to 1) get fixed funding for these students so that when they enter after October first they won't have to wait another fiscal year for funding and 2) to move up the formula to reflect the Special Education Circuit Breaker with an increased amount of 75 cents on the dollar. Therefore we can have the funding that is needed to educate these children who are coming to Massachusetts. Senator Fattman then introduced Ryan Chamberland. Director Chamberland indicated that his office in Springfield is a kind of bridge to the executive branch and that he is happy to listen to Selectmen's concerns. He added that he recently met with 40 towns in Western and Central Massachusetts. He also said that he was a former Selectman in the Town of Blackstone and is very familiar with the area and the issues that Selectmen face. He affirmed that as Senator Fattman stated, Governor Baker's number one priority is the municipalities. Mr. Melia thanked Senator Fattman and Mr. Chamberland for coming before the Board. The Senator discussed his ties to the community through his marriage into the Kotseas family and participation in basketball. Mr. Melia asked the Senator to help Northbridge, which he felt has been particularly impacted by underfunding by the State. Mr. Nolan asked about the advantage of having casinos in Massachusetts and how we would be financially affected. Senator Fattman said there is a formula and the proceeds would go to the general fund, substance abuse, domestic violence programs, and local mitigation, for example in Springfield, to help facilitate the Town. He noted that he had been informed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation that if the Olympics come to Boston some of the money would be taken and diverted out of Central Massachusetts into Boston for infrastructure projects. Senator Fattman voiced concern that money would be taken out of Route 146 for this which could have very negative consequences. He added that as the State Senator who represents the area he believes that bringing the Olympics to Boston is a bad idea for our area in the long term. Director Chamberland announced that the Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker all reached an agreement to do an impact study of the Olympics, not to exceed \$250,000, which would provide information on the implications of the Olympics on the Commonwealth. Mr. Athanas asked if there was anything specific that was being planned for unfunded mandates for local towns. The Senator replied that the Governor and a legislative initiative are working on this and there was supposed to be a Commission to look into unfunded mandates. He added that part of the problem with local aid and unfunded mandates is how they are defined. Some people define it as Chapter 70 funds while others call

it unrestricted funds (e.g. Lottery money). He wondered how the Circuit Breaker for Special Education and Kindergarten Block Grants would fit into the definition. Senator Fattman noted that one particular mandate that he believes should change revolves around school choice where transportation provided by Towns to alternative schools, though well intentioned, can be very costly. Director Chamberland noted that the Governor created the Community Compact, which empowered the Lieutenant Governor and encouraged partnering with municipalities. The Lieutenant Governor has been traveling to cities and towns discussing the unfunded mandates. There is a team with multiple cabinet secretaries that will review these things that come up and develop a strategy to address them. Senator Fattman offered to invite the Lieutenant Governor to visit Northbridge for discussion and Mr. Ampagoomian asked the Senator to set it up. Senator Fattman noted the Municipal Compact in Milford which prioritizes projects. He added that there is grant money available to prioritize and foster a climate based on innovation and sharing of new ideas among municipalities. Mr. Ampagoomian asked Senator Fattman to comment on competition for a Quinsigamond satellite campus for which Northbridge would use the Linwood Mill building. The Senator responded that he has been speaking with the President of Quinsigamond College, Gail Carberry, who is very excited about the prospect of coming to the Blackstone Valley. The College has money that has been appropriated for this venture but it expires in June. Also it's unclear if it would be enough to carry the satellite campus for more than a year or two. The Senator promised to provide follow-up on this. Mr. Ampagoomian asked about Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor, which has been designated as a federal national park. He added that a section of Whitinsville is a part of the Corridor. Mr. Ampagoomian pointed out that there had been talk about getting a visitors' center and asked Senator Fattman to check on it. The Senator said that he would like to be involved and felt that federal funds might be available for it. Director Chamberland offered to work with the Senator to obtain more information. Noting the dire financial straits of the State, Mr. Ampagoomian asked about the feasibility of matching grant money for municipal projects such as public works facilities and fire stations. He explained that our fire station, formerly a carriage house/garage is 115 years old and our DPW is located on a river. The Senator agreed to check into it. Finally, Mr. Ampagoomian asked how the Senator was getting along with Senator Moore who shares leadership of Northbridge. Senator Fattman responded that he was getting along well and that he had met with Senator Moore for coffee and lunch. He also said that he has met with and appreciates Representative Muradian. Noting the Senator's involvement with Chapter 70 and Chapter 90, Town Manager Kozak thanked the Senator for his local aid support. Senator Fattman spoke about his budget work noting that he is working on reversion money, which is tax money not spent during the Fiscal Year and which can be turned back to the towns. This could amount to about \$120,000 for Northbridge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 1) March 2, 2015. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the March 2, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, Athanas and Ampagoomian. **2) March 16, 2015.** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the March 16, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Melia, and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Athanas. **3) April 6, 2015 [Executive Session].** A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve but not release the April 6, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Messrs. Athanas, Nolan, Melia and Ampagoomian. **4) April 14, 2015.** A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the April 14, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Athanas, Nolan, and Ampagoomian.

Annual Town Election [May 19, 2015] / Vote to sign Warrant. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia, to sign the Annual Town Election Warrant as presented. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Armenian Apostolic Church/Request to hang a banner over Church Street from August 2, 2015 to August 16, 2015, to advertise the Annual Picnic to be held on Sunday, August 16, 2015. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia, to approve the Armenian Apostolic Church's request to hang a

banner over Church Street from August 2, 2015 to August 16, 2015 to advertise the Annual Picnic. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Caryn Gagner/Request to hold a Boot Drive at Memorial Square and Ovia Square on Saturday, June 13, 2015, from 9AM to 3PM to benefit the swimming and wrestling programs at Northbridge High School / Vote to approve subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Ms. Gagner explained that the last school budget eliminated funding for the swim and wrestling teams. She noted that there are parent-funded organizations within the school trying to raise money for the next season. Mr. Athanas asked how much it costs to run the two sports. Ms. Gagner estimated that it costs between \$4,000 and \$5,000 for the swimming and wrestling costs about \$11,000. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Melia, to approve Ms. Gagner's request to hold a Boot Drive as indicated above. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Non-profit Motorcycle Bike Run to benefit the American Cancer Society/Relay For Life, Sunday, June 7, 2015 @ 11AM / Vote to approve subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Armand Kell introduced himself and his daughter, Devin Kell. He explained that his wife and daughter participate in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life for breast cancer and they are trying to raise money for the cause. He added that the Hawk's Nest Tavern will be donating all the food for the event. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia, to approve the Motorcycle Bike Run to benefit the American Cancer Society subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Northbridge Youth Soccer [Craig Mahoney] / Request to hang a banner across Church Street from July 19, 2015 to August 2, 2015 to advertise the John M. Dawson 3v3 Soccer Tournament to be held August 8th and 9th. A motion Mr. Athanas, seconded Mr. Melia to approve the above request. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

St. Patrick's Church [Gracia Casey] / Change in location for a one-day Beer and Wine License for Sunday, June 7, 2015 [Polish Picnic] from 11AM to 4PM to be held on the grounds of St. Patrick's Church, 7 East St., Whitinsville. Mr. Melia noted that the Beer and Wine License had already been approved and that this was just a change in location for the event. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the change in location from the Scout House to St. Patrick's Church grounds. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Subordination Agreement [92-98 Church Street, Whitinsville]. Attorney Thomas Wickstrom was present, representing the petitioner. He explained that his client, Otco, Inc., needed to subordinate the property lien (Protective Covenant) with the Town of Northbridge so that the new mortgage (a refinance) with Webster Five Cents Savings Bank can be the first mortgage. Giving his support, Mr. Kozak noted that the Town has approved this type of request previously. Mr. Wickstrom added that the Covenant actually expires in December. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to approve the subordination agreement for 92-98 Church Street, Whitinsville. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Selectman Marzec arrived.

May 4, 2015 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Noting the light agenda for the May 4th Selectmen's Meeting along with the Town Meeting scheduled on May 5th preceded by a short Selectmen's meeting, Mr. Kozak suggested cancelling the May 4th Selectmen's meeting. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to move this item from DISCUSSIONS to DECISIONS. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia, to reschedule the May 4th, 2015 Selectmen's meeting to Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at

6:30 PM at the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium. Vote yes/Unanimous.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT / 1) Stormwater Coalition. Attended an update on the 28-town Stormwater Coalition. Discussion that there would not be a grant for which they had applied. Currently waiting for the EPA permit to come forward. We are also working on funding for additional activities with the communities. By working together, costs are more manageable and they are more apt to get help from the federal government.

2) MassWorks Grant Application. Met with representatives from the State on a MassWorks Grant to improve the infrastructure on Church Street Extension. The Town plans on applying again this year for funding.

3) Chapter 90 Funding. The Legislature has passed the Chapter 90 funding and the Town of Northbridge will receive \$473,855 in FY16. Mr. Athanas asked Mr. Kozak about last year's amount. Mr. Kozak responded that last year it was the same amount with an additional amount of about \$175,000 added by the governor.

4) Mutual Aid Assistance for military funeral. The Town Manager thanked all the communities that helped out during Corporal Dawson's funeral services. He also mentioned mutual aid from the police departments of Mendon, Upton, Uxbridge, Douglas, Sutton, Grafton, Auburn, Milford, Sturbridge, Marlborough, Millville, Worcester County Sheriff's Department, Massachusetts State Police and Major Risteen and the Holden Barracks. Mr. Kozak also noted mutual aid from the fire departments of Upton, Uxbridge, Sutton, Millbury, Grafton, Douglas, Dudley, Charlton, Southbridge, Brookfield, and Spencer. Mr. Kozak added recognition of MedStar ambulance services for Grafton, Millbury and Sutton. Mr. Melia noted that under the Mutual Aid Agreement each town pays for their own services and Northbridge would do the same for other communities. Mr. Kozak added that the Worcester County Sheriff's Department brought in inmates to help with cemetery cleanup, Sutton and Uxbridge gave us a street sweeper and lighted sign boards, and Milford and Millbury helped with signage.

5) Public Workshop, 5/12/15 from 6PM to 7PM Re: 2040 Providence Road Reuse Study. Announced a workshop will be held on May 12th from 6 PM to 7 PM to receive public comments on the Reuse Study. The study can also be viewed/downloaded from the Town's webpage.

6) Douglas Road Bridge Paving Schedule: The Douglas Road Bridge is scheduled to be paved on Wednesday, April 29th from 7AM to 4PM. As such, the DPW entrance will be closed from 7AM to 12Noon and the Town Hall parking lot will be closed from 12Noon to 4PM. This information is also available on the Town's home page.

Mr. Kozak also reminded the residents that the Town meeting will be held next Tuesday, May 5th.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Athanas/Asked if the Building Committee has met with the DPW and when an update might be available. Mr. Kozak indicated that Mr. Shuris is getting cost information and engineering help with a scaled down building that he would like to put on the site. He also added that he was hopeful that something would be ready for the Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Athanas advised that information should be presented to the public prior to the Fall Town Meeting so that people would have time to digest it. **Selectman Marzec/1)** Said he had been approached by people asking about the status of the proposed DPW facility and whether we are putting good money before bad in purchasing new equipment and not properly housing it to ensure its longevity. **2)** Noted that four of the Selectmen were at Corporal Dawson's wake and funeral and he was very moved to see all the residents from Northbridge and other towns as well as the police and the firefighters who gave him such memorable sendoff. He added that he wanted to thank Corporal Dawson for his service, thank his family for

allowing our country to have him and send his deepest condolences to the family. He added that whatever the family needs in the coming weeks and months from the Town that we will be there to listen. **Selectman Melia**/Mentioned to the Town Manager to make sure to have the report ready for Article 21 on the Town Meeting warrant in case anyone has a question about possible radio interference issues. **Chairman Ampagoomian**/Thanked the Selectmen for attending the services for Corporal Dawson and for their high caliber of professionalism. He extended his deepest condolences to the family of Corporal Dawson noting that what they are going through is unimaginable. He added that the Town of Northbridge has strong military/veteran awareness.

Chairman Ampagoomian read aloud a letter that he received from Ed and Sharon Baker suggesting that the newly renovated bridge on Douglas Road be named for Corporal Dawson to honor him, his family, relatives and friends. The letter states that Corporal Dawson is the first soldier from Northbridge in many years to die in the line of duty and defending our country from terrorism. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that at this time the bridge is already designated to be renamed in honor of Corporal Thomas Perron. He added that Mr. Perron had a memorial square at the end of the bridge but since the bridge was reconstructed the memorial is no longer there and the Trustees of Soldiers Memorials requested the bridge be named after Thomas Perron, who was killed in Beirut, Lebanon in 1987, when the Marine barracks was bombed by terrorists. The ceremony for renaming the bridge will take place on Flag Day, June 14, 2015. Mr. Ampagoomian announced that the Trustees of Soldiers Memorials will be meeting on the following night, April 28, 2015, at 7PM and if anyone has interest, this would be the opportunity to voice one's opinion.

Selectman Marzec said that he was approached by several others in the community about how to memorialize Corporal Dawson with some suggestions such as possibly renaming a street. He added his thoughts that the family be given a chance to think about it. Mr. Melia suggested giving it time, letting the proper agencies work on it and then approach the Selectmen.

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia, to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/pf

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

April 27, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Copy of the March 2, 2015 minutes
- Copy of the March 16, 2015 minutes
- Copy of the April 6, 2015 Executive Session minutes – Removed from documentation as they have not been released.
- Copy of the April 14, 2015 minutes

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS / None.

III. APPOINTMENTS / None.

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

V. DECISIONS

B. Copy of the Annual Town Election Warrant

C. Copy of email dated April 9, 2015 from Peter Bedigian on behalf of the Armenian Apostolic Church / 1) Requesting to hang a banner over Church Street from August 2, 2015 to August 16, 2015, to advertise the Annual Picnic to be held on Sunday, August 16, 2015

2) Requesting to use the outdoor bulletin board at Town Hall to advertise the Armenian Church's Christmas Bazaar to be held December 5th at the Christian Reformed Church

D. Copy of email from Caryn Gagner dated April 9, 2015 requesting to hold a Boot Drive at Memorial Square and Ovia Square on Saturday, June 13, 2015, from 9AM to 3PM to benefit the swimming and wrestling programs at Northbridge High School

-Copy of Police Chief W. Warchol's emailed response dated April 23, 2015 saying he has no issues with the Boot Drives above

E. Copy of letter from Devin Kell dated February 5, 2015, requesting to do a Non-profit Motorcycle Bike Run to benefit the American Cancer Society/Relay For Life, Sunday, June 7, 2015 @ 11AM

-Copy of letter from American Cancer Society regarding Ms. Devin Kell's fundraiser above.

-Copy of email from Devin Kell dated March 31, 2015, containing the route for the Motorcycle Bike Run

F. Copy of email from Craig Mahoney dated April 15, 2015, requesting to hang a banner across Church Street from July 19, 2015 to August 2, 2015 to advertise the John M. Dawson 3v3 Soccer Tournament to be held August 8th and 9th

G. Copy of email from Gracia Casey dated April 22, 2015, requesting to move St. Patrick's Polish Picnic / One-day liquor license to the Church grounds on Sunday, June 7, 2015 from 11AM to 4PM

-Copy of Chief Warchol's response to the above by email dated April 22, 2015.

H. -Copy of Subordination Agreement for 92-98 Church Street, Whitinsville

-Copy of signed / recorded property lien for 92-98 Church Street, Whitinsville

-Copy of Protective Covenant Agreement [5 pages] for 92-98 Church Street, Whitinsville

VI. DISCUSSIONS

HH. May 4, 2015 Board of Selectmen's Meeting – **No documentation.**

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

I. 1) Stormwater Coalition – No documentation.

2) MassWorks Grant Application – No documentation.

3) Chapter 90 Funding

-Copy of letter from Gov. Baker and Lt. Gov. Polito dated April 9, 2015 regarding Chapter 90

4) Mutual Aid Assistance for military funeral– No documentation.

5) Public Workshop, 5/12/15 from 6PM to 7PM Re: 2040 Providence Road Reuse Study

-Copy of information from the Northbridge Planning Board regarding a public workshop

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – No documentation.

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA / None.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

-Copy of letter from Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bakker dated April 20, 2015 requesting that the new Douglas Road Bridge be named after Cpl. John Dawson

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION / None.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

May 5, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:30PM by Chairman Ampagoomian, Northbridge Middle School Auditorium, 171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Melia, Marzec, Nolan and Athanas.

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

Town Meeting Business. 1) The Town Manager advised the Board that Harold Gould, the Town Moderator, suggested the Board vote their positions on Articles 8, 9, and 10. Article 8: A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to support the reauthorization of the Revolving Account for the Playground & Recreation Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous. Articles 9 and 10: A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to support the authorization of two Revolving Accounts for the Board of Health. Vote yes/Unanimous.

2) Chairman Ampagoomian advised that the new Douglas Road Bridge dedication will take place on Sunday, June 14, 2015 from 1PM to 3PM and requested permission to close Douglas Road during that time. He said he had already spoken to Chief Warchol about it and he had no issues. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to grant permission to close Douglas Road on Sunday, June 14, 2015 from 1PM to 3PM for the dedication of the Douglas Road Bridge. Vote yes/Unanimous.

3) Selectman Marzec brought up that he met with Mr. Dawson, father of Northbridge's fallen soldier, John Dawson. They spoke about the options available for naming a street or bridge after his son. Mr. Dawson was in favor of having the Sutton Street Bridge named after his son. Chairman Ampagoomian explained that the process has to start with the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials and they, in turn, bring the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

4) Mr. Kozak informed the Board that Tim Lewis from Boston Bumper was supposed to be featured as the Local Business Spotlight at the Selectmen's next meeting, May 18, 2015, but that Mr. Lewis called the office to say he wasn't available that evening and that he would have to reschedule. With that, the office staff called Mr. Tom Berkowitz to see if he was available to come in on May 18th instead of June 8th. As of this today, Mr. Berkowitz has not confirmed his availability.

5) Next, Mr. Kozak brought up his annual performance evaluation and provided the Board with the evaluation form and the status of the goals he has worked on since his last evaluation. Chairman Ampagoomian requested Board members to complete the evaluation form and return them to Sharon Susienka by next week.

There being no further business before the Board at this time, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to adjourn the Selectmen's Meeting at the conclusion of the Spring Annual Town Meeting this evening. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:14 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

s/

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

May 5, 2015

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None

PUBLIC HEARING/None

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

DECISIONS

A. Town Meeting Business:

- 1) Vote position on Articles 8,9, and 10 - **No documentation**
- 2) Request to close Douglas Road for Dedication ceremony - **No documentation**

DISCUSSIONS

B. Meeting with Mr. Dawson - No documentation

C. Reschedule businesses to appear in “Local Business Spotlight” - No documentation

D. Town Manager’s Performance Evaluation

- Copy of evaluation form
- Copy of status of goals

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT/None

SELECTMEN’S CONCERNS/None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
May 18, 2015**

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. Nolan, Melia, Marzec, and Athanas. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 1) April 6, 2015. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the April 6, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian. **2) May 5, 2015 SATM.** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the May 5, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / None.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: 1) Cultural Council – Present: Angela Dolber, Co-Chair of the Cultural Council and Barbara-jean Chauvin, candidate for the Cultural Council. Ms. Chauvin stated that she has lived in town for about 15 years and has been an educator for about 28 years. In addition, she has been a high school administrator for about 10 years, presently employed at Norfolk Agricultural School. Ms. Chauvin sings with the Blackstone Valley Community Chorus and looks forward to being involved in the community. Mr. Nolan asked Ms. Chauvin about what ideas she would bring to the Cultural Council. Ms. Chauvin responded that she would like to look at the kinds of projects that are presently being funded. She added that it's important to look at the applications that come in and do the best they can to look at all the interest groups and spread whatever dollars are available to the best of their ability. Noting that she is very well qualified, Mr. Melia thanked Ms. Chauvin for her interest. He added that he liked her resumé and wished her luck. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Barbara-jean Chauvin to the Cultural Council. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian. **2) Council on Aging** – Present: Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director and Charlene Potvin, candidate for the Council on Aging. Ms. Bol explained that Ms. Potvin is very interested in serving on the Council on Aging and would like to be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board. She noted that Ms. Potvin comes with a wealth of experience and would bring a lot to the table. Ms. Potvin noted that she was born and brought up in Whitinsville, taught school here and in Bennington, Vermont, brought up 2 children, was the treasurer of the Bennington Little League and involved in PTA meetings. Mr. Melia pointed out that he and Mr. Ampagoomian had known Ms. Potvin and her family their whole lives and that she was well-qualified. He thanked her for her interest. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia, to appoint Charlene Potvin to the Council on Aging. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager: Veterans Services Director. Present: Carl Bradshaw. Mr. Kozak noted that we are very fortunate to have Mr. Bradshaw apply for the position of Veteran's Services Director. He added that Mr. Bradshaw is a retired Lt. Colonel [Army] and Army reservist. He also has a background in education and training. Mr. Kozak further explained that Mr. Bradshaw has worked for 6 years as the Veteran's Agent for the Town of Attleboro. Mr. Kozak noted that when he met with Mr. Bradshaw he became aware of Mr. Bradshaw's impressive leadership style, adding that he is very personable and articulate and he has an outstanding resume. Mr. Bradshaw then explained that he grew up in Attleboro, joined the military at 17, and served for 24 years on active duty and the reserves as a military intelligence officer. When he retired in 2005, Mr. Bradshaw bought Mr. Marzec's home on Rumonoski Drive. Mr. Melia said that he was happy to have Mr. Bradshaw on board. Mr. Marzec thanked Mr. Bradshaw for his interest and wished him the best of luck in his new position. A motion/Mr.

Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia, to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Carl Bradshaw as Veteran's Services Director for the Towns of Northbridge, Uxbridge, Douglas and Sutton. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT - Local Business Spotlight: Tom Berkowitz Trucking Inc.

[Present: James Berkowitz]. Chairman Ampagoomian explained that James Berkowitz is now running the business for his father, Tom Berkowitz. Mr. Berkowitz explained that he and his dad were both born and raised in Northbridge. James attended Whitinsville Christian School, graduated from Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School in 2003, graduated from Westfield State College with a degree in criminal justice and followed up with a master's degree in criminal justice from Anna Maria College. After that Mr. Berkowitz was appointed to the Northbridge Police Department as a reserve police officer which he continues to do. Tom Berkowitz started his business in 1980. He bought the first lot on Douglas Road when it was rezoned to an industrially zoned area. Around 1998, Tom Berkowitz bought a second lot, which he used to start a transfer station. James noted that Tom Berkowitz Trucking has 16 vehicles including multiple excavators and loaders. They have 26 employees, 19 of which are from Northbridge, some of whom have worked for the business for over 25 years. It is a family-oriented business, treating employees like family and friends. For decades, the business has donated money, supplies and services to charities including Operation Graduation, police and fire departments, park events, churches, schools, the elderly and flood cleanup in Rockdale in 2005. They have a fairly large facility with 2 buildings, the scale house and transfer station. They are up to date with regulations and in good standing with the Health Department and DEP (Department of Environmental Protection). They take recyclables including wire, metals, plastics and televisions, traveling to several area towns and businesses and are slowly expanding that part of the business. The business does curbside and dumpster trash removal. Tom Berkowitz Trucking is also becoming involved with composting, with the ability to take yard waste, mix it with food waste and turn it into potting soil. The company utilizes businesses within the community and their own customers including Harry's, Koopman's Lumber, Dunkin Donuts and The Coffee Bean. Selectman Nolan noted that the business is prominent within the community. He asked if the company takes everything to which Mr. Berkowitz responded that legally they cannot take yard waste, used oil, paint, solvents and hazardous waste. Mr. Melia mentioned that Mr. Berkowitz gave a very nice and informative presentation. He added that he was glad Mr. Berkowitz mentioned all the great things that the family has done for the community over the years. Mr. Marzec said that as a teacher, he constantly emphasizes recycling and to try to decrease the ecological footprint that all of us have. He commended Berkowitz Trucking and other trash haulers for lessening landfills and incineration. Mr. Marzec added that he had done a lot of research on the technology relative to the proposed composting facility and knows it is state of the art. He wished Mr. Berkowitz well. Mr. Berkowitz noted that he would like to keep the composting on a small scale, limiting its service to the town of Northbridge, which would mean 1 truck per day. Mr. Athanas asked how large a footprint the composting facility would take. Mr. Berkowitz responded that outside and inside the facility it would be about 400 square feet which, would be more than enough area. Mr. Athanas commented that it was a nice presentation and wished Mr. Berkowitz good luck moving forward.

Jake Savage, a resident, addressed the Board requesting help spreading the word for a car wash being hosted by the Northbridge Wrestling Team at Advanced Auto at 277 Church Street on Saturday May 30, 2015, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM to raise funds to save the team. The team needs to raise \$12,500 by September 1, 2015. To Mr. Nolan's question of how much people should donate the response was \$7.00 per car. Mr. Melia commented that with athletes doing the washing they should be able to handle a lot of cars. Mr. Marzec noted the sad state of affairs when he sees students running bake sales and car washes in the town trying to raise money for the sports that many of them need and want. He added that it is also quite nice to see people "stepping up to the plate". Mr. Marzec commented that moving forward he hopes people understand that there is "no sacred cow" with respect to athletics in this town. He noted that some sports teams such as swimming, wrestling and hockey are forced to raise money and this isn't his idea of what a community does. He felt that as a community we all have to stand up for everything, not just pick

and choose what battles we want to wage. Mr. Marzec wished Mr. Savage well noting that he would come by to have his car washed. Mr. Athanas commented that he thinks it's great that young people are taking the initiative by fundraising. To his question whether wrestling is a co-op team or "just the town" the response was "just the town".

Town Clerk's Office/Request to hang banners across Church Street to announce all 2016 Elections as follows: 1) Presidential Primary Banner – Sunday 2/21/16 to Sunday 3/6/16; 2) Annual Town Election Banner – Sunday 5/8/16 to Sunday 5/22/16; 3) State Primary Election Banner – Sunday 9/4/16 to Sunday 9/18/16; and 4) Presidential Election Banner – Sunday 10/30/16 to Sunday 11/13/16. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to approve all 4 banners. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Fire Department / Request permission to hang a banner over Church Street from Sunday, June 21st to Sunday, July 5th to announce the annual Fireworks event scheduled for Thursday, July 2nd at Lasell Field. . A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to allow the Fire Department to hang a banner over Church Street from Sunday, June 21st to Sunday, July 5th to announce the annual Fireworks event scheduled for Thursday, July 2nd at Lasell Field. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Pedro Martel, III d/b/a Junk in the Trunk / Application for a Junk Dealer's License at 2248 Providence Road, Northbridge. Mr. Martel addressed the Board. He explained that his business sells new and used discounted items at reasonably discounted prices. Mr. Melia commented that he remembered Mr. Martel's dad from years ago. He asked if the location of the business was the building next to Cumberland Farms adding that years ago it was used for the same type of operation. Mr. Martel responded it was. Mr. Melia asked if Mr. Martel had ever done that kind of work previously to which Mr. Martel responded that he had not. Mr. Athanas asked for days and hours of operation. Mr. Martel responded that his business would be open Monday through Friday 9 AM to 6:00 PM and weekends 7 AM to 6:00 PM. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the application. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deeds/1) Dawson – Lots 49 (2 graves) and 51A (one grave) Hemlock Path. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the sale of the above lots. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian. **2) Misakian – Lot 80 Yew Avenue (South).** A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the sale of the above lot. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Ampagoomian.

Ballot question/Present: James Shuris, DPW Director and Jamie Luchini, Highway Superintendent. Director Shuris explained that Mr. Luchini put together a PowerPoint presentation to demonstrate the need for a street sweeper and a large wing plow truck, which make up the 2 key components of the "tool box" for the DPW. He added that we don't have a reliable or functional street sweeper. Mr. Luchini explained that he wanted to provide some visuals to give more information to people as they make their decisions. The first slide showed the 1998 street sweeper with the hopper that holds all the sand and debris. The poor condition of the vehicle was evident with the holes and deteriorated corners. The second slide showed the body rot with holes large enough to fit footballs causing sand and leaves to end up back in the road, which can be very hazardous to people, especially on motorcycles. The conveyor system and all the pieces that hold it together are rotted and failing so they cannot be sufficiently fixed. This machine is held inside a garage not servicing anybody. Street sweepers basically run 800 hours or 5 months per year. Mr. Luchini reported that the DPW had to outsource the sweeping at \$115.00 per hour this year. The yearly total for outsourcing would be \$92,000. To purchase the same type of street sweeper that the town currently has would cost \$192,500--a one-time cost with an estimated shelf life of 12 – 15 years. Basically, the street sweeper would pay for itself in 2 years at the current cost of outsourcing. The other piece of equipment needing to be replaced is the 2001

International combo dump/sander truck, which is in the same position as it was when it was returned in March in middle of a snowstorm after it completely broke down. The main hydraulic valve bank is completely rotted off and the main hydraulic feed is completely rotted. Another slide showed the body rot causing sand that has been picked up to go right back into the road because there is no way to stop it. The dump body cannot be raised since it could fall on cars in the middle of traffic. As such, the truck cannot be driven. All the connections of the wing plow are failing and this has become a serious safety issue. If the wing plow ever fell off while the truck was being driven it could cause serious damage, injury or death. The function of the wing plow is to remove snow in addition to plowing. The cost of a new wing plow truck would be \$189,000, which would be a one-time capital exclusion. The option of non-replacement would be the loss of the only wing plow that we have in our fleet, which would mean a longer working time to plow and treat. The wing plow truck is dedicated to the Mendon Road and Quaker Road area. Mr. Kozak noted that the next slide on the one-time capital exclusion was in the handout that the Finance Committee had. He explained that this one-time capital exclusion would mean a net increase for the average single family home owner of \$15.96 or \$4.00 per quarter for 2 very vital pieces of equipment. Mr. Nolan confirmed with Mr. Kozak that the increase would be for one year only. Mr. Melia asked how you get an inspection sticker when the vehicles are in such poor condition. Mr. Luchini responded that when you go for an inspection sticker for a street sweeper as long as all the safety features of the drive train function, you can get a sticker. They don't really care if the bottom is rotted out. Mr. Melia noted that years ago a street sweeper fell over causing a person to be killed. He added that as far as he is concerned the current vehicles should be parked and never used again. Mr. Melia restated that no one should be driving any piece of equipment that is not safe. He noted the need for enough residents to pass the one-time capital exclusion. Mr. Melia observed that the next step would be keeping these vehicles safe and protected. Mr. Nolan asked how long it would take to get the vehicles if the one-time capital exclusion passes. Mr. Luchini estimated that the street sweeper would be ready around the end of summer and the wing-plow truck would be ready for the winter. Mr. Marzec noted that one of the major issues that we will have to face going forward is how to house this new equipment to insure that the purchases will be money well-spent. He added that we have to realize that living in a town with a low tax base and no commercial business or commercial real estate to ease the tax burden means that residents carry the [tax] load. Mr. Ampagoomian asked what the average mileage per year would be for the street sweeper. Mr. Luchini responded that the cost is based on hours rather than mileage. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if any type of training would be provided for the new sweeper if voted in. Mr. Luchini responded that the newer street sweepers have gotten much easier to run with hydraulics and the life expectancy has been extended so training isn't really a concern.

Memorial Square signaling and Road improvements update. Mr. Shuris started the discussion on road improvements. He noted that so far this year we have awarded all three contracts [street striping, crack sealing and signaling]. A kick off meeting for the roads program was scheduled for the day after the Selectmen's meeting. There are about 9 miles of roads town-wide that will be repaired. Pavement markings will be started for Memorial Square; for the next 2 days double-yellow lines, a center line and 5 lines would be painted in the downtown Memorial Square area in preparation for Memorial Day. Crack sealing, another part of the Roads Program would probably happen within the next 2 to 3 weeks. Memorial Square tends to be a problem with signals and signage. Part of the plan would be to get pricing for a push button to get from the road to the island in Memorial Square. Mr. Shuris noted that 2 weeks ago, he attended a Disability Commission meeting. One of the things that Mr. Shuris encouraged the Disability Commission to do is to walk the streets of Northbridge starting at Memorial Square (with a person in a wheelchair) to find out where the problem areas are. Mr. Shuris assured the Selectmen that some of the Commission's concerns included lack of handicapped parking downtown. He noted difficulty walking down the alleyways and in the winter time it's nearly impossible. Mr. Shuris declared that the DPW would work closely with the Disability Commission and the Police Chief to walk downtown and see it with their own eyes to find it and fix it. Mr. Luchini explained that they were awaiting the results of a full analysis of the Memorial Square intersection. He noted that he had contacted Central Mass. Signal, the contractor for the Town that deals with all the traffic light issues we have, such

as when lights stop working. Mr. Luchini added that they would work on the outdated traffic light systems in Ovia Square. He also noted that he has been in contact with Mass. DOT regarding a turn signal at the Route 122 and Church Street intersection. Regarding road work, Mr. Luchini mentioned that Fletcher Street would get a complete cold plane and repave; Douglas Road would get a cold plane and paving of the remaining sections; Main Street from Memorial Square to Arcade Street is a 2-part project to remove the trolley rails that are under the ground then to cold plane and pave the whole road; Ovia Square would get a cold plane and paving of the intersection; Carpenter Road would get a total reclaim from Shannon Drive down to the causeway, which has to be re-laid; Church Street Extension (waiting for funds from Mass. Works) would get a cold plane and paving the section from Osterman Park to the Quaker Street Intersection; Old Quaker Street would continue the overlaying of some sections; Sprague Street will continue with the overlay that they started last year and as time allows, Hill Street will continue with cold planing and paving, probably zeroing in on the Batcheller Road area. Mr. Shuris relayed that they have \$71,257 for emergency money for pot holes from the State, \$425,000 from the Town (\$300,000 was recently voted in and \$125,000 into the 4th or 5th year) and another \$435,000. Mr. Shuris noted that Sutton Street might not be completed until 2016 and added that this Wednesday they are meeting with the Safety Committee. Mr. Shuris contacted Mass. DOT regarding the intersection of Sutton Street, School Street, Providence Road and Upton Road. Mass. DOT is approving a pavement marking plan and re-alignment of the intersection so that coming off School Street will be more of a "T" to lead people toward the center rather than the side of the road. He concluded that what they did last year held up very well, noting that it's going to be a busy town this year. Mr. Luchini said that next year they are looking at Fowler Road, Cooper Road and the Kelly Road area, which took a beating this year. Mr. Melia praised the DPW for doing a great job. Regarding Memorial Square, Selectman Melia explained that he has noted increased traffic and a pedestrian safety issue. He added that he would like to see an engineering investigation as far as proper synchronization of the lights and some enforcement (he's never seen a policeman there). Mr. Melia asked the Town Manager to look into it and report back to the Board, DPW Director and Police Chief with a plan. Mr. Marzec noted that after the Town Meeting, he had discussions with several people about signage in front of the Middle School and if there wasn't a police presence there you would be taking your life into your own hands. He mentioned a note that the Board received from a concerned citizen validating that people are scared to walk across the street in Northbridge, which he feels is unacceptable. Mr. Marzec noted the importance of enforcement and the effectiveness of police presence as a deterrent to traffic violations. Mr. Athanas noted the signage issue and that with the change in the bussing at the Middle School it could get pretty busy there. He asked Mr. Shuris for the cumulative roads where work has been done. Mr. Shuris responded that in the last 3 years they have worked on 25 miles of roads and that the total miles in Northbridge roads is 83. Mr. Athanas concluded that we've made a pretty good dent in the Town's road repair issues. He asked about the dryness of the roads and Mr. Luchini noted that they are using liquid calcium on the roads, which doesn't help. Mr. Shuris said he would work with the Town Manager and consultants to put together a plan to deal with road safety issues. Mr. Athanas asked if Mr. Shuris had any idea what something like that would cost to which Mr. Shuris responded about \$10,000. Mr. Athanas asked Mr. Shuris to send a letter to the consultant highlighting the major problem areas in the Town and requesting a price quote.

Blackstone River and Canal / Vote to submit Priority Preservation Area Technical Assistance (DLTA 2015) request to CMRPC for the preparation of a Reconnaissance Study/Action Plan. Mr. Kozak explained that our Town Planner, Gary Bechtoldt, made us aware that there is a technical assistance opportunity at Central Mass Regional Planning Commission and he is recommending that we apply to do work on the Blackstone Canal area. Mr. Kozak noted that we've used this before and he recommends that we support this. He asked the Board to move this item to decisions. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded Mr. Melia, to move the Blackstone River and Canal Priority Preservation Area Technical Assistance submission from DISCUSSIONS to DECISIONS. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia, to submit the Priority Preservation Area Technical Assistance (DLTA 2015) on the Blackstone River Canal as stated. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas, Marzec and Ampagoomian.

Town Manager's Performance Review. Mr. Ampagoomian explained that all Board members have submitted their performance reviews and the Town Manager's overall rating by the Board, which was based on budgets, intergovernmental relations, labor, and a range of 8 different categories is 3.47. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that the Board would take that into consideration and go onto the next step. Mr. Kozak thanked the Board and had no questions.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/1. Quinsigamond Community College. The Chamber of Commerce is holding a meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2015, with representatives from the College and Congressman McGovern's staff to discuss the progress of a satellite location in Northbridge. There is some concern that the college hasn't made a decision yet because the grant funds are supposed to end this summer. **2. DPU Hearing on Good Energy's application.** The Department of Public Utilities has notified us with respect to a hearing on May 20, 2015, regarding Good Energy's application on behalf of the 13-Town Consortium for purchasing energy supply. The Town Manager will be participating via telephone conference and report back. **3. Memorial Day activities.** Memorial Day activities will take place on Monday, May 25, 2015. Staging of groups will begin at 9:00 AM at Colonial Drive. The parade will commence at 10 AM and proceed to Memorial Park. **4. Stormwater Coalition Award.** The Town received notification of an award for work the Stormwater Coalition has done to assist communities with meeting the requirements for stormwater regulations. **5. Graduation Dates.** Town Manager Kozak announced that the Northbridge High School Graduation is scheduled for Friday, May 29, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Fieldhouse and the Whitinsville Christian School Graduation is scheduled for Friday, June 5, 2015 at 6:30 PM. **6. Town Election.** The Annual Town Election will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, in the Northbridge High School Fieldhouse from 7 AM to 8 PM.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Athanas/ Asked about whether there has been movement in renovating or putting up a butler style building at the DPW to house new vehicles. Mr. Shuris responded that he is working with a consultant to build a smaller metal or prefabricated building with about 8,000 square feet on the existing site. He said he would go before the BPC with the Town Manager, present it and get their authorization. Mr. Shuris noted that the plan is to stay where they are, which has been the right location since 1941. Mr. Kozak noted that the plan is to have an article for the Fall Annual Town Meeting in October. **Selectman Marzec/** Noted that it came to his attention that people living in the Swift Road area at some time were promised about possibly having gas put in and some people may have put some money down on it. One of the people asked what has happened to the project – is it still viable or has it gone away. Some people said there may have been some deposits made and what happened to the people who may have made deposits – would they get their money back or not. Mr. Marzec said that he would bring it up because we might have to look into getting gas throughout the town because the cost of oil fluctuates tremendously. **Selectman Melia/** Said he received a letter from a resident who has lived in the community for many years. He was also approached by someone after the Town Meeting still having questions regarding Article 21 [water meters] at last week's Town Meeting. Mr. Melia sent the letter to Mr. Kozak to help him clarify some of the issues in the letter. He asked Mr. Kozak to explain the issue; it's complicated because we are a town with 2 water departments: the Whitinsville Water Company and the other half, which is owned by the Town but purchases water from the Whitinsville Water Company. Mr. Kozak noted that Northbridge is unique in that not many towns have 2 water systems. For half the Town, the infrastructure (the pipes) are owned by the private water company, which also owns the water and the Town owns half the pipes infrastructure, the meter boxes, and they purchase the water from the Water Company. When the Water Company said that they would put in new meters for their customers which is about half the system they would do that through rates. The Whitinsville Water Company offered to purchase the meters for the Town and eventually they would go to the DPU to have a rate increase and at that time they could include the cost of the meters into the rate on the Whitinsville side. When the Town purchased the water from the Whitinsville Water Company the cost of the meters would be incorporated into the water that we purchase. The Town would be paying more for water since it would incorporate the cost of the meters on the Town side. Instead, we had some extra money in our Enterprise Fund. Water and sewer utilities can have enterprise funds, which are separate from property

tax charges. In Northbridge, the Town has separate enterprise funds for both water and sewer so no tax money is used for the operation for both water and sewer utilities. If we were to keep the current system that we have we would need a meter reader, which would be an added cost. Mr. Kozak noted that by using the new meters, leaking could be detected sooner than with the existing meters, which could save the residents money. **Selectman Ampagoomian/ 1)** Asked about the pole on Church Street that involved National Grid. He asked when the changes would be made with the guy wires. Mr. Shuris noted that double poles and single poles had always been his issue. He added that he spoke with Bob Russell last week and reminded him that when he came before the Selectmen several months ago, he was supposed to expedite that work. In addition, Mr. Shuris informed Mr. Russell that the Town will be repaving Ovia Square so he would want to get that work done prior. They are going to have to remove a sidewalk, remove a pole, reinstall a new pole, and patch a sidewalk. He concluded that he hasn't heard from Mr. Russell yet but he expects it to be done within the next 2 – 3 weeks. Mr. Melia cautioned that he does not want to see the paving held up due to a pole repair. Mr. Ampagoomian requested that Mr. Shuris remind National Grid that the Board has been very lenient with them. **2)** Asked how we are doing with the pothole patching, noting particularly Fowler Road. Mr. Luchini responded that they had slowed down their pothole repair to 2 days a week but they are keeping up. **3)** Asked what they are going to do with the railroad ties being taken out of Main Street. Mr. Luchini stated that it's all part of the cost and they just want it out of here. Mr. Shuris noted that they intend to have a neighborhood meeting with all the occupants of The Shop property. Mr. Luchini added that they are looking into parking improvements with defined parking spaces as they continue to work on the roads. **4)** Asked Mr. Kozak about getting a fact sheet with Whitinsville Water Company to answer residents' questions.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA. Invite the BPC to a future meeting for an update on any projects that they are working on as well as the DPW facility. He also warned that the Board not to lose sight about a new Fire Station.

Executive Session. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21 #3 - To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations and to reconvene in open session. Chairman Ampagoomian then declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the body. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 8:42 P.M.
Executive Session Convened: 8:45 PM
Executive Session Adjourned: 9:12 PM
Open Session Reconvened: 9:13 PM

Town Manager's Contract Negotiations. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant a \$2,500 increase in the Town Manager's compensation retroactive to February 26, 2015, based on the Town Manager's performance review. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Open Session Adjourned: 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/pf

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

May 18, 2015

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. 1) Copy of April 6, 2015 minutes
- 2) Copy of May 5, 2015 [SATM] minutes

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:

- B. 1) Copy of Barbara-jean Chauvin's Talent Bank Application
- 2) Copy of Charlene Potvin's Talent Bank Application

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager:

- 3) Copy of Carl Bradshaw's appointment letter

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: Tom Berkowitz Trucking Inc. [Present: James Berkowitz]

-No documentation

Fundraising Announcement by Jacob Maynard

-Copy of Flyer announcing Car Wash fundraiser at Advance Auto on May 30, 2015 from 9AM to 2PM to benefit the Northbridge Rams Wrestling Team

V. DECISIONS

- C. Copy of email from Town Clerk's Office dated April 27, 2015, requesting permission to hang banners across Church Street to announce all 2016 Elections as follows:
 - 1) Presidential Primary Banner – Sunday 2/21/16 to Sunday 3/6/16
 - 2) Annual Town Election Banner – Sunday 5/8/16 to Sunday 5/22/16
 - 3) State Primary Election Banner – Sunday 9/4/16 to Sunday 9/18/16
 - 4) Presidential Election Banner – Sunday 10/30/16 to Sunday 11/13/16
- D. Copy of letter from Firefighter Thomas Valdivia requesting permission to hang a banner over Church Street from Sunday, June 21st to Sunday, July 5th to announce the annual Fireworks event scheduled for Thursday, July 2nd at Lasell Field
- E. Copy of Pedro Martel, III's [Junk in the Trunk] application for a Junk Dealer's License at 2248 Providence Road, Northbridge
 - Copy of Workers Comp affidavit
 - Copy of License Routing Slips from Planning, Police, Fire, Bldg. Insp., Conservation, Board of Health, Board of Assessors, and Treasurer/Collector Departments concerning any issues they may or may not have with the application
- F. Pine Grove Cemetery Deeds:
 - Copy of Deed for Lots 49 (2 graves) and 51A (one grave) Hemlock Path [Dawson]
 - Copy of Deed for Lot 80 Yew Avenue (South) (2 graves) [Misakian and Kaechele]

VI. DISCUSSIONS

- G. Ballot question/Present: James Shuris, DPW Director and Jamie Luchini, Highway Superintendent – **No documentation**

- H. Memorial Square signaling and Road improvements update – No documentation**
- I. Blackstone River and Canal / Vote to submit Priority Preservation Area Technical Assistance (DLTA 2015) request to CMRPC for the preparation of a Reconnaissance Study/Action Plan
-Copy of email from Gary Bechtholdt dated May 12, 2015**
- J. Town Manager’s Performance Review – Copy of Town Manager’s cumulative performance review given to Chairman Ampagoomian to read aloud**

VII. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

- K. 1. Quinsigamond Community College– No documentation**
- 2. DPU Hearing on Good Energy’s application– No documentation**
- 3. Memorial Day activities– No documentation**
- 4. Stormwater Coalition Award– No documentation**
- 5. Graduation Dates– No documentation**
- 6. Town Election– No documentation**

VIII. SELECTMEN’S CONCERNS

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

X. CORRESPONDENCE

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION- L. Under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations. – No documentation

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
June 8, 2015**

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. Nolan, Melia, Marzec and Athanas. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

Chairman Ampagoomian announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session and declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the body.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21#3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations– and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:16 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:17 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:58 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Town Manager Kozak announced that he would proceed with the reorganization of the Board and polled the Board of Selectmen for **Nominations for Chairman:** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to nominate Mr. Thomas Melia as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. There being no additional nominations for Chairman, the Town Manager closed nominations and asked for a vote on the nomination of Thomas Melia as Chairman. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Kozak thanked Mr. Ampagoomian for his term as Chairman. Mr. Melia then assumed the Chair and thanked the Board for their vote, noting that they would have a lot of work to do as a team in the coming year. **2) Chairman Melia called for Nominations for Vice-Chairman:** A motion/Mr. Athanas, to nominate Mr. Dan Nolan as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. No second, motion dies. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to nominate Mr. James Marzec as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. There being no further nominations, Chairman Melia closed nominations and asked for a vote on the nomination of Selectman Marzec as Vice Chairman. Vote yes/Unanimous. **3) Chairman Melia called for Nominations for Clerk.** A Motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec, to nominate Mr. James Athanas as Clerk of the Board of Selectmen. There being no further nominations, Chairman Melia closed nominations and asked for a vote on the nomination of Selectman Athanas as Clerk of the Board of Selectmen. Vote yes/Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 7:05PM – Verizon New England, Inc. / Order for one Pole Relocation for Sutton Street: On the northerly sideline, relocate Pole No. T. 435S approximately 44 feet westerly from the center line of Hill Street. Chairman Melia read the public hearing notice aloud. The Notice was based upon the petition of Verizon New England, Inc. dated April 29, 2015, for permission to locate poles, wires, cables and fixtures along and across Sutton Street, one pole to be relocated, in accordance with the plan marked Verizon No. 4A0K0MS, Dated April 29, 2015. The petition also requested permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables and wires in the intersecting public ways for

the purpose of making connections with poles and buildings for distributing purposes. A motion/ Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec, to open the Public Hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Representing Verizon New England, Inc., Thomas Blicharz of the engineering consulting firm UC Synergetic of Mansfield, MA appeared before the Board. Mr. Blicharz explained that he was at the meeting to discuss rights of way. He added that he had been to the site at the intersection of Sutton and Hill Streets to size up what Verizon is trying to do. Mr. Blicharz noted that he could not make sense of Verizon's purpose at the site. He concluded with his thoughts that there was an error in the sketch, the pole numbers were messed up and the pole locations were incorrect. Mr. Blicharz asked that the hearing be continued to a later date to allow time to get a properly prepared sketch and make and send out a proper list of abutters for a fair understanding by everyone of what Verizon is trying to do. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to continue the hearing to the next meeting scheduled for June 22nd. Vote yes/ Unanimous. For the record, Mr. Kozak noted that if there are different abutters as a result of the revised map/plan, they would have to end the hearing and Verizon would have to re-advertise. Selectman Ampagoomian advised that a representative of Verizon be present at the next meeting. Mr. Blicharz responded that as he was a former long-term employee of Verizon he was qualified to represent the company. He thanked the Board and agreed to notify the Town Manager's office if there was a change in abutters.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager: 1) Melissa Wetherbee, Administrative Assistant, Town Manager's Office. Noting the importance of the Administrative Assistant position in his office, Mr. Kozak explained that after a thorough review of candidates and a round of interviews, Ms. Wetherbee was determined to be the most qualified. Sharon Susienka, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager, introduced Ms. Wetherbee. Ms. Susienka explained that Ms. Wetherbee is a graduate of Nichols College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. She added that Ms. Wetherbee had experience with the Town of Webster since January of 2011, where she worked as Secretary to the Town Administrator as well as for the Building, Board of Health and Tax Collector's offices. In addition, Ms. Wetherbee was also a Summer Parks Director and Town Events Coordinator for the Town of Webster. Ms. Susienka concluded that with Melissa Wetherbee's experience and skill level she had no doubt that Ms. Wetherbee would be a great asset to the Town Manager's Office and the Town Hall team. Ms. Wetherbee then stated that she is very excited to start the new opportunity and she looks forward to working with the Board of Selectmen. Welcoming Ms. Wetherbee, Mr. Ampagoomian noted that it's nice to see an alumna of Nichols. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Melissa Wetherbee, Adm. Asst. in the Town Manager's Office. Vote yes/ Unanimous. **2. Donald Roy, Special Police Officer.** Noting that Officer Roy is a very hard worker, Mr. Kozak asked Police Chief Walter Warchol to discuss the appointment. Chief Warchol explained his request was for the Board to affirm the appointment of Officer Roy as a Special Police Officer so he could work paid police details. He noted that Detective Roy would be retiring June 27th after about 38 years of service to the Town. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Donald Roy as a Special Police Officer effective June 28, 2015. Vote yes/ Unanimous. Chairman Melia confirmed that the appointment of a retiring police officer to become a Special Police Officer is allowed. Mr. Melia explained that the next 4 individuals were being appointed to the position of Permanent Intermittent Police Officer. Chief Warchol noted that these men were selected by a special committee consisting of Lieutenant Labrie, Detective Sergeant Ouillette and Chief Warchol. Chief Warchol invited the 4 candidates to introduce and give a brief background on themselves. **3. Jonathan M. Brochu, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer.** Mr. Brochu explained that he is from Northbridge and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geography with a Concentration in Environmental Studies and Alternative Energy from Worcester State University. He was deployed to Iraq in 2009, ran counter insurgency operations there and deployed to Guantanamo Bay where he ran a detainee's office. **4. Jordan P. Tredeau, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer.** Mr. Tredeau is 24 years old, a lifelong resident of the Town, and a graduate of Worcester State University with a degree in Criminal Justice. In addition, he has been a part-time dispatcher for the Northbridge Police Department for 3 years. **5. Ryan J. Falvey, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police**

Officer. Mr. Falvey is 25 years old, born and raised in Northbridge, graduated from Blackstone Valley Tech, works for the Worcester DPW and graduated from the Boylston Police Academy. **6. Ryan M. Levesque, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer.** Stated he moved to Northbridge in 2000, attended high school at Mt. St. Charles Academy in Woonsocket, RI, has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Bridgewater State University and is a member of the Tactical Response Team at the Nuclear Power Plant in Seabrook, New Hampshire. Chief Warchol noted that he appreciated the Town Manager supporting his recommendation to appoint these 4 individuals as Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officers and expressed hope that the Selectmen would affirm the appointments. Mr. Ampagoomian welcomed and complimented the 4 appointees on their résumés and backgrounds. He added that they would be entering a police force that has a lot of pride, dedication and good men. Mr. Ampagoomian advised the appointees to learn from the other officers, noting the outstanding Sergeants, Lieutenant and Chief. Chairman Melia, former Northbridge Police Chief, congratulated the appointees, commenting that he and the other police officers started as Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officers. He added that he hoped that the appointees would establish their careers at the Northbridge Police Department. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to affirm the Town Manager's appointments of Jonathan M. Brochu, Jordan P. Tredeau, Ryan J. Falvey and Ryan M. Levesque as Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officers. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Melia congratulated the appointees, wishing them good luck. The Board applauded the men.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT: 1) Local Business Spotlight: Boston Bumper [Tim Lewis, Owner]. Tim Lewis addressed the Board explaining that Boston Bumper Supply recycles plastic bumpers that get damaged in automobile accidents. The company found a way to "turn trash into treasures" as they say. In 2 years they have recycled 44,000 bumpers which would have ended up in various landfills. They found a way to plastic weld bumpers through the repair process and sell them back to consumers for 50% off the factory value. About 75% of the bumpers purchased at local body shops are beyond repair and are donated to the Blackstone Valley Recycling Center. Mr. Lewis explained that he is a graduate of a vocational school. Remembering where he came from, Mr. Lewis and his employees donate their time at local vocational schools teaching students plastic repair at no cost to the schools. The company is located in the Mill [former Whitin Machine Works] with an inventory of 15,000 bumpers. Mr. Marzec noted that his car needs a new bumper. Mr. Lewis responded that his company frequently deals with consumers and sometimes a bumper that is in stock is a perfect color match. The company also helps the police to identify parts of bumpers from accidents. Mr. Marzec thanked Mr. Lewis for setting up his business in Northbridge. Mr. Ampagoomian asked how many people are employed at the company. Mr. Lewis answered that currently they have 2 workers on the floor, Mr. Lewis handles the sales, his girlfriend answers the phones and his father delivers the bumpers. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if Mr. Lewis had plans for expansion. Mr. Lewis responded that they are planning on expanding through contracts fixing vehicles for other States. He also noted that the company provides training to insurance estimators. Mr. Nolan asked about the easiest way to get information about Boston Bumper to which Mr. Lewis responded with the website, www.bostonbumpersupply.com or by calling the office at (508) 422-9500. Mr. Melia asked how long Mr. Lewis had been in business. Mr. Lewis responded that he had been involved in the business since 1985 and started Boston Bumper in 2007. The company has been in Northbridge with 80,000 square feet since 2011. **2) Carrie Maynard** publicly thanked the Veterans and the Board for allowing Save Northbridge Wrestling to set up refreshments at the Memorial Day Parade to raise much needed funds. The group was able to raise \$100 selling water, chips and cookies. **3) Jake Savage** informed the Board that Northbridge Wrestling is holding a bottle and can drive. He requested that everyone save their bottles and cans from graduation parties, 4th of July parties, etc. including anything that has a 5 cent deposit. The drive will run from June 10th to July 10th to help save Northbridge Wrestling. They deeply appreciate any and all contributions. Pick up and drop off locations will be posted on poles and businesses around Town. **4)** A Northbridge High School Senior brought attention to the Boot Drive for the Northbridge Wrestling Team and the Northbridge Swim Team on June 13th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Ovia and Memorial Squares. **5) Matthew Rattray** informed the Board and public about the Northbridge Wrestling Team's other Car Wash on Saturday June 20th from

9 am to 2 pm at Advanced Auto Parts, 277 Church Street, Whitinsville for \$7.00. **6) Carrie Maynard** announced that the Northbridge Wrestling Team also has an upcoming meat raffle at The Rockdale Sports Bar, 2043 Providence Road, Northbridge, on Sunday, June 28th at 3:00 pm., also posted around Town. She added that Northbridge Wrestling Team appreciated the different businesses who donated baskets and gift cards. Ms. Maynard thanked Mr. Melia for stopping by to have his car washed. She asked if they could post their fund raisers at the Town Hall. Mr. Kozak advised her to call the Town office to schedule it. Ms. Maynard asked if they might be allowed to fund raise at the Alternatives concerts. Mr. Marzec advised that it might be worthwhile to coordinate with Alternatives for opportunities.

General Obligation Bonds/Vote to authorize the Selectmen to sign all necessary paperwork. [Neil Vaidya, Town Accountant and Margaret McLean, Vice President of Unibank and Financial Advisor for the Town]. Mr. Vaidya explained that the Board is being asked to sign the Bonds for the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds for various kinds of work that has been done on the Sutton Street Project and for upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment plant. He explained that Margaret McLean would speak regarding the refinance of the land at the High School. The loan was callable and what we could do is refinance the loan at a better interest rate. Mr. Melia noted that he would abstain from voting since he is an officer and employee at Unibank. Ms. McLean recalled that a few years ago we received a big payment from the MSBA to pay off the school bonds. That left just a small loan balance for the land. At that point it wasn't cost effective to do anything with it. Mr. Vaidya and Ms. McLean spoke about it about a month ago when they were doing the bonds for the Sutton Street project. They discussed adding the land piece into this deal for \$360,000 for the next 4 years to have a little bit of savings. Since it is a debt exclusion project there really is no savings to the Town; it's all going to the taxpayers. But for the next 4 years we will save roughly \$25,000 which comes out to about 8%. That exceeds the benchmark of 3%, so we did well. We got 4 bids last Wednesday and the lowest one came from Roosevelt & Cross, which is a big underwriter. The true interest cost (which is how they award bonds) is 2.287516 per cent for the next 15 years. That's the average of all the rates over 15 years and it is how we obtain savings. In accordance with this discussion, Mr. Melia read aloud in part the Vote of the Board of Selectmen in which the Clerk of the Board of Selectmen certifies unanimous passing of the following votes:

Voted: The Treasurer is authorized to issue refunding bonds pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 21A of the General Laws, to refund all of the Town's \$29,530,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2002 Bonds dated February 15, 2002 maturing on February 15 in the years 2016 through 2019 and that the proceeds will be used to pay the principal, redemption premium, if any, and interest on the Refunded Bonds and costs of issuance of the refunding bonds.

Further Voted: that the sale of the \$2,685,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2015 Bonds of the Town dated June 15, 2015 (the "Bonds") to Roosevelt & Cross, Inc. at the price of \$2,764,110.75 is hereby approved and confirmed. [See schedule.]

Further Voted: that the Bonds maturing on February 15, 2025, February 15, 2018 and February 15, 2030 (each a "Term Bond") shall be subject to mandatory redemption or mature. [See schedule.]

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated May 22, 2015, and a final Official Statement dated June 3, 2015 (the "Official Statement"), each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Bonds shall be subject to redemption, at the option of the Town, upon such terms and conditions as are set forth in the Official Statement.

Further Voted: That the Town Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such forms as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertakings shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures in such form as the Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures in such form as the Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently place, to review and update said procedures in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds.

Further Voted: that each member of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

Mr. Melia reiterated that he wanted to be careful about his inclusion in the process and was abstaining.

A Motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, for the Board to approve the general obligation bonds as stated and to sign all necessary paperwork. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Ampagoomian, Nolan and Athanas. Abstain/Mr. Melia.

Dog Warrant/Vote to sign. Mr. Melia explained that the warrant basically gives the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen permission to grant authority to our Animal Control Officer to conduct his official business as the Dog Officer for the Town of Northbridge. A Motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to approve the Dog Warrant as stated. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Blackstone Valley Pop Warner [Kate Tracy]/Requests permission to conduct a Boot Drive at Memorial Square on July 11, 2015 from 9AM - 12Noon. Kate Tracy explained that she is the Director of Fund Raising for Blackstone Valley Pop Warner. To Mr. Melia's question Ms. Tracy confirmed that she checked with the Police Chief, communicating by email. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to approve the Boot Drive subject to the Police Departments safety requirements. Vote yes/Unanimous.

WGM Fabricators, LLC [Woonsocket Glass]/Vote to accept monetary gift in the amount of \$4,434.96. Mr. Melia explained that there was a Special Town Meeting in February and the check was gifted to the Town to help defray the expenses for that meeting. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to approve. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Pine Grove Cemetery/1) Shelley Buma [Lots 18 and 20A - Hemlock Path North]. A motion /Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the sale of the above lots to Shelley Buma. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Brett Murphy [Lot 85 - Forest Ave. West].** A motion /Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the sale of the above lot to Brett Murphy. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Alternatives/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, July 5th to Sunday, July 19th to advertise the Summer Concert Series to be held 6PM-8PM, Thursday evenings from July 2nd to September 3rd on the Community Plaza at Alternatives. A motion /Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the above banner request. Vote yes/Unanimous.

St. Patrick's Parish/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, August 30th to Sunday, September 13th to advertise their Annual Fall Festival to be held Sunday, September 13, 2015. A motion /Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the above banner request. Vote yes/ Unanimous.

School's Update/Present: Cathy Stickney, Superintendent and Michael Lebrasseur, Chairman, School Committee. Mr. Lebrasseur provided the following update: The FY16 School Department Budget was approved at Town Meeting last month and as a result, the school was able to avoid a 1.3 million dollar deficit that they had originally projected. Mr. Lebrasseur explained that it was accomplished through a \$500,000 increase from the Town's appropriation, \$475,000 in cuts from what would have been a level-service budget, about \$140,000 in increased fees, and about \$220,000 from School revolver accounts, which was more than they wanted to spend. None of the cuts made in FY15 was brought back through town or school funding. The sports and clubs that were restored were 100 per cent privately funded and there is still fundraising going on year-round for all those programs. Mr. Lebrasseur noted that it will continue to be the case for next year because they didn't bring back those programs. He also indicated that they are still in salary negotiations with the unions and they are hoping that any additional increase to their budget would be offset by any FY15 savings in additional revenue that may come through. For example, they just received some Special Education Circuit Breaker Extraordinary Relief from the State. When our Special Education costs exceed the previous year by a certain amount, then provided there is available funding in the budget the town releases additional Circuit Breaker money to us. We were able to receive that for the second year in a row. Although that helps, it doesn't cover the increase that the schools have seen in Special Education costs. With all that said we're still looking at a potential deficit for next year of \$1 million dollars. The School wants the Board of Selectmen actively engaged in the FY17 budget process to be sure that we're working on a collaborative and creative all town process for the budget plan for next year. The School appreciates the Town's support. Superintendent Stickney shared that they have a lot of great public comments and feedback regarding their changes to the transportation policy because they realize that with that change in policy and change in structure there will be additional stress placed on the entire town in terms of traffic, public safety, student safety, and commuting to school. They are working with their new Transportation Coordinator who is part time, paid and funded through some of the bus fees that have been raised and instituted. They have been working with the Safety Committee and looking at how they can best address assessing traffic. They have had both Chiefs and the DPW Director come to Balmer School at arrival time where they assessed the traffic. So they are looking at changes in patterns and opening up some of the schools earlier to allow for student drop-offs so that it will facilitate traffic. Tomorrow morning they will be in front of the Middle School on Linwood Avenue, again assessing the traffic and drop-off patterns. So that whole student safety piece is very much at the forefront of their process in getting ready for the fall. They are also looking at engaging the community and parents to help the schools potentially in terms of crossing students around Balmer, having the Safety Committee doing some training with that, working with the DOT in their program "Safe Routes to School" and training students and families in walker, bike and bus safety. A packet was distributed at the meeting with the good news for Northbridge Public Schools. As of that afternoon our baseball team is now moving into the post season. Mr. Ampagoomian joined the Town's 148th graduation ceremony about a week ago where they had 58 John and Abigail Adams scholars meaning that they receive free tuition to any UMass school and any state school. This class also acquired over \$3 million dollars in academic and merit based grants and scholarships (nothing to do with athletics) so their level of achievement and accomplishment continues to grow. They also received some state commendations over the past few months. We were one of 5 school districts asked to present at a state conference and share our career academies. This year we're advancing from 5 to 7 academies and we're looking at approximately 55 applicants this year. We were one of 4 school districts to present our work around educator evaluation at a state conference and the state invited us to participate in a national research project around educator evaluation. We were also part of a national video series. A science teacher at the high school, Mr. James Gorman, has been working with a class he brought into Northbridge High School that is called "NASA Iced". It is an elective class where

students work with NASA researchers to conduct an investigation and deliver their research back to the NASA team. They have been involved with this class for 3 years and this past month the class and Mr. Gorman were invited to Langley to NASA to do a 50-minute presentation regarding our implementation. We are one of 3 schools nationally that has been able to incorporate this into our school day. Mr. Gorman was able to present our class to NASA scientists, educators and researchers. Dr. Stickney announced that they wanted to commend their Northbridge Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Sherry Travers, for her work with systems dynamics in the English Department. She is the English Department Team Chairperson and has been vital in community work with the Community Garden. Last summer, they grew 2,700 pounds of vegetables for the Food Pantry in the community. Selectman Ampagoomian commented that it was a nice graduation and ceremony. Chairman Melia mentioned that it is unbelievable the way the administrators and the school department keep upbeat under some of the situations that they have encountered in the past couple of years. He added that there isn't a school event that he has attended for his family where Superintendent Stickney isn't present. He congratulated Dr. Stickney for that, noting that it is an amazing accomplishment. Dr. Stickney thanked Mr. Melia, adding that it is the amazing staff, students and families that "just keep us moving forward."

FY 2014 Audit/Present: Timothy Harrison, Auditor (Borgatti Harrison & Co.) for the Town of Northbridge and Neil Vaidya, Town Accountant. Mr. Harrison explained that he and Mr. Vaidya were present at the meeting to report on the audit for the year ending June 30, 2014. He acknowledged Mr. Vaidya and his staff for doing a great job preparing for the audit and providing assistance during the audit to make it as efficient as possible. The first report to be discussed was OMB Circular A-133, which is required to look at the internal controls for the Town as they apply to preparation of the financial statements as a whole and as they relate to federal grants. They also have to report on compliance with the laws and regulations for the Town as a whole and as they apply to the federal grants. Mr. Harrison noted that all 4 of those pieces as "clean" opinions and there were no findings. Page 6 of the report lists all the federal financial assistance for the Town, which totaled about \$1.4 million dollars. Item number 7 on page 7 indicates the grants that were selected for auditing. Under Part C of the Summary of Audit Results under Findings and Questioned Costs there were none. Next, Mr. Harrison discussed the financial statements. The Auditors' Report (Pages 1 and 2) is also a clean opinion with no findings. It states that the financial statements that follow are fairly presented. The Statement of Net Position, a government-wide balance sheet on Page 14, shows everything from Cash Receivables, our Investment in Capital Assets, the Town's Debt, all the accrued liabilities that pertain to the Town, Land Fill Post Closure Care Costs, OPEB Obligation, to Compensated Absences, altogether showing in the governmental activities column an unrestricted fund balance (net position) of almost a negative \$14 million dollars. Mr. Harrison added that this is really nothing to get overly excited about because the OPEB Liabilities on the books (long term obligations) are just about \$23 million dollars. At the request of the Town Manager, Mr. Harrison further explained that GASB has decided that there are increasing long term liabilities that have been sitting out there that have never been reported. This is one that started about 5 years ago that the government said we need to start reporting. The OPEB Liability is the post-retirement health insurance obligation for retirees. Starting next year (even though it's showing in the financial statement for the retirement system) if the Town has an unfunded portion of that obligation that's being amortized over 20 years it would show up in the governmental activity column. So this will be another liability that will potentially show up next year and look even worse than this year. However, it allows for a level playing field in being able to compare community to community, state to state and county to county. Mr. Kozak pointed out that the goal would be to start to fund this unfunded liability over time. Mr. Harrison noted that for peace of mind the rating agencies don't look at this as a negative. On page 16, is a Fund-based Balance Sheet which reflects our accounting books and where we need to focus in the General Fund column. It shows an Unassigned Fund Balance of \$1.9 million dollars. The Department of Revenue starts with this number in determining Free Cash. In the line above that in Assigned, is \$2.4 million, of which there is \$2.3 million that is our Stabilization Fund. Taking \$2.3 million for the Stabilization Fund and \$1.9 million for Unassigned, you have a Reserve Fund Balance of \$4.2 million dollars which is "a healthy reserve for the Town". Mr. Harrison noted that 2.3 million in

Stabilization equals approximately 5.8% of our budget. The rule of thumb is that you should have between 6 and 8 per cent of your budget in the Stabilization Fund, so we're "right about there". On Page 20, is one of the most important statements for analysis purposes: Budget to Actual. At the top of the page under Revenues, far right column, we took in \$584,960 more in revenues than we had budgeted. At the middle of the page total expenditures far right hand column we spent \$278,200 less than we had budgeted. Therefore we had a variance of \$863,160, "a very good positive". Mr. Vaidya noted that last fiscal year the Town sold property and a good piece of the \$584,960 includes that revenue. On Page 50, the notes show how the OPEB liability has been derived. We actually had a net increase of \$4.5 million in the liability. There are two recommendations from the prior year that are being carried forward. One is the Internal Controls over Treasurer's Cash where there had been delays in payroll and vendor recollections not being provided on time to the Auditors; this has been corrected and will not be an issue next year. The other is Tax Title Accounts. Mr. Harrison noted that he can't stress enough how important it is for the Tax Collector to put real estate receivables into Tax Title. A current year recommendation is that the money in the Stabilization Fund be invested to get a better return (currently getting .4 – .5 per cent with certificates of deposit when it could get 4-5% with stocks or bonds). The second recommendation for developer escrow accounts is more of an accounting: making sure that the money that is in the various savings accounts for the developer bonds match with the Accountant's General Ledger. There needs to be a reconciliation process between the Town Accountant's office and the Treasurer's office. The last recommendation deals with the retirement system. There is a control in process to confirm every year that retirees are still alive and eligible for retirement benefits and the Auditors noted that there were some exceptions. Mr. Kozak asked if the retirement board would be responsible for providing oversight. Mr. Harrison indicated that if the retirement board sends out the letters to retirees it needs to comply with the requirement of verifying the retiree's existence. Mr. Kozak commented that the Treasurer Collector's office is in transition and we're currently seeking a new Treasurer Collector. He noted that our goal is to take care of the recurring concerns as soon as possible. Mr. Ampagoomian stated that we've come a long way since we started and he congratulates the Town Accountant and the Treasurer Collector's office for a job well done. He added that if anyone is questioning if the Town is properly managing their money the Auditors' Report says we are. Mr. Kozak noted that the Town Accountant's office did a lot of extra work this year in the absence of the Treasurer Collector along with helping with the big issue of reconciliation. He added that we should thank the Town Accountant and his staff. Mr. Melia agreed, noting that we have done well with the yearly recommendations with a few exceptions and we are definitely moving forward. Mr. Athanas asked if we have any tax takings. Mr. Vaidya responded that we are sending out letters rather than going through the tax taking process because it is expensive. Right now they are working with the tax title attorney trying to develop a list. They will send out letters first with the hope that it would spur some of the individuals to come in and make arrangements or pay off the outstanding taxes. Mr. Athanas asked about the time frame for the letters. Mr. Vaidya responded that the letters would be mailed prior to June 30th.

Road Projects Update/Present: James Shuris, DPW Director and Jamie Luchini, Highway Superintendent. Mr. Shuris recalled that 3 weeks ago they appeared before the Board of Selectmen to talk about the fact that they would be paving certain streets the second week of June and pavement markings that same night. Since that time they have already started the roads program. They have already cold planed and paved Church Street Extension and cold planed and raised structures on Douglas Road and Fletcher Street. Regarding Sutton Street, under the direction of Mass DOT, they put the binder course down from the Sutton line across Hill Street, down to just shy of Gendron Street, and they started some of the sidewalk fill work today. All these projects are moving forward in an expeditious fashion. Mr. Shuris noted that Mr. Luchini added a certain element to this where they jump started a program before school gets out. This was the first time since Mr. Shuris had been employed here that they started a program so early. Our surrounding communities haven't even bid the projects out yet and here we are performing the work and completing the projects. Mr. Shuris gave Mr. Luchini credit for his aggressive approach toward the "No Road Left Behind Program". Mr. Luchini apologized to all the commuters who encountered detours, detail police officers, and inconvenience while the projects are continuing. He noted

that it is all for a good cause and they are trying to work as quickly as possible. Mr. Luchini added that Fletcher Street and Douglas Road would be paved by the end of the week. Then they would work on some pothole overlays on Old Quaker Street. To alleviate some of the traffic situations they would focus on Main Street as well as Ovia Square when school gets out. They might work on Ovia Square at night to lessen the inconvenience to the public. Mr. Marzec noted that he has heard a lot of good comments about the roads and the fact that things are speedily being completed. He added that Fowler Road is heavily traveled due to the heavy construction on Sutton Street and that it has taken a beating. Mr. Marzec expressed concern about safety due to potholes, noting that he would like to see that road put on the priority list once Sutton Street is done. Mr. Shuris agreed but cautioned that Sutton Street should be completed first. He added that pavement markings with fog lines and center lines would be completed within 2 to 3 weeks on several roads. Mr. Marzec asked about the Sutton Street resident feedback during the construction in that area. Mr. Shuris responded that they communicate with the contractor on a daily basis and the contractor facilitates driveway and road accessibility for the residents in that area. He noted that the DPW meets with the developer of the construction project at the intersection of Highland Street and Benson Road on a biweekly basis. It is a ledge problem, which is very costly for the developer. The developer stated that it looks like they could be out of there within a week. Chairman Melia asked how many more years were left for the roads project. Mr. Shuris responded that there is one more year left for the funding of \$125,000. Chairman Melia asked if any progress had been made with the traffic light situation at Memorial Square. Mr. Shuris responded that he, the Police Chief and a consultant met last week and the consultant is putting together a proposal to look at the timing of the intersection and/or looking at the signalization. He added that there might be a need for more pavement markings or the relocation of a stop sign. The consultant would probably have a proposal ready within about a week. Chairman Melia then asked what causes the green arrow at Linwood Avenue to turn red and if it was due to a pedestrian pressing the button. Mr. Shuris responded that it was due to a pedestrian pressing the button. He added that they are also looking at Douglas Road, Church Street, Main Street, and Hill Street, which is another intersection that causes a great deal of concern. Mr. Luchini discussed the option of lighted signs, which are less expensive than traffic lights. Selectman Marzec asked whether there had been any grants relative to signal control equipment, which he has seen in other communities. Mr. Luchini offered to perform some research on it. Mr. Marzec then asked if a sign noting "No turn on red" could be placed on Linwood Avenue. Mr. Luchini responded that it would be something that could be addressed with the consultant and would have to be approved by the Town. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that the appearance and discussion with Mr. Shuris and Mr. Luchini at the Selectmen's meeting was very beneficial to the understanding by Board members and the public. Relative to Sutton Street, he asked if there would be full signaling or the existing blinking light at Adams Four Corners. Mr. Shuris responded that the blinking light would remain. He expressed his approval of Mr. Blicharz checking back with Verizon on the pole numbers. Mr. Ampagoomian then asked about the Highland and Benson intersection, expressing his concern about a telephone pole being cabled to a tree. Mr. Luchini responded that it is a temporary safety measure. Mr. Ampagoomian expressed concern that construction work at the intersection might cause sink holes. Mr. Luchini responded that the area would be regraded and watched so that it is done correctly. Mr. Marzec expressed concern about potential water problems at the intersection because of the ledge. Mr. Athanas asked about the cost of paving at night versus paving during the day. Mr. Luchini responded that the cost is minimal due to the small size of the project (about 2 hours) and that it's basically a safety issue. Mr. Nolan asked about the hookups needed on Sutton Street. Mr. Shuris responded that everyone who is on Sutton Street from Providence Road to Hill Street has the capability of tying in. So everyone on that project where they have binder down has water and sewer services to their homes. Mr. Shuris thanked everyone who is watching tonight's meeting for seeing what is going on in the community and being involved. Lastly, Chairman Melia expressed his appreciation for the progress that is being made by the DPW. Mr. Luchini thanked the taxpayers for their patience and support.

Town Manager's Goals and Objectives. Town Manager Kozak asked each Selectman to come up with one or two goals and send them to Chairman Melia or Sharon Susienka and Mr. Kozak would try to

narrow them down for approval at the June 22nd meeting. Mr. Melia asked that each Selectman send him two goals/objectives by Monday, June 15th and he will sit down with the Town Manager to select 4 or 5 for discussion at the next meeting.

Good Energy Update. Mr. Kozak explained that he received an email from Ross Perry who is in charge of the Southeastern Mass. Regional Economic Group that has been putting together the scope for the project for the aggregate supply purchase for the community. They have notified the DPU that they are interested in going forward. They also had a conference call with DOER of which Mr. Kozak was a part. Mr. Kozak is also reviewing the scope of the work before it gets finalized by DPU. It's a long process and hopefully they can take care of it so that it can go out to bid in November. Mr. Perry asked if the Town could pick a contact person as well as a representative for the Committee. Mr. Melia commented that he thinks it is the perfect job for the Town Manager since he knows so much about it. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to move the matter from **DISCUSSIONS** to **DECISIONS**. Vote yes/Unanimous. **DECISIONS** - A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to nominate the Town Manager to be the representative and the contact person for the community at Good Energy. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Town Manager's Report: **1) Memorial Day Services** – Town Manager Kozak attended Memorial Day Services last Monday, which were well-attended. The Dawson family was also in attendance to honor their son, Cpl. John Dawson. The new format [staging at Colonial Drive] worked out very well. **2) Quinsigamond College Update** – A meeting was held at the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce to discuss the planning and locating of a satellite campus in Northbridge. Unfortunately, Quinsigamond has not yet made a decision on locating a satellite campus here and they are still investigating if there is a need and the financial ability to have a satellite campus. **3) Governor's letter** - Governor Baker and Lt. Gov. Polito sent a letter to all 351 cities and towns thanking and recognizing them for their cooperation with local, state, and federal agencies during this past winter season, which made things proceed more smoothly during snow removal operations. **4) Economic Development Committee Update** – Town Planner Gary Bechtholdt and I met with representatives and commercial property owners to discuss the progress in making Northbridge a better place for commercial and industrial development. Among things considered and discussed were: zoning issues, marketing, and streamlining the permitting process to make it more user friendly. **5) Middle School Interest Fair** – The Town Manager attended the Middle School Interest Fair last Friday. Once again the kids did a great job! There were many good projects and there was a great turnout of family, friends and public officials.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. **Chairman Ampagoomian/1)** Noted that the Town of Northbridge is always very proud of its veterans as was evident by the outpouring of emotion when Corporal Dawson was killed. He added that the Douglas Road Bridge has been completed and before it was constructed there was a stone at the intersection for Corporal Perron, who was killed in Beirut when the Marine barracks was bombed. On Flag Day, June 14, at 2:00PM, the Trustees of Soldier's Memorials will hold a bridge dedication naming that bridge for Corporal Thomas E. Perron. The Douglas Road/Fletcher Street area will be closed [for safety purposes] from 1:00PM until 3:00PM to allow for different organizations and people to attend the ceremony. All residents are cordially invited to attend the dedication ceremony. **2)** Stated that he doesn't want to lose sight of the need for a Fire Station and DPW facility. **3)** Expressed concern about Mass DOT and their road striping--when will they be coming to Plummer's corner? There was no definitive answer. **4)** Asked about the flood plain issue. Mr. Kozak responded that just recently Mr. Anderson gave a report to the Conservation Commission consultant so we should hear something shortly. **5)** It was brought to Mr. Ampagoomian's attention recently that the American Legion just put a new roof on their building and the kids are skateboarding there and tearing it up. He asked if we could get a patrolman to watch over the building. **6)** Mr. Ampagoomian thanked the members of the Board for a very good year while he was Chairman. He also wished Mr. Melia a good Chairmanship. Mr. Melia said Mr. Ampagoomian did a great job as Chairman. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that Wednesday night he had to attend a Worcester County Selectmen's meeting and he invited the Selectmen to share any

suggestions for discussion. 7) On Friday June 3rd, Mr. Ampagoomian attended his third graduation at Whitinsville Christian School and it was a very good ceremony. **Selectman Marzec**/Commented that along the lines of the discussion about Northbridge economic development he attended a Conservation Commission meeting about a week ago. One of the concerns of Mr. Marzec as well as some of the business owners in town is the whole expedited permitting and what needs to be done. He noted his concerns that Potpourri and other businesses are leaving town and that it is a challenge to attract new businesses. Mr. Marzec suggested that several boards in the community, including the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and School Committee get together to discuss business growth in the town. He added that many of the constituents are voicing that they cannot afford to stay with our existing residential tax base; by doing so they have seen unsuccessful overrides and unsuccessful types of capital exclusions that have not passed. Additionally with what's happening at the intersection of Benson Road and Highland Street with the addition of 18 new houses plus the fact that on Carpenter Road another development is starting so we need to be proactive with planning, moving forward. Mr. Marzec believes that it would be shortsighted of us to think that by just opening up new roads and allowing these developers to come in and build it's going to be a solution to all our problems. In fact he would argue that the problems we have in this town are the result of decisions that were made in the past. Mr. Marzec states that he has done some research and asked the Town Planner questions as to what developments are on the books. He says there are a lot of them and it's scary. If we think we're going to build more houses and get more tax revenue that way it's not going to happen. It's not self-sustainable at all. We all share a common goal – to make Northbridge a better place. As leaders of this community we need to get together and share ideas about plans for the future in short order. **Chairman Melia**/1) Attended the Memorial Day exercises and thought everything went great. 2) Also attended the Middle School Interest Fair and said the kids were tremendous. There were a lot of town officials and family members in attendance. The nicest part of it was seeing the kids in the hallway with the signs, preventing people from getting lost. 3) Will attend the Trustees of Soldier's Memorials meeting tomorrow night at 7:00pm at their request as the ex-officio member due to his position as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. He will be reporting back to the Board at the next meeting, June 22nd. 4) Asked Mr. Nolan to attend the Bridge dedication ceremony on Sunday, for Corporal Thomas Perron as the Select Board's representative along with the Town Manager.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/pf

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

June 8, 2015

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN / Copy of process

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS: 7:05PM – Verizon New England, Inc. / Order for one Pole Relocation for Sutton Street: On the northerly sideline, relocate Pole No. T. 435S approximately 44 feet westerly from the center line of Hill Street.

-Copy of abutter's notice dated May 18, 2015

-Copy of Verizon's request for pole relocation dated April 30, 2015

-Copy of petition

-Copy of petition plan

-Copy of memo to the Assessor's Office dated May 12, 2015 requesting an abutters list

-Copy of list of abutters

III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager:

B. 1) Melissa Wetherbee, Adm. Asst., Town Manager's Office

-Copy of appointment letter

2. Donald Roy, Special Police Officer

-Copy of memorandum from Chief Warchol dated May 15, 2015, requesting the appointment of Donald Roy as a Special Police Office effective June 27, 2015

3. Jonathan M. Brochu, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

-Copy of memorandum from Chief Warchol dated June 2, 2015, requesting Mr. Brochu be appointed as a Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

4. Jordan P. Tredeau, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

-Copy of memorandum from Chief Warchol dated June 2, 2015, requesting Mr. Tredeau be appointed as a Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

5. Ryan J. Falvey, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

-Copy of memorandum from Chief Warchol dated June 2, 2015, requesting Mr. Falvey be appointed as a Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

6. Ryan M. Levesque, Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

-Copy of memorandum from Chief Warchol dated June 2, 2015, requesting Mr. Levesque be appointed as a Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: Boston Bumper [Tim Lewis, Owner] – No documentation

Carrie Maynard – Information regarding upcoming events to benefit the Northbridge Wrestling Team

-Copy of flyer promoting a Car Wash, 6/20/15, from 9AM to 2PM at Advance Auto Parts

-Copy of flyer promoting a bottle and can drive from June 10th to July 01th

-Copy of flyer promoting a Meat Raffle on June 28th at 3PM – Rockdale Sports Bar

-Copy of flyer promoting a Boot Drive at Memorial and Ovia Squares on June 13th from 9AM to 3PM

V. DECISIONS

C. General Obligation Bonds/Vote to authorize the Selectmen to sign all necessary paperwork

-Copy of vote to be made by the Board of Selectmen for the General Obligation Bonds

D. Dog Warrant/Vote to sign

-Copy of the Dog Warrant to be signed by the Board of Selectmen

E. Blackstone Valley Pop Warner [Kate Tracy]/Requests permission to conduct a Boot Drive at Memorial Square on July 11, 2015 from 9AM - 12Noon

-Copy of email from Kate Tracy dated May 14th requesting permission to conduct the Boot Drive

F. WGM Fabricators, LLC [Woonsocket Glass]/Vote to accept monetary gift in the amount of \$4,434.96

-Copy of letter from WGM Fabricators gifting \$4,434.96 to the Town to defray the costs of the Special Town Meeting held on February 24, 2015.

G. Pine Grove Cemetery/1) Shelley Buma [Lots 18 and 20A - Hemlock Path North]

-Copy of deed

2) Brett Murphy [Lot 85 - Forest Ave. West]

-Copy of deed

H. Alternatives/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, July 5th to Sunday, July 19th to advertise the Summer Concert Series to be held 6PM-8PM, Thursday evenings from July 2nd to September 3rd on the Community Plaza at Alternatives

-Copy of flyer promoting the summer concerts

I. St. Patrick's Parish/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, August 30th to Sunday, September 13th to advertise their Annual Fall Festival to be held Sunday, September 13, 2015

-Copy of letter from St. Patrick's dated June 1, 2015, requesting permission to hang a banner across Church Street

VI. DISCUSSIONS

J. School's Update/Present: Cathy Stickney, Superintendent and Michael Lebrasseur, School Comm. – **No documentation**

K. FY 2014 Audit/Present: Timothy Harrison, Auditor

-Copy of Management Letter

-Copy of Audit Report

L. Road Projects Update/Present: James Shuris, DPW Director – **No documentation**

M. Town Manager's Goals and Objectives – **No documentation**

N. Good Energy Update – Copy of email from Ross Perry dated June 4, 2015, regarding the update

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

O. 1) Memorial Day Services – **No documentation**

2) Quinsigamond College Update– **No documentation**

3) Governor's letter on winter season-**Copy of letter dated May 28, 2015**

4) Economic Development Committee Update– **No documentation**

5) Middle School Science Fair– **No documentation**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS - No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA - None

X. CORRESPONDENCE - None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:15PM:

P. Under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – **To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations. – No documentation**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
June 22, 2015**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 6:15 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Nolan, Marzec and Athanas. Selectman Charles Ampagoomian was absent and it is duly noted. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

Chairman Melia announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session and declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the body.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21#3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations– and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, and Mr. Nolan/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:16 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:17 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:50 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Continued from June 8, 2015. 1) 7:05PM - Verizon New England, Inc. / Order for one Pole Relocation for Sutton Street: On the westerly sideline, relocate Pole No. T. 435S approximately 44 feet southerly from the center line of Hill Street. One pole to be relocated. Chairman Melia explained that the June 8, 2015 public hearing was continued because the Verizon representative felt that some of the information was incorrect. Consequently, the revised plan resulted in a new list of abutters. Mr. Melia advised that the abutters have not been notified because the Board did not have the correct information at the right time. Mr. Melia then stated that he would open up the continued hearing and ask the Board members to take no action tonight based on the revised information that they have and to hold the hearing at the next meeting, July 13th. Mr. Kozak advised that Thomas Blicharz, the Verizon representative who was present at the June 8th meeting, was present this evening and might have comments. Mr. Blicharz, came forward and stated that he works for UC Synergetic, a consulting company for Verizon. He said that Verizon sends most of its right of way work to consultants such as himself who was at the meeting on behalf of Verizon to petition for this pole. Mr. Blicharz reminded everyone that while reviewing the plan for the June 8th pole location hearing, he noticed the plan that was presented was incorrect. Accordingly, he was afraid that the abutters' notification was also incorrect and that's why the hearing had to be continued. Mr. Blicharz stated that the plan has since been corrected but was told that a new abutters list was not sent in time for tonight's meeting thus the Board cannot take action. Continuing, Mr. Blicharz said that since the June 8th meeting, Verizon had sent one of its engineers to place a stake in the ground where the new pole was going to be and Mr. Blicharz noted that it seems to be on the westerly side of the stone wall, which may mean that it might be on private property. Mr. Blicharz added that he met with the Highway Superintendent tonight and that they are going to try to work together and get some surveyor's marks to get an idea of the width of the taking and to determine if they will be on private property or the public way with this pole. If it is on private property there is no need for a hearing. Mr. Melia again noted that a new Public Hearing would be held on July 13th. He asked Mr. Blicharz to inform the Town Manager's Office if there are any changes prior

to that meeting. Chairman Melia then asked if there were any comments from the audience or the Selectmen. There being no comments, a motion/ Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Mr. Athanas, to close the Public Hearing. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas, for the Board to take no action. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Nolan and Melia. 2) **7:10PM – National Grid and Verizon New England request to relocate Pole 47 over 43’ to clear new road and install new Pole 47-50 for span length. Present: Crystal Tognazzi, Rep. for National Grid.** Chairman Melia read the public hearing notice aloud as follows: In conformity with the requirements of Section 22 of Chapter 166 of the General Laws (Ter. Ed.) you are hereby notified that a **Public Hearing** has been scheduled for **Monday, June 22, 2015 at 7:10 PM**, at the Northbridge Town Hall, Selectmen's Room, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA based upon the petition of National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc., to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as said Company may deem necessary to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, in the following public way or ways: Highland Street Pole #47, National Grid request to relocate Pole 47 over 43’ to clear new road and install new Pole 47-50 for span length. Wherefore they pray that after due notice and hearing as provided by law, they be granted joint or identical locations for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as they may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked—Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. Plan No. 19404260, Dated May 11, 2015. Chairman Melia then announced that all abutters have been notified of tonight’s public hearing. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia. Ms. Tognazzi explained that National Grid is proposing the relocation of Pole #47 which stands directly in the center of the entranceway for Leonardo Estates. The pole is proposed to be moved 43 feet west of its current location. They are also proposing new Pole 47-50. The span between existing Pole 47 and 48 is adequate but the minute they move it the 43 feet they need to split that span length using Pole #47 and the new proposed Pole 47-50. Mr. Melia called for comments from the notified abutters and the Board of Selectmen. There were none. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the petition by National Grid and Verizon New England to relocate Pole 47 over 43 feet to clear new road and install new Pole 47-50 for the span length. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:

1) 2015 Annual Reappointments/Vote to approve [listing enclosed in agenda packet]. A motion/ Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to approve the 2015 Annual Reappointments by the Board of Selectmen as indicated on the list provided in the agenda packets. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia. **2) Cynthia Campbell, Conservation Commission.** Ms. Campbell was not present so the Board agreed to postpone this appointment until the next meeting on July 13th.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager:

1) 2015 Annual Reappointments/Vote to affirm [listing enclosed in agenda packet]. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to affirm the 2015 Annual Reappointments by the Town Manager as indicated on the list provided in the agenda packets. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia. **2) Jordan Tredeau, Student Police Officer.** Mr. Melia noted that this means that the officer is ready to attend the Police Academy. Police Chief Warchol explained that he is requesting Jordan Tredeau be appointed by the Town Manager as a Student Police Officer effective August 3, 2015. He will replace Detective Donald Roy who is retiring on June 27th. Chief Warchol advised that Mr. Tredeau was selected by an interview panel consisting of Chief Warchol, Lieutenant Lebric and Detective Sergeant Ouellette and that he has worked with the Police Department since 2012, as a part time dispatcher. A lifelong resident of Northbridge, Jordan recently graduated from Worcester State University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice. Chief Warchol concluded with his thought that Jordan would make a fine addition to the Northbridge Police Department. He further noted that Mr. Tredeau attended the last Selectmen’s meeting for appointment as a Permanent Intermittent Reserve Police Officer, which was

prior to this position becoming available. Chairman Melia congratulated Jordan on his appointment, hoping that he would make it a career. Mr. Tredeau thanked Chief Warchol and the Town for the great opportunity. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec, to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Jordan Tredeau as a Student Police Officer per the recommendation and conditions noted by Chief Warchol. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia. **3) Deborah Mary Rosebrooks, Administrative Assistant to the Building Inspector/Zoning Board of Appeals.** Mr. Kozak explained that the long-term Administrative Assistant to the Building Inspector/Zoning Board of Appeals, Brenda Ouillette, is retiring at the end of July. Building Inspector James Sheehan thanked Brenda Ouillette for her 25 years of service to the Town. He noted that she was an exemplary employee, adding that he was fortunate to have worked with her for the last 11 years and that he would miss her. Mr. Sheehan commented that they had many candidates apply for the administrative assistant's position and that he felt that Deborah was by far the best candidate. She stood out with her experience of about 14 years with the Town of Sutton and a year and a half with the Town of Grafton, running the office for the D.P.W. Deborah shows a tremendous amount of enthusiasm for the job and good customer service. Mr. Sheehan believes she would be a tremendous asset to the Town. Deborah thanked the Board for the opportunity and said she looks forward to working with the Selectmen and the Town of Northbridge. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to affirm the appointment of Deborah Mary Rosebrooks as Administrative Assistant to the Building Inspector/Zoning Board of Appeals. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia. Mr. Melia congratulated Ms. Rosebrooks and wished her luck.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/Representative David Muradian – Legislative Update.

Representative Muradian congratulated the new Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board on their recent Board appointments. To discuss what's happening on Beacon Hill, he reported that the budget in the House was completed in April and the budget in the Senate was completed in May. Now the budget sits before the 6-member Conference Committee with a difference between the House and Senate budget numbers. The Governor's budget for FY16 Local Aid for Northbridge was \$15,262,906. The House budget version was \$15,275,081, which Representative Muradian supported and described as very prudent in a tough fiscal climate and was passed unanimously. Mr. Muradian felt lucky that they added \$60,875.00 to the Town of Northbridge. For UGGA (Unrestricted General Government Aid) the House version was about \$67,000 above last year's benchmark to \$1,945,911. To demonstrate how the Legislature is fighting for the citizens, Representative Muradian noted that he filed an amendment to the budget asking for matching funds of \$450,000 from the State. The goal was to insert a multipurpose field for various sporting events and for the Town to generate revenue by having competitions here. Unfortunately that was not taken up in the budget but Mr. Muradian was proud to advocate for the amendment. Another amendment that Mr. Muradian was proud to support was changing the earned sick time date in order to help our small business owners. The date would change from the fiscal year coming up in July to the beginning of the calendar year coming up next year. Again, it was not taken up in the budget but Mr. Muradian was proud to advocate for it. Additionally, Rep. Muradian was proud that an amendment for DCF background checks for DCF employees was included in the budget. He also said the Educational Mandate Task Force establishes a commission to study educational mandates to make adjustments, which got consolidated into an amendment. A sales tax holiday, something that was filed in previous years, was filed but did not pass this year, however, they might get it to pass at a later date. Unfortunately Governor Baker's version of the budget did not include kindergarten expansion grants but the House put in \$18,500,000, which they hope stays while in Conference Committee. Representative Muradian signed onto a Chapter 70 minimum aid increase. They were lucky enough to increase the per pupil cost allocation from \$20 to \$25. Representative Muradian signed onto an amendment to make it \$50. He was hoping that they could redistribute more of the money from the State into Chapter 70, which would help our schools and communities quite a bit more. He also signed on to an amendment, which would protect State monies for the Olympics. He went on record that he would be opposed to the Olympics if it cost the taxpayers any money but if it's privately funded that's a conversation for another day. Representative Muradian signed onto an amendment for regional school transportation as well. On the Republican side, their caucus jointly filed the excess revenue for local aid, which means if State tax

revenues for FY2016 were to exceed \$25,479,000,000 then the Treasurer shall make 50% of the excess revenue up to \$100,000,000 available to the cities and towns as local aid. Unfortunately, that filing wasn't taken up as well. Continuing, Representative Muradian stated that he appreciates what the Town is doing. He praised the Town for an amazing job regarding the dedication of the Lance Corporal Perron Memorial Bridge. Representative Muradian was with Senator Moore and Senator Fattman and saw Selectman Nolan there. Mr. Muradian noted that he is on the Transportation Committee so now they get to look at the MBTA Bill. The Transportation Committee today just released for polling their version of the Bill and it might take more time for a final decision. In closing, Mr. Muradian thanked the Board for their time. He added that he welcomes any questions. Chairman Melia thanked Mr. Muradian for a great report. Mr. Nolan commented that he appreciates that Mr. Muradian is making public appearances and keeping the public informed. Mr. Muradian said he wants the public to know that he is working just as hard now as he did campaigning and he does present a lot of information online such as Facebook. Mr. Athanas asked about the school mandates that Representative Muradian had mentioned. Mr. Muradian responded that he feels they should have a commission to study school mandates as well as anything that affects the communities and our schools. Mr. Melia asked about anticipated changes for next year, particularly regarding education. Mr. Muradian responded that it's going to be a tough budget and fiscal year. He noted that unfortunately the Baker-Polito administration inherited quite a bit of debt that they didn't really see coming. He feels there is some great leadership that is going to be able to craft a fiscally prudent budget like this one. Mr. Muradian noted that he would continue to advocate for the communities. He added that he would gladly lend his name to advocate for any grant for which the Town applies. Mr. Melia thanked Representative Muradian for helping out with the Community Center in Rockdale. Mr. Muradian responded that he had visited with the individuals at the Rockdale Youth Center and they certainly deserve to be out of that flood plain.

Elizabeth Haberski – Signage for littering. Ms. Haberski explained that she was appearing on behalf of a concerned resident who has picked up bags of trash in an area on Linwood Avenue. Ms. Haberski noted that it is an ongoing problem that reflects poorly on our town. They would like to request the Board of Selectmen to consider putting up a “DO NOT LITTER” sign in that area. She clarified for Mr. Melia that the sign would be on the Route 122 end of Linwood Avenue. Mr. Kozak said that he will put this item on the next meeting agenda.

Harry Berkowitz, Chairman of the Cable Advisory Board - explained that the camera control unit had gone defunct and Northbridge Community Television viewers would not be able to see the Board of Selectmen meeting broadcast at home. He added that all you're going to get is audio on this one. A few weeks ago there was a problem with the mixer. He noted that the equipment is over 10 years old and is starting to wear out. Mr. Berkowitz assured the audience that the problem would be repaired by the next meeting.

New China Pacific, LLC d/b/a New China Pacific Restaurant [Jackie Lee, Mgr.]/Application for a weekly entertainment license for Karaoke. Mr. Lee clarified that the weekly entertainment license is only for Karaoke. To Mr. Kozak's and Mr. Melia's questions of how often they would have Karaoke, Mr. Lee responded only for the weekend (Friday and Saturday). To Mr. Kozak's question of what time it would be offered, Mr. Lee responded 9PM to 1AM. Mr. Lee added that it might also be offered on a special date if requested at a party but that would be different. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to grant an entertainment license for Karaoke to the New China Pacific Restaurant on Friday and Saturday evenings from 9:00 PM to 1:00 AM. Mr. Melia confirmed with Police Chief Warchol who was present that there were no problems with the application. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

St. Camillus Health Center [William Graves]/1) Application for a one-day Wines & Malts License for the 10th Annual Evening at the Mansion Wine Tasting to be held Friday, September 18, 2015, from 6PM to 10PM. 2) Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, September

13th to Sunday, September 20th to advertise the 10th Annual Evening at the Mansion Wine Tasting fundraising event. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to approve a one-day Wines & Malts License for the 10th Annual Evening at the Mansion as scheduled on September 18, 2015 from 6PM to 10PM at St. Camillus and to grant permission to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, September 13th to Sunday, September 20th. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

Lease Renewals: 1) Rockdale Village Foundation / Vote to renew. 2) Oliver Ashton Post #343, Inc. / Vote to renew. Mr. Kozak explained that these were leases that they put together last year that hadn't been looked at for a number of years. They finally sat down with both organizations and put together verbiage that the Town would be responsible for taking care of the fields and perform maintenance on the parking lot. In exchange we could utilize the full fields. The verbiage would be the same as last year. Mr. Kozak met with a few members of the Legion and there are a few more issues that they asked him to discuss with the DPW. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to renew the leases for the Rockdale Village Foundation and the Oliver Ashton Post #343, Inc. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

3) Blackstone Valley Regional Recycling Center License Agreement / Vote to renew. Mr. Kozak explained that they have had this license agreement for several years. He added that the location of the Recycling Center is at the same location behind the fire station. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to approve. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

Town Manager's Goals and Objectives. Mr. Melia thanked the Board for sending him the requested goals and objectives for the Town Manager for FY16. He explained that he sat down with the Town Manager last week and they put together 5 goals and objectives for FY16 as follows. 1) Work with the Building, Planning, Construction Committee and the DPW Director on plans for a conservatively priced DPW structure to house equipment; focus on the current site if allowable. 2) Continue to work on economic development opportunities with interested local land owners and developers, including proposed changes to the zoning and permitting process to encourage new development. 3) Research and apply for grant programs to help with various needs in town government. 4) Implement plans to address the audit management letter comments. 5) Investigate pros and cons of the Town leaving the State Civil Service System. Mr. Melia then asked if any Board members or the Town Manager had any questions. There were none. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to approve the Town Manager's Goals and Objectives as stated above for Fiscal 2016. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

Bill Fredericks/Request to conduct a 5K road race on Saturday, August 8, 2015 beginning at 9AM and to start and end at the Whitinsville Christian School subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Mr. Fredericks' wife Ann appeared before the Board. Mrs. Fredericks noted the picture in the handouts of Baby Luke Wiegers of Northbridge who has Type 7 leukemia, an acute, very aggressive and rare form of leukemia. She said he has undergone 2 chemotherapy treatments and tomorrow will be receiving a bone marrow transplant. However, in order for Baby Luke to come home, the family has to prepare their home and pay medical expenses totaling between \$20,000 and \$40,000. Because of that, the Fredericks/MRA Multisport want to hold a 5K road race as a fundraiser to help the Wiegers' family raise the needed funds. They have already received permission from Whitinsville Christian School to start and end the race there. They are also working with MRA Multisport, an organization of professional road race runners and they have spoken with Lieutenant Tim Labrie and he has given the event his "thumbs up". The race will take place on August 8th beginning at 9AM. They hope the event lasts until 1PM or 3PM and make it a family fun day as well as raise as much money as they can for the family. They plan to have activities like a dunk tank, bouncy house, hot dogs, hamburgers and other refreshments. They already know that they need to hire one police officer for the first 100 runners for Ovia Square, with an additional police officer for additional runners. They will have volunteers to direct and help people. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec, to approve the request for to hold a 5K road race on Saturday, August 8th at 9AM to start and end at the Whitinsville

Christian School. To Mr. Marzec's question of the Police Chief, the Chief has no problems with the race. Mr. Marzec commented that this is a great thing. Mrs. Fredericks invited him to run in the race. She noted that walkers will also be welcome in the race. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

Alternatives/Request to place hanging flower baskets on the Cpl. Thomas S. Perron Memorial Bridge. Noting that the bridge was just dedicated this past week, Mr. Melia asked Mr. Kozak to comment. Mr. Kozak explained that Mr. Dennis Rice of Alternatives had contacted his office some time ago requesting to put hanging flower baskets on the bridge and that Alternatives would take care of the flowers. Mr. Kozak added that he had discussed with Mr. Rice the possibility of Alternatives volunteers also taking care of the flower barrels in Memorial Square. Mr. Melia asked if this was something that would need the Board's vote. Mr. Kozak said he thought it would need the Board's approval. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Marzec, to move this request from Discussions to Decisions. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Marzec, to grant permission to Alternatives to place hanging flower baskets on the Cpl. Thomas S. Perron Bridge. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

Building, Planning & Construction Committee/Overview. Mr. Ron White, soon to be former Chairman of the BPCC and Mr. Mike Beaudoin, BPCC member and soon to be Chairman of the BPCC, on July 1st, appeared before the Board. Mr. White explained that they are trying to get some sort of a building on the existing DPW site so the Town can house our trucks and protect them from the winter. He said this is basically the 4th attempt on this. The plan is to have a 6,000 square foot building, which is smaller than the previous plan due to the fact that Pine Grove Cemetery, which the Town recently acquired, has space for the Town to store some of its equipment. The BPCC figures it will cost about \$1.8 million dollars with approximately \$1,000,000 for a building and maybe \$800,000 for site work. In the Selectmen handouts were site plans for a 60 X 100 foot building in place of the buildings that they are going to tear down. The dilapidated buildings will be replaced with a package building with knee walls, overhead doors, heat and lighting. Before they do this, they will have to hire a licensed site professional who will have to drill some wells in there, test the water and test the soil. This was done in 2002, but the results from that are no longer good because if you have pollution inside the soil, sometimes it migrates from one area to the next. So, it could be better or worse from previous testing. If the testing comes back bad, then they have to scrap everything and go from there. Chairman Melia asked when they planned on having those borings completed. Mr. White thought all the information would be available from 6 to 8 weeks after they give the professional the "go ahead". Mr. Melia asked if the BPCC has a budget for that to which Mr. White answered yes. Mr. Melia asked the approximate cost of the testing to which Mr. White responded approximately \$17,000. Selectman Athanas asked if the \$800,000 for the site work would include remediation if needed. Mr. Beaudoin said he thought it was prefaced on a clean bill of health from the soils report. Selectman Marzec noted that he attended the last BPCC meeting and was given a copy of the report that was generated by the consultant firm about the boring holes. Regardless of whether they build on the site we just don't know what the soil is like there. He then commented that testing the water and soil to determine whether building there is a viable option will move us in the right direction. Chairman Melia added that he thinks the BPCC is going in the right direction. Mr. Beaudoin noted that the DPW Director has done most of the work. DPW Director Shuris said that he has attended many BPCC meetings since becoming employed in 2011. He acknowledged that Mr. White and Mr. Beaudoin effectively summarized the situation. Mr. Shuris believes that the existing DPW site is the right site being centrally located, having always been there (since 1941), and deeded to the Town for a DPW facility by the Whitin family. He commented that we know we can get a permit for the building since we have had 3 different permits for a 19,000 foot facility. He reiterated Mr. White's comments that now that the Town has acquired the Pine Grove Cemetery, they have an extra 4,500 square feet for storage. It is also intended to keep the existing building, which is 4,200 square feet, putting in some minor repairs, demolishing 3 decrepit buildings, expanding the site by moving the existing fence to Douglas Road, allowing them to pick up another 200 feet of space. The goal right now

is to use the space outside the flood plain that will not need substantial improvements. After speaking to a Licensed Site Professional [LSP], Mr. Shuris thinks we might be in better shape than we think we are. We can use the existing materials on site for grading. There will be a retaining wall on the back area (the Fletcher Street side). The new building would have about 6 overhead doors for equipment and there would be a new fueling station, the same salt shed, and a repaired existing building. We will use some of our own people to do some of the demolition work. The first step would be to get the LSP on site to do 4 borings, 4 wells, see what migration has occurred, if any, and do some soil sampling all to determine the degree of viability of using the existing site. If any soil has to be removed, it is Mr. Shuris' understanding that they can bring it to a plant like Aggregate in Grafton for recycling at a rate of \$35 per ton. Mr. Beaudoin added that there is a similar DPW facility in Uxbridge if anyone is interested. Mr. Shuris noted that with his certifications and experience, he would be the most qualified to be the on-site project manager. He added that he will make this his job with the assistance of Jamie Luchini in addition to his other responsibilities. However, an engineer will be needed to lay it out and for the drainage. Because it is a simple metal building, an architect won't be needed. The existing building needs some interior work, which the DPW will do all the work themselves to try to keep the cost as low as possible. Their goal is to build an economical facility in a short time frame to provide coverage and safety for the DPW. Mr. Melia thanked the individuals for their report. He noted that he would like the BPCC to keep the Board and townspeople informed as much as they can.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/1) FIREWORKS: The Town Manager announced that the annual fireworks display will take place at Lasell Field on Thursday, July 2, 2015, beginning at dusk. **2) CPL. THOMAS S. PERRON MEMORIAL BRIDGE DEDICATION:** The Town Manager attended the bridge dedication ceremony on Sunday, June 14, 2015, along with Senators Fattman and Moore and Representative Muradian. The event was well-attended. **3) ROADS UPDATE:** Town Manager Kozak announced that Fletcher Street, Douglas Road, and Church Street Extension have all been completed and that Oviaan Square and Main Street are next on the list to be done. Mr. Shuris announced that Jamie Luchini just qualified for a Construction Supervisor's License. He noted that they are under budget on the road work. Mr. Luchini spoke about future road work in the community, noting that with all the present construction going on some of the side roads are getting pretty beaten up. Mr. Luchini added that Sutton Street is a priority and they are being cautious about additional road repair in the area due to traffic congestion there. He said they will take a look at Kelly, Cooper and Fowler Roads next year. Mr. Marzec commented that a citizen emailed him with concerns that some areas of Church Street Extension remain unpaved. Mr. Luchini responded that they didn't want to put a lot of funding into it since they might get State funding for it and that they just wanted to make it drivable. Mr. Shuris also reassured the Board and Public that they have completed 7 weeks of ledge hammering at the intersection of Highland Street and Benson Road and they will be putting binder down within the next 2 weeks. They will lower all structures to binder grade and put small ramps going into the driveways for the summer, fall, and winter. Next year, they will come back and raise the structures and put the top coat to the grading. He warned that there will be raised structures such as manholes, which will be painted orange as road construction continues so drive slowly and carefully. Mr. Melia questioned the frost heave area on Route 122. Mr. Luchini responded that it is a state highway and there is a Dig Safe out there. He anticipates that they will be working on that shortly. Mr. Marzec asked about the Highland Street/Benson Road area. His concern is about the existing homes in the area with the ledge and possibility of ground water problems. Mr. Luchini noted that there are catch basins up there and there have been no complaints of basement flooding in that area and doesn't anticipate any problems there. **4) NATIONAL GRID AERIAL INSPECTION:** The Town has been notified by National Grid that they intend to do an aerial inspection of all high-voltage lines from June 8th through mid-August 2015. The aerial inspection will cover all transmission lines across Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Vermont. **5) POLICE/FIRE DISPATCH:** Mr. Kozak informed the Board that the newly combined Police and Fire Dispatch began today, June 22, 2015. Chief Warchol reported that they received their first dispatch (fire) call today and it went well. Mr. Melia asked if we have the technology when someone calls 911 using their cell phone that it goes directly to the local Police Department. Chief Warchol responded that very

shortly they will hook up to New Generation 911 so if someone dials 9-1-1 with their cell phone it will be re-routed to the correct police department.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Marzec/1) Has received written comments from concerned citizens that garage sale and flea market signs have been left on various poles in town. He is wondering if people who put up the signs could remember to take them down since it is a time consuming task for others to remove them and becomes litter after a while. He stated there is a bylaw prohibiting it. **2)** Asked if there any monies available from the Town side to purchase the flowers for Alternatives for the Perron Memorial bridge decorations. Mr. Kozak responded that in the past it was done by volunteers. **Chairman Melia/1)** Asked the Town Manager if they could find time to release Executive Minutes. Mr. Kozak confirmed that every year they should be doing it. He did speak with Town Counsel and he indicated that he would get right on it. **2)** Noted that he heard that the IT person for the Town is thinking of retiring. He asked the Town Manager to look into combining the Town IT and School IT positions. **3)** Attended the Middle School graduation last week. The Superintendent was there and the school administrators did a great job on the ceremony. Mr. Melia sent congratulations to all the kids who graduated.

A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec, to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Marzec, Athanas and Melia.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/pf

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

June 22, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. 1) No documentation.

- 2) -Copy of letter from National Grid dated June 1, 2015
- Copy of Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Locations
- Copy of Order for Joint or Identical Pole Locations
- Copy of Memo to Assessor's dated June 8, 2015 requesting an Abutters List
- Copy of list of abutters
- Copy of Notice to Abutters dated June 11, 2015

III. APPOINTMENTS

B. By the Board of Selectmen:

- 1) -Copy of 2015 list of Annual Reappointments
- 2) -Copy of Cynthia Campbell's Talent Bank Application

C. By the Town Manager:

- 1) -Copy of 2015 list of Annual Reappointments
- 2) -Copy of memo from Chief Warchol dated June 15, 2015 recommending Jordan Tredeau for appointment as a Student Police Officer
- 3) -Copy of letter dated June 19, 2015, to Deborah Mary Rosebrooks' appointing her as the Adm. Asst. to the Building Insp./Zoning Board of Appeals

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Representative David Muradian – Legislative Update – **No Documentation**
Elizabeth Haberski – Signage for littering – **No Documentation**

V. DECISIONS

- D.** - Copy of New China Pacific, LLC's application for a weekly entertainment license for Karaoke.
- E.** - Copy of letter from St. Camillus Health Center [William Graves] dated May 27, 2015, requesting a one-day Wines & Malts License and to hang a banner across Church Street for their 10th Annual Evening at the Mansion Wine Tasting to be held Friday, September 18, 2015, from 6PM to 10PM
- Copy of St. Camillus Health Center's application for a Special License
- Copy of signed Hold Harmless Agreement for St. Camillus Health Center's fundraiser
- F.** -Copy of Rockdale Village Foundation Lease
- Copy of Oliver Ashton Post #343, Inc.'s Lease
- Copy of Blackstone Valley Regional Recycling Center's License Agreement
- G.** -Copy of Town Manager's Goals and Objectives
- H.** -Copy of email from Bill Fredericks dated June 9, 2015, requesting permission to conduct a 5K road race on Saturday, August 8, 2015 beginning at 9AM
- Copy of route map

VI. DISCUSSIONS

I. -No Documentation

- J.** -Copy of plans for updated DPW facility at the current location [Fletcher Street]

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

K. 1) Fireworks – No Documentation

2) Cpl. Thomas S. Perron Memorial Bridge Dedication – No Documentation

3) Roads Update - No Documentation

4) National Grid Aerial Inspection – Copy of Safety Notice from National Grid regarding the aerial inspection

5) Police/Fire Dispatch - No Documentation

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – No documentation.

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA / None.

X. CORRESPONDENCE / None.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION / 6:15PM:

L. Under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations.

-No documentation

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
July 13, 2015**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 6:15 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Nolan, Ampagoomian, Melia, and Athanas. Selectman Marzec was absent and it is duly noted. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

Chairman Melia announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session and declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the body.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21#3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations– and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, and Mr. Nolan/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:16 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:21 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:45 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Senator Michael Moore was present at the meeting to provide an update on the budget, which was sent to the Governor's office that includes increases in CH 70 funding, McKinny Vento Education Assistance, Special Education Circuit Breaker, and full-day kindergarten funding. He also gave an update on the MBTA.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1.) April 27, 2015. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to approve the April 27, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Ampagoomian, Athanas and Melia. **2.) May 18, 2015.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan, approve the May 18, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Athanas, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 1) 7:05PM - Verizon New England, Inc. / Hill Street: On the westerly sideline, relocate Pole No. T. 435S approximately 50 feet southerly from the center line of Hill Street. One pole to be relocated. Chairman Melia read the public hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded /Mr. Ampagoomian to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, Athanas, and Melia. Thomas Blicharz, a former Verizon New England employee, now works as a consultant for Verizon and was at the meeting on their behalf. The pole in discussion is a support pole for a mainline pole directly across the street. Reconstruction is currently ongoing. Pole 35 is in the middle of the intersection which has been relocated, however wires have not been relocated due to the need of the support pole being presented tonight. The new pole is a stub pole, the existing stub pole will be removed to be in agreement with MDOT. Stakes have been placed and they are within a public way. Selectmen Ampagoomian voiced a concern as to how the pole will be removed. Mr. Blicharz explained that it would be pulled out and Verizon has not finished stringing new wires up, and a lot of the wires currently there would be taken down and replaced with fewer cables but at this time we cannot string up more until the stub pole is in place. The current pole will be yanked right out. Chairman Melia asked if the abutters have any questions or concerns. There being no further comments, a motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Athanas, Nolan, Melia and Ampagoomian. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to grant Verizon New England, Inc., permission to erect and maintain poles

and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as said Company may deem necessary to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, in the following public way or ways: HILL STREET - On the westerly sideline, place new Pole No. T.435S approximately 50 feet southerly from the center line of Sutton Street; 1 pole to be relocated as illustrated in Plan No.4A0K0MS dated June 10, 2015. Vote yes/Messrs. Athanas, Nolan, Melia, and Ampagoomian.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen. 1) Cynthia Campbell, Conservation Commission.

Conservation Commission Chairman Jeremy Deorsey introduced Cynthia Campbell. Mr. Deorsey stated Mrs. Campbell came before the Commission to present her background and experience, and after a conversation with the Commission they feel as though she will make a great member particularly because of her expertise in conservation, wildlife, and her passion for the preservation of it. Mrs. Campbell thanked the Selectmen for their years of service. Chairman Melia asked a question regarding an item on Mrs. Campbell's application concerning vernal pools. Mrs. Campbell explained vernal pools are wetland areas you don't normally see because they dry up in the summer and noted that there are certain animals that can only breed in the vernal pools. She explained that by removing the wetlands, it takes away their breeding places. To certify it, it needs to be mapped, drawn, and all species need to be verified, which then gets sent to the state for certification and makes it a protected wetland. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if she finds herself more proactive or strictly by the letter of the law. Mrs. Campbell replied with the letter of the law and stated the example of filling in along the edge of the wetlands. She also stated she is willing to compromise. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to appoint Cynthia Campbell to the Conservation Commission. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Athanas, Melia and Ampagoomian. **2) Paul Halacy, Safety Committee [School Dept. Rep.].** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas to appoint Paul Halacy to the Safety Committee as the School Department's representative. Vote yes/Messrs. Nolan, Athanas, Melia, and Ampagoomian.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager. 1) Julie Harris, Treasurer/Collector. Town Manager Kozak stated that Ms. Harris, who is currently the acting Treasurer Collector, has been with the town for a number of years and applied for the position. He noted she has quite a bit of skills and has done a great job in the acting role. He went on to say that an interview process was conducted with 6 candidates and further advised that the interview committee felt that with Ms. Harris' past experience, hard work, and willingness to work on correcting issues, it was recommended to hire Ms. Harris as the Treasurer/Collector. Chairman Melia asked if there were any questions or concerns. With no further comments the floor was turned over to Ms. Harris. She thanked the board for the opportunity to serve in this position and stated she will do the best job she can to work for the town and do what is needed of her. Selectman Ampagoomian commented on Ms. Harris' demonstration of her tenacity to make sure the Town's funds are completed correctly and in a timely manner and believes she has a great working relationship with all departments. He also pointed out that it is a rarity to find a team player and she has demonstrated she is a team player. Chairman Melia commented that Julie is hard working. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Julie Harris as Treasurer/Collector. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, Melia, and Athanas. **2) Nancy Moreira, Treasurer/Collector Clerk** Julie Harris introduced Nancy and stated she began her employment as an intern in the Accounting Department but has been in the Treasurer/Collector's Office for 6 months. In all, Ms. Moreira has been with the town for a couple years and has done a wonderful job. Ms. Harris also stated Nancy is a great team player and truly an asset to the Town. Town Manager Kozak added Nancy has previously worked for the Town Accountant and has an accounting degree from Worcester State University. Ms. Moreira thanked the Selectmen for the opportunity and for considering her for the position. She stated she is thankful for the learning opportunities she has been given from the Town and will do a great job in this position and make a contribution to the community. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Nancy Moreira as the full-time Treasurer/Collector Clerk. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian, Athanas, and Nolan.

Resignations: Sharron Ampagoomian, Zoning Board of Appeals. Chairman Melia read aloud the resignation letter from Sharron Ampagoomian. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to accept Ms. Ampagoomian's resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals and to send her a letter of appreciation. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia,

Athanas and Nolan. Abstain/Mr. Ampagoomian.

Local Business Spotlight: Woodbury Products [Brian Darling, Vice President]

Mr. Darling was unable to attend due to an unexpected illness in the family but will be in attendance at the next scheduled meeting.

Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 27, 2015] / Vote to close warrant on Friday, August 28, 2015 at 12 Noon - A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the warrant for the Fall Annual Town Meeting on Friday August 28, 2015 at Noon. There were no comments. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas, and Ampagoomian.

Whitinsville Christian School/Application for a one-day Beer & Wine license for September 25, 2015 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM for a Capital Campaign Kick-Off Donor Event. Kathleen Belanger spoke on behalf of Whitinsville Christian School for the Rise up and Build Capital Campaign Committee. She stated they are looking to obtain a one-day beer and wine license for September 25th from 6:00 pm to 10 pm held at the Lasell Mansion on Hill Street. Chairman Melia asked the board if they had any questions or concerns. Selectman Nolan asked if the event is open to the public. Ms. Belanger responded it is the kickoff event for donors and there are approximately 150 – 200 people. Selectman Athanas asked two questions: 1) how much are you looking to raise, and 2) how will you be selling the tickets. Mrs. Belanger's response was tickets are not being sold; it is an invitation-only event. Ms. Belanger also stated that she believes they are looking to raise about \$17 million but she wasn't completely sure on the number. She also noted she applied through the Town to have a police detail for crosswalk safety. Selectman Ampagoomian questioned if there will be food at the event and Ms. Belanger responded yes. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if a food permit had been obtained yet through the Board of Health. Ms. Belanger responded no and that she was unaware that a food permit was needed but that she will apply for the permit tomorrow. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas to grant a one-day Beer & Wine license to the Whitinsville Christian School for September 25, 2015 from 6PM to 10PM for a fundraising event to take place at the Whitin Lasell Mansion with the caveat that they obtain a one-day food permit from the Board of Health. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas, and Ampagoomian.

FY 15 End of Year Budget Transfers. Town Manager Kozak stated there are a total of three year-end budget transfers; two for the Fire department and one for Employee Benefits. The Town Manager said the Fire Chief was unable to attend due to a family commitment but noted that the transfers being presented tonight have already been approved by the Finance Committee. He advised that the first transfer in the amount of \$3,000 is to cover wages in the Fire Department due to the increased number of structural fires that occurred in the last quarter of the fiscal year, which required calling in extra manpower. In addition, there is also an ongoing absence of one firefighter, which has caused issues with staffing. The second transfer in the amount of \$5,000 is for the repair of equipment that needed repairing and caused a shortfall in the Fire Dept. account. The third transfer in the amount of \$20,000 is for employee benefits. Neil Vaidya, Town Accountant, spoke regarding the employee benefits transfer. He stated we are required to pay the Medicare portion on employees for taxes, which is typically budgeted for every year but we were unaware of the exact amount during budget season, which resulted in a shortfall. He noted it will be taken from the same departmental line item as unemployment compensation and whatever does not get spent at the end of the fiscal year gets returned. This transfer will help soften the current deficit. Chairman Melia opened for questions from the board and there were none. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the above transfers as presented. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Ampagoomian, Nolan and Athanas.

Elizabeth Haberski – Signage for littering – Ms. Haberski was not present at the meeting but requested DO NOT LITTER signage be erected on Linwood Avenue. Town Manager Kozak stated that signage requests require Board approval before a sign can be put in place. Chairman Melia asked Hwy. Supt. Jamie Luchini to fill everyone in and recommend where the signage should be placed. Mr. Luchini recommended attaching the sign to the fence that borders the river to avoid putting in a post. Chairman Melia asked if you were headed south on

Linwood Avenue where about would you put the signage. Mr. Luchini replied right along the fence line that follows the river, which was a complaint area, as well as further down past the fence if additional signage were necessary. For that, an additional post could be erected off the side of the road. Selectman Ampagoomian questioned how this area will be policed. Mr. Luchini explained that currently, a volunteer picks up the trash and notifies the DPW when the bags are full. He went on to say, he was unable to speak for the police as far as policing and fines go. Selectman Ampagoomian suggested taking a look at yard sale signs being put on poles, which are private property. Mr. Luchini stated he does have an employee, who if time allows, will remove the signs for which the dates have past. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the placement of DO NOT LITTER signage along the river on Linwood Avenue. Chairman Melia then opened it up for discussion. The Highway Superintendent reiterated that no littering signage will be erected in the wooded area near the walkway on both ends using a regular size sign that says no littering. Selectman Melia requested Supt. Luchini to check the walkway in the morning and stated there has been a TV, or cabinet on the right hand side about three feet into the woods that someone dumped there within the last week. Mr. Luchini stated the DPW will be sure it gets removed. Vote yes/Messrs. Melia, Nolan, Athanas, and Ampagoomian.

Dog Complaint [Chauvin]/Vote to set a dog hearing for August 17, 2015 at 7:05 PM - Animal Control Officer, Dan Chauvin, spoke regarding his request for the Board of Selectmen to hold a dog hearing. He stated that the hearing involves a pit-bull from 32 D Street, which has presently been displaced due to the fire that occurred there last week. At this point, he is unsure if the owner has been relocated but noted that it is in the works. Mr. Chauvin reported that this dog in particular has had numerous biting incidences and most recently escaped its home and traveled to Overlook Street where the pit-bull attacked a dog who was in its own yard and a juvenile male attempting to break up the dogfight was also bitten. It was only through the intervention of passersby that the attack was stopped. The Animal Control Officer said he has had enough with this dog and its repeat offenses. Mr. Chauvin then said that Chairman Melia pointed out to him that his dog complaint form [dog hearing request] indicated the hearing would be for a nuisance dog, however, the Animal Control Officer indicated he would like to amend the hearing request to include potentially declaring the dog a dangerous dog. Chairman Melia noted it is a step up and Mr. Chauvin agreed. He said when a dog is considered a nuisance there are a number of things you are able to do; from training to retraining but when it is deemed a dangerous dog the Board's options are lessened and are a lot more permanent and he advised that he is hoping to go that route. Chairman Melia opened this item up for comments/questions. Mr. Athanas questioned if this was the third incident and Mr. Chauvin replied this is the third incident he is aware of, however, in speaking with the Animal Inspector, Rochelle Thomson, she is aware of a fourth incident. Mr. Athanas asked how large the dog is and Mr. Chauvin answered about 60-65 pounds--a strong and powerful pit-bull breed. Selectman Nolan questioned about how the dog escaped and whether it was from inside the house or from an outside run and if the run was fenced in or not. Mr. Chauvin then pointed out that the Board may be wondering after three or four incidences, why they haven't visited this issue before and Mr. Chauvin said because the other incidences occurred in the Village, on common ground, which gives you limited options. In the most recent incident, the dog was unattended, unrestrained, left the building on its own accord and traveled a considerable distance to Overlook Street where it caused a problem. He added this is what opened the door for him to present this to the Board. Chairman Melia asked him what the Town's responsibility is if that dog is no longer in town since 32 D was one of the apartments burnt down a few weeks ago. Mr. Chauvin answered that he is not exactly sure because the Town has not been faced with an incident like this before. Continuing, the Dog Officer reported that the reason he wants to get the dog before the Board is because the victim has incurred expenses to her dog, which is now in the thousands of dollars. He said the dog has undergone 3 surgeries and the owner of the pit-bull has made no attempt to his knowledge to compensate them for that. He also stated that she certainly has a case for civil court but if you can't find the perpetrator, it makes it difficult. Mr. Chauvin went on to say just to cover the bases for the town and to make sure we did everything we could, he would like to get the wheels in motion to call a hearing on August 17th in hopes that we will be able to locate the owner of the dog by then. Chairman Melia questioned who would be correct person to serve the owner of the dog and Mr. Chauvin replied that the Police Department or their representative. Town Manager Kozak stated that typically the Town sends a certified letter so we would need to find an address through the Police Department. Chairman Melia read MGL Chapter 140 section 137 and stated

that it was his understanding that the dog hearing occurs where the dog resides, so if it's now living in another town, he questions if the Board of Selectmen have to call a hearing and added that this might be a question that needs to be answered by Town Counsel. Chairman Melia verified with Mr. Chauvin that he was present to ask the Board to set up a dog hearing for the next Selectmen's meeting agenda for a dangerous dog and Mr. Chauvin agreed. Selectman Ampagoomian directed a question to the School Superintendent, since Balmer School is in the vicinity of D Street. He asked whether any of the principals or teachers ever mentioned seeing a pit-bull roaming in the area. The Superintendent responded not to her personally but since it is summer vacation there isn't a lot of staff around, however, there is custodial staff so she will definitely check with them. Mr. Ampagoomian stated that would be helpful. He also said if they could find the dog [perpetrator] it would help the Animal Control Officer's case. He then praised Mr. Chauvin by saying he was doing a good job. Mr. Chauvin thanked him and then clarified the issue with deeming a dog dangerous saying we do not have the option of moving the dog to another town but that the Town needs to deal with the dog within the town. He also noted that this is the first time he's had a dog disappear before being able to go through the hearing process. Whether or not the dog is in another town, Mr. Chauvin indicated that he would be willing to work with the town in bringing the dog to a hearing in that specific town if it was necessary, but he's hoping legality will allow us to summons her here, seeing as this is where the incident occurred. Also, the dog was displaced, it was not a deliberate move. Stating it was an extenuating circumstance, he doesn't know what leeway that gives him. Chairman Melia stated this is why he is interested in what Town Counsel has to say--if the dog is out of town, we may not have authority to hold the hearing, so we will look in to that. As far as he's concerned he thinks the Board should schedule the hearing because they can always cancel it. Chairman Melia addressed Mr. Chauvin saying between you and the Police Chief, you have to make sure that the proper people get subpoenaed or at least a certified letter requesting them to attend the hearing to give the proper evidence. He added that under the dangerousness hearing heading, one of the possibilities is that the dog be euthanized versus under the nuisance heading, it's not an option. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to tentatively set a dog hearing for August 17, 2015, in the Board of Selectmen's room. Town Manager Kozak interjected and suggested the Board definitively set a hearing, not tentatively. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to amend the motion as follows: To set a dog hearing for a dangerous dog on August 17, 2015 at 7:05PM in the Board of Selectmen's meeting room. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan and Melia.

Friends of the Mumford Riverwalk/Vote to accept monetary gift in the amount of \$2,747.52 to be used for the repair, replacement and maintenance of the Mumford Riverwalk and the benches, signage, plaques, associated with it. Town Manager Kozak stated it is his understanding the organization was active many years ago but hasn't had any activity in recent years so the individuals had the funds which they were trying to accumulate, however, they thought it would be better if the town had the funds for the DPW to utilize it to help maintain the Mumford Riverwalk area. Chairman Melia questioned if it will go into a separate gift account. Mr. Kozak responded yes it would if it is accepted. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to accept the monetary gift in the amount of \$2,747.52 from the Friends of the Mumford Riverwalk. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan and Melia.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/1) FY 2013 Disaster Recovery Funds. The Town received notification from Department of Housing and Community Development that we were given an additional \$259,900 towards the Rockdale Youth Center, which would bring the total amount of funding to \$861,554.00. This is good news since additional funds are needed because of the bidding process where bids came in higher than the actual award. It is good news but unfortunately it still is not enough money to fund the bids that were received to do the work in the youth center. Gary Bechtholdt is still communicating with the state to see what additional funds can be found. It will be a different fiscal year so the Town Manager will also ask for an extension to get more time to see if this can be granted. He is also meeting with the architect to see what can be reduced to meet the bid amount. Selectman Ampagoomian asked Mr. Kozak if he knew off hand whether the Town Planner plans on rebidding the project. Mr. Kozak responded he did rebid it once already. Mr. Ampagoomian asked about the individual that submitted a price without following any of the criteria. Mr. Kozak answered that happened again but you need to meet the criteria in order to award a bid for State and Federal requirements. Selectman Athanas asked Mr. Kozak

how much the Town is short for the project and Mr. Kozak answered about \$400,000. **2) Good Energy Application to Department of Public Utilities.** The Town Manager reported that Good Energy has submitted application to the Department of Public Utilities back in March but found out there is an additional process. First, it has to go to the Department of Energy, who reviews the application, which it did and now it has reached the DPU for review. He advised there is a tentative date in August to have a hearing but there is some concern that if the DPU does not pass it within 30 days it may not be able to go out to bid for the Fall, which is what he had hoped to do. They are doing everything they can to get the application through. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if we could put some pressure on our two State Senators and State Rep. Mr. Kozak replied that was also discussed and it was suggested at this point to continue with the process because if we did go through our State Senators and Rep. that it might actually backfire with the DPU. Chairman Melia questioned who is holding the process up. Mr. Kozak replied no one is but there was an additional step [which was unknown] that needed to be done and took an extra month to do. Mr. Kozak again said the application is in the hands of the DPU and the hearing date has tentatively been set for August 21st, which he plans on attending--adding if anyone else was interested in going. Chairman Melia mentioned that he thought he recalled Mr. Kozak saying the Fall is important for the winter rates. Mr. Kozak replied that was correct, which was why he was hoping it would go forward. If we feel the DPU is not moving as fast as they should at this point then we would want to discuss it with our Senators/Representatives. **3) Legislative Budget Finalized.** Mr. Kozak advised that the budget has been approved by the Legislature and Governor and that there were no significant changes to Local Aid in the final document. He said the Town is fortunate that it has happened and he was just waiting for the governor to sign it. **4) Quinsigamond College Economic Round Table Event.** Mr. Kozak explained this event was held to speak to various communities about economic development. The new director attended as well as the representatives from our area, who listened to towns and cities talk about what the state can do to help communities with economic development. It was a good first start for the new Baker Administration for helping communities. **5) Veteran's Services Office.** The Town Manager reported that as of July 1st, the Veteran's Services Office moved to the Uxbridge Town Hall. Mr. Kozak explained that Northbridge will still hold office hours one day a week at the Town Hall Annex, which is handicap accessible. The room is equipped with computers, telephones and other office equipment. Individuals who do not want to travel to Uxbridge can utilize the Northbridge facility on Wednesdays from 8:30 – 4:30. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if it would be posted on the Town's web page. Mr. Kozak responded it has been posted on the Veteran's page and his office was also asked to post it as a banner as well. He also pointed out that there are also signs on the buildings. It will now be open to the public in Uxbridge Monday through Thursday and in Northbridge on Wednesdays. **6) Blackstone River Valley National Historic Park Meeting.** The new director came to the meeting where a discussion was held regarding a new boundary for the National Park in the Northbridge and Whitinsville areas. They are going to visit each community as it expands looking for what ideas the towns have. They have asked for assistance from the Historical Commission and Planning Board to talk about that area, which would be part of the park. **7) Road Projects Update.** The Town Manager said Main Street construction has started and is moving along smoothly. The rails are being removed, which is the first step in the project. He said that part should be done by the end of this week or the beginning of next week. Then in two weeks they will come back to do the resurfacing on Main Street as well as Oviaan Square. He advised that traffic flow has been pretty good.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Ampagoomian/1) Asked Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini about Plummer's Corner and if there has been any progress with the signaling. Mr. Luchini said he just got off the phone with a DOT employee in charge of traffic lights who said they are working on the left hand turn signal. DOT said that instead of pushing more for the arrows to be painted, the Town needs to get the road swept. DOT is also checking what the Town needs for footage to create a left arrow turning lane. **2)** Spoke regarding the unnecessary frost heave sign. The Highway Superintendent mentioned that he had a lengthy conversation with someone from the state in an effort to get the sign removed since the frost heave should have worked through its course and the state has had long enough to fix it. **3)** Asked what the chance of having the double pole removed when the Oviaan Square project starts. Mr. Luchini responded the pole should be gone before then adding that he believes Charter is the only vendor we are waiting on so as soon as they move their lines, the pole will be removed. Once the pole is removed, Oviaan Square will be milled and hopefully looking a lot better than what it

does now. **Selectman Nolan** questioned the status of the street sweeper that was ordered from the bid list. Mr. Luchini replied it was ordered the day after the election but the salesman he has been dealing with has been on vacation the last two weeks. It is being built and should be done by the end of summer, which will give the DPW plenty of time to get out there and sweep the streets. Mr. Kozak mentioned a new truck was also just ordered. Mr. Luchini followed up by stating they are right where they wanted to be with the price and it should be ordered this week and providing there are no problems, the DPW should have it by winter. **Selectman Athanas/1)** asked when the paving will begin on the bottom half of Sutton Street. The Highway Superintendent replied that it was milled and grated last week so the base should be applied on Wednesday with total asphalt coverage shortly thereafter. He also reported that there are some poles that need to be relocated and the concrete for the sidewalks should be poured soon. **2)** Questioned if the grates that are raised will be left through the winter. Mr. Luchini responded that from what he was there will be a top coat put on for winter, which would not be an issue. But, if that is not the case, they are required to put asphalt around them. **Chairman Melia/1)** Spoke regarding the frost heaves on Route 122 and asked what was said by the state. Mr. Luchini answered they are getting to it but the DPW is going to make some more phone calls. **2)** Said this time of year this is the highest they have ever been; that people are still swerving around them. Mr. Luchini warned that the Town can't pave it because if something happens, the Town assumes responsibility for maintaining it. **3)** Turned the question to Mr. Kozak and asked if we could follow up with our State Representative and State Senators on the situation. Mr. Luchini mentioned that was his next approach to make some calls to see if we can get it done quicker. Mr. Melia questioned Board members if they had any other issues/concerns. Mr. Luchini spoke regarding Main Street and advised that right now it is in the phase one detour where traffic is going up Forest Street and down Linden Street; tomorrow they will be going to the Fire Station and finishing up that section and if that is the end of the rail, Wednesday they will move the detour down to Hill Street. The water company is working in unison and trailing behind us so as soon as they are done, the road can be milled. They are aiming for early August to have Ovia Square paved and Main Street paved from Memorial Square to Arcade Street.

Chairman Melia announced that the next scheduled Board of Selectmen's meeting is August 17, 2015. A motion/ Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Melia, and Nolan.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:04 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

July 13, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. 1. Copy of the minutes April 27, 2015 2. Copy of the minutes May 18, 2015

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- B. -Copy of letter from National Grid dated June 17, 2015
-Copy of Petition for Joint Pole Locations
-Copy of Order for Joint Pole Locations
-Copy of Memo to Assessor's dated June 16, 2015 requesting an Abutters List
-Copy of list of abutters
-Copy of Notice to Abutters dated June 19, 2015

III. APPOINTMENTS

C. By the Board of Selectmen:

1. Copy of Cynthia Campbell's Talent Bank Application
2. **No documentation**

D. By the Town Manager:

1. Copy of Julie Harris' appointment letter to be Treasurer/Collector
2. Copy of Nancy Moreira's appointment letter to be Treasurer/Collector Clerk

E. Resignations:

- Copy of Sharron Ampagoomian's resignation letter from the Zoning Board of Appeals

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight – None

V. DECISIONS

F. Annual Fall Town Meeting – **No Documentation**

G. -Copy of Application for Special License for Whitinsville Christian School

- Copy of Revenue enforcement and Protection Attestation
-Copy of Hold Harmless Agreement
-Copy of Licensing Routing Slip

H. Copy of End of Year Transfers

I. **No Documentation**

J. -Copy of Complaint of Vicious Dogs

- Copy of email from Animal Officer addressing the details
-Copy of Chapter 140 section 157 of MGL 4. Copy of table of MGL options

K. Copy of letter dated July 1, 2015, from the Friends of the Mumford Riverwalk regarding their monetary gift to the town

VI. DISCUSSIONS - NONE

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- L. 1. Copy of letter from DHCD regarding an additional award of Disaster Recovery Funds
2. Good Energy Application to Department of Utilities - **No Documentation**
3. Legislative Budget Finalized - **No Documentation**

4. Quinsigamond College Economic Round Table Event - **No Documentation**
5. Veteran's Agent Office - **No Documentation**
6. Blackstone River Valley National Historic Park Meeting - **No Documentation**
7. Road Projects Update - **No Documentation**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – No Documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA - None

X. CORRESPONDENCE - None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION / 6:15PM:

**L. Under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations.
-Copy of MOA**

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
August 17, 2015**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Selectman Athanas was absent and it is duly noted. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those that were present

Presentation of Retirement Award to Det. Patrolman Donald Roy: Chairman Tom Melia announced the presentation of a retirement award to Northbridge Police Detective Donald Roy and turned the microphone over to Town Manager Kozak. Mr. Kozak asked Mr. Roy to come to the front of the room and proceeded with the reading of the plaque. He then presented it to Mr. Roy and congratulated him on his many years of service. Mr. Roy stated he was very appreciative of the recognition and award. He also said a special thanks to former Chief of Police Thomas J. Melia, Jr. who suggested Mr. Roy to become patrolman back in 1977. Mr. Roy also noted former Chief of Police Thomas J. Melia, III, who assigned Officer Roy to the detective bureau where he remained until he retired. Mr. Roy also thanked current Chief of Police Walter Warchol, who came through the ranks with Officer Roy and has accomplished a lot. Mr. Roy stated that it has been a wonderful journey working with all three Police Chiefs. In closing, Mr. Roy noted that the Town of Northbridge should be really proud of their Police Department; it's very professional and it was the best in the county when he came on board in 1977 and it has remained that way. He also said he was grateful to have worked here and the people of Northbridge should be proud of the professionalism that this department has shown over the years. Chairman Melia asked the board if they had any questions or comments. Mr. Ampagoomian stated that he and Officer Roy have known each other since the officer was a little kid at Plummer's playground when he and Selectman Melia's wife, Joanne, were playground instructors. Mr. Ampagoomian then asked how Mr. Roy got the nickname Emil and Mr. Roy replied that it was his father's name and it stuck. Selectman Ampagoomian went on to say that Officer Roy has been a tremendous asset to the Town of Northbridge as a member of the Police Department and that he will always be very well respected. Selectman Ampagoomian wished the best to Mr. Roy and his family and told him that he has made him proud to be your

Selectman and friend. Mr. Roy thanked Mr. Ampagoomian. Next, Chairman Melia wished Officer Roy a happy retirement; that he's worked hard and earned it. He also said he's been a good family man, a good policeman and a tremendous asset to the Northbridge Police Department. Chairman Melia noted that Officer Roy's shoes would be hard to fill and added that he hoped we would still see him out and about directing traffic. Mr. Melia wished Officer Roy the best of luck in his retirement. Mr. Roy thanked Mr. Melia.

Presentation of Eagle Scout Awards to Dillon J. Arnold, David J. Lewis, and Keith J. Reiter. Chairman Melia announced the next agenda item, which was the Presentation of Eagle Scout Awards to Dillon J. Arnold, David J. Lewis, and Keith J. Reiter, all of whom obtained the rank of Eagle Scout on August 1st of this year and asked them to come forward. Mr. Melia pointed out that Selectman Ampagoomian attends the ceremony every year and asked him if there was anything he would like to say. Mr. Ampagoomian stated that the ceremony was very moving and it is so nice to see the Scouts get recognition from their peers, their community and from our state and federal officials who brought letters of commendation from Senator Warren and Governor Baker. Mr. Ampagoomian further remarked that these gentlemen have not only achieved the rank of Eagle Scout but their Eagle Scout projects, which are prepared, organized and completed by each scout, shows a scout's leadership ability and added the projects are done to benefit the Northbridge community. Selectman Ampagoomian thanked them.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1) May 18, 2015 [Executive Session]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve but not release the May 18, 2015 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **2) June 8, 2015.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded /Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the June 8, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **3) June 8, 2015 [Executive Session.]** A motion/Nolan, seconded/Ampagoomian to approve but not release the June 8, 2015 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **4) June 22, 2015.** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the June 22, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Abstain: Mr. Ampagoomian. **5) June 22, 2015 [Executive**

Session]. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve but not release the June 22, 2015 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Abstain: Mr. Ampagoomian. **6) July 13, 2015.** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the July 13, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Melia, and Nolan. Abstain: Mr. Marzec. **7) July 13, 2015 [Executive Session]** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve but not release the July 13, 2015 Executive Session meeting minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Melia, and Nolan. Abstain: Mr. Marzec.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 1) 7:05 PM – Dog Hearing [Heney]. Chairman Melia stated that this dog hearing was requested by our Animal Control Officer Daniel Chauvin and that this hearing has been canceled because the issue has been resolved since the dog no longer lives in the Town of Northbridge therefore it is no longer the Town's responsibility. Chairman Melia then asked Mr. Chauvin if that was correct. Mr. Chauvin stated that was what he was hearing from Town Counsel and that was the report he got. He continued to say that he was concerned in regards to dog situations where they have a tendency to lean backwards rather than forward. Mr. Chauvin advised that at a minimum, the Town should verbally notify the town where the dog currently lives but a formal document stating that would make him sleep a lot better. Chairman Melia suggested Mr. Chauvin forward his report to the Town of Douglas' Dog Officer to formally notify them. Mr. Chauvin stated he would forward it directly to the Board of Selectmen rather than the Animal Control Officer. Chairman Melia said either is fine or even both. He proceeded to ask Police Chief Warchol if he had anything to say. Chief Warchol stated he did not other than he would work with Mr. Chauvin in getting the letter out to the correct authorities. Selectman Marzec stated he thinks it is good to cover all our bases because this particular person may end up coming back into town at some point. A question from the audience was presented by Michelle Lemieux who stated her son and dogs were the last to be attacked and her concern is that this is the third dog attack and the second person that has been attacked. She asked if the person does return to town how will anyone know. She continued to say as of now it was hard for her to find out where she was to serve papers for court. Chairman Melia responded by saying we were prepared to have a public hearing tonight based on the hearing request that was submitted by the Animal Control Officer but based on the fact that the dog no longer resides in Northbridge, we now have no authority under Mass General Laws to move forward with that, however, as you heard me say to the Animal Control Officer we want to make sure that the Town of Douglas is aware of the situation that took place here in Northbridge and now they have the right to conduct a hearing and take appropriate action with that dog. If that person moves back to town with the dog then that is something we will look into again; we will either hear from the Police Chief or the Animal Control Officer or both and we will take the appropriate action. Chairman Melia requested Ms. Lemieux to pass along any formation that she might receive to Chief Warchol, who oversees the Animal Control Officer and it will get to us. Ms. Lemieux agreed. Mr. Melia thanked her for coming in and proceeded to ask Mr. Chauvin if there was anything else he wanted to add. Mr. Chauvin responded no.

2) 7:15 PM - Massachusetts Electric Company – Sutton Street: Install a 40' Class 3 pole for an overhead to underground connection to customer's underground secondary for a traffic light. Present: Crystal Tognazzi, National Grid Rep. Chairman Melia read the hearing notice aloud and noted that Selectman Athanas, Clerk of the Board, was absent so he was appointing Mr. Ampagoomian as the temporary clerk for this meeting in order to sign the documentation pending approval of the board. Ms. Tognazzi reported that National Grid was contacted by Mass Highway for the installation of a traffic light at the intersection of Hill Street and Sutton Street where National Grid needs to install a 40' class 3 pole. She went on to explain that a class 3 pole refers to the width or thickness of the pole. Chairman Melia stopped her to take a roll call vote. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. Ms. Tognazzi continued stating with the traffic light's current location it is necessary to install a new pole, which will be used to feed a syphon service, which will then feed the traffic light itself so there will be 80 feet of overhead secondary running from existing pole 147 across the street on Sutton Street to the new pole 147-1. Pole 147.1 will be set 24 feet off the paved surface of Hill Street and 80 feet from the existing pole. Chairman Melia spoke saying there were seven abutters that were notified about the public hearing and asked if any of those present that would like to make a comment. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if once the pole is established will the pole be removed that is in the right of way. Ms. Tognazzi replied saying that she would assume that is part of the construction of the road, which was not part of this job. She noted the width of the road was widened during reconstruction, which left the pole on the side of the curbing. She questioned if that was the correct area that Mr. Ampagoomian was speaking of and proceeded to ask if it was Pole 147. Mr. Ampagoomian replied that he wasn't sure which number it was but it was right at the intersection in the roadway.

Ms. Tognazzi said she will take a ride by there tonight and make a note of the pole number and contact the town on the time frame of removal. Mr. Ampagoomian replied that sounded good and asked if he could hold her to it. Mrs. Tognazzi replied he could and she would give him her card. Mr. Melia asked if there was any further comments or questions from the board. There being none, Mr. Melia asked for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Chairman Melia then entertained a motion for any action taken as a result of this public hearing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant National Grid permission to install a 40' Class 3 pole for an overhead to underground connection to customer's underground secondary for a traffic light. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Resignations: 1) Marie Rebecchi/Council on Aging. Chairman Melia read Ms. Rebecchi's resignation letter aloud. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to accept Marie Rebecchi's resignation and send a letter of appreciation. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Town Manager Kozak spoke about Ms. Rebecchi saying she also participated in the Town's senior tax work-off program and did a lot of work in the Town Hall. He also noted that Marie stepped up to help cover the Town Manager's Office when we were down a staff person and we really appreciated her hard work and effort on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager. **2) Michelle Methe/Council on Aging.** Chairman Melia read aloud Ms. Methe's resignation letter. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept Ms. Methe's resignation and send a letter of appreciation. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **3) Carol B. Snow/Zoning Board of Appeals.** Chairman Melia read aloud Ms. Snow's resignation letter. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/ Mr. Nolan to accept Ms. Snow's resignation and send a letter of appreciation. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Selectman Ampagoomian also suggested she should receive something more than an appreciation letter after serving on the board for so many years. Something to let her know that her years on the board were truly appreciated. Possibly a certificate. Chairman Melia asked the Town Manager if we had such a process and Mr. Kozak answered that he gives out plaques every five years to people with 25 or more years of service. He then stated he was unsure if the board had such a process but may if they wish to. Chairman Melia said the Board could discuss it at a future meeting. **4) Barbara Gaudette/Planning Board.** Chairman Melia read aloud Ms. Gaudette's resignation letter and asked for a motion. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept Ms. Gaudette's resignation and send a letter of appreciation. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Again, it was noted that she should receive something more than an appreciation letter after serving on the board for so many years. Something to let her know that her years on the board were truly appreciated. Possibly a certificate.

Appointments by the Board of Selectmen: 1) Steven Sullivan/Personnel Board. Chairman Melia called Mr. Sullivan forward and stated that Peter Lachapelle, Chairman of the Personnel Board, was not able to make it tonight but that he recommended appointing Mr. Sullivan to the position. Mr. Melia then asked Mr. Sullivan to introduce himself and tell a little about himself. Mr. Sullivan mentioned he was relatively new to the area and thought it was a great opportunity to contribute to the community in general. He indicated that he has over twenty years of experience in hiring, training and developing individuals for greater roles and responsibilities and felt that it was an area he could make a contribution in. Mr. Sullivan went on to say he has a lot of experience living in different areas around the United States and felt he could bring some new perspective as well. Chairman Melia asked the board if they had any questions or comments. Mr. Ampagoomian thanked Mr. Sullivan for coming forward and went on to explain the Personnel Board is a board that has taken on many different roles. For example, in the past the Personnel Board conducted performance reviews, reviewed compensation etc., now it is more of an advisory role and works closely with the Town Manager. Mr. Ampagoomian feels that with Mr. Sullivan's expertise he can help the Town Manager with future prospects for new employees as well as how the Town can recruit and retain employees. Again, Mr. Ampagoomian thanked him for stepping up. Mr. Sullivan thanked the board for the opportunity. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to appoint Steven Sullivan to the Personnel Board. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **2) Randy Kibbe/Zoning Board of Appeals [Associate member to Regular member].** Mr. Melia called Tom Hansson, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals [ZBA] to come forward. For the record, it was noted that Mr. Kibbe was unable to make the meeting. Mr. Hansson began by saying that the ZBA has lost three members, which is 50% of the board so they no longer have a quorum for the meetings. He explained that Mr. Kibbe has been an Associate Member and has contributed a lot to the board and that he would be happy to have him become a regular member. Chairman Melia asked the board if they had any questions. There being none, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Randy Kibbe as a regular member of the Zoning Board of

Appeals. Mr. Melia mentioned that he has known Randy for several years and that he was appointed 3 or 4 years ago as an associate member and added he thinks he will be a great member. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **3) Kevin Quinlan/Zoning Board of Appeals.** Mr. Melia welcomed Mr. Quinlan and opened the floor to Mr. Quinlan and Mr. Hansson. Mr. Hansson stated that Mr. Quinlan has experience, which will be invaluable to the board. Mr. Quinlan then provided a brief summary of his background and explained he is a lawyer and has been for 10 years, 7 of which he worked for Lane and Hamer where he did a lot of land use and zoning work. He stated that he has a law office in Uxbridge with a focus on criminal law and family law. Mr. Quinlan continued saying that he has a lot of experience and is well versed in Chapter 40 A of the zoning act. He stated as a former member of the ZBA, he believes he can hit the ground running and get up to speed rather quickly. He mentioned the reason he originally left the ZBA was due to the high possibility of having a conflict, which is now unlikely since he no longer practices land use work professionally. Chairman Melia thanked him for showing interest in the position and asked the board if there were any comments or questions. Mr. Ampagoomian asked Mr. Quinlan that since he was a former employee of Henry Lane that if a development comes up and Henry Lane is the attorney or the developer in charge, will you be able to be unbiased in your opinions. Mr. Quinlan replied he would and explained that Attorney Lane and he regard each other with fondness and respect but they have very little contact now. He believes he can be neutral and impartial. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Kevin Quinlan to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Mr. Melia wished Mr. Quinlan congratulations and good luck. Town Manager Kozak stated there is still one more member needed if anyone was interested. Mr. Melia asked Mr. Hansson if there were any more applicants. Mr. Hansson replied he has a couple of people from the talent bank forms and a realtor who is interested. He said he keeps reminding the candidates to turn in their Talent Bank Applications. He mentioned he hoped to get one more member because with 4 members at least there is a quorum but it's better if we have a full board. Mr. Hansson will keep trying to get people to at least apply. Chairman Melia thanked him. **4) Denise Forgit/Council on Aging [COA].** Chairman Melia asked Ms. Forgit to come forward as well as Mr. Haringa, Chairman of the Council on Aging. Mr. Haringa opened by saying it was his privilege to introduce Denise Forgit. She was elected to be a member on the Council on Aging on August 11th and he was pleased to recommend her for the Board's approval. Ms. Forgit thanked the board and stated she looks forward to serving on the Council on Aging. She announced she was getting back on her feet health wise, and she was here to learn from Mr. Haringa and those that are doing a great job there and to advocate for the aging population--the baby boomers coming up. Ms. Forgit explained that she doesn't have any related experience as far as employment goes but stated she has an interest in the elderly and aging population and shows that by visiting St. Camillus and Beaumont Nursing Homes. In closing, she thanked the board for their consideration. Mr. Melia thanked Ms. Forgit for her interest and asked the board if they had any comments or questions. Mr. Marzec thanked her for coming forward and stated she has a wealth of experience and a lot of enthusiasm. He stated he has known Ms. Forgit for a long time and knows she will be an asset to the COA Board. Ms. Forgit thanked Mr. Marzec. Mr. Melia agreed as well. There being no further comments, a motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Denise Forgit to the Council on Aging. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **5) Jean Finnegan/Council on Aging [COA].** Chairman Melia called Ms. Finnegan forward and welcomed her. Mr. Haringa introduced Jean Finnegan to the board and explained she was elected to the Council on Aging as an Associate Member and was pleased to recommend Ms. Finnegan to the board. Ms. Finnegan said she once lived in the Whitinsville area and after 10 year absence, she has returned. She continued that she was very interested in seniors and especially since being a senior herself. She stated she has enjoyed being an associate member on the Council and mentioned she is learning a lot and hoped to be of some help. Mr. Melia thanked her for her interest and asked the board if they had any comments or questions. Mr. Ampagoomian thanked Ms. Finnegan for coming forward and assured her no matter what age bracket one is in, there is always a wealth of knowledge that can always be passed on and further, people feel more comfortable talking with their own peers in their same age bracket. Lastly, he mentioned that he felt Ms. Finnegan would be a tremendous help to the Council on Aging and thanked her for coming forward. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to appoint Jean Finnegan to the Council on Aging. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Chairman Melia wished her congratulations and the best of luck. **6) Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission/a) Second Delegate b) Alternate.** Chairman Melia stated that this appointment involves two members of the board and asked the board if there were any volunteers. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint James Athanas as the second delegate to the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Continuing, Chairman Melia stated an alternate member was also needed. Selectman Nolan offered to take the position as the alternate member. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Daniel Nolan as the alternate

member to the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia and Nolan.

Local Business Spotlight: Little Man Originals – Present: Christine Guanipa, Proprietor. Chairman Melia asked if Ms. Guanipa was in attendance. Ms. Guanipa was not in attendance so this item was deferred until the next meeting of the Board.

Caryn Gagner/Street Lights. Ms. Gagner introduced herself and stated her address as 22 Piedmont Street, Whitinsville, MA. She spoke saying this was an issue that was brought up before by her husband and a couple other people who wrote letters to the Safety Committee. Continuing, she stated that there were a lot of decorative street lights out on Church Street as well as some that are out on this property [in the front of the building], in front of the National Monument, WWII National Monument 1938-1955 at Memorial Square, and a couple of lights near the Memorial Park property on Linwood Avenue that are also out. She also mentioned there are several lights out that are located at crosswalks such as the one at the Library and the one in front of the Pythian Building. She said with all of the businesses on that street, they need the lights for protection and it doesn't look good. Mr. Melia thanked her for coming forward and mentioned they generally do not have questions and answers for the Citizens Forum portion of the meeting but he indicated that he knew she had probably been told by the Safety Committee that there is a streetlight policy in town but he wasn't aware that the decorative lights were on the list of the ones that were turned off. Chairman Melia stated he knew every other one in town was part of the policy. Knowing that Chief Warchol was present, he asked Chief Warchol if he was aware of that. Chief Warchol answered he is not sure of the status of the decorative lights but he could check on the others as some may be out and some have been shut off--even on Church Street. Chief Warchol asked DPW Director Jim Shuris if he had the list of lights that were shut off. Ms. Gagner spoke up saying she had the list from Mr. Shuris' office showing which lights are out on Church Street as well as which ones are out on Linwood Avenue and it doesn't match the listing. With that Chairman Melia asked Mr. Shuris to look into this matter as DPW Director and report back to the Board. He said the Safety Committee reports to the Board of Selectmen and have the last call or vote. Chairman Melia mentioned that it does not make sense to him and he does not remember that the Safety Committee ever shuts off decorative lights. He also pointed out that the decorative lights were part of a grant so it doesn't make sense to shut them off and the same goes for Rockdale since they are the same type of lights. Mr. Melia asked Mr. Shuris if he would like to respond. Mr. Shuris said he will get that list from Ms. Gagner. Ms. Gagner stated she has given the list to Anna, the DPW Secretary. He explained that the Town of Northbridge owns and replaces the bulbs on the decorative lights whereas the other lights are replaced and maintained by National Grid. Mr. Shuris believes many of the lights were shut off in 2007, in order to save the Town money. However, if some of the lights that are off and not listed as part of the shut-off policy, he advised that the DPW will certainly replenish those. Chairman Melia asked if he could look into it and get back to them possibly under discussions at next Selectmen's meeting on September 14th. Chairman Melia reiterated he is in favor of all of the decorative lights working and if they are our lights that even makes it more important that we can get it done. Mr. Shuris agreed. In closing, Ms. Gagner said the last time this issue was brought up the DPW stated they were waiting for bulbs because they were burnt out. Now months have passed and the bulbs never came. Another issue brought forth was the wiring underneath the lights on Church Street, which is in need of repair, it was never fixed. There has been a run around on this issue for at least 2 years. Chairman Melia replied we would get to the bottom of it and get an answer at the next meeting, which will be September 14th.

Caryn Gagner/Request to hold a Boot Drive at Memorial Square on Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 9AM to 2PM. Ms. Gagner was present, once again, to request permission to hold a Boot Drive to benefit the Northbridge wrestling team. She noted that this event specifically benefits "Save Northbridge Wrestling", which helps fund the wrestling team. As such, she would like to hold a boot drive at Memorial Square on Saturday, October 3, 2015, from 9AM to 2PM to help fundraise for the upcoming season. Mr. Melia questioned if she has spoken to the Police Chief and mentioned she has done it before and knows what the guidelines are. Ms. Gagner replied that was correct. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the above request subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Alternatives / 1) Request permission to hold its 31st Annual Valley Friendship Tour on Saturday, June 4, 2016 beginning at 8 AM. Molly Hollibaugh from Alternatives spoke regarding the event stating the event starts early in the morning with a bicycle route followed by a run and walk and at the conclusion of it they have a small

celebration outside on the plaza at Alternatives, which gets bigger every year. Ms. Hollibaugh stated she believed everything finished up around 1 PM. Chairman Melia asked if she had been in touch with the Police Department. Ms. Hollibaugh answered yes. Mr. Melia asked the Board if they had any questions. There being none, a motion/ Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to grant permission to Alternatives to hold its 31st Annual Valley Friendship Tour on Saturday, June 4, 2015, beginning at 8 AM, subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. 2) **Application for a One-day Beer and Wine License for a fundraising event to take place on the Community Plaza at Alternatives on Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 12 Noon to 5 PM. Note: In case of inclement weather the event will take place in the Singh Performance Center.** Ms. Hollibaugh explained the event was held last year and it was a huge success. She then proceeded to invite the board if they were interested. Ms. Hollibaugh stated it was the feel-good event of the year. She informed the board there would be a food truck there, music, and hopefully beer and wine. Mr. Melia asked the board if they had any questions. There being none, a motion/ Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant a one-day Beer and Wine License to Alternatives for their fundraising event to take place on the community plaza on Saturday, September 19, 2015, from 12 Noon to 5PM [in case of inclement weather the event will be held indoors in the Singh Performance Center]. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Chairman Melia wished her the best of luck. Ms. Hollibaugh stated she had brought fliers for the board.

John Boucher d/b/a Second Hand Charlies/Application for Junk Dealer's License located at 2273 Providence Road Northbridge, MA. Bob Burrows introduced himself stating he lived on Colonial Drive in Whitinsville, and he is a friend of John's, who was unable to make it because he was away on business. Mr. Burrows stated he would be helping him out with the opening of the store and some of the sales. He mentioned if the board had any questions they would like to ask, Mr. Boucher had given him authorization to answer them. Mr. Melia asked the board if they had any questions and asked where 2273 Providence Road is located. Mr. Burrows replied it was the building formerly known as the Village Club. Mr. Melia now familiar with the location stated there was another junk dealer located there that had closed. Mr. Burrows replied there was. Mr. Ampagoomian questioned what the hours of operation were. Mr. Burrows replied Monday through Saturday 8:30 AM – 4 PM. Chairman Melia entertained a motion. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant a Junk Dealer's License to John Boucher d/b/a Second Hand Charlies, 2272 Providence Road, Northbridge. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Intermunicipal Agreement for participation in the Central Mass. Regional Stormwater Coalition/Vote to sign. Chairman Melia explained this is a regional association that the Town has been a part of for years and costs the Town \$4,000 a year. Mr. Melia then turned it over to Town Manager Kozak to speak about it. Mr. Kozak stated that he and DPW Director Shuris have been attending the meetings on behalf of the town. We have been part of this group now for about 5 years and about 3 years ago it was formalized. Mr. Kozak explained there are about 30 communities that belong to the group that are trying to work with the EPA permitting on stormwater regulations, which can be a very big item for communities and the whole state of Massachusetts. Continuing, Mr. Kozak stated a group rate to hire consultants to help with the EPA permitting provides a stronger voice on some of the issues. In addition, they are trying to keep the cost down for the average home owner. Mr. Kozak said he believes they will be very successful with the operation of this organization. He pointed out for two years we were able to receive some grant money from the state but with their financial short comings this past year they were unable to fund money to the communities to help with the EPA permitting process. Mr. Kozak said that the Town pays \$4,000 a year towards payments to the consultants and the group wants to keep it going for at least another 5 years so they are asking communities to come forward and at least say they want to work together on this important task that will have an economic impact on the whole state. Mr. Kozak added he would like to ask the community to commit to \$4,000 a year because it is a very worthwhile organization and recommended the Board approve this. Mr. Melia asked the board if there were any questions. Chairman Melia entertained a motion to give him permission to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement if that is what the board wished to do. A motion/ Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to authorize Chairman Melia to sign the above agreement. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 27, 2015]/Vote to place articles on warrant. Chairman Melia announced that Town Manager Kozak would provide a brief summary of each article that the Board is sponsoring on the Fall Annual Town Meeting warrant and then the Board will vote whether to place the articles on warrant. Town Manager Kozak presented the following articles to the Board for their review and recommended that they vote to

place them on the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. **Article 1:** Mr. Kozak said this article is in case the Town has any bills of a prior year. **Article 2:** Mr. Kozak said this article is for budget transfers. **Article 3:** Mr. Kozak said this article is to put money into the Stabilization Fund. **Article 4:** Mr. Kozak stated this article is to transfer money to the Town Building Maintenance fund. **Article 5:** Mr. Kozak said this article is to transfer funds from Health Insurance Trust Fund to OPEB. Mr. Kozak informed the board that that completes what they need to vote on. He said there are several other articles from Boards/Committees and two petitions for which no action is required by the Board. Mr. Melia asked if Mr. Kozak could continue with the other articles. **Article 6 - Board of Assessors:** Mr. Kozak said this article was transfer funds for the Triennial Revaluation Analysis. **Article 7 - Council on Aging:** This article is for the purchase of a minibus. Mr. Kozak then noted that there may be a potential article by the Building, Planning and Construction Committee for the construction of a new DPW Facility at its current location including site work and some repairs to the current building. Mr. Melia asked if Mr. Kozak would like someone from the Building Committee to come forward. Mr. Kozak suggested the Board first vote on the articles sponsored by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Melia agreed and stated he would then ask the BPC and DPW Director to come forward and give us some background information on the potential DPW article. Mr. Kozak stated the reason he asked the BPC to come in was because he believed they would like to have an idea of how the Board felt about moving forward with an article for town meeting. Mr. Kozak explained that two petition articles will also be on the warrant. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Kozak if petition articles required signatures of 10 registered voters and Mr. Kozak replied yes. The Town Manager also added that there could be more articles forthcoming from other Boards/Committees because the warrant does not close until Friday the 28th of August at Noon. For the record, Mr. Melia said one petition article had to do with adding a bylaw concerning the naming the Whitinsville Social Library and the other petition article had to do with a sex offender residency bylaw. Before continuing, a motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to place Articles 1 thru 5 on the warrant as presented above. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Continuing, Chairman Melia asked if members of the BPC and the DPW Director would come forward. Mr. Kozak assured the board that we always have Town Counsel review the warrant to make sure it is proper and legal before it gets posted. Chairman Melia turned the floor back to the BPC and Mr. Shuris asking if they could explain this article regarding the DPW Facility/Renovation. Michael Beaudoin, BPC Chairman, Ronald White, Member and former Chairman of the BPC, and DPW Director Jim Shuris came forward. Mr. Beaudoin advised that the BPC has been working with Mr. Shuris on the evolving design of the DPW building, which is not finalized by any means. He noted that the proposed facility has been minimized from an earlier presentation that was discussed the last time the BPC met with the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Beaudoin began and stated that Mr. Shuris has some background information on the soil tests that had been taken but they are awaiting the results. They have also had discussions with a contractor with respect to the cost of the building and at this point they are waiting to see that in more detail. It was noted that the design of the facility was revised to a much simpler one than the last time. Chairman Melia then asked Mr. Shuris to speak about the proposal and what it contains. Mr. Shuris stated approximately 5 years ago the BPC was authorized by the DPW to perform testing on soils with a LSP, which he explained is a Licensed Site Professional. They installed 8 different wells and only 1 of the 8 wells came up with a reading of "above" the standards and he noted that the report is in the process of being compiled as we speak. According to the LSP, the cost to remove these soils in order to construct a building in the location that was selected and the height of the ground outside the floodplain and the riverfront, it would probably take about two truckloads probably about \$15,000 – \$20,000. The proposal calls for building a small 8,000 square foot metal building with a slope roof, which is low cost, with infrared and gas heat, two bathrooms, six overhead doors, mass energy code compliant, ADA acceptable, and on a slab with drainage on site. It also includes the demolition of two existing buildings that are decrepit. It was also noted that bad soil exists between the two decrepit buildings adjacent to the fueling station, which is also out of service. He noted he has spoken to and has personally met with contractors and metal building manufacturers and designers and they have a good understanding of what is needed and a good understanding of what the cost is going to be. Mr. Shuris explained dealers work with the manufactured buildings so it's a packaged deal. When this goes out to bid it will include prevailing wages and will be bid as a lump sum project: manufacturer and installer with the materials delivered on site, then installed. He stated we do not want to have any missing pieces and this is the most cost effective way to do it. He described the cost of the project and stated once the estimate is completed it will include general conditions, owner's project manager, on-site engineering, we will need a site plan and LSP services. Mr. Shuris went on to inform the Board he has spoken with Jim Sheehan, the Building Inspector, regarding the permitting process that we have already gone through but we will still need to go before the ZBA, the Planning Board, and Conservation Commission, which has been done before. He explained that a 19,000 square foot building can be built so an 8,000 sq. ft. building is a nothing compared to what could be built. Mr. Shuris mentioned that

renovations will be done to the existing building; it will not be demolished and the contour of the site will not change either. Mr. Shuris clarified that the front gate to the DPW site will be moved out about 100 feet so the grading of the site won't change. The building will be slab on grade with minimal perimeter gradings around the new building and small repairs within the existing building. Mr. Shuris went on to say there are no structural changes; all interior cosmetic work. He resumed the discussion of what the project will include saying we are going to remove and replace the fueling station, demolish two buildings, install fire protection [because it is over 7,000 square feet], HVAC, electrical, floors, sprinklers, interior finishes, two bathrooms and miscellaneous work, site improvements, site lighting, paving of the surface, and installation of an emergency generator-- something that is more reliable--and something that is properly powered. Mr. Shuris stressed that he did not have an exact cost yet but he feels very confident it will be below two million dollars, which is the goal right now. He listed all of the project items and mentioned he forgot about some of the repairs on the salt shed and some work for outside cold storage. Continuing, Mr. Shuris said we will not be moving many cubic yards of bad material as they are only required to remove a certain portion of that material. We are not trying to remove the activity use limitation but we are trying to use the activity use limitation in the good areas not the bad areas. He stated he is surprised that in the years since 2002, the soils have improved but there is 1 area out of the 8 that is slightly above the limit. Mr. Shuris mentioned that the proposed project will not require a total demobilization of the DPW operation—that it will remain intact. The building will be built adjacent to the existing building on the far end of Fletcher Street. If you look at Fletcher Street there is an embankment from DPW up to Fletcher Street. The building will be approximately 150 feet long by 60 feet deep and between 8,000 and 9,000 square feet, which will serve the minimal needs of the DPW. Chairman Melia asked the board if they had any questions. Mr. Nolan asked if the fueling station will remain where it is. Mr. Shuris responded it will be a packaged system adjacent to the new building. Within the same area but outside the new building. Mr. Nolan asked if it would be an aboveground tank. Mr. Shuris replied it would be two 500 gallon aboveground double walled tanks, one diesel, and one gasoline. He added as an energy conservation measure to save money, three-dimensional sky lights will be installed. Mr. Shuris described the layout of the building explaining it would be a single slope roof and showed the roof and location of the building using his notebook and illustrated where Fletcher Street would be. All of the drainage will be in the rear wall, which will serve two purposes: as a retaining wall and a foundation wall. Mr. Ampagoomian commended Mr. Shuris on the work he has done so far and said he is looking forward to hearing more of the details. He stated he hopes the voters of the Town will step forward and support the DPW because they are a crucial element to the safety of the residents of the Town of Northbridge. He also said he believed the bond rating is very low, the lowest it's been in a long time. Nonetheless, it would be a good opportunity for the Town of Northbridge to go ahead and do this. Mr. Kozak corrected the prior statement and stated the bond rating is excellent right now so it really is a good time to get this project done and said we have a choice as to how the borrowing is done. The Town could put it out for less than 20 years and still not have a large increase in the tax rate. Mr. Kozak stated the Building Committee would like to see some confidence from the Board so if they have the numbers and everything is in place with respect to the proposed facility, they would put an article on the Fall Annual Town Meeting warrant. Mr. Kozak also mentioned that Mr. Shuris has been working hard but the big thing right now is making sure the soils are alright to build on and it did not make much sense going any further until that was known. Now that we know there is a slight problem with the soils, knowing this we can go forward and have the BPCC committee sponsor an article for a sum of money and then we will have the requested amount ready for Town meeting. He indicated that if it wasn't ready, the article would be passed over. Mr. Kozak added that he thinks it has a very good chance at this point in time to move forward. He further added that there is new equipment coming in: a new sweeper and new trucks, but the longer we wait to build a new DPW facility the more the equipment will further deteriorate. He noted that his own Board keeps complaining about watching the trucks fall apart and pointed out that the warrant article for the DPW facility is asking the residents to pass an override for capital improvements and he thinks this is the time to try and do it. Mr. Kozak continued stating the small issue if the BPCC goes forward we would have an exclusion of some sort; a capital or debt exclusion, which would require a special election because there isn't a State Election this Fall so at this point I would hope that the Board would support it. Mr. Kozak said he believed this is the time to go forward; that it has been in talks for over 7 years now and it has been attempted several times. We are trying our hardest to make this as economical as possible, it is not a fancy building, it is a place to keep the equipment from rotting away and I would recommend it to move forward. Mr. Shuris commented schedule-wise it will take about 10 weeks to manufacture the steel components of the building so if this gets approved in October, we could have the design [without the need of an architect] using engineers to get something that is very simple. It will be a cost-efficient time-line project and if all goes well the design plan will take two weeks. He also indicated that the company he spoke with has a \$50,000 structural engineering package with seismic, snow load, and wind load-- everything in two weeks. They know

what the footprint will be based on the soils, which is good, and once the numbers are plugged into the Mass Building Code on seismic, snow load and wind load--off we go. Within 2 weeks we will have a draft design, within 3 weeks [once the draft is reviewed and modified] we will give them the go-ahead. So sometime in February or March, we will have a steel building ready to ship to 11 Fletcher Street and sometime in the March, April or May timeframe, the site and foundation work will be done. Then it will take about 3-4 months to erect the structure. This time next year we should have a covered, heated storage, facility. Mr. Shuris emphasized this is the way to go and we need it. Mr. Melia questioned Mr. Shuris asking if it would take care of all the vehicles being covered. Mr. Shuris replied it would and stated we will have every piece of equipment under the roof being heated and protected 24/7 and added that it would also provide a safe environment for our employees to get their work done. Chairman Melia spoke and noted that several months ago we asked the Town Manager and Chairman Ampagoomian to go to the BPCC and through Mr. Shuris, put together a low-priced fixture that would take care of the DPW needs, nothing elaborate, and hopefully if it is under \$2 million, you don't see much built for under that with prevailing wages and other things. Chairman Melia continued stating he has supported the other projects that we have had and he will support this one unless there is a problem that arises but it looks like we're going step by step. He also mentioned what has taken time was the testing of the soil but it looks like we've got the green light on that to move forward. Mr. Melia then asked how the other Board members felt and stated the BPCC wants some sort of idea as to how the Board feels but with the limited information we have at this time he wanted to know if the Board was for or against it. Chairman Melia reiterated the BPCC does not want to do any further work on it if the Board doesn't support the project. Mr. Beaudoin concurred and remarked that if there was any opposition, the BPCC would stop hammering Mr. Shuris for more information. He said the BPCC wants to see the information and once they get the information he wants to make sure there are no other hurdles to be cleared or any other issues the BPCC needs to clarify on their end; they want to bring it to the Selectmen complete. Mr. Melia mentioned Mr. Beaudoin was a good addition to the BPCC and brought in some new ideas and we're happy to have him. Chairman Melia asked if anyone else on the Board would like to make a comment. Selectman Ampagoomian stated the BPCC has his support 100% and that they should go forward because we need to get it done. Mr. Beaudoin agreed. Selectman Nolan spoke and said based on what people have told him and the Town's previous attempts, we said this is it; this is what we think we should go forward with. He hoped to get the support to go forward and stated the BPCC has his support. Selectman Marzec stated he is going to wait for some more information to come out but it looks promising. Mr. Beaudoin spoke to Mr. Marzec saying you are not alone, we have members of our own Board who have asked the same. Mr. Shuris is still gathering information for us to review and we look forward to doing just that. Mr. Melia stated hopefully the BPCC will move forward and keep the Select Board informed and come to each meeting if they have to with information because people are watching and they are the people who will be voting. Mr. Kozak stated he just wants the Select Board to support the article at this time at the very least and keep moving forward.

Dog Hearing [Demers] / Vote to set a dog hearing date. Present: Police Chief Walter Warchol, Animal Control Officer Daniel Chauvin and Attorney Gregory Wheeler [Attorney for the Demers]. Chairman Melia explained they would now continue with agenda Item J. to set a dog hearing date. He noted the next Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2015, which would be the date of the dog hearing. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Chauvin if he wanted to add anything. Mr. Chauvin responded that he does have a little background information to inform everyone in the audience. Mr. Melia reminded everyone that the dog hearing was requested by the owner of the two small dogs that were killed at a Grafton kennel. He said even though the incident took place in Grafton, the owner of the dog alleged to have committed the killing lives in Northbridge, thus the Town of Northbridge was responsible for conducting the dog hearing. A packet of information regarding the incident will be provided to Board members to review prior to the hearing, if the Board votes to have the hearing. Chairman Melia asked if Chief Warchol or Mr. Chauvin would like to say anything. Mr. Chauvin stated he would let Attorney Gregory Wheeler speak first. Mr. Wheeler then introduced himself as the attorney for Brenda and Roger Demers, owners of the dogs who were attacked and killed. Attorney Wheeler noted that he was the party who submitted the dog complaint to the Town on the Demers' behalf. Mr. Melia stated he had read the complaint and asked Chief Warchol if he had anything to say. Chief Warchol stated an investigation was started upon receipt of the report about the incident. He also said interviews were held with the Dog Officer as well as the neighbors of the Gentiles, who are the owners of the dog that allegedly committed the attacks. Chief Warchol further mentioned that the Town has never had an incident of this kind. He said he searched the police logs for the last five years and there were no prior complaints regarding the dog. Mr. Chauvin also indicated that the interviews he conducted with the neighbors of the Gentiles revealed they've never had an incident with the dog and they only had praise for the dog and support the family fully. Chief Warchol explained that in his

opinion there was no evidence to indicate that the Gentiles' dog is a vicious dog. The incident happened in Grafton and there was very little information in Grafton other than everybody agreed that the Husky killed the two little dogs, however, there was no other information to indicate that this dog has been a nuisance in our community. Chairman Melia then reviewed the following: Attorney Wheeler has requested a hearing and based on his request all information and evidence that the Town has received will be presented at a hearing to be set by the Board of Selectmen, if voted. At the hearing, people wishing to testify will be sworn in and the Board will review/hear all information and evidence presented from Attorney Wheeler, police officers, dog officers and the Town's Inspector of Animals that submitted a report on this incident. There being no further discussion, Chairman Melia entertained a motion to set up a public hearing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to set a dog hearing for 6:05PM on September 14, 2015. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Mr. Melia stated the police department will make sure the proper witnesses are here to give evidence. Attorney Wheeler asked if they would have an opportunity to present their own witnesses. Mr. Melia replied absolutely.

Pine Grove Cemetery / Rhonda Dawson [Lot No. 51B - Hemlock Path]. Chairman Melia entertained a motion to approve. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the sale of lot number 51B [one grave] for Rhonda Dawson. Mr. Melia asked the board if there was any further discussion. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan.

DISCUSSIONS

Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials/Update on Cpl. Dawson's Memorial. Chairman Melia introduced Ronald Massey, Chairman of the Trustees and Sergeant Paul Reis from the United States Army. Mr. Massey pointed out that Sergeant Reis is the liaison to the Dawson family and he has been very helpful throughout this process. Continuing, Mr. Massey stated the Trustees have decided as a Board to dedicate a square in honor of Cpl. John Dawson, who was killed in action in Afghanistan on April 8th of this year, while serving his country. He also said the Trustees have received many suggestions on how to best honor Cpl. Dawson and they along with the Dawson family decided to use Town-owned land at the corner of Purgatory Road and North Main Street. Next, Sergeant Reis spoke to the Board of his involvement with the Dawson family and their feelings. He said after the wake and funeral was over, he reached out to Mr. Dawson, who was curious to see if his son's name would be placed on a Memorial Square or something else that the Town had in mind. Not long after that, Mr. Massey reached out to Sgt. Reis and asked him to partake in monthly meetings to plan a memorial named in honor of Cpl. Dawson in town. Sergeant Reis wanted to be a part of it and attended numerous meetings. He was told the location of where the memorial was going to be and the family was ecstatic. They were more than happy of where that location was—about 75 yards from the street where John Dawson was born and raised. Sgt. Reis stated they were very pleased with the location and what the town wants to do for them at the location. Mr. Melia explained he is an Ex-Officio member of this committee and has gone to the last several meetings and what has been determined thus far is the location. They were also hoping to do the dedication ceremony on Veterans Day, which is November 11th this year. If that date didn't work, he mentioned the backup date would be the date Cpl. Dawson was killed in action, which would be April 8th [2016] and asked if that was correct. Mr. Massey replied it was correct. Continuing, Chairman Melia stated the Trustees wanted to come forward to update the Board on what has been taking place at the meetings and they should be ready by November 11th. Mr. Massey noted the drawing of the memorial that was distributed was done by Nick Jané Landscaping, who approached Mr. Massey and told him whenever the Trustees are ready to do anything for Cpl. Dawson, he would like to be involved. Mr. Massey announced this was a drawing Mr. Jané came up with but that it could still be changed or modified—that it was just an example to show the Board what could be done. Mr. Massy also added that businesses have approached him to make the Square a proud and beautiful tribute to Cpl. Dawson. He said the names of the businesses that have contributed to the memorial/dedication will be revealed at a later date. Mr. Massy stated that if any other business are interested in helping out to contact the Town Hall or contact any Board member. Mr. Melia asked if there were any questions from the Board. Chairman Melia thanked them for attending the meeting and providing the Board with an update.

Cable Advisory Committee. Present: Harry Berkowitz, Chairman. Mr. Melia called Mr. Berkowitz forward. Mr. Berkowitz explained that the reason he requested to be placed on the agenda was because the Cable Committee does not have a full board due to vacancies, which sometimes cause them not to be able to hold meetings. Due to that they voted to see if the Selectmen would be willing to decrease the number of Board members from seven to five. Mr. Berkowitz said it's getting harder to get people to serve on Boards and there are

several vacancies. Continuing, he added that the Board was originally organized about 30 years ago with the purpose of getting cable into town, which took quite a few people working on it. In addition to finding a cable company, the Cable Committee was responsible for negotiating a cable contract and for local access. Mr. Berkowitz stated they have since gone to a 10-year contract so there won't be any contract negotiations for another 7 years and local access is now overseen by an Independent Board of Directors, so there is no need to have a 7-member board and that's why they are looking to downsize to a 5-member Board. Mr. Berkowitz added that if they downsized, they wouldn't have to fill the vacancies. Chairman Melia questioned if that was a change in the Charter or was is a change in the By-laws. Mr. Berkowitz replied saying he spoke to Mr. Kozak and this matter needs to be researched to find out exactly how to make the change but said he didn't believe it required a change in the Charter. Mr. Kozak interjected and stated he did some research and it is a By-law change. He said he spoke to the Town Clerk and they assume it will require Town Meeting action. Mr. Berkowitz concurred. Mr. Melia asked how many members were currently on the Board. Mr. Berkowitz replied right now they have 5. Chairman Melia questioned if there was any interest. Mr. Berkowitz answered they had one person that was appointed but he never shows up. He added that the Talent Bank forms are submitted to the Town Manager's Office and he hasn't received any applications from interested people. Selectman Marzec recalled that a couple of years ago both the Charter and Bylaws were reviewed so this may be out of cycle due to the fact that the Charter Review and Bylaw Review are due for a while. Mr. Marzec asked when was the last time that the Bylaws were reviewed and Mr. Kozak responded that it was pretty close to 4 years ago. Mr. Berkowitz stated that he didn't see why this had any effect in any way, shape, or form as they are just cutting back by two members. If there was a great amount of interest he could see where we would do that but there is not a great amount of interest because the Cable Committee doesn't do what they used to do. Mr. Marzec asked if they are able to operate with the present members right now. He then stated that he is just looking at it from the point of this: that it might be better to wait until it gets closer to the time when the Bylaw Review Committee is ready to do their review of the Town's bylaws and it might be in the Town's best interest to do a number of changes/revisions rather than to do it on a piecemeal basis. He specified the other question he had was if a bylaw change was done mid-cycle would that potentially open up other bylaw changes at that time as well because he knows of other people that have voiced concerns about bylaws to him as well. Mr. Berkowitz declared that you can change a bylaw at any point. Mr. Marzec affirmed that it would require a town meeting vote. Mr. Berkowitz specified that the purpose of the review is that you don't let bylaws go on forever but it is not necessary to have a review and pointed out that the number of members on the School Committee were reduced for the same reason: because you couldn't get people to serve. Mr. Berkowitz reiterated that the problem with a 7-member committee is that it requires a quorum of 4 members to meet and if it were a 5-member Board, the required quorum would be 3 members. Mr. Marzec explained he was on the Charter Review Committee along with Tom Melia and the Bylaw Review Committee operated on their own. He described that they were dealing with the School Committee issue, which is definitely in the Charter but a little different. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Kozak if it was possible so that we did not have to wait for the review period to come up again if we could still go to Town Meeting and get it changed from 7 members to 5 members via a warrant article. He clarified that what Mr. Berkowitz is looking for and informing the Board of is that there is a problem and he is looking for input from the Select Board. He continued stating the largest committee we had in Town for years was the School Committee and they seem to be operating alright with 5 members so we certainly understand the Cable Committee's issue. Chairman Melia mentioned there aren't a vast amount of people who are interested in volunteering, so I would say look into it with the Town Manager and put together an article and come forward. Mr. Berkowitz affirmed it did not have to make it on the upcoming Fall Annual Town Meeting and they can wait until the spring. Chairman Melia informed Mr. Berkowitz that he has until the 28th of August to submit articles for the fall town meeting so he still has a week or so. Mr. Melia said he does not see it as a problem but he doesn't know how the other Board members feel. Mr. Berkowitz explained if they schedule a meeting and only 3 people show up they don't meet the required quorum of 4 so they can't meet. Mr. Kozak stated that the Cable Committee typically answers complaint but Mr. Berkowitz cut in saying any complaints go to the Manager's Office. Mr. Kozak explained if it needs to it goes to the Cable Committee. Mr. Berkowitz advised that they use a local director who is a former Charter Communications' employee and he gets them taken care of quite quickly, as well as Mr. Kozak communicating with Mr. Cohan. He stated he has not heard a lot of complaints in a long time, other than people still want Verizon, but that is nothing we have any control over and added, if it were possible to get Verizon here tomorrow Mr. Berkowitz said he would do that, but they do not want to come and he can't make them. Chairman Melia asked if there were any further questions. There being none, he thank Mr. Berkowitz for coming.

Application for Revision of Floodplain Boundaries [Mumford River]. Present: Jeremy Deorsey,

Chairman, Conservation Commission. Chairman Melia explained this issue has been in front of us for at least 2 or 3 years and that the Conservation Commission asked for an independent study to be done and turned the floor over to the Conservation Commission Chairman to explain the information. Mr. Jeremy Deorsey explained after the information they received from GZA GeoEnvironmental [2nd review of the Mumford River Analysis for Application for Revision of Floodplain Boundaries along Main Street], the Conservation Commission had a few recommended suggestions that needed to be addressed and when they are addressed, the Commission recommends the Board approve the Application. He advised that on August 13th, a memorandum, which summarizes the Commission's comments was submitted to the Town Manager. The comments were: 1) Topographic Work Map needs revised box dates that includes the additional analysis performed by Tighe and Bond in June 2015; 2) the elevation listed on the Topographic map needs to be corrected on the updated map; 3) the condition of the pipe needs to be confirmed to be fully functional; and 4) along with the signature, the inclusion of a statement that states "Any structures being removed from the SPHA are being removed based upon the study performed by Tighe and Bond and certified by a Professional Engineer. The Tighe and Bond study recommends that the 100-year floodplain delineated be altered and structures be removed from the SFHA" or something similar. Mr. Deorsey reviewed each of the above issues with the Board. He stated the Commission was concerned there was liability being put onto the town so they felt a verbiage change would mitigate that liability. Chairman Melia questioned if the Commission's recommendation was giving the Select Board the authority to sign the agreement including the above stipulations. Mr. Deorsey replied yes and those items are included in the memorandum, which he would provide a copy of. Mr. Melia replied the Board had copies, which he read and thanked Mr. Deorsey for coming before them. He then opened the discussion up to the Board. Town Manager Kozak stated the Conservation Commission had asked for additional engineering work from GZA, the firm that the town hired, which was finally completed 2 months ago and paid for out of the DPW budget because we wanted to know more about the structure where the water goes under the highway in case there was a problem. Mr. Kozak also explained they had a company do a scope for which they should get back a report to share. He explained he was not an engineer but from his understanding the engineering data has been taken care of as far as compliance that we can go forward with the recommendation to the Federal Government. He continued speaking to Mr. Deorsey about the bullet points that he had indicated might be important to have done on mapping updates, and perhaps the last bullet to include the statement. Lastly, the Town Manager stated the only other thing he believes it is a culvert that they just want to be sure it is structurally sound and that water goes through it. He said the reports indicate that there is some debris in there still but it looks like it's structurally sound. He will have Mr. Shuris and Mr. Luchini look it over some more, but he thinks if it's a condition of a vote then I think we can discuss this with the owner of the pipe that goes through the building. Mr. Melia mentioned the Selectmen are in receipt of the August 13th report from the Conservation Commission secretary and corrected himself from a statement he said earlier that there were 3 stipulations but they actually have 4. Mr. Melia stated right now this matter is on the agenda under discussions because it was received late but he explained he is not sure what the other Board members wish to do since it has been in front of us so long and we've had an independent party investigate, give us an opinion to the satisfaction of the Conservation Commission, which he thought was what they were waiting for and we have based our vote on how the Conservation Commission felt. He then stated he did not have a problem moving it to Decisions for a vote to get it done **with the stipulations** of the Conservation Commission as requested. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Nolan, to move this agenda item, Application for Revision of Floodplain Boundaries from Discussions to Decisions. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Ampagoomian and Nolan. Chairman Melia asked if there were any further questions on it. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve and authorize the Selectmen to sign the Application for Revision of Floodplain Boundaries [Mumford River] along Main Street subject to the provision that items 1, 2, 3, and 4 are fulfilled before the Board signs. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Mr. Melia thanked the Commission for their work on this.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/1) Good Energy Application to Department of Public Utilities. Town Manager Kozak gave an update on Good Energy's Application for purchasing energy supply for the community. He was pleased to say that things are moving forward and there is now a scheduled DPU hearing on August 26th in Boston at the headquarters of the Department of Public Utilities. It is a public hearing for anyone who wishes to attend. Mr. Kozak explained there were 22 communities involved, 13 originally and 9 who signed up later who are going to have a hearing after our hearing, which may all be put out to bid together. If they are not ready, we will still go out for ours upon approval by the DPU. Mr. Kozak enlightened everyone that he was hopeful the DPU wouldn't have any extreme issues and that we get the green light to go forward and if so, we will begin the marketing this fall and we will have some literature and pamphlets to send to the residents, as well as radio and

TV announcements. Mr. Kozak stated right now he is involved in a subcommittee in which this topic is discussed weekly to make sure this goes forward. Mr. Kozak commented that the only lynch pin we have is the DPU and hopefully it will be a smooth situation but the Town Manager advised he will know more next month. **2) Road Projects Update.** Mr. Kozak reported the Sutton Street project is moving right along and the binders and sidewalks are now completed. He stated there is more paving to be done but he believes it is moving along fairly well. He also said the town has been working on the Main Street project and all of the rails have been taken out. They had hoped to have it paved by now but there were some minor water issues that came up and took a little bit more time. In addition, he mentioned ledge was found in the road as well as a few other small issues but the project should be completed before school starts. Mr. Kozak stated that the Ovia Square work has been completed with some line painting to be done. **3) Legislation for additional funding for out of district Vocational Schools.** Mr. Kozak stated the Spencer Town Manager invited him to go to Boston to speak with the Chairman of the Education Committee to help increase local aid for communities. Mr. Kozak explained Northbridge has about 10 children who attend other schools such as Norfolk County Agricultural High School and the state does not reimburse the Town the same way they reimburse for local students, so Towns should be compensated fairly. In response to a question about the cost of busing, he said the Town pays to bus local and Blackstone Valley Tech vocational students, however, we are still required to pay for the specialty type programs the same way that students who go to schools outside of our district have to pay for their own transportation or provide their own which may be their parents bringing them to school. Mr. Kozak said those items were discussed with the Chairman and we had a good response from many communities in Central Massachusetts who were concerned about the cost and it is a question of being treated fairly for our own local schools so we are hopeful that the legislation will go forward with this. **4) Quinsigamond Community College Update.** Mr. Kozak stated the college has visited about 3 or 4 sites in town and they have a fairly good idea of where they want to go. At this point, the site location is being kept confidential but the college is going to begin negotiations. He explained if it works out well the federal government, through Congressman McGovern's Office, who has also had representatives here will help us to get college grant money, which we will know more in the next month or two, but we are hopeful. **5) Home Modification Loan Program.** Mr. Kozak justified that the Town Planner wanted him to let everyone know about the Home Modification Loan Program, which is used to assist eligible elders and individuals with disabilities. He explained it is dependent upon household income and provides 0-3 loans up to \$30,000 to homeowners seeking to make modifications to their homes. If there are any questions, contact the Town Manager's Office or the Town Planner's Office about this grant program. Chairman Melia asked if the Board had any questions on the Town Manager's Report. There were no questions.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. **Selectman Ampagoomian/1)** regarding Plummer's Corner, he asked if there was a DOT contact person at the State. Jamie Luchini, Highway Supt., responded there was a delay due to a large turnover in personnel who took advantage of the early buyout program so new contacts had to be established and thanks to Representative Muradian we now have a new contact. Unfortunately, the gentleman is in over his head due to a lot of items that were overlooked when personnel were leaving, however, Northbridge is on the list. The contact agreed Plummer's Corner was a very bad intersection that needs to be striped soon so he was going to bump it to the top of the list because of the motor vehicle situation. **Chairman Melia/1)** asked about the curbing on Providence Road stating that he spoke to someone this weekend who works at the State and was told a different story. He asked Mr. Luchini what he was given for a start date. Mr. Luchini replied that he was not given a start date but he would forward any information he gets to Mr. Melia. Mr. Luchini advised that a state employee was assessing different situations that need attention, one of which was the signs warning of a frost heave that are down now and he wasn't sure if that was a positive thing or not. He also noted there was a trench and several other areas he was aware of that need attention, which he plans to follow up on this week. **2)** asked if there were sewer lines that run under Rt. 122 that were causing the frost heave problem. Mr. Luchini replied that he wasn't too familiar with the history of those lines and he is unsure of what the plan is going forward and whether they will rip them out. Mr. Melia then asked if Mr. Luchini could send him the name and information and to also follow up with his contact at the state as well. He stated we have to get something done with the frost heaves as they are a safety issue. **3)** Mr. Melia brought up a couple of items that were mentioned to him and noted that a lot of great things were happening on Sutton Street but asked why mailboxes were being placed in the middle of the sidewalk. Mr. Luchini answered that while the mailboxes don't look nice from a visual standpoint the mailboxes are ADA compliant and added that he and Mr. Shuris measured them themselves to confirm they were ADA compliant. He reiterated that they may not look right but he believes there was a discussion between the state, the contractor, and the postmaster on the placement of the mailboxes. Mr. Luchini further indicated they have tried to contact the postmaster about the mailbox issue but he has been dealing with some personal issues

and is away from work right now. However, as soon as he returns to work, they will see if they can rectify the situation and move the mailboxes closer to the edge of the road so it doesn't look like they are in the middle of the sidewalk. 5) Mr. Melia stated someone had mentioned to him about the sidewalk plow being used on the new Sutton Street sidewalks but he was unsure as to whether the side walk plow did that area and asked for clarification. Mr. Luchini responded that the sidewalk plow does not do that area as it is outside the realm [schools] required. Mr. Melia stated the Town had a similar issue on North Main Street years ago when it was done over with the curbing and then a telephone pole was placed in the middle of the sidewalk, which defeated the purpose of having real nice work done. Mr. Luchini reiterated that they will try to rectify those types of issues with the postmaster. In closing, Mr. Melia announced the next meeting of the Board would be September 14, 2015, which will be the date of the public hearing and spoke to the Board regarding the packet to be reviewed.

A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Nolan to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:51 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

August 17, 2015

Presentation of Retirement Award to Det. Patrolman Donald Roy

-No documentation

Presentation of Eagle Scout Award Certificates to Dillon J. Arnold, David J. Lewis and Keith J. Reiter

-Copy of letter dated June 9, 2015 requesting the Board to recognize the scouts and to invite the Board to the Eagle Scout Award ceremony that was held August 1, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. 1) Copy of the minutes May 18, 2015 [Executive Session] - Removed from documentation as they have not been released
- 2) Copy of the minutes June 8, 2015
- 3) Copy of the minutes June 8, 2015 [Executive Session]- Removed from documentation as they have not been released
- 4) Copy of the minutes June 22, 2015
- 5) Copy of the minutes June 22, 2015 [Executive Session] - Removed from documentation as they have not been released
- 6) Copy of the minutes July 13, 2015
- 7) Copy of the minutes July 13, 2015 [Executive Session] - Removed from documentation as they have not been released

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- B. 1) -Copy of Dog Hearing Notice dated July 28, 2015 to Ms. Cassie Heney
 - Copy of Mr. Chauvin's request to hold a Dog Hearing
 - Copy of email from Animal Control Officer addressing details
 - Copy of Chapter 140 section 157 of MGL4; Copy of table of MGL options
- 2) **7:15PM - Massachusetts Electric Company – Sutton Street: Install a 40"3 pole for an overhead to underground connection to customer's underground secondary for a traffic light.**
 - Copy of Notice to Abutters dated July 28, 2015
 - Copy of letter from National Grid dated July 2, 2015 requesting a new pole location for Sutton St.
 - Copy of Petition for Pole Location
 - Copy of the Order for Pole Location
 - Copy of the installation plan number 18843046
 - Copy of memo dated July 13, 2015 to the Assessor's Office requesting an abutters list
 - Copy of the list of Abutters

III. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:

C. Resignations:

- 1. Copy of Marie Rebecchi's resignation letter from the Council on Aging
- 2. Copy of Michelle Methe's resignation letter from the Council on Aging
- 3. Copy of Carol B. Snow's resignation letter from the Zoning Board of Appeals
- 4. Copy of Barbara Gaudette's resignation letter from the Planning Board

D. Appointments: By the Board of Selectmen:

- 1. Copy of Steven Sullivan's Talent Bank Application for the Personnel Board
- 2. Copy of Randy Kibbe's Talent Bank Application for the Zoning Board of Appeals [Associate member to Regular member]
- 3. Copy of Kevin Quinlan's Talent Bank Application for the Zoning Board of Appeals

4. Copy of Denise Forgit's Talent Bank Application for the Council on Aging
5. Copy of Jean Finnegan's Talent Bank Application for the Council on Aging
6. Copy of Letter from Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission requesting appointment of a Second Delegate and Alternate to their Commission

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

- 1) **Local Business Spotlight: None**
- 2) Caryn Gagner –Street Lights – **No Documentation**

V. DECISIONS

E. Caryn Gagner/Request to hold a Boot Drive at Memorial Square on Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 9AM to 2PM - Copy of email from Caryn Gagner requesting to hold a Boot Drive

F. Alternatives / 1) Request permission to hold its 31st Annual Valley Friendship Tour on Saturday June 4, 2016 beginning at 8 AM - Copy of letter from Alternatives dated July 24, 2015 requesting permission to hold its 31st Annual Valley Friendship Tour

2) Application for a One-day Beer and Wine License for a fundraising event 'Valley Bag Toss' to take place on the Community Plaza at Alternatives on Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 12 Noon to 5 PM.

Note: In case of inclement weather the event will take place in the Singh Performance Center

- Copy of flyer from Alternatives announcing the "Valley Bag Toss" event to take place on September 19, 2015 at 1PM

- Copy of Application for a One-day Beer and Wine License for Alternatives

-Copy of Revenue Enforcement and Protection Attestation

-Copy of Hold Harmless Agreement

-Copy of License Routing Slips from all departments

G. John Boucher DBA Second Hand Charlies/Application for Junk Dealer's License located at 2273 Providence Road Northbridge MA

-Copy of Application for Junk Dealers License for Second Hand Charlies

-Copy of Workers Compensation Affidavit

-Copy of License Routing Slips from all departments

H. Intermunicipal Agreement for participation in the Central Mass. Regional Stormwater Coalition

- Copy of Intermunicipal Agreement for participation in the Central Mass. Regional Stormwater Coalition

I. Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 27, 2015]

-Copy of draft #1 warrant dated August 11, 2015

J. Dog Hearing [Demers] / Vote to set a dog hearing date

-No documentation

K. Pine Grove Cemetery / Rhonda Dawson [Lot No. 51B - Hemlock Path]

-Copy of sale of lot to Rhonda Dawson for Lot 51B – Hemlock Path

VI. DISCUSSIONS

L. Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials –Copy of the Dawson Memorial design by Nicholas Jane

M. Cable Advisory Committee –No Documentation

N. Application for Revision of Floodplain Boundaries [Mumford River]

-Copy of Review of Responses of Floodplain Boundaries [Mumford River]

-Copy of Memorandum from Barbara Kinney to Theodore Kozak regarding the GZA Second Review Revision of Floodplain Boundaries Mumford River/Main Street

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

O. 1) Good Energy Application to Department of Public Utilities –No Documentation

2) Road Projects Update – No Documentation

3) Legislation for additional funding for out of district Vocational Schools – No Documentation

4) Quinsigamond Community College Update –No Documentation

5) Home Modification Loan Program

-Copy of letter dated July 10, 2015 from Mass. Rehabilitation Commission regarding the Home Modification Loan Program

- VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS - No Documentation**
- IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – No Documentation**
- X. CORRESPONDENCE - None**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
September 14, 2015

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 1) 6:05 PM: Dog Hearing requested by Brenda and Roger Demers for a dangerous dog kept and owned by Jane and Christopher Gentile of Northbridge. Chairman Melia reviewed the process that would be followed for the hearing. Mr. Melia advised all those present the Board of Selectmen would conduct a hearing under MGL Chapter 140 section 157 on the complaint filed on behalf of Brenda and Roger Demers of Shrewsbury accusing a dog known as Ticqua as being a dangerous dog. He said Ticqua is kept and owned by Christopher and Jane Gentile of 107 Kennedy Circle, Northbridge. He stated the Board will first hear from the Demers, who may present evidence in support of their complaint. The Gentiles will then respond and present any opposing evidence. Chairman Melia clarified that during the process the Board may ask questions to anyone presenting evidence. He specified the Board may also ask for input from relevant Town Officials and after hearing all evidence presented the Board will deliberate and consider what action they will take. He also added under the statute, they may deliberate at tonight's meeting or at a subsequent meeting before making a decision. Chairman Melia explained the Board has the following options: they may dismiss the complaint, deem the dog a nuisance dog, or deem the dog a dangerous dog. He stated if the Board finds the dog to be a nuisance dog, they may take remedial action to improve the nuisance behavior. If the Board finds the dog to be a dangerous dog, they will make one or more orders to address the situation, which may include restraint, confinement, being humanely muzzled when off premises, insurance to protect the owner against loss, provide proper identification of the dog to the Town for life, reproductive alteration, and/or be euthanized. Continuing, Mr. Melia announced that anyone who testifies will first be sworn in. He then directed those who would be testifying to raise their right hands and take the Oath. He also made the audience aware that Rochelle Thompson, who is the Town's Animal Inspector, submitted a report about the incident but was unavailable to attend the meeting this evening. Mr. Melia announced those who were present: Dan Chauvin Northbridge Animal Control Officer, Eugene Ploss, Grafton Animal Control Officer, John Ouillette, Northbridge Police Detective Sergeant, Bob Clark of Clark's Dog Training, and Bob Gibson of Gibson Kennels. Also present was Town Counsel David Doneski, from Kopelman & Paige. Mr. Melia then administered the Oath to those who intended on testifying. First, he called Mr. and Mrs. Demers along with their lawyer, Attorney Gregory Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler introduced himself and gave a brief opening statement. He stated he would like the Board to maintain their focus on the subject matter of this complaint. He explained that it was possible in this type of situation for facts discovered subsequent to this incident aren't really relevant to the incident. He stressed if the focus is maintained on the actual incident itself it will make for a more efficient hearing and a proper determination under Massachusetts Law. Attorney Wheeler then introduced Roger Demers, Brenda Demers and their daughter Ariel Demers and asked Brenda to testify first. Speaking to Mrs. Demers, Attorney Wheeler asked her if she was the owner of a male dog named Graham and his breed. Mrs. Demers answered yes she was and he was a toy poodle who was purchased in November of 2006 at 12 weeks old. Mr. Wheeler asked what the approximate weight of Graham as of June of 2015. She replied he was 7 pounds. Mr. Wheeler asked what Graham's demeanor was. Mrs. Demers stated he was the most lovable, little friendly dog ever and that he got along with all dogs especially his little brother Odin and always made the family laugh. She continued stating he was a joy to have and they never had any issues with him whatsoever. Mr. Wheeler then asked prior to June of 2015, if Graham had ever been in any altercations at any time with another dog or another animal and if Graham had ever provoked another dog or animal to her knowledge in any way or was that dog ever issued with an Animal Control infraction or a violation, all to which Mrs. Demers replied no. Mr. Wheeler then questioned Mrs. Demers about Odin. He asked her if she was the owner, his type of breed and the approximate time of purchase, and how old he was at the time of purchase. Mrs. Demers answered she was the owner of the male dog Odin, who was a long haired Chihuahua purchased November 2010 at 10 weeks old. Mr. Wheeler then asked as of June 2015 what Odin's approximate weight was, if he was a fully

grown Chihuahua, and his demeanor. Mrs. Demers replied he was 4 pounds and was fully grown, and his demeanor was the same as Graham's and that he was very friendly, lovable, the kids could pick them up and carry them around and Odin had never gone after anybody, they made the family happy and made them laugh. Mr. Wheeler then asked prior to June of 2015, if Odin had been in any altercation of any kind with another dog or animal, provoked another dog or was ever issued with an Animal Control infraction or a violation. Mrs. Demers replied Odin had not. Mr. Wheeler asked the dogs' ages, if they were owned simultaneously, and how they interacted with each other. Mrs. Demers replied Graham was going to be 7 and Odin was 4 and were owned at the same time. She said they were the best buddies and explained they often snuggled together and slept with Mrs. Demers or in their own crates. They also had their own toy basket, played together, rode in the car together, and traveled with the family to Florida and back. Mr. Wheeler asked her if she was still their owner and if the dogs were deceased. Mrs. Demers said she was the owner but that the dogs were deceased. Mr. Wheeler questioned if she had been made aware of the circumstances regarding the deaths of Graham and Odin. She replied she and her husband had gone on their 25th wedding anniversary vacation and put both of the dogs in Gibson's Kennel located in Grafton MA. She stated when they arrived home late Saturday evening, they had received an email from Bob Gibson that said to contact the kennel because they couldn't find their number. Mrs. Demers was supposed to pick the dogs up on Sunday between 5 PM and 6 PM, so she contacted the Kennel and got a voicemail and left around 4:15 PM to pick the dogs up. At 4:45 PM, they received a call from Mr. Gibson stating he received their message and Mrs. Demers questioned if everything was ok. She stated Mr. Gibson replied he would speak to them when they arrived. Upon arrival at the kennel, Mr. Gibson greeted them and stated he was sorry to tell them but their dogs had been mauled by another dog. Mr. Demers asked which dog and Mr. Gibson replied both of them. Mrs. Demers said she did not know what else to say except the most heartbreaking thing was that the family was never able to say goodbye and never got to see their dogs again. She said those dogs meant everything to them. She also questioned how the husky was able to get access to their dogs and maul them to death. Mr. Wheeler asked Mrs. Demers if Mr. Gibson identified the dog that was responsible for the mauling and deaths of both Graham and Odin. Mrs. Demers replied yes that it was the Gentiles dog Ticqua. Mr. Wheeler asked if Mr. Gibson provided them with information on how the incident occurred. Mrs. Demers answered yes and reported that his first story was that Ticqua was banging so hard she broke her latch and then broke into the Demers' dogs' cage and mauled them to death. Mrs. Demers stated Mr. Gibson said Ticqua was banging so hard that she broke out of her cage and loosened the bottom bar, which allowed their dogs to escape and they were running around freely and Ticqua pinned one of them in their cage after she had already mauled the other one, and a staff member found Ticqua eating the belly of the Demers' dog. Mr. Wheeler asked if Mr. Gibson identified any other dog or animal that was involved in this incident. Mrs. Demers answered just Ticqua, Graham and Odin. Mr. Wheeler then asked if Mr. Gibson identified any other dog or animal that was involved in this incident. Mrs. Demers replied he had not. Mr. Wheeler asked if anyone at Gibson kennel suspected another dog or animal could have been involved. Mrs. Demers replied no. Mr. Wheeler asked if from the date of the incident to the present had you obtained any information that could show another dog or animal was responsible. Mrs. Demers replied no. Mr. Wheeler questioned if following the incident had she ever had Graham or Odin inspected or analyzed by a veterinarian. Mrs. Demers answered yes, both dogs were brought to the veterinarian and who placed them in a freezer while they were gone because it had happened soon after they dropped the dogs off. Mrs. Demers stated the vet took pictures and x-rays and provided a written statement with what he determined had happened. Mr. Wheeler asked the Board if he could present the statement from the vet. The Board agreed and let Mr. Wheeler read the statement from Dr. Adam Arzt of Metrowest Veterinary Associates, which was submitted into evidence. Mr. Wheeler continued stating he had several photographs that Dr. Arzt had taken during the examination and requested Ariel Demers to identify them to the Board. He added that Brenda and Roger Demers had not seen the photos due to the graphic nature of them. Mr. Wheeler asked Ms. Ariel Demers to go through the pictures and tell the Board what they depict. Ms. Ariel Demers described the first photograph as Odin with an area shaved down around the ¾ inch incision on his abdomen. The second photo was before they shaved him down. The third picture was his x-ray. The fourth picture was Graham with bite marks, puncture wounds, bruising, and hemorrhaging all on his under belly. Ms. Demers explained the fifth photo was a close up of the previous picture. The sixth picture was a particular puncture wound. The seventh picture was that of his x-ray showing a sprain on his spine and the dislocation of his spine. Ms. Demers explained the rest of the pictures were of the kennel. The first photo depicts the interior section where their dogs were kept and explained Ticqua was to the right (looking at the picture) two cages down leaving a cage in between the two dogs. The second picture showed the outdoor runs as well as the cage to the far left, which was

Ticqua's cage, and to the far right was Graham's and Odin's. Mr. Wheeler asked Mrs. Demers how the loss of Graham and Odin has impacted her. Mrs. Demers explained she never got the chance to say goodbye to her boys; they were everything to her and her husband. They were like children to them. She stated they had to pack everything up and put it away. There are no little paws running around the house anymore. Nobody to make them laugh and smile. Mrs. Demers said she does not even want to be in that place anymore. They do anything they can so they don't have to be home. Mrs. Demers explained it is not easy to find the same type of dog with the same temperament and personality. She stated her dogs are gone because of a senseless act caused by a dog that couldn't control itself. Mrs. Demers justified that her two little boys were harmless and there was nothing they could have done to defend themselves. She stated they did not want to put them in the kennel but had no other choice. They found a 5-star kennel and thought the dogs would be in good hands. Mrs. Demers said the dog [Ticqua] is a dangerous dog. Mr. Wheeler then turned to Mr. Demers and asked him to testify. Mr. Wheeler asked Mr. Demers the same questions as he did to Mrs. Demers. Mr. Wheeler asked what Graham's demeanor was. Mr. Demers stated he was a playful dog who would greet him with his favorite toy when he came home from work and just wanted to play and cuddle. Mr. Demers said he was a joy. Mr. Wheeler then asked if before June of 2010, had Graham ever been in any altercations at any time with another dog or another animal; had he ever provoked another dog or animal to his knowledge in any way or was he ever issued an infraction or a violation. All of which Mr. Demers replied he had not. Mr. Wheeler then asked if before June of 2010 Odin had ever been in any altercations at any time with another dog or another animal, had ever provoked another dog or animal to in any way before June 2015, or was ever issued with an Animal Control infraction or a violation. To all questions, Mr. Demers replied no. Mr. Wheeler asked him if he had knowledge or was he made aware of the circumstances of the deaths of Graham and Odin, and if so, what. Mr. Demers replied he was and after the incident happened, he returned to the kennel to confront Mr. Gibson to find out exactly what happened. He stated Mr. Gibson showed him the area where the dogs were. Mr. Demers took pictures of two brackets on the bottom of the cage that the Husky would have had to bang on real hard to break two support brackets in the cement. When both brackets were released the kennel shifted causing the Demers' dogs' kennel to also shift creating an opening enough for their dogs to sneak out underneath. Ticqua's cage popped open allowing all three dogs into the same confined area. Mr. Demers explained the Husky must have hunted them both down in that time, because he took the Chihuahua and bit him in the stomach and he bled out. He stated when the girls who were watching the kennel came around to find out what was going on Ticqua had the Poodle in his cage still biting his stomach. Mr. Wheeler asked if Mr. Gibson identified the other dog involved in this incident. Mr. Demers replied yes, Ticqua. Mr. Wheeler asked if anyone at Gibson Kennel, including Mr. Gibson, ever identified or suspected that another dog was involved in this incident. Mr. Demers replied no. Did anyone at Gibson's or anyone else ever inform you that another dog or animal could have been responsible for the deaths of Graham and Odin and Mr. Demers answered no. Mr. Wheeler then asked if Mr. Demers had since obtained any information that showed or indicated that a dog other than the Siberian Husky Ticqua was responsible for this incident. Mr. Demers replied no. Mr. Wheeler then asked how the loss of Graham and Odin had impacted Mr. Demers and Mr. Demers replied that when he arrives home at night the dogs are not at the door waiting anymore. He said the dogs were family to them and since they have no kids left at home the dogs were his boys. He stated the attack was a senseless act and he does not understand how one dog can murder another dog and be allowed to live. Mr. Demers added that he was still flabbergasted by the whole thing. He stated we shouldn't even be going through this; that it should have been done and gone before he came home from his vacation. Mr. Melia thanked Attorney Wheeler and opened the matter up to the Board for questions. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he was sorry for their loss and questioned if the dogs were ever confined outside of their home or were they always confined to the inside of the home. Mrs. Demers replied they went outside and they would play with other neighbors' dogs. Ms. Demers added that the dogs would go to her house where there was a Pitbull, a Labrador Retriever and a Yorkie and all the dogs always got along and there were never any incidents. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if the dogs had ever been kenneled before. Mrs. Demers answered yes. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if this was the first time they have used Gibson Kennels and Mrs. Demers replied they have used them once before. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if the first time they used Gibson Kennels that there were no issues that they were made aware of. Mr. and Mrs. Demers replied no, not that they were aware of. Chairman Melia had a question as to where the two dead dogs were found. The Chihuahua was found outside his kennel on the other side of the fence against the back fence across from the kennel and the poodle was found in Ticqua's kennel. Mr. Nolan asked if they were made aware or have heard of any injuries that Ticqua sustained from the attack. Mr. Demers replied not that he was aware of. Mr. Melia stated that the next step of the hearing would be to hear the testimony of Jane and Christopher Gentile

represented by Attorney Carmine Gentile. Mr. Gentile then asked if Bob Clark could also come up to testify. Attorney Gentile provided an opening statement stating that he received a call several weeks ago regarding the matter from Jane and Christopher Gentile. He said that much of what you heard this evening was told to him to which he asked them some questions. Unfortunately, Attorney Gentile noted that Michael Gibson, son of Bob Gibson, who may have seen what happened the day of the incident, was not present this evening. He mentioned that Michael Gibson was not served a subpoena but there was a statement from Mr. Gibson indicating that Michael was at the kennel. He also pointed out no one has been able to talk to the two young adults who were at the kennel at the time of the incident but they also are not here tonight so what we have is hearsay concerning the woman who was present and saw Ticqua's snout on the stomach of one of the dogs and the staff subsequently found the two dogs dead and Ticqua was out of her kennel. Attorney Gentile then turned to Mrs. Gentile and asked her some questions. He asked if she was the owner of Ticqua. Mrs. Gentile answered yes. Attorney Gentile asked how long she had owned Ticqua; how old was the dog when it was first purchased; and if Mrs. Gentile had ever seen her fight with another dog. Mrs. Gentile answered she has owned Ticqua just about 9 years; Ticqua was 8 weeks old when they got her; and she had never seen Ticqua fight with another dog. Attorney Gentile asked Mrs. Gentile if she had ever boarded Ticqua at a kennel before, and if so, approximately how many times in the 9 years that she has owned her. Mrs. Gentile answered Ticqua has been in a kennel about 5 or 6 times. Attorney Gentile asked if there were any prior incidents. Mrs. Gentile replied no. Attorney Gentile asked what a typical day for Ticqua was like. Mrs. Gentile answered that Ticqua hangs out at home with her since she works from home. They typically sit with the front door open looking out the glass door while sitting on top of the floor vent because it's cold in the summer and warm in the winter. She added that when the kids come home, Ticqua gets excited that they are home. Attorney Gentile asked who the kids were and how old were they. Mrs. Gentile answered they kids are her two daughters ages 18 and 15. Attorney Gentile asked if they were both home. Mrs. Gentile replied that one was away at school. Attorney Gentile asked what day they took Ticqua to the kennel and asked if she got a call that there was a problem. Mrs. Gentile replied her husband dropped Ticqua off on Saturday June 13th, and she received a call on Sunday between 4 PM - 5 PM regarding an incident that occurred. She stated that Bob Gibson was very emotional and said that her dog had killed two other dogs. He also informed Mrs. Gentile that she could not pick up Ticqua yet because Mr. Gibson had not yet contacted animal control. He explained to Mrs. Gentile that he first had to find out what the regulations were from animal control before releasing the dog. Mrs. Gentile explained he was not able to get in touch with animal control until the following Monday morning. Attorney Gentile asked if at some point Ticqua came home. Mrs. Gentile stated Ticqua came home Monday morning after she spoke to Animal Control in Grafton, who told her that because Ticqua lived in Northbridge, which is outside of his jurisdiction [Grafton] that she would be under the jurisdiction of Northbridge Animal Control. At that point Mr. Gibson said that she should could come pick Ticqua up and take her home and to expect a visit by Northbridge Animal Control, which she did. Attorney Gentile asked if Ticqua has remained at her home since then. Mrs. Gentile replied yes. Attorney Gentile asked whether Ticqua was quarantined and for how long. Mrs. Gentile responded she was quarantined for 45 days. Attorney Gentile asked when Ticqua returned home did she get out and about more or leave the house. Mrs. Gentile answered that they went for a really long walk the first day. Attorney Gentile asked if they saw other dogs. Mrs. Gentile said yes. Attorney Gentile asked if there were any incidents and Mrs. Gentile answered no. Attorney Gentile asked if in the 9 years that she has owned Ticqua what other incidents have there been. Mrs. Gibson replied none and stated that in fact every time she was boarded it was at Gibson Kennels and every day they would take her for play time with other dogs and never had an incident; Ticqua would also spend the day with the day care dogs on days she was groomed. Mrs. Gentile added that one time she boarded Ticqua with a friend of hers [first time not using Gibson Kennels] where there were several Labradors and Ticqua was in their home on their turf and there were no issues. Mrs. Gentile explained that Ticqua has come across dogs of all sizes. Attorney Gibson asked if there was anything else Mrs. Gentile would like to say and she stated that to euthanize another dog because of the negligence of a dog kennel would be a mistake; what happened here was that three dogs got out of the area that they were supposed to be contained in; Gibson failed us, failed the Demers and did not keep their end of the bargain, which was to keep our dogs safe and secure. Continuing, Mrs. Gentile stated that all three dogs were in an area together and they were not supposed to be and they were unsupervised. To be completely honest and blunt with you, it is not surprising to her at all that a dog fight broke out. No one knows how long the dogs were together back there so no one knows exactly what happened--we only know the outcome. Attorney Gentile asked for Bob Clark to testify. Mr. Clark introduced himself and stated he was a professional dog trainer and owner of a business called Bob Clarks Dog Training located in Northbridge, which he has been

doing for 30 years full time. Attorney Gentile asked Mr. Clark about the kind of training he had. Mr. Clark responded that he went to several schools including the United States K-9 Academy in Waterbury, CT and that he had attended several seminars. Attorney Gentile asked how many dogs he works with in the course of a year. Mr. Clark replied 300 – 400 dogs per year. Attorney Gentile asked if Mr. Clark has been doing this for 30 years and Mr. Clark replied yes. Attorney Gentile asked about Mr. Clark about his evaluation of Ticqua and when it was done. Mr. Clark answered August 24th. Attorney Gentile asked out of the 8 hours of observation, how much time was with Ticqua. Mr. Clark stated most of that time including a couple of times where they had her on a run where he would observe her so he could establish whether she was agitated but she napped for a couple of hours. Attorney Gentile asked if she was exposed to aggressive dogs. Mr. Clark replied yes. Attorney Gentile asked how were the dogs aggressive and how were they behaving. Mr. Clark replied that it depended upon the dog. He noted that Ticqua was put in a kennel [that did not have an isolation panel] with several different types of dogs throughout the time next to her. He explained some of the dogs were not aggressive at all and some were aggressive towards her but she had no reaction to that. Mr. Clark described that they also took her outside on a leash and walked in front of several cages where some dogs reacted very aggressively towards her and she had no reaction even up close. Attorney Gentile asked if she was as big as or larger than those dogs. Mr. Clark said yes. He also said there were two Chihuahua's that don't like other dogs who acted very aggressively towards Ticqua and she just stared at them. Attorney Gentile asked if Mr. Clark felt as though Ticqua was an aggressive dog. Mr. Clark replied not at all. He said they spent a lot of time with her and other people as well as other dogs weighing anywhere from 10 to 190 pounds; they had her behind the fence with the dogs on a leash and she was very friendly and seemed fine to him. Attorney Gentile verified that he was in the room to hear everyone testify and asked if Mr. Clark thought it was possible that Ticqua killed the two dogs. Mr. Clark replied he was very sorry for the loss of the Demers' dogs but just can't see that coming from Ticqua. He added that he is flabbergasted himself and just can't see it. Attorney Gibson stated he had no further questions. Chairman Melia asked if there were any questions from the Board. Mr. Nolan asked if when Ticqua was picked up if there were any injuries to Ticqua that day. Mrs. Gentile replied that there were not any large or obvious injuries and if she had scrapes or bites especially from a small dog it would be very difficult to detect because of the thick fur. Mr. Nolan asked if Ticqua has ever tried to escape or get out from the fenced-in yard or is she a digger. Mrs. Gentile replied no. Mr. Athanas asked Mr. Clark if there was typically more friction with 3 male dogs even though Ticqua was a female. Mr. Clark responded saying that it really depends on the dog. Chairman Melia asked if Attorney Gentile had any questions for cross examination of the previous witnesses. Attorney Gentile had no questions. Mr. Melia called up Attorney Wheeler for questions to the Gentiles. Attorney Wheeler asked Mr. Clark to verify whether he had witnessed the situation involving Ticqua. Mr. Clark replied he did not witness it. Mr. Wheeler asked if it was Attorney Gentile who requested that he evaluate Ticqua. Mr. Clark replied yes. Mr. Wheeler then asked if Mr. Gentile ask that he evaluate the dog to determine if the dog was dangerous. Mr. Clark answered yes. Mr. Wheeler asked with respect to the Husky breed, is it true that they are known as natural escape artists. Mr. Clark replied some of them can be. Attorney Wheeler then asked if they have been known to dig under fences, jump over, and sometimes separate chain link fences. Mr. Clark replied there are several breeds of dogs that will do that. Mr. Wheeler asked if it was true that Huskies have a high prey drive. Mr. Clark replied that breeds have base line instincts but it is very difficult to say that every single one of them have that same base line instinct. Mr. Wheeler continued and asked if they are let loose could they attack or kill small animals. Mr. Clark replied that any dog could do that. Mr. Wheeler asked about his report on Ticqua, specifically regarding when he allowed dogs that were unleashed and asked if it was while she was in the cage and if he created a situation where two dogs Chihuahua and a Poodle were allowed to roam freely next to her. Mr. Clark replied they had two Chihuahuas next to her. Mr. Wheeler asked if Attorney Gentile provided him with any information or facts regarding the incident itself. Mr. Clark replied that he did not know what happened only the results. Mr. Wheeler asked if anyone had described or showed him the location of the incident. Mr. Clark stated he heard two different things: one was that the dogs somehow got into Ticqua's cage and the second was he also heard that the three dogs were found outside the kennel not in the cages and he explained he doesn't know which way it really occurred. Mr. Wheeler then asked if he had ever made any trips to the Gibson Kennel to inspect the area. Mr. Clark replied he had not. Mr. Wheeler asked if he was ever shown any photographs of his client's dogs. Mr. Clark replied he was not. Attorney Gentile asked Mr. Clark how much he was paid for his services. Mr. Clark answered \$125. Chairman Melia asked if Mr. Gibson would like to come forward and speak. Mr. Gibson introduced himself and explained since he was not present at the time of the attack he could only do an investigation of what was told to him. He explained the lower latch of the husky's kennel that attaches to the concrete was bent and

broke over, and another bracket two kennels over was bent as well. He stated when one gate opens or if one gate gets broke or fails, it caused the other gates to move because they aren't independent. Mr. Gibson explained because the husky got out, it caused the other kennel door to raise up, which caused the three dogs to be out together. Chairman Melia verified that was what he assumed, to which Mr. Gibson replied that was correct and explained because the bracket on the ground was broken and stated it was definitely an oversight on his part. Chairman Melia asked the Board if there were any further questions. Mr. Marzec asked about Mr. Gibson's statement regarding his son who was 24 years old and what his experience was as far as respect to the kennel as to supervising it by himself. Mr. Gibson stated only the last several years, but he really did not have to supervise much because there are 3 full-time managers. Mr. Marzec asked if any of the managers were present at the time. Mr. Gibson replied they were not present at the time. Mr. Ampagoomian asked how often the safety of the kennels was checked. Mr. Gibson replied the outdoor kennels were checked annually every spring, and the interior kennels are checked twice a year because they are used more often. Mr. Ampagoomian then asked which way the interior kennels opened whether it was inward or outward. Mr. Gibson explained the interior kennels open towards the visitor and the outside kennels used to open out and in but now only open inward. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified that the Husky broke the outside door to go to the outside. Mr. Gibson stated that was correct, not the latch itself where the gate is opened but it was a bracket on the concrete. Mr. Ampagoomian asked regarding the kennel door where the toy poodle and chihuahua were if the door was in or out. Mr. Gibson stated the door was actually closed but the poodle and chihuahua were able to sneak under the gate and explained the gate was closed when his staff went out. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if there were any cameras on the premises. Mr. Gibson replied no, not in the outdoor area, and clarified that they did not at the time. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if there was any other contact information outside of the Demers' and if there was anyone else he could have called. Mr. Gibson replied they had no emergency contact information for them and the phone number that was on file was not theirs; the only thing available was an email address. He stated he emailed them at least 5 times while they were gone trying to get in touch with them. Chairman Melia said that he assumed how the incident happened based on what he saw after the incident, and asked if there was a possibility another dog could be involved. Mr. Gibson replied that at the time there was no other outdoor gates open or any issues with any of the other gates. Mr. Athanas asked if it was his son and the young lady who were the first to come to the scene. Mr. Gibson clarified that the young lady was the first to hear the incident. Mr. Athanas verified that no one actually saw anything but she went outside and found Ticqua over the dog. Mr. Gibson answered that she actually looked outside the indoor/outdoor kennel and saw that Ticqua was out there with Graham and when she went outside Graham had already passed and they then proceeded to find Odin. Mr. Athanas asked if she said what they were doing when she looked outside, if he was chasing him or had the incident already passed. Mr. Gibson stated Ticqua and Graham were in Ticqua's outdoor portion of the kennel and Ticqua's mouth was on Graham's belly. With no further questions from the Board, Mr. Gibson asked if he could add something. Mr. Gibson added that as far as Ticqua is concerned she had been coming to him for about 8 years and he knew her very well and he never had a problem with her and would have trusted her with his own chihuahuas. He stated that in his mind no matter what a dog does it is not right to put them down; they are animals and have an instinct that no one can explain. Mr. Gibson added he was truly sorry for Graham and Odin and that this incident will haunt him for the rest of his life. Chairman Melia explained that at this point he would announce the investigative reports in the order in which they were received. He stated the first report was from Rochelle Thompson, Northbridge Animal Inspector, who was not able to attend tonight's meeting. Next was the report from Dan Chauvin, Northbridge Animal Control Officer and Mr. Melia asked Mr. Chauvin to come forward. Mr. Chauvin stated his first initial hearing of the incident was from Eugene Ploss, the Grafton Animal Control Officer, who called him and left a message stating that an incident had occurred at Gibson Kennel in Grafton during which a Northbridge dog had killed two dogs. He also left the Gentiles contact information. He stated he contacted Rochelle Thompson to get the quarantine process started, which is standard procedure. Chairman Melia asked what the standard procedure was. Mr. Chauvin explained that whenever a dog bites another dog or bites a person it is always quarantined for a specific period of time depending on the variables of the situation, i.e. vaccination status, depending if it was a dog to a human, or dog to another dog that will dictate how long the animal is quarantined for. Chairman Melia asked if on a certain date he traveled to see the dog. Mr. Chauvin replied he had traveled to the Gentiles. Chairman Melia asked what he had found. Mr. Chauvin replied the first thing he does when called to a home with a potentially vicious dog he is on his guard knocking on the door usually with his foot to the storm door in case the dog tries to get through. Continuing, Mr. Chauvin said he knocked on the door and Mrs. Gentile answered the door with Mr. Gentile. There was no dog present or barking, and after speaking

with them for a couple of minutes they asked if he would like to meet the dog to which he replied certainly. He noted they asked him to enter through the rear of the house where it was safer to do so. The Gentiles then opened the door and called to Ticqua and it took her about 60 seconds just to get to the door. Mr. Chauvin stated he was expecting an enthusiastic dog to come barreling out at him but she casually walked out and introduced herself. She laid down and let him scratch and pet her. He also pushed her around to try to elicit some sort of aggressive response. Mr. Chauvin pointed out he was a complete stranger on her turf, which makes for a good place to elicit that behavior because that is where they feel most confident and that is their space and you're invading it. He explained the dog completely yielded to anything he wanted to do with her. He stated if told her to sit, she'd sit, lay down, she did and he reiterated that he is a stranger to this dog. He described the dog as 100% cooperative. Chairman Melia asked if he was able to determine if all of her shots and vaccinations were up to date and was the dog registered. Mr. Chauvin explained that is done by the Animal Inspector but learned in the meantime that the dog was up to date on her shots but was not registered at the time but was then done immediately. Chairman Melia asked if he was aware of the police doing a query on the logs to determine if there were any other complaints. Mr. Chauvin replied yes, but there was nothing. He indicated that he himself has never heard the Gentile name until this incident; that he has never picked her up loose; and never had a barking complaint or biting incident. Chairman Melia asked how long he has been Animal Control Officer. Mr. Chauvin replied it will be 15 years coming up. Chairman Melia opened it up to questions from the Board members. Mr. Athanas verified what Mr. Chauvin said and wrote the dog is not a danger or a nuisance. Mr. Chauvin stated absolutely not and that he would stake his reputation on it and stated what he wants to stress from an Animal Control standpoint is that Animal Control promotes the practice of when you go away to put your animals in a facility that is safe--where they will be cared for 24 hours a day. He stated the Gentiles, as sorry as he is for the Demers' loss and he cannot express his sympathy enough, they are victims too. He explained both of these parties entered their dogs into that facility with the understanding they would be kept safe and free from any incident whether it is violence or anything. Whether Ticqua killed the dogs or not is irrelevant in the fact that neither the Demers' dogs or Ticqua was on their own turf. Continuing, Mr. Chauvin explained any dog in its own home is not the same dog that you are going to find in a group kennel setting. He explained it could be comparable to a human being going into a prison for the first time. All of the other prisoners are checking out who is coming in, what they can exploit from each other, only for dogs it is silent and subtle. There is all types of communication going on with dogs in a group kennel setting, which is why you base your kennel procedure and protocol on the worst case scenario. Mr. Chauvin said you need to be prepared for the worst thing that could happen and somewhere along the line that did not happen. He explained what he calls the three P's: procedure, protocol, and presence, and all three failed that day. There was no presence, no protocol being followed and no procedure to ensure that everything was okay. It wasn't done by Mr. Gibson because he wasn't there. Chairman Melia turned to the Board for questions and/or comments. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if the Gentiles were present when Mr. Chauvin went to see Ticqua. Mr. Chauvin replied they were. Mr. Ampagoomian followed up and asked if he was not able to observe Ticqua without the Gentiles present to which Mr. Chauvin replied no. Mr. Wheeler asked if he could ask some questions. Chairman Melia clarified that this was not a court of law but stated he would limit it to two questions each. Mr. Wheeler stated that one thing that stuck out during Mr. Chauvin's testimony was when he said when a dog kills another dog it's irrelevant and asked if it was irrelevant in this case that Ticqua killed his client's dogs. Mr. Chauvin clarified not irrelevant in that respect but irrelevant because it's in a controlled environment that they are paying to be in, and they have an obligation to make sure that all the T's are crossed. Mr. Wheeler asked if under the circumstances it was okay for a dog to kill another dog. Mr. Chauvin replied it was never okay and that was not what he was saying. Mr. Wheeler interrupted asking if he knew what the definition of a dangerous dog was. Mr. Chauvin replied no but he was sure Mr. Wheeler knew. Mr. Wheeler then went on to read the definition of a dangerous dog. Mr. Melia stated that would conclude Mr. Wheeler's two questions and asked for Mr. Ploss to come forward to testify but he was not present at the meeting. Chairman Melia asked for the next investigator for Detective Sergeant John Ouillette from the Northbridge Police Department to come forward. Det. Sgt. Ouillette introduced himself and stated he has been a police officer for the past 12 years and in his current position as Detective Sergeant for the past 8 years. He explained the Gibson Kennel's incident was brought to his attention on July 7, 2015. He was asked to speak with owner Robert Gibson regarding the incident between a husky, a toy poodle, and a chihuahua. He stated that his understanding was the incident took place on the weekend of June 14th while the owners were away on vacation. Chairman Melia asked if he interviewed owner Robert Gibson. Mr. Ouillette replied he spoke to him on the day he was made aware of the incident. Chairman Melia asked if he took a statement from him and Mr. Ouillette replied

he did take a written statement and had it with him. Chairman Melia asked Det. Sgt. Ouillette to read it. Mr. Ouillette read aloud the questions along with Mr. Gibson's answers. Chairman Melia asked if while he was there he took any pictures. Mr. Ouillette replied he took several photographs of the indoor and outdoor cages as well as the outdoor area to the outdoor cages where the dogs would have been loose. Mr. Ouillette explained each of the pictures. Chairman Melia asked the Board if they had any questions. Selectman Ampagoomian asked when he spoke to Mr. Gibson, if his son, Michael, was present. Mr. Ouillette replied the son was not present. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if there was a female employee present. Mr. Ouillette replied there were female employees present and explained he couldn't speak with the female employee that was involved and Mr. Gibson was reluctant to tell him her name due to the negative press and fear of reprisal from the public to the young female had her name become public. Chairman Melia asked if there were any other witnesses that were sworn in that would like to testify. Ms. Demers spoke on behalf of the Demers family stating they know what it's like to lose not one dog but two dogs, and that they do not want to see another dog euthanized. That is not their intention, however, considering the circumstances we do not have either of our dogs but the Gentiles still have their dog. She explained what they were asking for was restrictions. Mr. Melia asked what she thought was a fair restriction. Ms. Demers stated having a muzzle on in public and not allowing the dog to be boarded at kennels she believes that is more than fair. Chairman Melia stated that this would conclude all of the evidence in this case. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to close the dog hearing. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Chairman Melia explained the next part of the process would be for the Board to do one of three things and explained each one: 1) Dismiss the complaint; 2) Deem the dog a nuisance; or 3) Deem the dog a dangerous dog. Continuing, Chairman Melia then asked the Board members for input. Mr. Marzec stated in listening to both sides, words cannot describe how difficult it is for both dog owners. He went on stating that euthanasia is something that is used for a severely dangerous dog and given the information that he heard this evening and the sworn testimony, the evidence and the fact that there doesn't seem to be any record of the incident, meaning there was no one there who witnessed what took place and when it took place. Mr. Marzec explained it would be very difficult for him to go with the ultimate price and stated he would like to hear from the other Board members. Mr. Athanas stated he had a thought for Town Counsel on the liability of the exposure from the town based upon the Selectboard's decision. For example, if we think the dog is innocent and if we vote that with restrictions and it bites someone three years down the road, what is the exposure to the Town. Would there be any or would it just be treated as another incident. Northbridge's legal counsel, David Doneski, stated that the innocent option would be to dismiss the complaint and you would take no further action. He continued stating that the Board is acting in a regulatory capacity as well as in a judicatory capacity because they are conducting an investigation and hearing that is provided for by statute. Attorney Doneski stated with respect to the question of liability, an attorney would never be able to say you absolutely are responsible or you absolutely are not responsible. He stated in his view the Town is carrying out a statutory duty, which is set forth as a specific obligation of this Board and any other community under the law when there is a complaint regarding a dog. Attorney Doneski explained he would not take the position in that your determination here based on the evidence is something that remedially or absolutely is going to be either precedential or the basis of liability. Continuing, Mr. Doneski stated he was not and can't say that no one would make an argument to that effect and in his view the Town has convened the hearing, issued subpoenas, heard testimony from those who wanted to speak, and now it is the Board's determination: they are the hearers and the triers of fact and have to make the decision based on what their determination is. Attorney Doneski advised the Board if they find the dog to be a nuisance dog they are empowered to order remedial action to address that and the same goes for if they find the dog to be a dangerous dog. He explained there are specific kinds of things that the Board can impose as an order, obviously the most severe being euthanasia. Attorney Doneski further advised the board they do have it in their power if they find any responsibility to impose conditions on the dog. Attorney Doneski reiterated that if the Board were to dismiss the complaint there would be no conditions. Chairman Melia asked the Board if they had any further comments or questions. Mr. Nolan rationalized that it would be reasonable to make certain specific conditions, being this dog should not be allowed to be unobserved with other dogs, not to let the dog roam free and remain in a fenced in area or on a leash. Mr. Nolan explained he would like to have some sort of restrictions and stated the innocence or dropping it is not an option for him and stated he is leaning towards a nuisance finding so protections can be put in place. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he would tend to go with Mr. Nolan's recommendation as a nuisance dog but would also like to place the blame if possible on the kennel for the neglect in making the kennels secure. He stated he believes it is Mr. Gibson's responsibility to protect the animals underneath his care and make sure that everything is in proper working order and hopefully he

takes this as a learning tool so in the future any large breed of dog should be placed in a stronger secured kennel area so that something like this does not happen again. Mr. Ampagoomian continued stating he also feels that it was a shame that Michael Demers was not present since he was on the premises when the incident occurred and he stated he understands protecting the young girl but her identity could have remained confidential. He stated that the dog should not be euthanized and believes it should be deemed a nuisance dog for a period of time. Mr. Ampagoomian stated his stipulation would be that the dog be chaperoned while outdoors and be reevaluated at a later point in time in order for the status of being a nuisance dog could be lifted. Chairman Melia stated that there was no direct evidence to show what happened that day and only circumstantial evidence that something took place with the husky and maybe the small dogs attacked him first but no one knows that and in his opinion, based on Mr. Clark's testimony and investigation and based on the Police Department's query of the log for any past occurrences or issues, there is no way that he would deem it to be a dangerous dog. Mr. Melia explained the Board has had these cases in front of them before but were dogs who were repetitious with biting, chasing people, breaking off leashes, etc., He further noted that behavior issues were not shown in this case and in fact it was exactly the opposite. He stated it was a tragedy; there are two dead dogs and in his opinion there is no need for another one. Chairman Melia stated he would lean towards finding guilt as a nuisance dog and have some type of preventive orders placed on the dog for either a short period of time or a period of time where it can be reviewed in the future. Chairman Melia entertained a motion for determining the ruling. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to deem the dog a nuisance dog. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Athanas/ Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. 5-0 Unanimous. Chairman Melia stated next they would discuss what sanction(s) would be placed on the dog. Mr. Athanas stated his thought is for Ticqua to receive training for a set amount of hours where she can be observed for a suitable finding. He stated he would be comfortable seeing Ticqua go once a week for a month for training. Mr. Nolan stated he would restrict this dog from being around other dogs unsupervised for a month. Mr. Athanas clarified his motion would be to received training through a certified kennel once a week for 30 days and receive a report. Mr. Kozak recommended the kennel be selected by the Town's Animal Control Officer so we know it is independent. Mr. Athanas stated he was fine with that. Mr. Ampagoomian agreed. Mr. Melia clarified that the 30 calendar days would start from tonight. Chairman Melia also reiterated that a trainer would be found through the Animal Control Officer to include proper discipline training and report back to the Board in 30 days. Mr. Marzec asked if the report findings are negative after the 30 days, could the Board reevaluate whether or not the dog is a nuisance. Chairman Melia asked Attorney Doneski if that was possible as long as it was part of the motion. Attorney Doneski stated that if the Board intends to set a period of time for the process to continue including dog training, receiving and evaluating the training report, and to make a new determination or further determination as you choose is appropriate. He explained he would construe the proposal to be an interim period of evaluation to determine if it is satisfactory that nothing further is required. However, if the Board could determine that part of its conditions continue and remain in place or that other conditions should be imposed. Chairman Melia asked if he meant that the vote not be taken at this point on the sanction(s). Attorney Doneski clarified that the vote can be taken as proposed but recommended the Board also as part of that vote to have the matter come back to you since you will be receiving a report. He stated he believes the element of that is that you want to be able to discuss it as a Board and make a determination if there is any further action the Board should take based on that report. A motion /Mr. Athanas that once a week for a month, Ticqua must receive training and be evaluated at a neutral kennel chosen by the Northbridge Animal Control Officer and at the end of the 30-day period the Board will receive a report and make the final determination whether any further remedial action or conditions are necessary. Mr. Marzec interjected suggesting the 19th of October would be the appropriate meeting at which the report could be presented to the Board. Mr. Ampagoomian second the motion. Attorney Doneski reminded and suggested the Select Board add Mr. Nolan's suggestion as part B of the motion. Mr. Nolan added part B of the motion: that Ticqua not be allowed any unsupervised contact with other dogs during that 30-day period. Chairman Melia clarified that that was part B of the motion and verified that Mr. Marzec seconded that. Mr. Marzec agreed. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. 5-0 Unanimous. Chairman Melia thanked everyone and announced there would be a 5-minute recess.

Chairman Melia announced the meeting was back in open session and he would be moving the meeting along quickly.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: 1) Richard Chiras, Conservation Commission. Jeremy Deorsey, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, explained the Conservation Commission met with Mr. Chiras and stated that they felt his knowledge of the town and the regulations that govern the Conservation Commission would make him a great member. Mr. Chiras then introduced himself and explained that when he met with the board they asked him why he thought he would be a good candidate to which he responded he knows a lot of people who are sportsmen and environmentalists and as well as people who are builders and contractors and explained that he listens to both sides and feels as though he can make a good compromise on both ends and be a productive member of the board. Chairman Melia asked the Board if they had any comments or questions. Selectman Marzec thanked Mr. Chiras for submitting his name and stated he remembered his store being on Church Street and is glad to see him apply for this position. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he was interested in the comment Mr. Chiras made about knowing contractors, builders, hunters, and conservationists and his willingness to learn from each side and compromise, and clarified that he is willing to work with the individuals for the best interest of the community and to protect the environment. Mr. Chiras replied he was willing to work with individuals; sometimes you need to be black and white but there is usually an awful lot of gray in the middle and there should not be any arguing. Chairman Melia commented stating he liked Mr. Chiras' comment about compromising and takes his word on that and thanked him for his interest in serving and proceeded to entertain a motion. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Nolan to appoint Richard Chiras to the Conservation Commission. Vote yes/Unanimous.

2) Cynthia Donati, Zoning Board of Appeals [Regular Member]. Thomas Hansson, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, explained he has known Ms. Donati for over 15 years and she has been a realtor for longer than that and she does a good job. He explained as part of her profession she reviews zoning issues and has reached out to him numerous times regarding questions she has had, which most of the time she is confirming with him that she is correct. Mr. Hansson stated she would be a great addition to the Board. Ms. Donati stated that through her profession she has been able to learn about zoning and the correct interpretation of rules and regulations and said she would like to contribute what she knows to the board. Chairman Melia asked the Selectmen if they had any questions. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if due to her profession she can see any conflict with serving on the zoning board. Ms. Donati stated there may be at times but she would remove herself if there was a conflict. Mr. Marzec stated he has known Ms. Donati professionally and personally and she definitely is well-established and contributes a lot to civic and charitable activities in Town and elsewhere and would highly recommend her for the position. Chairman Melia entertained a motion. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded /Mr. Marzec to appoint Ms. Donati to the Zoning Board. Vote yes/Unanimous.

3) Douglas C. Curving, Zoning Board of Appeals [Associate Member]. Again, Mr. Hanson explained the ZBA is trying to build their board back up after all of the resignations they have had. He added that they now have a full board but would also like couple of Associate Members so if any of the regular members are absent or cannot participate, the alternate can take their place. Mr. Curving introduced himself explaining he was a lifelong resident, moved to Oxford in the 90's but has since moved back. He also explained he was a business owner, sold the business and is now in corporate America. Chairman Melia entertained a motion. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Mr. Curving as an Associate Member to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Vote yes/Unanimous.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT Local Business Spotlight: Little Man Originals – Present:

Christine Guanipa, Proprietor. Christine Guanipa was not present so Chairman Melia asked if anyone from the audience had any comments/questions. Dennis Angelo, resident of 40 Riverdale Street, addressed the excess amount of traffic and noise on the Street. He stated on a daily basis around 30-50 trucks are going up and down the hill most of which have engine brakes blaring down the hill. In addition, there are water trucks going 24 hours a day at times 7 days a week and it is and has been for the last year a nuisance as it interferes with his life. Mr. Angelo explained he is awoken at all hours; sometimes 3:00 in the morning, sometimes 5:30 in the morning and it's all because of the trucks. He stressed there must be something that can be done about it. He also reported that the gravel is not supposed to be down the hill before 7 AM but it starts at 5 AM. At 3:00 AM, the water trucks are there with their engine brakes blaring, along with dust and fumes from exhaust. Mr. Angelo strongly expressed that he would like something done about the situation. Mr. Melia explained that the Select Board does not get involved in discussions under Citizens Comments and asked Mr. Angelo if he had any paperwork. He said he knows they haul water but it shouldn't be allowed at 3 AM. Mr. Angelo stated the residents were told by the water company that they can haul water 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Chairman Melia stated that maybe they have a permit that he was not aware of but

will look into it. Mr. Angelo stated the trucks are going through a residential area. Chairman Melia stated it is also a business area as well. Mr. Angelo pointed out that below the tracks was residential and as far as the water goes when they first started hauling the water they were hauling it off the other side of the bridge on the Quaker Street side of the bridge where the wells are. He said they should haul the water from the side of the bridge where the wells are instead of pumping it across the river. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Angelo to leave his contact information with the Town Manager so we can look into it and get back to him. Mr. Angelo replied he would and thanked the Board.

2015 Massworks Infrastructure application/1) Vote to authorize Chairman Melia to submit the application on behalf of the Town for a project to be known as the “Church Street Extension Corridor Project”. 2) Vote to authorize acceptance of state funding for this project (estimated at \$1.8 million).

Town Manager Kozak explained the Town applied for this grant last year to do some infrastructure work on Church Street Extension but unfortunately, Northbridge was not chosen. He felt the Town had a strong application that Gary Bechtholdt and Jim Shuris had done a lot of work on but thought we should apply again. Mr. Kozak explained that Osterman’s is doing more work to help strengthen the grant application and believes it is well worth it. Mr. Melia clarified that it is Church Street Extension and includes the intersection at Quaker and Church Streets. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to authorize Chairman Melia to submit the application for the 2015 MassWorks infrastructure application on behalf of the town for the project to be known as Church Street Extension Corridor Project and authorize acceptance of state funding for the project estimated at 1.8 million. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he would also like to include letters of support from Representative Muradian and Senator Fattman and also solicit the help of George Peterson who is part of the State’s new Parks and Recreation Department under Governor Baker’s staff. Mr. Kozak explained he has asked our representatives and believes they all sent letters of support. Yes vote/Unanimous.

Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) / Vote intent to layout Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) as a public way. Mr. Kozak advised that the Planning Board submitted an article for the Fall Annual Town Meeting for the acceptance of Deane Way. He mentioned that the first step of the street acceptance process is for the Board to vote their intent to layout the road and then at a subsequent meeting, the Board will actually vote to layout the road and sign the mylar plan(s). He stated he was aware there were still some things that needed to be done and the contractor is working with the DPW. By the next meeting, we should have a recommendation from the Planning Board. Chairman Melia entertained a motion. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec that the Board vote their intent to layout Deane Way [Hillside Garden Estates] as a public way. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 27, 2015] / Vote to sign warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel. A motion/ Mr. Marzec seconded/ Mr. Nolan. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Armenian Apostolic Church/1) Request to hang a banner over Church Street from April 10, 2016 to April 24, 2016 to commemorate Martyrs’ Day. 2) Request to hang a banner over Church Street from August 7, 2016 to August 21, 2016 to advertise the annual Armenian Picnic to be held on Sunday, August 21, 2016. A motion Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant permission to the Armenian Church to hang a banner over Church Street for the following dates: April 10, 2016 to April 24, 2016 [Martyrs’ Day] and from August 7, 2016 to August 21, 2016 [Armenian Picnic]. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Village Congregational Church [Robert G. Sherwood, Pastor]/Request permission to use Memorial Park on Sunday, October 11, 2015, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for a worship service. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant permission to the Village Congregational Church to use Memorial Park on Sunday October 11, 2015, from 9AM to 11AM for a worship service. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Pine Grove Cemetery / Peter A. Hogan [Lot Nos. 85 and 87 – Fir Ave. South]. A motion Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the sale of lots 85 and 87 Fir Ave. South for Peter A. Hogan. Vote yes/Unanimous.

MRA Multisport [Alex Rogozenski] /1) Request to hold the 4th annual 1st Day 5k road race beginning at 11 AM. 2) Request to close down Linwood Avenue. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Rogozenski to give the board a description of the event. Mr. Rogozenski stated he was looking to hold the 4th annual 1st Day 5K, on January 1, 2016; nothing has changed since last year and the route is the same. He stated the race starts by the Community Center and heads down Linwood Avenue. He is currently working with the police department on closing down Linwood Avenue as it has been in the past. He stated it would be the same start time and the same course and that the race will benefit the Northbridge Middle School Booster Club. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to grant permission to MRA Multisport to hold the 1st Day 5K Road Race at 11AM, January 1, 2016, and to close down Linwood Avenue all subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Safety Committee Minutes [May 20, 2015 and August 19, 2015]/Vote to accept recommendations. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of May 20, 2015 and August 19, 2015. Vote yes/Unanimous.

CDM Smith/Update re: Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, plant and permit, and Gravity Thickener Rebuild – Present: James Shuris, DPW Director, Robert Otoski, Megan Moody, and Chad Kershaw. Mr. Shuris began stating they had good results to report on and CDM Smith with the support of Sewer Superintendent Mark Kuras have done a great job. He explained the purpose of this study was to improve our wastewater systems and to work closely with the regulatory people on the permit. Mr. Shuris stated when this work is completed it will create a more efficient water program, hopefully eliminate iodine, which is clean water entering into the system, and not having to clean already clean water. He explained since the start of this project 2 years ago, we have developed a sewer map for most of the town, which will be included on subdivisions, identify the pipe sizes, how to make improvements, and viewing pumping stations. Mr. Shuris then turned the microphone over to Chad Kershaw and Robert Otoski of CDM Smith. Mr. Kershaw explained that from the comprehensive wastewater management plan in September 2013, there were a number of recommendations from then. He further explained that it was divided into 3 parts, each with their own recommendations, there is the collection system, which is all of the pipelines that get the wastewater to the treatment plant, pump stations that when you reach a low point it needs to be pumped further to get all the way to the treatment plant, then the wastewater treatment plant itself. Mr. Kershaw spoke regarding the pump stations and stated Mr. Otoski would speak regarding the collection system and the findings. He stated the pump stations are not enormous but were inspected and they made some minor recommendations for immediate action to be taken. Mr. Kershaw explained these recommendations are in a position where they should just be monitored, receive routine maintenance, inspections, and replacement of pumps and components on an as-needed basis. He specified that he worked on the design of the wastewater treatment plant in the late 90's, which was completed around 2001, and that it has done a good job of meeting the test of time. Mr. Kershaw stated a permit was issued to increase the requirements of making it more stringent mostly with respect to nutrient removals specifically nitrogen at the wastewater plant, which was also issued in 2013. He explained there were other components of the permit as well, the more important being aluminum. He explained the nitrogen part first stating that when it was issued they felt reasonably confident that the plant with the infrastructure as designed in 2000, along with some operational modifications, would be capable of meeting the new permit and if this was the case it was good news for the town because any substantial improvements would have run around \$2 to \$4 million dollars. Continuing, Mr. Kershaw explained program testing was devised, remodeling operational changes, and to date it appears as though they have been able to succeed on that front with no substantial modifications required for the treatment plant. He continued stating at this point in time he would say that we are going to meet the mandate of the permit with respect to nitrogen and what the town should be doing or thinking about now since the existing treatment plant is adequate to treat the nitrogen and any focus on any upgrades to the treatment plant should be on the fact that it is a 15 year old facility and it is time to take a good careful look at replacing some of the units and not waiting for something to fail. He explained that pumps, blowers, and mixers that are 15 years old could fail causing a permit violation. Mr. Kershaw stated the second component was aluminum, which was puzzling right now. He explained the way to deal with aluminum in a wastewater treatment plant is classically not to try to remove it but look at what the source is. He explained an aluminum compound is part of the treatment process but because of variations that were seen in what is being discharged by the plant we don't believe that that is the source of the aluminum. Mr. Kershaw stated their suspicion is because elevated amounts have been found in the effluent to the plant and from the two different

interceptors, which has them scratching their heads as to what the actual source of the aluminum is. Mr. Kershaw stated what he believes is a reasonable recommendation is for the town to undergo a sampling program to try and determine what the source of the aluminum is on the interceptors and if in fact the sources can be identified, then through a discharge permit for users to the interceptors that aluminum should be controlled by an Industrial Pretreatment Program. Mr. Kershaw completed his update and asked if there were any questions from the Board before he turned it over to Mr. Otoski. Mr. Ampagoomian asked about the interceptors and which ones he was talking about. Mr. Kershaw stated they found aluminum on both of the two main interceptors and would not have expected there to be multiple sources of aluminum in a town like Northbridge. He added that it jumps, which makes it seem as though it is dumps of aluminum at different times. Mr. Kozak spoke regarding the immediate action is to have a plan in place--making sure we maintain everything properly and asked if they had a schedule to look at to see if it affects what we have for rates. Mr. Kershaw replied stating they have not done any rate studies for the town but last year in the spring prior to town meeting they gave the town 4 separate letter proposals for items that were raised and the management plan and at that point in time the decision was made to focus the study on the nitrogen and something the town was advised to get going on right away because it is extensive and it takes years and that was the initial study for the interceptor for the condition of the pipes and dealing with the Inflow and Infiltration [I and I]. Mr. Kershaw explained the other proposals were deferred so they could get working on the bigger items. Mr. Shuris spoke stating that one of the benefits of the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan [CWMP] is that part of it is to have a capital project improvement section that prioritizes what comes first and what comes second both in treatment and collection. Mr. Otoski spoke regarding the collection system and what has been done over the past 2 years since the CWMP was completed and also the next steps. Mr. Otoski stated the first recommendation was to complete a flow monitoring program that allows the town to find the general location and quantities of inflow and infiltration entering the collection system. He stated back in March 2014, 17 flow meters were installed in the town's collection system of which 17 sub-areas were made throughout the town where the meters were installed at the downstream end of each area. Mr. Otoski stated this allows them to calculate the inflow and infiltration coming from each area, which is then used to prioritize the sub-areas. He explained that in the findings of the 17 sub-areas: 7 had excessive inflow or infiltration; Sub-areas 3 and 4, which are located in the Whitinsville area of Town north of Linwood Avenue and include Hill Street, Cottage Street, Church Street and East Street found 2 were excessive in inflow and infiltration. He justified that it did make sense because it is the oldest part of the collection system with a lot of clay pipes, which is typical of infiltration and inflow. Mr. Otoski said the area had exceeded the infiltration thresholds due to ground water entering the pipes through defects such as broken pipes, leaky joints, roots entering the joints, etc. and continued stating that they recommend the first three points under Section 2, which is flow isolation, CCTV inspection, and manhole inspection. He continued explaining each of the recommendations stating that flow isolations and CCTV inspections would allow them to go in with cameras and find the defects and manhole inspections are similar but allows them to go into the manholes and find any defects in the walls, pipe connections, and bricks, etc. Mr. Otoski said sub-areas that have excessive inflow are due to direct connections to the sewer system by sump pumps, roof leaders, catch basins, etc. and clarified that bullets 4 and 5 are the recommendations being suggested. He added smoke testing and house to house dye testing would occur in the summer of 2016 and also in 2017. Mr. Otoski stated the Town completed the full isolation this spring and based on the results from that they are recommending CCTV inspections of about 20,000 feet next spring when the ground water is the highest and manhole inspections as well. He concluded that once all the investigations are completed all of the sewer mains and manholes will be prioritized and they will recommend construction projects to rehabilitate the mains and manholes. Mr. Otoski stated that for now they have a place holder for 2017 thru 2021, which assumes that 5 smaller construction projects will occur over 5 years and that allows for the budget to be spread out and to complete work under 1 construction season. Mr. Otoski asked the Board if they had any questions. There being none, he went on to discuss the gravity thickener upgrade project and stated it consisted of rehabbing 2 of the original 14-foot diameter thickeners. The rehab work will also include the removal and replacement of the gear box, existing platform, guardrails and grating, feed well, center column, thickener arms and scraper blades and all associated electrical wiring. He mentioned the bids were received by the Town last November for which RH White Construction was the low bidder and as such, was awarded the contract in January of 2015. As of September 9, 2015, the project is essentially completed all mechanisms have been installed and are in operation. He added there is a punch list of items left and they expect the work to be completed by the end of the month. Mr. Kershaw explained that a gravity thickener is a component of the previously constructed plants so they were built decades before 2000 and were

incorporated into the design and upgraded in 2000, and it is where the wastewater solids are collected, concentrated and then trucked out for ultimate disposal. He said a study was done a few years ago on how to cut the cost of sludge disposal and found that gravity thickening was a viable option so a couple of years ago an additional gravity thickener was added. After that was done, there was some redundancy and the gravity thickeners were upgraded for continued use. Mr. Kuras reiterated that the gravity thickeners were from a 1975 upgrade and the life expectancy is generally 25 years and it's been 40, so it was time. He stated these will be the last pieces of equipment from the upgrade in 1975. Mr. Kozak stated CDM has done a very good job working with our current operation and doing what they can to maintain their permit. There have been a lot of things done over the last couple of years and fortunately the Town has been able to use the retained earnings to do some projects. As a result, about 7-8 years ago, sewer rates were increased because the fees were used for capital improvements. Continuing, Mr. Kozak advised the Board he believes we are getting close to the time again where we may have to consider a fee increase to keep the capital flowing in order to take care of these needs. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if RH White came in on budget and on time. Mr. Otoski replied yes. Mr. Athanas asked if they had a guestimate on a dollar amount for the capital expenditures for 2017 – 2021. Mr. Otoski stated for planning purposes they assumed a million dollars per project but it would depend on what they find from the investigations. Mr. Kershaw stated the first phase that Mr. Otoski described is for two things: 1) to try to quantify any infiltration problems and get a better idea as to where they are and 2) to design and bid out for a contractor to fix what is found through the camera inspection. He then stated that you wouldn't want to camera inspect everything because that would be too expensive so the flow metering is a logical first step. Chairman Melia thanked them for coming in.

Building Planning and Construction Committee /Update on DPW Facility - Present: Michael Beaudoin, Chairman. Mr. Beaudoin stated there had been no substantial changes since the last meeting. Mr. Shuris put the estimate on the Town's letterhead to reiterate the points. He spoke with Mr. Kozak recently about validating the engineering cost and to make sure the front-end cost, bid package, and engineering is all in order, which he will follow up on. He stated last week, Mr. Shuris asked him to look at the emergency generator portion. Mr. Beaudoin recently contacted Caterpillar and gave them a rough description of the facility based on square footage and an estimate for materials and then compared notes with Mr. Shuris', which were pretty much spot on for a \$75,000 generator package. Mr. Beaudoin reminded the Board that this was pre-engineering and these numbers are not final. Mr. Shuris stated he wanted everyone to understand that they are trying to work outside the flood plain/riverfront and stated if they can fit a larger building on that footprint they will do it but right now they are looking at an 8,000 square foot building. Mr. Shuris added they would also improve the existing building, which would cost approximately \$175,000 in repairs. He also noted that as of right now the DPW has their smaller equipment stored at Pine Grove, not that those buildings do not need repair work but they can be used for storage. He said there should be around 14,000-16,000 square feet of inside storage when the project is complete noting that the location of the building was a prime location, since all the buildings they maintain are within close proximity to it. Chairman Melia clarified with Mr. Beaudoin that at the last meeting of the BPCC, they had supported moving forward with this project. Mr. Beaudoin stated that was correct; they were behind it unanimously with no dissension. Chairman Melia stated he would like the BPCC to come to every meeting to keep the public informed about this proposed project and then asked the Board if they had any questions. Mr. Kozak stated the Town was still looking at \$2 million to do the project. He also noted he spoke to the Assessor's Office regarding a 5-year borrowing to save on interest and explained the average house would be taxed an additional \$80 per year.

Fundraiser for a new Council on Aging vehicle - Present: Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director. Ms. Bol introduced herself and Ted Haringa, the Chairman of the Council on Aging, and thanked him for attending the meeting with her. Ms. Bol began and emphasized the fact that the in-town transportation program sponsored by the Northbridge Senior Center is a vital door-to-door service available to elderly patrons and disabled persons of any age within our community. She reported in 2014, a total of 7,894 rides were provided. Currently, the Council on Aging (COA) has two vehicles: the primary one is a 2005 18-passenger mini-bus with a little over 81,000 miles and the second vehicle is a 2008 10-passenger van with over 110,000 miles and is used as the back-up vehicle when needed. Ms. Bol specified that both vehicles are showing wear and tear and are requiring additional services beyond regular maintenance. She said that it is their intention to replace the primary vehicle with a 14-passenger mini-bus equipped with a lift. Ms. Bol continued stating that FINE (Friends of Northbridge Elders), a fundraising group, has committed to 20% of the cost, and the COA

has submitted an article for the annual fall town meeting for the remainder of the purchase price. She stated in an effort to reduce the amount requested from the Town, the COA is committing to a fundraising campaign. Ms. Bol pointed out that COA's are not permitted to fundraise but there are exceptions to this rule. According to the ethics commission, funds may be requested for a specific purpose and any donations received must be held in a separate bank account. Ms. Bol added she will be coordinating with FINE to set up the new account and donations will be made to FINE because they are a private non-profit 501 (C) (3), so it can be used as a charitable tax deductible donation. Ms. Bol explained the campaign will be begin on September 21, 2015 and will end on October 26, 2015. She stated to the board that she wanted to make them aware of what their efforts were going to be. Chairman Melia asked if the Board had any questions. Mr. Marzec asked what the estimated cost would be. Ms. Bol answered the estimated comeback was \$63,000 and FINE has committed to 20%, which is roughly \$12,000 so they will need to fund a balance of about \$50,000. She mentioned the actual goal is to try to raise around \$40,000, which would lessen the amount needed from the Town. Mr. Kozak explained that the COA will know the final amount needed in time for town meeting but for now the COA has submitted a warrant article to fund the full remaining balance of \$50,000. However, a lesser amount could be appropriated depending on the results of the fundraising campaign. Mr. Athanas asked how the word will be spread other than tonight's meeting. Ms. Bol stated they have prepared a letter that will be sent out to local businesses, they will also make personal visits to businesses, and they hope to spread the word through press releases and the local cable station. Mr. Ampagoomian suggested reaching out to Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce as well. Ms. Bol clarified that they were on the list and thanked him for his suggestion. Mr. Haringa advised that in the past, all of the busses they acquired came through a Mobility Assistance program, which falls under the Department of Transportation [DOT] and for which there are annual applications. He noted that the former director was able to successfully complete that program. He also mentioned this past March, Ms. Bol submitted a lengthy and detailed application but it was unsuccessful due to the fact that only 37% of the applications were funded compared to 92% in 2014. Mr. Haringa explained that they came in on a year where there was high activity and not many funds adding he believed this was among the few times the COA has had to come to the town for the funding of a vehicle. Chairman Melia thanked them for coming in and wished them good luck.

Selectmen's meeting schedule. Mr. Kozak advised he requested to have this item on the agenda because he is unable to attend the next Selectmen's meeting on September 28th because he will be out of town at a manager's conference and Chairman Melia will be away for the October 5th meeting. Therefore it is up to the Board if they want to maintain the current meeting schedule or change it. Chairman Melia said he did not have a problem meeting on September 28th without Mr. Kozak and canceling the October 5th meeting. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he thought it would be best to go ahead with the meeting on September 28th and to cancel the October 5th meeting. There being no further comments, a motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to move this item [Selectmen's Meeting Schedule] from discussions to decisions. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to meet on September 28, 2015, and to cancel the October 5, 2015 Selectmen's meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Review procedure for Board / Committee members who resign. Selectman Ampagoomian noted there are a lot of people who have served on Town Boards and Commissions for many years who at some point decide to resign and move on in their lives, move to another town or just choose to step down. He said sending a letter of thanks just doesn't seem like enough and added that the Town should do something more like giving them a plaque to really show the town's appreciation for their loyalty and dedication and for devoting so much of their time to support and make the town a better place to live. Mr. Kozak reminded the Board that employees and volunteers with 25 years or more of service receive a plaque. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified that he was thinking of the individuals who have served for a long period of time and then leave or retire. Chairman Melia stated what he understood from what the Town Manager said is that a standard thank you letter is sent out right after someone resigns and for those that serve 25 or more years would receive a plaque every 5 years at an awards ceremony. Mr. Kozak reiterated that right now members receive a plaque at 5-year intervals: 25 years, 30 years, 35 years, etc. of service, but if someone resigned after 32 years the last plaque they received would have been for the 5-year increment in this example 30 years of service.

Street Lights. Mr. Shuris pointed out that in August, Ms. Caryn Gagner brought a couple of issues to our attention, namely, Cobra head streetlights that are turned off as well as the Town Hall parking lot light and

stated he would like to congratulate and compliment Ms. Gagner for bringing those issues to our attention. He then said he spent some time with Bob Russell [National Grid] and they checked out the affected Cobra head streetlights and Tom Kuik [Kuik Electric], who checked out the affected ornamental lights in the downtown area. Mr. Shuris explained the ornamental lights are metered and the town pays for and maintains them. He also mentioned that Mr. Kozak and Mr. Ampagoomian suggested looking into LED lights and stated that National Grid does not have a rate structure for LEDs, however, some towns are purchasing the LEDs themselves. Mr. Shuris explained that the current ornamental lights are 100-watt metal halide and LED comparable lights would be 22 watts, so you would be saving using LEDs and according to Mr. Kuik they cost about the same as the halide bulb. He stated the ballast would not need to be changed but there is a cylindrical shell that the light fits into and explained the LED light would extend above that cylinder. To see a sample of these lights, Mr. Shuris asked for the Board's permission to go ahead and purchase 5 lights to border Linwood Avenue and Memorial Square forming a U-shape, to see how they look/work because right now it is pitch dark. He stated he would like to have Mr. Kuik install the lights, make the changes necessary and find out if LEDs are the way to go. Mr. Shuris explained that a Cobra head streetlight costs about \$9.50 per month per light and with the 44 ornamental lights down town, it costs about \$5,500 per year to light up all of the lights. He added that as of right now there are 7 ornamental lights that have been temporarily shut off and added that his current budget will support the cost of the lights and would be a cost savings in years to come. Mr. Shuris cautioned the only thing he was unsure of was the look. Chairman Melia asked exactly what he meant by the look and Mr. Shuris explained that right now the bulb inside the cylinder is translucent and fits inside the cylinder but the LED lights will go about 2 inches past the cylinder but would stay inside the enclosure. Chairman Melia asked about the 7 ornamental lights that were temporarily shut off and said Ms. Gagner had indicated there were issues with some of the underground wiring. Mr. Shuris answered that there are 44 ornamental lights downtown and 22 out of the 44 are black, which could be the bulb, ballast or faulty wiring, but believed it was the ballast and bulbs. Mr. Shuris also reported there are lights on in town during the day and they need to be inspected during the day. He also said that National Grid shut down 2 on Main Street, 1 on Goldthwaite Road, and turned off the Town Hall parking lot light as well. Continuing, Mr. Shuris explained that during the night time National Grid will be looking for lights that don't work, some of which are temporarily shut off but the ones that should be on will be turned on. Next, Mr. Shuris gave an update on the Rockdale lights stating that there was a breaker that was repaired and now 90% of the lights are operating. Mr. Marzec asked if we have a contract with the electrical company we are using or is it something we are trying out. He also said he did not want to run into an issue with another electrical company in town wanting the job or being able to do it for less, and wanted to make sure it was done using the proper protocol. Mr. Shuris responded that we do not have a contract and that the town has used various local companies for different projects. He said the Town should go into a contract and he would address it. Mr. Athanas asked if the output of the LEDs was the same amount of lumens as the regular bulbs. Mr. Shuris replied it was the same amount of lumens with 22 watts versus 100 watts. For clarification, Mr. Athanas asked if the goal was to get all of the ornamentals on Church Street and in Rockdale in working condition. Mr. Shuris replied yes that is the plan and mentioned there is only one pole that will not be replaced, which is near Highland Farms. Chairman Melia stated he was in favor of getting them all illuminated. Mr. Ampagoomian asked about the pole across from the Library that was hit by a vehicle. Mr. Shuris replied that he believed we have a replacement that was alluded to by Bartlett. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if it would be going up soon and Mr. Shuris replied he would have to verify that with the Highway Superintendent but said it will be put into a work order.

Request for no littering signs. Mr. Kozak explained we had a citizen ask about putting no littering signs in a couple locations in Town. Mr. Shuris said 10 signs were put up along Linwood Avenue. Chairman Melia stated last year there was a resident on Upper Main Street near Wal-Mart who complained about trash blowing over the parking lot and down into the gully and asked if that was the issue again. Mr. Luchini explained that several months ago it was brought to the Board's attention and they approved the placing of signs along Linwood Avenue. He said since then the same resident has requested more signs to be placed along Rt. 122 as well as near Wal-Mart but stated he needed permission from the Board in order to place the signs. Chairman Melia stated he approved the Linwood Avenue no littering signs but the issue he has with this is that everyone knows it's illegal to litter and you could put up no littering signs on every street in Town and asked in general if no littering signs were going to stop someone from littering. Mr. Luchini stated in his honest opinion he feels as though it is causing sign pollution and with signs all over the place it looks just as bad as the trash does. He also added that part of the resident's request was to place signs along Rt. 122, so he

contacted the State and they responded that if the town really wants no littering signs posted along Rt. 122, they require a formal request from the town. Mr. Shuris noted that the resident who requested these signs spends her own time cleaning up the areas and does an excellent job.

National POW-MIA Recognition Day – Friday, September 18, 2015. Chairman Melia read aloud a statement as requested by Bill Audette, Commander of the Blackstone Valley Vietnam Veterans, regarding the National POW-MIA Recognition Day as follows: September 18th is officially National POW-MIA Recognition Day as declared by President Obama. On Friday, September 18th, the nation will be remembering the POW-MIAs of all of our Nation's conflicts. The day is meant to pay special recognition to all those U.S. men and women who have been held as prisoners of war an especially those who remain unaccounted for.

This year, the Blackstone Valley Veterans' Association, formally known as the Blackstone Valley Nam Vets, will be celebrating their 30th anniversary as a Veterans' organization. We, the Blackstone Valley Veterans' Association, will be hosting our 30th POW-MIA Vigil to remember our Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action. The Vigil will begin Friday September 18th and continue until Sunday, September 20th. On Saturday evening at 7:00 P.M., there will be a candlelight ceremony to remember those heroes that never returned from the Vietnam War. As a hero's name is called a candle will be lit in their memory. Following the ceremony, there will be a rifle salute followed by Taps. The entire Vigil is open to the public including the Saturday evening ceremony.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT 1) Stormwater Seminar. Mr. Kozak attended a stormwater seminar in Worcester that was put on by the Stormwater Coalition, which Northbridge is a part of. He stated a consultant was available to discuss issues that communities will most likely see when the EPA permit is released most likely in the coming year. Mr. Kozak explained the purpose of the permit, which affects everyone nationwide, will do more to keep water clean from drainage, runoff and many other sources and activities. He noted that one of the issues once the permit is issued will be the cost to communities so they will be looking at various methods as how to implement the permit requirements. Mr. Kozak also advised the meeting was about getting Towns ready for this new unfunded mandate required by the Federal Government. **2) Good Energy Aggregation Project.** Mr. Kozak stated he recently attended a public hearing in Boston at the Department of Public Utilities [DPU], which went well. He affirmed that the utility companies attended and had no issues with Good Energy's application for purchasing energy supply and there were no questions from the DPU regarding it. He said he is very hopeful it will be a positive decision and that it will be determined shortly. **3) Quinsigamond Community College [QCC] Update.** Mr. Kozak took part in a conference call and learned QCC was still actively seeking a couple of properties in the community for the possibility of establishing a satellite campus in Northbridge. They had hoped to have an answer from one of the land owners by now but the cost is still under negotiation. Mr. Kozak stated that he knows there has been more involvement in an endowment program the college is associated with and there is also good potential for obtaining more funds from the state to help with any capital projects such as this. The Town Manager hoped to have a more positive update by the next meeting. **4) Lieutenant Governor Meeting on Local Issues.** Representative Muradian invited the managers of the three towns he represents to attend a meeting in Upton to meet with Lieutenant Governor Polito to discuss the Baker administration's plans for working on the needs of communities. He said there is a community compact being formulated between towns and the Baker administration to help with various needs we all have and it will be discussed more in future meetings. **5) Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission / Regional Manager's Workshop.** Mr. Kozak attended a quarterly workshop with Janet Pierce, the new Executive Director of the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission [CMRPC]. Mr. Kozak said the workshop included discussion of the various services that CMRPC provides to communities as well as regional efforts and grant programs. **6) School Based Behavioral Health Update/Anti-Drug Seminar/Workshop.** Mr. Kozak announced the Northbridge Coalition will be holding an Anti-Drug seminar on Thursday, October 8, 2015 from 7PM-9PM at the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium. He noted the purpose of the seminar is to raise awareness and support for opiate addiction and the public is invited to attend. The Town Manager stated representatives from the coalition will attend the next Selectmen's meeting to discuss more of what they are planning to do. Chairman Melia recommended the Selectmen attend this panel since it is a much-needed workshop.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: **Selectman Athanas/1)** Announced he had received a notice about water meters being updated in his area and recommended Randy Swigor, Manager of the Whitinsville Water Company, to come in and discuss what is happening with the water meters. **2)** Mentioned a concerned citizen approached him regarding the procedure for shutting off and turning on water meters in town when a trivial amount of money was involved. He said the person was incapacitated due to a medical issue and indicated that they felt they were not treated in a polite manner. As such, he would like to know what the procedure was for this type of situation moving forward. **3)** Stated he would like to see the tradition of planters in Memorial Square carried forward so they should start looking to get a person or several people to help carry that tradition on. **4)** Mentioned he has had a number of people ask him about the mailboxes on Sutton Street, which were placed in the middle of the sidewalk and asked for Mr. Shuris to confirm that it was up to the DOT. Mr. Shuris verified that the information was correct and explained that on a 6-foot sidewalk, the mailboxes have to be located behind the curb 5-7 inches. In some cases where the post is, it looks as though it is in the middle of the sidewalk, however, in phase two, the mailboxes will be located closer to the curb around 2-3 inches instead. He noted that Mass DOT and the contractor had asked if they could put the mailboxes on the north side of Sutton Street but were directed by the postmaster not to do so. Mr. Shuris also stated he had an update on the wall just east of Cooper Road. He stated the stucco was done wrong and it delaminated so they are either going to rub the concrete and or fasten it correctly to make it look better and last a long time. Mr. Shuris stated they can't remove the wall because it is part of the engineering design to maintain the backfill behind it and protect the granite stone wall. Mr. Athanas asked if they could put stone on the wall. Mr. Shuris replied he was hoping they can rub the concrete. **5)** Asked if there had been any resolution on the morning traffic at the high school. Catherine Stickney, School Superintendent, stated that they are working with the Police Department and currently talking about creating an additional passing lane at the Christian School because of the timing of everything. Mr. Shuris added that the discussion was to move the double yellow line closer to the Christian School and create a left hand turn lane but measurements still need to be made. Chairman Melia stated he has been part of the traffic slowdown for many years but it has been much worse this year than in any previous years. He continued stating the Safety Committee or the School is looking into the issue of the civilian in front of the Christian School doing traffic but stated he believes they do a great job directing traffic and keeping the flow of traffic going as much as possible.

Selectman Ampagoomian/1) Thanked both Mr. Shuris and Mr. Luchini for getting the striping done at Plummer's Corner. **2)** Asked about the status of Plummer's Corner heading north on Route 122 and getting a left hand turn signal to Church Street. Mr. Luchini stated from what he understood, it has been an ongoing problem for years and apparently there is an issue with the width of the road that is required in order to have a left hand turn signal. He also said he wasn't sure if the State was willing to go that route for it. Chairman Melia stated when he was on the Safety Committee this came up and advised the State would have to come in and take property right where the Gaudette sign is and curbing because there is not enough room for two lanes. Mr. Luchini made a suggestion that down the line we look at this avenue as a MassWorks project. **3)** Noted that the Riverdale Cemetery fence is broke. Mr. Luchini stated he just got the police report today and they will be contacting the involved party's insurance to make sure it gets repaired. **4)** Asked if a sidewalk will be put right up to the foundation of the house on Sutton Street across from the curtain factory. Mr. Shuris replied yes. Mr. Ampagoomian cautioned to make sure it gets sealed well so no water gets through to the foundation. Mr. Shuris stated he spoke to Superintendent Taft about the issue and stated the only way to make the grades work is to run it right up to the house but it should also be sealed between the sidewalks with some type of expansion joint. **5)** Reminded everyone not to lose sight that we need a fire station and stated it would be nice for us to look closely into getting something relatively nice and simple and utilize the 22 acres off of Route 122. **Selectman Nolan 1)** Asked about the status of releasing executive session minutes. Mr. Kozak replied that the executive session minutes should be ready to be reviewed by the Board at their next meeting. **Chairman Melia 1)** Received a call regarding a logging road going in at the intersection of Leland Road / East Street. He was told vehicles from New Hampshire have been there and then asked Mr. Kozak to check with the Assessor's Office to let him know who owns the property. Mr. Melia also asked the Town Manager who oversees that sort of thing and Mr. Kozak stated he wasn't sure it as it would depend on whether there were wetlands. He added that it could be the State as well but that he would check into it. **2)** Mentioned that people were constantly talking about the frost heaves on Providence Road. Mr. Melia said he believed it was more than frost heaves and that it would only get worse. Mr. Luchini stated they have contacted State representatives but added dealing with the State was tough because they just don't jump for anyone unless it is a real safety issue. In any case, he said we are in the pipeline and they realize we have a problem there. Continuing, he stated he was staying on top of his contacts and if he does

not get a call back, he will reach out to them again. Chairman Melia stated the end of last winter was the worst it's ever been to the point where the State had barrels in the middle of the road. 3) Asked when the striping would be done on Main Street and Church Street. Mr. Luchini stated he just spoke with the contractor today and Ovian Square and Main Street should be done later this week.

A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Nolan to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21#3 – To discuss strategy with respect to litigation– not to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes; Mr. Nolan/Yes; Mr. Marzec/Yes; Mr. Athanas/Yes; and Mr. Melia/Yes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

September 14, 2015

APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None

PUBLIC HEARING: 6:05 PM

A. Dog Hearing requested by Brenda and Roger Demers for a dangerous dog kept and owned by Jane and Christopher Gentile

- Copy of hearing guide
- Copy of MGL Chapter 140, Section 157, 3 possible decisions by hearing authority
- Copy of letter dated July 15, 2015, from the Law Office of Gregory Wheeler
- Copy of Northbridge Animal Control Officer's Report dated July 6, 2015
- Copy of Northbridge Animal Inspector's Report dated June 25, 2015
- Copy of email from Jeanne Gniadek dated September 3, 2015
- Copy of Grafton Dog Officer's Report dated July 1, 2015
- Copy of pictures of Gibson Kennels
- Copy of Statement of Robert D Gibson, Owner of Gibson Kennels dated July 7, 2015
- Copy of Notice of Hearing dated August 25, 2015 addressed to Mr. Chauvin
- Copy of Notice of Hearing dated August 25, 2015 addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Demers
- Copy of Notice of Hearing dated August 25, 2015 addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Gentile
- Copy of MGL Chapter 140, Section 157 – Owner's right to petition the court to review dog order/ decision
- Copy of Notice of Hearing dated August 26, 2015 addressed to Ms. Gibson
- Copy of Notice of Hearing dated August 25, 2015 addressed to Ms. Thomson
- Copy of Notice of Hearing dated August 25, 2015 addressed to Mr. Eugene Ploss
- Copy of Subpoena for hearing addressed to Robert Gibson
- Copy of Subpoena for hearing addressed to Michael Gibson
- Copy of Letter dated September 10, 2015, from the Law Offices of Carmine Gentile representing Jane and Christopher Gentile
- Copy of report from Clark's Dog Training dated August 24, 2015 regarding Ticqua
- Copy of Robert Clark's dog training certification [October 21, 1994] from US K-9 Academy LTD
- Copy of Certificate of Achievement [February 12, 1992] from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine
- Copy of Letter dated August 23, 2015 from Metrowest Veterinary Associates summarizing findings
- Copy of pictures of deceased dogs, X-rays and kennels

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:

B. 1) Richard Chiras, Conservation Commission

- Copy of Richard Chiras' Talent Bank Form

2) Cynthia Donati, Zoning Board of Appeals [Regular Member]

- Copy of Cynthia Donati's Talent Bank Form

3) Douglas C. Curving, Zoning Board of Appeals [Associate Member]

- Copy of Douglas C. Curving's Talent Bank Form

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: Little Man Originals – No Documentation

DECISIONS

C. 2015 MassWorks Infrastructure application/1) Vote to authorize Chairman Melia to submit the application on behalf of the town for a project to be known as the "Church Street Extension Corridor Project" and 2) Vote to authorize acceptance of state funding for this project (estimated at \$1.8 mil)

- Copy of 2015 Massworks Application Letter for Grant

- Copy of Church Street Extension Corridor Project
- Copy of Church Street Extension Corridor Project Locus Area
- Copy of Church Street Extension Corridor Project Arial of Locus
- Copy of Church Street Extension Corridor Project Church Street Extension/Quaker Street

D. Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) / Vote intent to layout Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) as a public way

- Copy of Memorandum for the Deane Way – Layout/ Street Acceptance
- Copy of Letter to Town Clerk on Deane Way Street Acceptance
- Copy of Description of Deane Way
- Copy of Description of Lots 1 Drainage Easement
- Copy of Description of Lot 10 Drainage Easement

E. Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 27, 2015] / Vote to sign warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel

- Copy of Draft Warrant

F. Armenian Apostolic Church/1) Request to hang a banner over Church Street from April 10, 2016 to April 24, 2016 to commemorate Martyrs' Day 2) Request to hang a banner over Church Street from August 7, 2016 to August 21, 2016 to advertise the annual Armenian Picnic to be held on Sunday, August 21, 2016

- Copy of email from Peter Bedigian dated August 28, 2015 requesting 2 banners

G. Village Congregational Church [Robert G. Sherwood, Pastor]/Request permission to use Memorial Park on Sunday, October 11, 2015, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for a worship service

- Copy of letter dated September 1, 2015 requesting to use the Town Common

H. Pine Grove Cemetery / Peter A. Hogan [Lot Nos. 85 and 87 – Fir Ave South]

- Copy of cemetery deed for Peter Hogan - Lot Nos. 85 and 87 on Fir Ave South

I. MRA Multisport [Alex Rogozenski]/1) Request to hold the 4th annual 1st Day 5k road race beginning at 11 AM, and 2) Request to close down Linwood Avenue

- Copy of email dated September 9, 2015 requesting permission to hold a 5K Road Race and to close down Linwood Avenue
- Copy of 5K Road Race Route

J. Safety Committee Minutes [May 20, 2015 and August 19, 2015]/Vote to accept recommendations

- Copy of Safety Committee Minutes May 20, 2015
- Copy of Safety Committee Minutes August 19, 2015

DISCUSSIONS

K. CDM Smith/Update re: Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan -No Documentation

L. Building Planning and Construction Committee –No Documentation

M. Fundraiser for Council on Aging vehicle –No Documentation

N. Selectmen's meeting schedule –No Documentation

O. Review procedure for Board –No Documentation

P. Street Lights –No Documentation

Q. Request for no littering signs – No Documentation

R. National Pow-Mia Recognition Day reading

- Copy of declaration and invitation to the POW-MIA vigil to be held Friday, September 18th to Sunday, September 20th

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- S. 1) Storm Water Seminar – No Documentation**
- 2) Good Energy Aggregation Project – No Documentation**
- 3) Quinsigamond Community College Update – No Documentation**

4) Lieutenant Governor Meeting on Local Issues – No Documentation

5) Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission / Regional Manager Workshop – No Documentation

6) School Based Behavioral Health Update/Anti-Drug Seminar/Workshop – No Documentation

SELECTMEN’S CONCERNS – None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – None

CORRESPONDENCE – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Under M.G.L Chapter 30A, S21 #3 –To discuss strategy with respect to litigation – No documentation.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
September 28, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Chairman Melia announced that Town Manager Theodore Kozak and Selectman Athanas would not be present tonight and it is duly recorded.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those that were present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. 1.) Massachusetts Electric Company / Petition for Pole Relocation (Pollard Road) Chairman Melia announced that the hearing would be postponed as a result of the Town and National Grid working on other possible options and solutions.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: / None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: / None

DECISIONS

Safety Committee Minutes [September 9, 2015] Vote to accept recommendations A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee as outlines in the minutes of September 9, 2015. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) / Vote to layout Deane Way as a public way. Present: Brian Massey, Chairman of the Planning Board. Mr. Massey was present to represent the Planning Board for this agenda item. He stated the Planning Board held a meeting on September 22, 2015 and unanimously approved the layout of Deane Way. He said the DPW went through the project to review the remaining checklist items and there were no issues. An email and letter indicated that the roadway was in excellent condition. Mr. Massey also stated that Guerriere and Halnon also looked at the roadway and approved it as well. All documentation has been sent off to Town Counsel for their review. Mr. Massey mentioned property owners and abutters to the subdivision were invited to attend the Planning Board meeting on September 22nd. He noted that a site inspection was convened on July 22, 2015, with a follow up inspection on September 21, 2015. Those who attended the meeting were the developer, John Barges, the Director of Public Works, the Highway Superintendent, and himself. He explained that they reviewed the subdivision's associated improvements including pavement, sidewalks, granite curbing, street lights, and the retention basin. Mr. Massey reported that attendees had brought forth several concerns about adjacent properties. He also made the Selectmen aware of a property owner at the end of the development that has had issues with water runoff and possible basement flooding but from his understanding a lot of it occurred prior to the roadway being improved. Mr. Massey acknowledged that the Planning Board was equally happy with what the developer has done and recommended the Select Board vote to layout Deane Way as a public way. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to layout Deane Way, located within the Hillside Garden Estates subdivision, as a public way as recommended by the Planning Board. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Request to change Save Northbridge Wrestling's bucket drive from October 3, 2015 to October 17, 2015 from 9 AM – 2 PM at Memorial Square. Present: Caryn Gagner. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the date change from October 3, 2015 to October 17, 2015, subject

to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Pine Grove Cemetery Donation / Peter Truslow, Personal Representative of Cora Whitin Truslow. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to accept the donation of \$850 from the Estate of Cora Whitin Truslow. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Alternatives / Request to hang a banner over Church Street from November 29, 2015 to December 5, 2015, to advertise National Inclusive Schools Week. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve Alternatives request to hang a banner for National Inclusive Schools Week from November 29, 2015 to December 5, 2015 subject to availability. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Pine Grove Cemetery / 1.) Correction from previous deed: Michael J. and Rhonda J. Dawson [Lot No. 51B – Hemlock Path]. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the revised deed for Michael J. and Rhonda J. Dawson of 60 Fairlawn Street [Lot No. 51B – Hemlock Path]. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **2.) John Demagian [Lot No. 257 – Forest Ave East (South)].** A motion/ Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the deed for deed for John Demagian [Lot No. 257 – Forest Ave East (South)]. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Northbridge Coalition/Present: Craig Maxim, School Based Behavioral Health Update. Mr. Maxim provided some background information about the Coalition stating it has been in existence for about 4 years and it came about while reviewing communities who had issues with their youth including suicide, depression, and a number of other things. The Coalition started off with just a few organizations but has grown quite a bit to include the Senior Center, Schools, Faith Communities, and the Whitin Community Center. They meet regularly to address community concerns and any other issues they see in the community. Mr. Maxim explained they organized a campaign a couple of years ago where they looked at mental health, substance abuse, and suicide issues and developed a lot of different programs based off of the findings. He also mentioned instead of focusing on just the needs of the community that over the past year they focused on the strengths of communities and resources available to them. One of the Coalition's initial goals was addressing issues around substance use and drug use. Two years ago, the Coalition held a forum, which included a pediatrician from Tri-River, as well as young folks in the community, who presented a program that became the launching pad for weekly meetings attended by about 30 young people who would attend a weekly relapse prevention recovery group. Mr. Maxim said the need is still there and it is stronger than ever before. He then announced on October 8, 2015, the Coalition would be holding another forum with quite a few panelists and speakers including folks in recovery, treatment providers, pediatricians, the Police Department, etc. Mr. Maxim explained they view this as an opportunity to begin other programs similar to what was done 2 years ago like a recovery program and involvement in understanding what resources are available as well as community awareness in regards to what the issues are in terms of the opiate epidemic. He highly recommended citizens to attend as it isn't just for those directly seeking treatment but also for those affected by it. Mr. Maxim advised that they are also trying to set up a program called "Learn to Cope", which is for family members/parents who suffer from opiate addiction. He noted the initial project was funded through the Health Foundation of Central Mass. with the goal of putting school based behavioral health services at Northbridge High School and Uxbridge High School with the idea that it would eventually become self-sustaining. The first goal was to establish behavioral health services at both Northbridge and Uxbridge High Schools with 2 full days of clinical services. The second goal was to provide in-school counseling services. Mr. Maxim gave an example of a student who had visited the School Nurse for a total of 220 behavioral health related visits but only had 36 visits when being treated through the school's behavioral health clinic. The third goal was to increase access to behavioral health services for adolescent students because there typically is a waitlist of 6-12 weeks for an appointment, however, through this program they are able to be seen within 1- 2 weeks. The fourth goal was to increase access to child psychiatry and to be able to have a children's psychiatrist implement services at the school behavioral health

clinic for those seeking a higher level of care and need in terms of medication or psychopharmacology. The fifth goal was to be self-sustained by the end of grant funding and to increase capacity. At the end of the school year they had achieved 90% self-sustainability. The grant provided the upfront costs and by the end of the year it was covered by 3rd party reimbursements. Mr. Maxim explained the program is still alive and still sustainable and has increased beyond 2 days per week. It has also been extended to other schools in the area. The sixth goal was to provide information and data to support the model of the school districts. The last goal which had not been realized, but what it came out of was a conversation of a feasibility committee looking at a school based health center. Mr. Maxim explained it was still on the agenda and still in talks but it's still a focus of the school based behavioral health clinic and seemed to be an area with the greatest need. Mr. Maxim was happy to report back to the Board after two years and stressed that the program is doing well and parents are reporting easier access to treatment and it has spread to other schools and districts. Selectman Marzec thanked Mr. Maxim for coming in and stated he has done a great job and that he was anticipating this report and stated it is something this community should be proud of and thanked him. He also gave praise to the School Superintendent for fostering this program stating it was definitely worthwhile and that we were shining the light on it for other communities. Selectman Ampagoomian congratulated Mr. Maxim on a job well done and stated today Governor Baker outlined the new overhaul of Department of Children and Families [DCF] and asked if he has any interaction with that department. Mr. Maxim replied he does and added he has not seen the plan yet but they do have current contracts with DCF. Selectman Ampagoomian stated he believed he should re-announce the meeting on October 8th and he also believed people would like to know who will be on the panel. Mr. Maxim agreed and stated the meeting would be on October 8, 2015, at the Northbridge Middle School from 7-9 PM. 1) Dr. Safdar Medina, Pediatrician from Tri-River will talk about how he has seen substance abuse affect the patients that he sees. 2) Sue Cochran from Learn to Cope, which is a State-wide organization that is developing programs for parents and families that have been affected by substance use and have gotten a lot of positive accolades from the families and members of the communities. 3) Lori Johnson, School Nurse, 4) Pastor Howard DeVries of Celebrate Recovery, Pleasant Street Church, 5) Isabella Lane, High School Student, speaking about the Josh Project, 6) Meghan Giacomuzzi, Missin' Matt Foundation, speaking about recovery, 7) Chief Warchol, 8) District Attorney Joseph Early and 9) Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis. He explained what we are looking at is a couple of minutes from each of them offering their perspective of the opiate epidemic and the programs they have. Chairman Melia thanked Mr. Maxim for bringing this forward and stated it is something that has to be looked into further and more money is needed to be put into rehabilitation because it is getting much worse.

DPW Snow Plow Contractors and Drivers. Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini first announced the street sweeper was delivered, and registered last week. Tomorrow there will be a crew coming in to train the Highway employees on how to use it and it should be out next week, weather permitting. Mr. Luchini then announced that if anyone was interested in driving for the Town they should go to the DPW located at 11 Fletcher Street and see them. The DPW has 1 tons, pick-ups, sidewalk plows, and if anyone interested has a CDL bigger trucks are available. Any local contractors can also contact the DPW office located at 11 Fletcher Street to see them. Mr. Luchini explained they have had good feedback but would prefer to have more plows on the road. Selectmen Marzec verified that the insurance for the outsourced contractors was paid for by them so if something happened the Town would not be required to cover their equipment or damage caused by them. Mr. Luchini answered that the contractors have to have their own insurance coverage, but anyone that comes in to drive the Towns equipment is covered under town insurance because it is town equipment. Selectmen Marzec asked how it worked if a contractor does damage with their own truck; would the towns insurance would cover that. Mr. Luchini stated that people who drive our equipment are covered and contractors are not covered because they have their own insurance. Chairman Melia explained he had 4 issues he was going to bring up under Selectmen's concerns but since Mr. Luchini was here he brought them up now. He asked if the frost heaves on 122 have been corrected. Mr. Luchini answered that they have, and they dug out the asphalt and paved it. Chairman Melia asked for a brief update on Sutton Street. Mr. Luchini stated they are prepping the last stretch of sidewalk to be concreted so the target is by the end of October when the final coat of asphalt is going down. He also noted there are a few more structures

that need to be raised. Chairman Melia then asked for an update on the repairing and enhancement of the ornamental lights. Mr. Luchini explained that they did a test after the last meeting. They got 5 LED lights and installed them around Memorial Square and so far the feedback has been positive. Chairman Melia asked for an update on the painting of the street lines. Mr. Luchini stated he has been in constant contact with them trying to get them out here. He stated he forwarded the maps to the line painting company so they should be contacting him in the next few days. Chairman Melia asked if it would include Highland Street and Benson Road. Mr. Luchini stated not right now because they were working on widening the intersection so there is more work there to be done, but explained it is a small area that the Highway could handle on their own. He also mentioned that stop lines have been painted to show that it was a four-way stop on Highland and Benson. Chairman Melia thanked him and stated he was doing a great job.

Central Mass Mosquito Control Update. Chairman of the Board of Health Mr. Paul McKeon gave an update regarding mosquito control. He stated that on September 23, 2015, Mosquito Control reached out to his Administrative Assistant and stated there was an area in town where mosquitos tested positive for the West Nile Virus. They explained it was a low risk and requested them to spray the affected area. On September 24, 2015, the area was notified with an automated telephone message which stated that the area would be sprayed. Mr. McKeon stated it is the Board of Health's responsibility to protect the public health and believes it was done quite expediently. Chairman Melia agreed with him and stated Code Red was excellent. The area started at Leland Road going east on Church Street down to Route 122 where they went north in the area of St. Patrick's Cemetery, Plummer Park, Laura Lane, Thurston Ave., and some of that area. Chairman Melia questioned if that was the only area. Mr. McKeon stated at the next meeting he is going to request to know where the pool was that tested positive. Selectmen Marzec made an announcement to the residents that he believes that the mosquito population should go down significantly after the first frost. Mr. McKeon stated it has been cold enough and they had indicated that but since it was part of the package that is paid for it might as well be completed to alleviate any risk.

A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan

Meeting Adjourned: 7:37 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mjw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

September 28, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. 1) Massachusetts Electric Company / Petition for Pole Relocation (Pollard Road): NGRID to relocate pole #8 (27 feet) to the right so it is to the right of the gas line and install new pole # 8-50 (27 feet) to the left of existing Pole #8 to be on the left of the has line. Present: Crystal Tognazzi

- Copy of National Grid's Petition for Pole Relocation
- Copy of Memorandum for request for Abutters List
- Copy of Abutters List
- Copy of Abutters Notice
- Copy of Abutters Notice for postponed meeting
- Copy of Abutters Notice for new meeting date

III. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: / None

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: / None

V. DECISIONS

B. Safety Committee Minutes [September 9, 2015] / Vote to accept recommendations

- Copy of September 9, 2015 Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

C. Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) / Vote to layout Deane Way as a public way

- Copy of Public Meeting Notice
- Copy of Memorandum for the Intent to Lay Out Deane Way
- Copy of letter recommending the Layout of Deane Way
- Copy of Letter from Guerriere and Halnon dated August 25, 2015
- Copy of Letter from Guerriere and Halnon dated August 25, 2015
- Copy of Description of Deane Way
- Copy of Description of Lot 1 Drainage Easement
- Copy of Description of Lot 2 Drainage Easement
- Copy of Description of Lot 10 Drainage Easement
- Copy of Maps

D. Request to change Save Northbridge Wrestling's bucket drive from October 3, 2015 to October 17, 2015 from 9 AM – 2 PM at Memorial Square. Present: Caryn Gagner

- Copy of email from Caryn Gagner dated September 13, 2015 requesting a change in date

E. Pine Grove Cemetery Donation / Peter Truslow Personal Representative of Cora Whitin Truslow

- Copy of donation letter from Peter Truslow dated September 10, 2015

F. Alternatives / Request to hang banner over Church Street from November 29, 2015 to December 5, 2015 to advertise National Inclusive Schools Week

- Copy of email from Kathrine Lyons dated September 18, 2015 for the banner request

G. Pine Grove Cemetery / 1.) Correction from previous deed: Michael J. and Rhonda J. Dawson of 60 Fairlawn Street [Lot No. 51B – Hemlock Path]

- Copy of cemetery deed for Michael J. and Rhonda J. Dawson

2.) John Demagian of 550 Church Street, Whitinsville [Lot No. 257 – Forest Ave East (South)]

-Copy of cemetery deed for John Demagian

VI. DISCUSSIONS

H. Northbridge Coalition Craig Maxim/School Based Behavioral Health Update

-Copy of Coalition flyer

I. DPW Snow Plow Contractors and Drivers

-Copy of Snow Plow Contractors and Drivers Advertisement

J. Central Mass Mosquito Control Update

-Copy of West Nile Virus Information Page

-Copy of Automated message for Detected Vicinity

-Copy of Map of possible detected vicinity

-Copy of Email dated September 25, 2015 from Timothy Deschamps, Exec. Dir., Central Mass.

Mosquito Control Project to Jeanne Gniadek

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – None

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS – No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA – None

X. CORRESPONDENCE – None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION / None

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
October 19, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia a 6:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan.

Chairman Melia announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session and declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the body.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S. 21#3 – To discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations– and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Athanas/ Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:31 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:32 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:41 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those that were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/1) August 17, 2015. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the August 17, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Abstain: Mr. Athanas. **2) September 14, 2015 [Executive Session].** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve but not release the September 14, 2015 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous

PUBLIC HEARINGS/7:10 PM: Sammy's Restaurante LLC d/b/a Sammy's Restaurante [Sohail Ahmad, Mgr.] located at 2147 Providence Road, Whitinsville, MA 01588 / 1) Application for an All Alcohol Common Victualler License. Chairman Melia read aloud the public hearing notice. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. Colene Halligan introduced herself and said she was Sohail's mother. Ms. Halligan stated that her son, Sohail, and her husband, Sammy, would be the main managers of Sammy's, which opened in the space that was formerly Laurieann's Restaurant that closed a little over a year ago. It has been tough since they opened the restaurant in the winter but they have been doing better and they now have regulars. She stated she believes that the option of BYOB was helpful but they have also had requests from customers that they would like to have the availability of a full liquor license. Mrs. Halligan noted there was a full liquor license in the restaurant prior to Sammy's. Their original intention was to have a family restaurant and now they feel as though that has been established and now would like to be able to offer a full bar for the convenience of the customer instead of customers bringing in their own. Mrs. Halligan stated that Sohail Ahmad, Sammy Ahmad and she are all TIPS certified. Selectman Ampagoomian referred to the Board of Health's list of requirements and asked about them. Mrs. Halligan stated they do have a handwashing sink station that was there prior to their ownership but they moved it into the kitchen. She stated she believed there was some confusion because she was under the impression that if the liquor license was approved, the requirements then needed to be fulfilled and they fully intend to do so. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Kozak how many liquor licenses were available in Town. Mr. Kozak stated he was not sure. Chairman Melia spoke to the audience asking if there were any abutters present who would like to come forward.

There being none, Chairman Melia asked for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to grant approval on the application for an All Alcohol Common Victualler License for Sammy's Restaurante, LLC d/b/a Sammy's Restaurante [Sohail Ahmad, Mgr.] located at 2147 Providence Road, Northbridge, subject to the provision that all Board of Health regulations are met. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Request to pro-rate the annual Liquor License fee.** Mrs. Halligan also asked the Board to pro-rate the liquor license fee for 2015 because at nearly \$1,200, it's a lot of money to pay for the one month their license would be valid when they are going to have to pay another \$1,200 in November to renew the license for 2016. She added that it seemed unfair. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Marzec to prorated the cost of the license based on approval by the state prior to January 1, 2016, and for the amount to be prorated by month. Vote yes/Unanimous.

7:15 PM: Village Variety LLC [Ahmad Mustafa Mgr.] located at 84 Border Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588 / 1) Application for Wines and Malt Package Store License. Chairman Melia read aloud the public hearing notice. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. Chairman Melia turned the floor over to Mr. Mustafa and his Attorney Mr. Gerald Shugrue. Mr. Shugrue introduced himself and explained that this location was formerly known as Kappy's and operated as a convenience store for many years but has been closed for some time. His client has since purchased the property and has been operating it as a convenience store for several months now and is doing well. However, customers have indicated to Mr. Mustafa that they would like to see the store get a wines and malt license. Mr. Shugrue stated that Mr. Mustafa would be competitive and stated that he has indicated that Mr. Mustafa as well as the owner would need to be TIPS Certified. Mr. Shugrue requested that the license be granted and assured the board that this business would be operated in a proper manner. Chairman Melia asked if there were any abutters present who would like to come forward. Mr. Shugrue also asked the Board if they would consider prorating the license fee for Village Variety due to the fact that it takes at least a month to get through the ABCC process. He added that it's much the same situation as Sammy's Restaurante. Chairman Melia stated if the Selectmen agreed with that they could make it part of the motion. Gregory Progin, a resident of Worcester, stated he owned property at 26 C and 34 C Street and is an abutter to Village Variety. Mr. Progin stated when he bought the property the store was closed and when he heard it was opening he thought it was a great idea and explained it was a nearby place for people in the neighborhood to be able to get items close by instead of traveling. He explained when the contractors, who apparently were unlicensed, began to work on the store property put equipment on his property and damaged a wall. Mr. Progin also pointed out that he spoke to the manager of Village Variety about the situation and was assured it wouldn't happen again. Upon returning to his property, Mr. Progin saw they were still on his property and had damaged a fence he was installing. He then indicated that he had spoken to them and asked if they were licensed and they were not. He said it seemed like they were on drugs and did not know what they were doing. He also noted they hadn't called dig safe. Continuing, Mr. Progin mentioned if the owner of Village Variety couldn't do this correctly, he was concerned about him selling alcohol in the neighborhood. Mr. Progin stated that he knew this wasn't an "A" neighborhood but was motivated to bring in good tenants and to improve the quality of the neighborhood. He then explained that he attended this meeting because he felt as though adding alcohol as a variable in a residential neighborhood was not a good idea and was not safe. Chairman Melia asked the Board if there were any comments or questions. There being no questions, he thanked Mr. Progin for coming forward. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Chairman Melia stated at this time the Board would take action on the information that has been presented. Chairman Melia stated the first item was a request for a beer and wine license. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant approval on the application for a Wines and Malt Package Store license for Village Variety, LLC [Ahmad Mustafa, Mgr.] with the stipulation that all employees get TIPS certified and further to prorated the license fee by month if it is approved prior to January 1, 2016. Vote yes/ Unanimous. **2) Application for Keno To Go.** Chairman Melia explained no

action was necessary unless the Board objected to the Keno license. There was no objection. Selectman Ampagoomian then commented to Mr. Progin that even though the license was granted, the Board takes granting licenses very seriously and noted the Town's Police Department conducts compliance checks on all establishments regarding selling alcohol to minors.

7:20 PM: Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [Sook L. Huynh, Mgr.] located at 1167 Providence Rd., Whitinsville, MA 01588 / Application for a Change of Manager; New Officer/Director; Transfer of Stock; and New Stockholder. Chairman Melia read the public hearing notice aloud. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. Bill Giannopoulos stated his wife and himself have been the owners of Friendly's for 30 years and have come before the Board to introduce the new owners, stockholders, and manager. He explained they came to them from the Boston area and come with experience and knowledge to take Friendly's to the next level. Sook Lee Huynh introduced himself and stated he has 12+ years of experience in the industry and hopes to do a great job here as well. Chairman Melia asked if there were any abutters present who would like to speak. There being none, Chairman Melia asked if the Board had any questions or comments. Mr. Athanas stated he was going to be sad to see the Giannopoulos' go. Chairman Melia agreed and added that the Giannopoulos' have been tremendous through the years and thanked them for their generosity. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the application of Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [Sook Huynh, Mgr.] for a change in manager, new officers, transfer of stock and new stockholder. Selectman Ampagoomian and Selectman Marzec thanked him. Vote yes/Unanimous.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: None

Dog Hearing Recommendation / Status Report. Chairman Melia announced that this item was on the agenda because the Board of Selectmen voted at a prior meeting to review the training report for Ticqua and to consider whether any further remedial action was required. Chairman Melia asked Dog Officer Dan Chauvin to come forward and talk about the report. Mr. Chauvin stated he has no concerns with Ticqua. He stated this dog has been in town for 9 years off the radar with no incidents and there was no reason to not let the dog live out its life. Mr. Chauvin explained that whatever happened at the kennel will never be known and stated this scenario will probably not be repeated. The trainer who conducted the assessment on Ticqua also had no issues. Chairman Melia read aloud the final verdict of the report from Carrie F. Prest of Paw and Order, who conducted the training on Ticqua. Chairman Melia asked the Board if they had any questions or concerns. There being none, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to take no further action. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Blackstone Valley Gardeners / Request to use the Town Common on Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM for a public plant sale. Chairman Melia announced this event has taken place for the past few years. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve Blackstone Valley Gardeners' request to use the Town Common for a public plant sale on Saturday May 21, 2016. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Susan Palmer-Howes [DECA/High School Business Club] / Request to hold a boot drive on April 2, 2016 at Memorial Square and Ovia Square from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM. Susan Palmer-Howes stated the boot drive will support the High School DECA program. She also explained every year, a national competition is held in a different location and this year the competition will be held in Nashville,

Tennessee, so they are always in search of a way to raise funds. She noted the DECA group was given permission to do the can drive last year and they would like to do it again. Chairman Melia asked if she was familiar with the boot drive policy and Ms. Palmer-Howes stated she was. Selectman Ampagoomian suggested she contact the Town Manager's Office to request use of the outdoor bulletin board on the Town Hall lawn to advertise the boot drive. Ms. Palmer-Howes thanked him. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve DECA's request to hold a boot drive on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at Memorial Square and Ovia Square from 9 AM – 12 PM. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Pine Grove Cemetery / Dawn Violette of 26 Center Street, Linwood [Lot No. 3B – Yew Ave. (South)]. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the Pine Grove Cemetery deed for Lot No. 3B – Yew Ave., for Dawn Violette. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Donna Picard d/b/a Maison de Manger, 670 Linwood Avenue Whitinsville, MA 01588 / 1) Application for a Non-alcoholic Common Victualler License. Ms. Picard explained it will be a creperie at large and she will be serving both sweet and savory crepes, artisan salads, homemade soups, pastries, French press coffees, French fare, and music. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the Application for a Non-alcoholic Common Victualler License. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Request to allow BYOB [Bring Your Own Bottle].** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the request to allow BYOB. Chairman Melia verified with Police Chief Warchol that there were regulations on this. Chief Warchol confirmed there were and he has spoken with Ms. Picard. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Speedway LLC d/b/a Speedway #2415 [Rachel Ingham, GM] located at 1144 Providence Road, Whitinsville, MA 01588 / Transfer of Non-Alcoholic Common Victualler License from Amerada Hess Corporation to Speedway, LLC. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the transfer of Non-Alcoholic Common Victualler License from Amerada Hess Corporation to Speedway, LLC. Vote yes/Unanimous

Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 27, 2015] / Vote positions on warrant articles. Chairman Melia asked Chris Thompson, Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee, to come forward and stated the Board would be voting their positions on the warrant articles for the Annual Fall Town Meeting, which will be held Tuesday, October 27, 2015. **ARTICLE 1:** (Selectmen). Bill(s) of prior year: Town Manager Kozak advised that there were no prior year bills and therefore this article will be passed over. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to pass over Article 1. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to pass over Article 1. **ARTICLE 2:** (Selectmen). Budget Adjustments: Town Manager Kozak explained the following budget adjustments: a) Conservation - to raise and appropriate an additional \$15,000 to hire a Conservation Agent; b) Fire Department - \$42,000 to hire an additional firefighter; c) Education - to raise and appropriate \$113,000; d) Building, Planning and Construction Committee - He stated the BPC was tabling the article for the DPW [Article 10] for now but hopefully it will be ready for the Spring Annual Town Meeting; and e) Soldier's Memorials - to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for repairs. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 2. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 2. **ARTICLE 3:** (Selectmen). Stabilization Account: Town Manager Kozak recommended that \$100,000 go into the stabilization fund to be used for future capital projects or if there is a need in next year's budget. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 3. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 3. **ARTICLE 4:** (Selectmen). Transfer funds: Town Manager Kozak explained this article was for the Town's Building Maintenance fund and we did not do this at the Spring Town Meeting and explained that this was the money received from the solar project in the amount of \$39,213. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 4. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 4. **ARTICLE 5:** (Selectmen). OPEB Trust Fund: Town Manager Kozak advised that the auditors have recommended putting funds into this account for health insurance for retirees

in the amount of \$187,000.79. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 5. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 5. **ARTICLE 6:** (Assessors). Request funds for the Triennial Revaluation Analysis: Town Manager Kozak explained that this was required by law every three years at an estimate of \$66,630 to be transferred from the Overlay Surplus Account. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to support Article 6. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 6. **ARTICLE 7:** (Council on Aging). Minibus: Town Manager Kozak explained this was to raise and appropriate \$50,000 towards the purchase a 14 passenger Minibus. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to support Article 7. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 7 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000. **ARTICLE 8:** (Planning Board). Accept Donation of Land: Brian Massey, Chairman of the Planning Board, stated the Planning Board unanimously recommended to accept the donation of land located off Highland Street. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if this was buildable land. Mr. Massy replied that it is. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if he was aware as to what the Conservation Commission had in mind with this property. Mr. Massey explained that it would just be open space. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Mr. Ampagoomian to support Article 8. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 8. **ARTICLE 9:** (Planning Board). Accept Deane Way as a public way: Chairman Massey stated the road has been in development for a long time and has met all of the requirements for acceptance. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 9. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Planning Board unanimously recommends the acceptance of Deane Way as a public way. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 9. **ARTICLE 10:** (Building, Planning and Construction Committee). Town Manager Kozak recommended this article be passed over. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to pass over Article 10. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 10. **ARTICLE 11:** (Petition). Whitinsville Social Library: Town Manager Kozak explained this petition adds a new bylaw naming the Library only as the "Whitinsville Social Library". A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to support Article 11. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 11. **ARTICLE 12:** (Petition). Sex Offender Residencies: Town Manager Kozak explained that the proposed action by the petitioner is to pass over this article because the amendment for sex offender residencies was challenged in Supreme Court and it was found to be unconstitutional in Massachusetts. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to pass over Article 12. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to pass over Article 12.

Fletcher Street / Vote to take down tree. Chairman Melia called Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini forward and informed him that this has come before the Board because Fletcher Street is a scenic road and it is required to be presented to the Board of Selectmen for action. Mr. Luchini explained that a resident brought to his attention there is a tree on Fletcher Street that is of concern. He explained that three quarters of the tree is dead so they checked with National Grid but the tree was not close enough to the powerlines for them to take any action. Mr. Luchini strongly suggested that the tree and stump be removed for safety reasons as he doesn't think the tree will make it through the winter. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if it was a public shade tree and Mr. Luchini replied that it was a public shade tree but it is actually in the road. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if it fell into the category of requiring a public hearing for removing public shade trees and Chairman Melia said that it does. Mr. Kozak interjected that it could be done under the Board of Selectmen as well with two votes. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the removal of the public shade tree located on Fletcher Street. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Devin Kell/Request to hold a non-profit Motorcycle Bike Run to benefit the American Cancer Society/Relay For Life, Sunday, June 5, 2016 @ 10 AM / Vote to approve subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the above request to hold a non-profit Motorcycle Bike Run to benefit the American Cancer Society/Relay For Life on Sunday, June 5, 2016, at 10 AM, subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Water Meters / Present: Randy Swigor, Whitinsville Water Company. Mr. Swigor gave an update regarding the water meters. He stated the company was updating the water meter reading system to improve its reliability, efficiency, and customer service. He also explained the current meters are about 15 years old and are at the end of their useful life. Mr. Swigor indicated the existing meters use an older technology and mechanically driven parts to measure the water, which tend to breakdown and fail with age. He then mentioned that the new meters have no moving parts and use an electronic sensor to measure the flow, which is more accurate and reliable than the existing meters. He explained that the new meters would have a longer more useful life of 20 years. Mr. Swigor stated the existing meters have a wire that connects the water meter to a device attached to the outside of the house called a touch pad that collects the meter readings from the outside of the house. Currently, the meter reader has to physically go to each individual house and touch the pad on the outside of the house to get the reading. The new meters will have a small radio device installed over the touch pad that will send the data back to the office without going house to house to retrieve the information. For the old meters, it can take months to retrieve data, but with the new system it can collect the data within minutes. The change out process for each party would be simple due to a third party contractor called USI Services who will send out letters to each customer asking them to call to schedule an appointment. The process will consist of the installer going into the basement and disconnecting the wire on the existing meter, removing the meter and then installing a new meter in its place and reconnecting the wire. The installer would then go outside the house and snap on a radio device over the existing touch pad and then confirm communication of the device, which completes the installation. The typical appointment would take about 20 minutes to complete at no charge to the customer. USI started appointments at the end of September and have completed about 200 locations to date. The process started slowly to ensure that everything was going smoothly and to date there have been no issues. The goal was to be substantially complete by the end of the year. Mr. Swigor stated they have completed the installation of the infrastructure to receive the water meter readings so the system will be ready to switch over once all meters have been changed. Mr. Swigor explained that the new system will provide a number of benefits to the customers such as early leak detection, which the meter can detect and will notify the office and the leak can be repaired faster and prevent a high water bill. He explained that currently it takes months to detect a leak. Customers will also be able to log in to a web portal and view their water usage history and make informed decisions about their water use. Mr. Swigor affirmed that they were happy with the overall progress of the transition to date. He said that if there were any customers with questions they were welcome to contact his office, Whitinsville Water Company, for assistance. On the Town's side of the system the town has opted to purchase and install only the outside radio devices at for now. The devices would be purchased in the near future and installed by year's end. He explained that no appointment is necessary and the water meters will be changed out over a multiyear period. Mr. Swigor thanked the Board for their time and asked if they had any questions. Selectman Athanas asked if the commercial and residential customers were treated the same. Mr. Swigor replied that they were treated the same but the commercial meters may be bigger. Selectman Marzec verified that it only took 20 minutes. Mr. Swigor replied that on average it did take about 20 minutes. Chairman Melia asked if there were any negative benefits that have come about as a result of installing the new meters. Mr. Swigor replied that they have not run into any issues and the communication has been great. Town Manager Kozak asked how the recently constructed antenna was working out. Mr. Swigor answered that it has worked out fine and it was the receiving antenna that is on the existing tank and there is a box at the base that collects the meter readings. Town Manager Kozak advised that he would be working with Mr. Shuris to get the town side of things going and Mr. Swigor verified that he was. Selectman Marzec asked a question unrelated to the meters but regarding Carpenter Road and all of the work being done on the water main and asked what the status was and what were the issues with the land owners who had silt that washed onto their properties. Mr. Swigor responded that they replaced 1,500 ft. of water main between Shannon and Samuel Drive with construction starting about a month and a half ago and hopes to be finished by the end of next week. He explained that in early October there were 1 or 2 days of heavy rain and two property owners had silt washed into their yard but to his understanding the contractor has taken care of the issue

and has brought in a cleaning company and put everything in storage for them. Selectman Marzec then asked about silt fences moving forward due to the uncertainty of the weather. Mr. Swigor explained that they did have full protection, which was required around the storm drains but unfortunately there was such a heavy rainfall that it was not satisfactory at the time. Selectman Marzec asked if the road would be passable going into the winter season. Mr. Swigor stated they should be finishing up by the end of next week and paving that portion of the road. Selectman Athanas asked about the town's water side and if people would need to make appointments if they are just snapping the meter on the outside. Mr. Swigor explained that the town will work out the installations but they will not need to make appointments. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the third party contractor would have identification and if the Police Department would be made aware of the individual(s). Mr. Swigor replied that they will have a full photo ID, a label on their apparel and on their vehicle and that they have registered with the Police Department.

Municipal Aggregation Plan / 1) Department of Public Utilities Approval 2) Update on proposal / Present: John O'Rourke, Good Energy. Mr. O'Rourke gave an update on the Aggregation Plan. The Aggregation Plan has been approved by the Department of Public Utilities along with 23 other municipal aggregation plans that were approved in record time of two and a half months. He explained that at this point there has been a working committee each week that has had a conference call with all of the towns and have been ironing out issues with marketing and on legal issues for the electric service agreement. Part of the working committee has been a group of attorney's from the towns that have liaised with Good Energy's attorney. Mr. O'Rourke announced he is expecting the final review and approval to happen this Wednesday. Once completed, they can then go out to bid on electric service and supply and is hoping to do so by this Friday if all goes well. They are expecting to open competitive bids on November 10, 2015, and if all goes as planned the entire marketing and opt-out process should be completed by the end of December and customers would be switched over to the new competitive supplier and new competitive rate. Selectman Athanas noted that anyone who has National Grid as their electricity supplier will be automatically included in the aggregation plan. If they do not want to be automatically enrolled they will have to physically opt out. Mr. O'Rourke replied that as part of the opt-out period, all customers or potential customers who are now on the basic service of National Grid will receive a customer notification letter and in that letter they will be given a chart with the competitive supplier rates compared to the National Grid rate. They will also receive a post card so if they want to opt out, they can sign the post card and mail it in; otherwise, no action is needed. Chairman Melia asked if the mailing would be clearly identified as Northbridge. Mr. O'Rourke answered that the mailing would be mailed out by the competitive supplier but will look like a Northbridge communication so that people will pay attention to it and understand exactly what it is. He also pointed out that they have a website with information and there will also be radio and newspaper ads. Selectman Nolan asked when National Grid switches to their winter rates and Mr. O'Rourke replied on November 1st. Selectman Nolan clarified that customers will see their electric bill go up in November and see the new rates at the beginning of next year. Mr. O'Rourke replied yes. Town Manager Kozak stated he had a visit last week from National Grid and their rate is about 4 cents more for supply and it is going up in November. Mr. O'Rourke stated the National Grid rates were announced in the middle of September and just over 13 cents per kilowatt hour on the supply side and the distribution rate is somewhere around 9 cents making the total about 22 cents and Good Energy is expecting to be significantly below that 13 cents. Town Manager Kozak advised that someone would need to be present at the bid opening on November 10th and suggested the Select Board nominate him. Mr. O'Rourke stated that on November 10th each town will have their representative there to accept or reject the bid and each Town should designate a primary and secondary representative to attend the bid opening that day. Town Manager Kozak asked the Board to move this to decisions tonight and spoke to Mr. Shuris about being the alternative in case Mr. Kozak couldn't make it. Chairman Melia asked for a motion to move this topic from discussions to decisions. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to move letter agenda item O. Municipal Aggregation Plan Agreement from discussions to decisions. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to appoint Town Manager Ted Kozak as the primary representative of the Town of Northbridge for the bid opening, and

Mr. James Shuris as the secondary. Vote yes/Unanimous.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT 1) Planning Board – Zoning Public Workshop [November 10, 2015 @ 6 PM, Town Hall]: Town Manager Kozak announced a Zoning Public Workshop will be held on Tuesday November 10th from 6 PM to 7 PM in the Town Hall. He stated it would begin with the general overview and the summary brief on the current and ongoing economic development initiatives followed by an assessment of the town's existing Zoning Bylaws including the Table of Use regulations, land use terms, and zoning districts. **2) Department of Housing and Community Development:** Town Manager Kozak explained that the town received an additional \$758,701.00 from the Disaster Recovery Funds to go forward with the Rockdale Community Youth Center Project. Chairman Melia clarified that when the first bids came in they were much higher and as a result, the Planning Board went through the State Representatives and received this. Selectman Ampagoomian asked what the total cost would be. Town Manager Kozak replied that he believes \$1.2 million. **3) DPW / Fall leaf pick-up program:** Town Manager Kozak announced that the DPW would begin the leaf collection program on October 26, 2015 and continue through Thanksgiving--weather permitting. He stated for more information see the DPW's homepage. **4) COA vehicle fundraising:** Town Manager Kozak announced that there is a fundraising campaign currently being conducted for a new Council on Aging minibus. For any questions or anyone looking to help out, please contact Senior Center Director Kelly Bol. **5) Legislative Breakfast update:** Town Manager Kozak attended the legislative breakfast meeting. Discussed was the FY 17 budget and also that FY 16 seems to be in really good shape. He stated as for revenues there was a little concern about expenses on health insurance costs but that it should not affect us. Mr. Kozak mentioned that stormwater regulations were also discussed and indicated the state is attempting to get the requirements to fall under DEP as opposed to EPA. He also said that Chapter 70 funding is being reviewed and there has been a study to understand if there are any changes needed. As far as Chapter 90 funding goes, we are hoping it will be at least the same amount as it was this year. Mr. Kozak explained the last area covered was the public records law, which is being reviewed and that could affect us as far as what is required under Mass General Law. **6) Annual Fall Town Meeting:** Town Manager Kozak reminded everyone about the Fall Annual Town Meeting that will take place at 7PM, on Tuesday, October 27, 2015, at the Middle School and urged all citizens to attend.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Marzec. Asked what the status was on the WWI Monument in Rockdale that had loose bricks and if it was safe or not. Chairman Melia stated he was the Ex-Officio member of the Trustees of Soldier's Memorials and they have a meeting scheduled tomorrow night and that it was discussed at the last meeting. He stated that there is a company who is checking all of the memorials for repairs and maintenance and it should be completed in the near future. Mr. Melia will report back to the Board of Selectmen. **Selectman Athanas(1)** asked if it was possible to get an update on Pine Grove Cemetery just to see how we are doing on the cash in verses cash out. Town Manager Kozak replied that the end of this month marks a year and he plans on reporting back to the Board at that time. **2)** Speaking to Mr. Shuris, Mr. Athanas stated he has had a couple of people comment on the trees on Church Street that are blocking signage and asked if it was possible to get them trimmed. **3)** He stated he noticed the street sweeper up and running and asked if Mr. Luchini would be able to get through all of the streets before the weather turns. Mr. Luchini replied that he was confident he would be able to get through all of the residential neighborhoods at least once before the winter. **Selectman Ampagoomian /1)** asked the Town Manager what has been done about abandoned homes and expressed that they were not only an eye sore but a health and safety hazard. Mr. Kozak replied that if it was a safety and health issue the Board of Health would oversee that and further explained that if they were abandoned and the Town does not own it he wasn't sure if there was much that could be done. Selectman Ampagoomian asked him if he could find out what we can do as a community. Mr. Kozak replied that he would certainly try. **2)** He thanked Mr. Shuris and Mr. Luchini for getting the pole out of the street on Sutton Street. **3)** Asked if there was a map of where the guardrails are going to be placed on Sutton Street. Mr. Shuris replied he did have a map. Mr. Ampagoomian mentioned that if at some point he could review it

with him because he did have concerns. **4)** Asked if it was a possibility to have a delayed green at Plummer's Corner to allow people traveling north on 122 to make the turn without waiting for traffic. Mr. Luchini stated he can find out from DOT. **5)** Asked when the light would be raised by the crosswalk to go to the Whitinsville Social Library. Mr. Luchini stated they were waiting on a price for the replacement for the structure itself, which will be part of the ornamental street light project. **6)** Asked if they would take a look at the cemetery located on Batcheller Road because there were some headstones that were knocked over. Mr. Luchini stated he might have to get in touch with a monument company. **Chairman Melia/1)** Asked about the ornamental street lights on Church Street and Route 122 and how the plan was moving forward. Mr. Shuris stated they purchased 50 LEDS for the project. At this time, Memorial Square is complete. From the front of the Town Hall to Harry's Pizza needs to be complete but should be done within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Shuris explained that after that they would move on to do the Rockdale lights. Mr. Shuris explained that they followed procurement law and got pricing from 3 different contractors that ranged from \$85, \$92 and \$110 per hour. Right now, they are only replacing those lights that are down and once that is completed they will continue with the remaining lights. Chairman Melia asked if numbering the lights was still in the plans. Mr. Shuris replied that they are going to tag the lights, which will be easier to identify the lights if they are down. **2)** Stated he received a call from a resident regarding 2 damaged fences; one near Electric Pond, which has been damaged for over a year. Mr. Shuris stated it was the first he had heard of it. Chairman Melia continued that the second fence was the Riverdale Cemetery, which was discussed at the last meeting and asked if Mr. Shuris had a report on it. Mr. Shuris replied that he received a price from Muni-Tech, which he described as a company that provides on-call services. He explained that he was trying to get an ornamental rod-iron fence and stated he was still waiting for a price. Chairman Melia asked if we had an anticipated date of completion. Mr. Luchini replied they do not have a date but if they do not get anything back before this year the plan is to patch it up and temporarily repair it to make it much more presentable than it is now. Mr. Luchini also stated he would take a look at the Electric pond fence.

Chairman Melia announce the next meeting would be held October 27, 2015 before the Fall Annual Town Meeting at 6:30 at the Middle School Auditorium and the next scheduled Board of Selectmen's meeting would be Monday, November 9, 2015.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 8:31 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mjw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

October 19, 2015

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. 1) Copy of the minutes August 17, 2015
- 2) Copy of the minutes September 14, 2015 [Executive Session] - Removed from documentation as they have not been released

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

B. 7:10 Sammy's Restaurante LLC d/b/a Sammy's Restaurante

- Copy of Public Hearing Notice for Sammy's Restaurante, LLC
- Copy of License Routing Slip

C. 7:15 Village Variety, LLC

- Copy of Public Hearing Notice for Village Variety, LLC
- Copy of License Routing Slip

- 2) -Copy of Massachusetts State Lottery Commission Letter

D. 7:20 Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors

- Copy of Public Hearing Notice for Friendly Discount Liquors
- Copy of License Routing Slip

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: -None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: -None

DECISIONS

E. Dog Hearing Recommendations

- Copy of decision and order after hearing on dangerous dog complaint letter
- Copy of evaluation of Ticqua

F. Blackstone Valley Gardeners / Request to use the Town Common on Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM for a public plant sale

- Copy of letter from Blackstone Valley Gardeners requesting use of the Town Common

G. Susan Palmer-Howes [High School Business Club] / Request to hold a boot drive on April 2, 2016 at Memorial Square and Ovia Square from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM

- Copy of email from Susan Palmer requesting a Boot Drive

H. Pine Grove Cemetery

- Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed (Dawn Violette)

I. Donna Picard d/b/a Maison de Manger

- Copy of Application for Common Victualler License for Maison de Manger
- Copy of additional information in support of application
- Copy of layout of restaurant
- Copy of Workers Compensation Affidavit
- Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance
- Copy of Business Certificate
- Copy of License Routing Slip

J. Speedway LLC d/b/a Speedway #2415

- Copy of Application for Common Victualler License for Speedway, LLC
- Copy of layout of store

- Copy of Business Certificate
- Copy of Workers Compensation Affidavit

K. Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 27, 2015] / Vote positions on warrant articles

- Copy of position paper regarding FATM articles
- Copy of Warrant
- Copy of motions
- Copy of letter from Planning Board on Article 8
- Copy of letter from Planning Board on Article 9

L. Fletcher Street / Vote to take down tree

- Copy of letter recommending to take down Fletcher Street tree

M. Devin Kell/Request to hold a non-profit Motorcycle Bike Run to benefit the American Cancer Society/Relay For Life, Sunday, June 5, 2016 @ 10 AM / Vote to approve subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department

- Copy of email request for permission to hold the Motorcycle Bike Run
- Copy of Chief Warchol's response (email dated 10/8/15)

DISCUSSIONS

- N. -No documentation**
- O. -No documentation**

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

P. 1.) - Planning Board - Zoning Public Workshop

- Copy of Notice of Public Workshop

2.) Department of Housing and Community Development

- Copy of letter from Department of Housing and Community Development

3.) DPW / Fall leaf pick up program

- Copy of News Release announcing bagged leaf collection
- Copy of leaf collection schedule
- Copy of leaf collection map

4.) COA vehicle fundraising -No documentation

5.) Legislative Breakfast update -No documentation

6.) Annual Fall Town Meeting -No documentation

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS -No documentation

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA -No documentation

CORRESPONDENCE -None

EXECUTIVE SESSION / 6:30PM:

Under M.G.L Chapter 30A, S21 #3 - To discuss strategy with respect to contract

- Documentation removed as the minutes have not been released

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
November 9, 2015 AT 6:30 PM

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 6:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager and State Representative David Muradian, Jr.

Chairman Melia announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session and declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the body.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under Under M.G.L. C. 30A, §21 #7 to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law – and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Athanas/ Yes, Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Marzec/yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:30 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:31 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:45 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

State Representative David K. Muradian Jr. was present at the meeting to give an update from Beacon Hill on two topics. He explained the first topic was trafficking of fentanyl and stated it was what drug dealers are lacing the heroine with which is what is making it deadly and potent. Mr. Muradian described that cartels and kingpins have found a way to manufacture it and what is seen on the streets now is straight fentanyl, if the heroine is not laced with it. He stated that the manufacturing, distributing, and dispensing was all covered under law already and trafficking was taken up as well. If you have 10 grams or more, which could fit on your finger tip, it would be punishable for up to 20 years in jail. He assured the board that they were taking steps to help curb this terrible tragedy and epidemic that we are having. Fentanyl is 50 times more potent than morphine and 30-50 times more potent than heroine which is what we were fighting. Mr. Muradian gave some stats of police drug cases witch show positive for fentanyl. In 2013 there were 5 cases, 2014 there were 170 cases, and 2015 as of August was 473 cases. There were two bills filed one of which was by Representative Tim Wallen(former State Trooper) and Representative Paul Tucker (former Police Chief) which was filed a month before the Attorney General came out with her bill with Representative Fernandes as well. He stated he was happy to support both but thought that the Tim Wallen and Paul Tucker bill took it further in fighting this as they had mandatory minimums which unfortunately that part was sent to a study, so it is possible the mandatory minimum sees the light of day. More recently there were Veteran Bills which were taken up dealing with the Stolen Valor Act, prosecuting individuals who falsely claim military service credentials of personal or financial gain, prohibiting unauthorized sale of Veteran's grave markers and require vandals to pay restitution for damaging or removing grave stones. They gave free access to state parks and reservations for Purple Heart recipients. Mr. Muradian concluded by stating he will be hosting a coat drive on Thursday December 3, 2015, which is for adults and children and are taking donations for new coats, and/or gently used and washed coats. Donation boxes will be located in Grafton at Dunkin Donuts, in Upton at the Town Hall, and Northbridge will be at the Whitin Community Center. The coat drive will be held from 5 PM – 8 PM on December 3, 2015 in the upstairs function room at the Grafton Legion, and Santa will be

there from 6 PM – 8 PM. Mr. Muradian thanked the Board for their time and stated he appreciates them allowing him to attend tonight's meeting and welcomed any questions the Board had. Mr. Melia stated the Town was informed a short time ago that Sutton Street was not going to be paved this year which was a change from the original plan and asked he Mr. Muradian was aware of this. Mr. Muradian replied he was not aware of it and only found out about the change before tonight's meeting, and stated to get him the stated details in writing he would gladly work on that as soon as possible to see what can be done to remedy the situation. Town Manager Kozak stated we would definitely do that, and explained there are structures that are currently raised and from hearsay it won't be able to be completed this year due to the weather conditions and stated that he appreciates his help.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1) September 14, 2015 A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Mr. Nolan, to approve the September 14, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Unanimous. **2) September 28, 2015** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/ Mr. Nolan, to approve the September 28, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Unanimous **3) October 19, 2015** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/ Mr. Marzec, to approve the October 19, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Unanimous **4) October 19, 2015 [Executive Session]** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Mr. Ampagoomian, to approve but not release the October 19, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Marzec, and Melia. Abstain/Mr. Nolan **5) October 27, 2015 FATM** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Mr. Ampagoomian, to approve the October 27, 2015 FATM minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Unanimous

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 1) 7:05 PM: FY'16 Tax Rate Classification Hearing / Present: Robert Fitzgerald, Principal Assessor Chairman Melia read aloud the public hearing notice regarding the FY'16 Tax Rate Classification Hearing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, and Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. Principal Assessor, Robert Fitzgerald was present to discuss the Tax Rate Classification Hearing stating that it allows the Selectmen to decide whether or not to shift the tax burden between classes. This will not increase revenues for the community it just shifts the burden. There are three options available which the first is to split the tax rate, the second is a residential exemption and the third is a small commercial exemption. The Board of Assessors met and reviewed the available data and made recommendations. The Board of Assessors made the following recommendations. The residential exemption allows a 20% discount for owner occupied properties, under the average residential value, there are only about 10 in the State. It is not beneficial to a smaller Town like Northbridge and the Board of Assessors were not in favor of that. The second option is the small commercial exemption which allows up to a 10% exemption for businesses and requires them to have under 10 employees and less than a million dollars in value, and the property owner would be in receipt of this exemption. There are very few in the State and the Board of Assessors did not feel that it was applicable to the Town and were not in favor of this exemption. The last option was to split the tax rate. We are at 13.38 per thousand and the calculation to get to the tax rate is the levy, which is made up of New Growth, Debt Exclusion, and Capital Exclusion and is divided by the total value of the Town. New growth was more than anticipated and more than the past several years, and under Capital Exclusion the DPW Truck, Plow, and Sweeper were approved. Once all the calculations were complete the tax rate increased to approximately 13.77 which is a 39 cent increase over last year. The average tax rate increase to the homeowner would be approximately \$135 a year. With a 10% shift or increase the industrial and commercial increase 10% but the residential decreases a little more than 1%, and with a 25% shift, commercial and industrial increases 25% and residential decreases about 2%, and the same for the max tax rate increase at 50%. The Town is overwhelmingly residential and the Department of Revenue's rule of thumb is that any commercial, industrial, and personal property are at 25% or more, is a time that communities often start thinking about shifting the rate. Mr. Fitzgerald described that based on that information the Board of Assessors would recommend that the Town maintain the single rate. Mr. Fitzgerald gave a comparison on where other Towns were as far as their tax rate. His comparison was using the 2015 rate since most of the 2016 tax

rates are not yet established. He read aloud 11 communities and their 2015 tax rate and explained that Northbridge came in at the lowest at \$13.38. Mr. Fitzgerald also included amounts of the average single family tax bill again with Northbridge at the lowest average amount. Mr. Fitzgerald also incorporated the average tax bill increase percentage since 2003 in lieu of customers in the office questioning why their tax bill goes up every year and noted that Northbridge was the lowest at 45.5%. Chairman Melia asked the audience if there were any questions or comments. Being none he opened the Board to comments and questions. Selectman Marzec thanked Mr. Fitzgerald for the report and voiced his concern on the Towns commercial tax. An additional concern he had was that citizens are in a position where they want services and when it comes down to it we do not have the money to support a lot of the necessary things such as building a new DPW Garage, the roads, Public safety, schools, etc. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes. Chairman Melia clarified that the Board of Assessors recommendation was to keep the single rate, to which Mr. Fitzgerald replied yes. Chairman Melia opened it to the board. There being no action taken Chairman Melia announced that it would stay at the single tax rate.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/By the Town Manager: 1) Ryan J. Falvey, Student Police Officer Police Chief Walter Warchol requested that Town Manager Kozak appoint a full time Police Officer to replace Officer Jarred Woeller who transferred to the Millbury Police Department. Chief Warchol recommended that Mr. Ryan Falvey be appointed to that position. Chief Warchol explained that Mr. Falvey was appointed a part-time Police Officer in June 2015 and allowed Mr. Falvey to introduce himself. Mr. Falvey is 26 years old, and currently works for the City of Worcester, DPW and was in front of the Board in June of 2015 to be a part-time Police Officer. His time here so far has been great and it has been a wonderful opportunity for him and looks forward to being the best person and Police Officer in the future he can be for the Town. He graduated from Boylston Police academy part time and this is a dream come true to not only become a Police Officer but also in the Town where he was born and raised. Chief Warchol noted that if the Board agrees with the recommendation Mr. Falvey should be appointed as a student police officer effective January 4, 2016, which is the first day of the academy and will be contingent upon the conditions which were provided. Chairman Melia opened the Board up for questions. Chairman Melia congratulated him and stated he is sure his family is proud of him, in particular his father who has been a long time Police Officer in Milford and stated this is a big step for Mr. Falvey. Chairman Melia asked which Academy he would be attending. Mr. Falvey stated Randolph. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to affirm the Town Managers appointment. Vote yes/Unanimous.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT: Cindy Campbell of 115 Sutton Street spoke regarding the Sutton Street Road project stating that in the beginning she was one of the biggest complainers and explained that there were a lot of trees that were clumped together but gave her a lot of privacy and those trees were removed. She expressed that she was very upset in the beginning but now whoever was in charge of the project brought her bushes and planted them and they are beautiful. Ms. Campbell explained that Mr. Shuris put up with her complaints and she very thankful and appreciative for everything that has been done.

Executive Session Minutes Chairman Melia explained that in front of the Board were Executive Session minutes from 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 which have been reviewed by Town Council and have been recommended to be released to the public. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Ampagoomian, vote to release the executive session minutes. Vote yes/ Unanimous

Pine Grove Cemetery/ 1) Michaela Cote [Lot No. 45B – Birch Path (North)] A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept Pine Grove Cemetery deed from Michaela Cote for Lot No. 45B – Birch Path (North). Vote yes/Unanimous **2) Philip and Frances Wassenar [Lot No. 299 – Woodlawn Avenue (North)]** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept Pine Grove Cemetery

deed from Mr. and Mrs. Wassenar for Lot No. 299 – Woodlawn Avenue (North). Vote Yes/Unanimous **3)**
Barbara A. Fernsten [Lot No. 1 – Walnut Avenue (North)] A motion/ Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept Pine Grove Cemetery deed from Barbara Fernsten for Lot No. 1 – Walnut Avenue (North). Vote yes/Unanimous

Village Variety, LLC [Ahmad Mustafa, Mgr.] / Application for a Non-Alcoholic Common Victualler located at 84 Border Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588 A motion /Mr. Marzec, seconded Mr. Nolan to approve the application for a Non-Alcoholic Common Victualler for Village Variety located at 84 Border Street. Vote yes/Unanimous

District Local Technical Assistance Grant Application Manager Kozak has recently received word of the availability of a grant program through the Central Mass Program Commission. Mr. Kozak and the Town Planner, Gary Bechtholdt were discussing the possibility of applying for funds and currently Town Manager Kozak is connecting with a couple of communities on perhaps sharing personnel. Mr. Kozak hasn't really decided on the final project or if the Town is going to apply. The Board will need to vote for Chairmen Melia to authorize the signing of the grant application before the next meeting and if the Town does wish to go forward the application will be ready for the chairman to sign. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to approve Chairman Melia to sign the grant application providing a grant application is prepared. Vote yes/Unanimous.

2016 Selectmen's Meeting Schedule The Selectmen's meeting schedule was prepared based off of previous year's schedules, holding two in a month every other week, and avoiding any holidays in the upcoming year, as well as continuing to hold one meeting for the months of July and August. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas, to approve the 2016 Board of Selectmen's Meeting Schedule as presented. Vote yes/Unanimous.

2016 Holiday Schedule The 2016 Employee Holiday schedule was prepared based off of the previous years. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the 2016 Employee Holiday Schedule as presented. Vote yes/ Unanimous.

Dedication of the Cpl. John M. Dawson Memorial, November 11, 2015 @ 11:00 AM / Present: Ronald Massey, Chairman, Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials Chairman Ronald Massey, spoke regarding the Cpl John Dawson Memorial service. The dedication of the Cpl. John Dawson Square will be held on November 11, 2015 at 11 AM and located on the corner of North Main Street and Goldthwaite Road. On Wednesday November 11, 2015 at 8 AM North Main Street to Goldthwaite Road will be closed and will be the location of the sound system is setup. At 10 AM North Main Street will be closed from Crescent Street to Goldthwaite Road. Accommodations can be made to anyone who has difficulties walking. Town Manager, Mr. Kozak; Board of Selectmen, Chairman Mr. Melia; Senator, Ryan Fatman; Senator, Michael Moore; and Representative, David Muradian will open the dedication ceremony with speeches. Blackstone Valley Technical Culinary students donated pastries which will be served along with coffee and water after the dedication on Goldthwaite Road. In the event of poor weather conditions the pastries will be served in the Great Room of the Town Hall located at 7 Main Street Whitinsville MA, 01588. The Community Center offered the use of their tents in case of poor weather conditions. Mr. Marzec thanked the Soldiers of Memorial Trustees for their efforts and the individuals who have donated their time to this project. Chairman Melia thanked Master Sargent Paul Reese for all of his dedication to the Dawson family. Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials Chairman Mr. Massey gave an update on the Civil War Monument located in the Town Common. The Civil War Monument is being refurbished, which includes the Eagle which will be revamped, stains will be removed from the concrete, the base which is made up of three sections, naturally is sinking, will be removed and new gravel will be replaced, re-leveled, and secured. This will be completed within the next 5 days. The base of the flag pole is completed and all the brass plaques have been redone, a chip in the concrete has

been fixed, and the entire monument has been power washed. The next project will be the flag pole on that base which is still in discussion as to what will be done with it but will be upcoming in the future. Maintenance on the memorials around Town will be costly due to the neglect in upkeep over the years. With the Trustees of Soldiers' Monuments current budget the plan is to complete the Civil War monument, the flag pole and monument, and the Vietnam War memorial for Joe Fitzgerald which will be refinished. The plan, once the monuments are restored, is to create a maintenance plan so throughout the years the monuments are preserved and not deteriorating.

2015-2016 Snow & Ice Program - Present: James Shuris, DPW Director and Jamie Luchini, Hwy. Supt. DPW Director James Shuris and Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini addressed the Snow and Ice Program for the upcoming months. The Snow and Ice Program is in its 5th year and created to enhance community awareness regarding snowplowing operations before during and after the storm. The top priority is keeping the main roads salted and open as the weather permits, secondary roads will be taken care of by the contractors, and the main focus for sidewalks after snowfall will be around the schools. Mr. Ampagoomian asked that after the snow removal of the school's sidewalks is completed if they could be sure that the downtown businesses in Rockdale and Whitinsville sidewalks are cleared to prevent those businesses losing any customers. Mr. Luchini explained that when there is a break he does like to get a crew there to remove the snow to make parking available, and described that it is a manageable area for that to be done as long as the weather allows. Mr. Marzec expressed his concern for the Church Street bump outs and crosswalks and making sure they are cleared out and Sutton Street with all the new sidewalks will also need to be plowed. Mr. Luchini replied that as of right now Sutton Street is not on the primary list to be plowed every storm since it is outside the school zone, but the lower section is plowed since it is part of the business section. Chairman Melia complemented the Highway Department on last year's snow removal stating that they did a great job given the exceptional amount of snow we had.

Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project/Request to waive permit fees Gary Bechtholdt Town Planner and the Executive Director of the Community Center, Heather Elster, requested for the Board of Selectmen to waive the building permit fee for the Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project. The group has been struggling with the project's budget and did request for additional funds. Their request was granted but they are still waiting for the official letter from Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Housing and Community Development. Waiving the fee does require a vote of the Board of Selectmen. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, for the request to waive the building permit fee of the Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project to be moved from discussion to decisions. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to waive the building permit fees for the Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project. Chairman Melia sought clarification that if the Board waived the fees the money would be put additionally into the project. Mr. Bechtholdt confirmed that was correct. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if there were any other permit or fees which could possibly be waived. Mr. Bechtholdt replied that there are not any other fees that could be waived at this time and explained the building permit will be two separate permits one will be for the renovation of Saint Peters Church and the other will be the demolition of the existing Youth Center upon completion. Chairman Melia asked when the anticipated opening date would be. Ms. Ester replied that they were hoping for August of 2016. Vote yes/Unanimous.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT 1) 2016 Senior Tax Work-Off Program The Senior Tax Work-Off program has been very successful for the past 6 or 7 years and will be going forward again this year. The program begins January 1, 2016. Any interested individuals, age 60 and over who own property, may call the office at 508-234-2095 for further details and an application. **2) Good Energy Bid Opening** Town Manager Mr. Kozak will be attending the bid opening on Tuesday November 10, 2015 for the aggregation contract that Good Energy. At that time we will learn the rate submitted by the various companies for residential use in the community. Assuming a bid will be accepted, a marketing program will commence immediately. Currently 23 communities are participating in this bid and it is residential and small

commercial. **3) Community Compact/ Governor's Office** The proposals are currently under review through the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the Town to join the Compact to help secure grant funds for the Town of Northbridge. Through the Community Compact there are various grant programs like transportation, education, housing, etc. Town Manager Mr. Kozak is currently working with Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner on the Community Compact. **4) CMRPC / Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program** The program is funded through the Federal government and is in place to ensure that the Town is prepared for any kind of disaster that may happen in the community. The plan was put together 3 years ago and is good for about 5 years therefore at this point we are beginning to look at renewing the plan. Town Manager Mr. Kozak attended a meeting held by CMRPC to discuss assisting communities and updating plans which will expire in 2017. **5) Pine Grove Cemetery/Yearly update** As of October 31, 2015 Pine Grove Cemetery has completed a year under the direction of the Town. Pine Grove cemetery expenses for the year totaled to \$41,614, which consisted of labor; heat, electricity, and water; telephone; alarm service; professional services; one time charges; and legal, repair, and alarms. The receipts totaled to \$76,985 and broke down to deeds for plots, burials, cremations, and foundations/markers. The profit will revolve in the account to be re-appropriated at Town Meeting each year and continue with the cemetery operation and produce money for Capital Projects. The Cemetery is in good condition and pot holes have been filled with extra materials which will be continued. Digitalizing all of the files is still in progress and will hopefully be done soon.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: Selectmen Ampagoomian 1) Asked if there was any consideration for a housing development to go in at the recent land clearing that is under the Mass Department of Forestry which runs parallel to Thurston Ave behind East Street along Church Street behind the former Hathaway Transmission and the land clearing. **2)** Asked if there was any word from Mass DOT on getting a delayed green on the traffic light located at 122 and Plummer's Corner. Highway Superintendent mentioned that the word is out to them but they have not heard anything back yet. **3)** Asked regarding the repairs of the Riverdale fence. Manager Kozak stated we do have that but are looking into replacing the whole fence. **4)** Asked about the DPW facility and how the BPCC was doing on the project. Manager Kozak answered that the DPW Director, Highway Superintendent, and himself all met with a property manager to discuss some plans to go forward for the spring. **5)** Mentioned to not forget about the possibility of a new Fire Station. **Selectmen Marzec 1)** Asked if the taxes have been paid on the abandoned house on Sutton Street which the home owner is deceased and asked if something could be done about the house before it burns down or something happens. Town Manager Kozak mentioned the Building Inspector was checking in on that and he believes there is activity happening with the house. **2)** Mentioned he received good news that the new Veterans Agent is phenomenal and attentive to detail.

Chairman Melia announce the next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, November 23, 2015.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to adjourn the meeting. A vote yes/Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned: 8:14 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mjw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

November 9, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. 1)** Copy of September 14, 2015 minutes
- 2)** Copy of September 28, 2015 minutes
- 3)** Copy of October 19, 2015 minutes
- 4)** Copy of October 19, 2015 minutes [Executive Session] – Removed from documentation as they have not been released
- 4)** Copy of October 27, 2015 FATM minutes

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- B. 1)** Copy of memo to selectmen regarding Classification Hearing
- 2)** Copy of Tax Rate Breakdown
- 3)** Copy of FY 2016 Average table
- 4)** Copy of 2016 Valuation by class pie chart
- 5)** Copy of surrounding Towns Tax Rate
- 6)** Copy of FY 2015 Average Single family
- 7)** Copy of Average tax bill increase since 2003

III. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:

- C. 1)** Copy of Memo from Chief Warchol to Mr. Kozak regarding the appointment of one full time police officer
- 2)** Copy of memo from Chief Warchol to Mr. Kozak recommending the appointment of Ryan J. Falvey, as a Student Police Officer
- 3)** Copy of resume of Ryan J. Falvey

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT – No Documentation

V. DECISIONS

- D.** Executive Session Minutes- Removed from documentation as they have not been released
- E. 1)** Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery deed/Lot No. 45B-Birch Path North for Michaela Cote **2)** Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery deed/Lot No. 299-Woodland Avenue for Philip and Frances Wassenaar **3)** Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery deed/Lot No. 1-Walnut Avenue for Barbara A. Fernsten
- F.** Copy of Common Victualler License for Village Variety, LLC [Ahmad Mustafa, Mgr.]
Copy of License Routing Slip
- G.** Copy of District Local Technical Assistance Grant Application Cover Letter
- H.** Copy of 2016 Selectmen's Meeting Schedule
- I.** Copy of 2016 Holiday Schedule

VI. DISCUSSIONS

- J.** Copy of Dedication location of the Cpl. John M. Dawson Memorial
- K.** Copy of 2015-2016 Snow & Ice Program Pamphlet
- L.** Copy of email from Town Planner Gary Bechtholdt regarding Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project Requesting to waive permit fees

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- M.** 1) 2016 Senior Tax Work-Off Program-**No Documentation**
2) Good Energy Bid Opening -**No Documentation**
3) Community Compact/ Governor's Office-**No Documentation**
4) CMRPC / Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program -**No Documentation**
5) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery expenses from Novembers 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS -No Documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA-None

X. CORRESPONDENCE-None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:30 PM

N. Under M.G.L. C. 30A, §21 #7 To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
November 23, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia. Selectman Marzec and Selectman Athanas were absent and it is duly recorded. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1) November 9, 2015 [Executive Session]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Marzec, to approve but not release the November 9, 2015 Executive Session Minutes. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 7:05 PM: Massachusetts Electric Company / Petition for new Pole and Pole Relocation (Pollard Road): N'Grid requests to relocate pole # 8 to clear the Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Line and install pole # 8-50 for line span and relocate pole # 9 also for line span. Present: Crystal Tognazzi. Chairman Melia read aloud the public hearing notice. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/ Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. Ms. Tognazzi stated pole #8 was too close to the Tennessee Gas Line, which is why National Grid is requesting to move that pole 27 feet away from the Tennessee Gas Line. National Grid also suggested installing mid-span pole #8-50 to shorten the span length between poles 8 and 9. No abutters were present. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to close the public hearing. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to approve National Grid's request to relocate pole # 8 to clear the Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Line and install pole # 8-50 for line span and relocate pole # 9 also for line span. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia. Selectman Ampagoomian asked Ms. Tognazzi if someone from National Grid could provide an update on the pole on Church Street. Highway Superintendent Luchini interjected and said he believed it had been removed last week.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT - Local Business Spotlight: Little Man Originals – [Present: Christine Guanipa, Proprietor]. Jeannie Hebert, President and CEO of Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce, introduced Christine and Miquel Guanipa as the owners of Little Man Originals, a shop located on Church Street. She also noted that Mrs. Guanipa is the Chairman of the Shop Small Business Committee. Mrs. Guanipa indicated that everything in the store is made at the store and made to order. Mrs. Guanipa stated that she and her husband moved to Whitinsville 10 years ago and both are graduates of the Mass College of Art. Mrs. Guanipa was a Print Making Major and Mr. Guanipa a Cartoonist major. Later, Mrs. Guanipa turned to designing hand bags and used one of Mr. Guanipa's cartoons as the logo. Little Man Originals is a wholesaler and they design a collection of hand bags every year with accessories and they travel all over to sell them. Today, they have products in over 200 stores and galleries. The Shop Small Business campaign is conducted in about 24 small local shops and is scheduled for Saturday, November 28, 2015, from 10 AM to 5 PM. The purpose of the Shop Small Business Campaign is to bring people back into Northbridge. Mrs. Guanipa advised there will be a shuttle for this event provided by Alternatives that will make 5 stops at participating businesses, which will have red chairs and balloons in front of their stores. Mrs. Guanipa showed off some of the items for sale in her shop, which included large bags, accessory bags, wristlets, wallets, change holders, as well as bibs. Mrs. Guanipa then told the story of when she received a call from a Senator, who found their products online, which led to their designing fabric for the White House that included donkeys and elephants. She stated that they continue to receive orders from the White House. The store hours are Wednesday thru Friday

from 10 AM – 5 PM and Saturdays from 10 AM – 2 PM. Visit them online at littlemanoriginals.com. Mrs. Guanipa also does private parties and studio events with visiting artists.

Pine Grove Cemetery/Vote to accept American Flag donated by Mary Bedoian. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to accept the donation of an American Flag from Mary Bedoian to be flown on the pole at Pine Grove Cemetery. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia.

Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [Sook L. Huynh, Mgr.] / Request to pro-rate the Annual Liquor License fee. Mr. Sook Huynh, the new manager of Friendly Discount Liquors was present to request that the Board prorate the liquor license fee for the remainder of 2015. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to approve the request to prorate the liquor license fee of Friendly Discount Liquor's for the remainder of 2015—one month. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia.

Pine Knoll Sub-division / The Board of Selectmen shall vote to: 1) Approve the agreement for donation of funds with Aris Group, LLC in connection with the Planning Board's September 22, 2015 modification of the Special Permit for the Pine Knoll Senior Living Development 2) To approve the Planning Board's expenditure of the donated funds for the purpose of the preparation of a Housing Production Plan and an Open Space & Recreation Plan for the Town. Town Planner Gary Bechtholdt was present to describe the details of the request. He explained the Selectmen are being asked to formalize the agreement that was reached through a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals, waiving the requirement for 3 affordable units. It was required to go back to the Planning Board to modify the Special Permit. As part of the Special Permit modification, the owner/applicant and Planning Board came to the decision that in lieu of and exchange for the 3 affordable units, Aris Group, LLC would provide a one-time donation to the Town as established through the special permit. The funds will be used to hire a consultant for the preparation of a Housing Production Plan as well as an Open Space and Recreation Plan. The remaining funds will be decided upon by what the Planning Board wishes to do with them and will be presented to the Board of Selectmen to be voted on. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to vote to approve the agreement for donation of funds with Aris Group, LLC in connection with the Planning Board's September 22, 2015 modification of the special permit for the Pine Knoll Senior Living Development and to approve the Planning Board's expenditure of the donated funds for the purpose of the preparation of a housing production plan and an Open Space and Recreation plan for the Town. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia.

Winter Parking Ban [December 1, 2015 to April 1, 2016] / Vote to approve. For the record, it was noted there were no changes from last year's parking ban. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the Winter Parking Ban from December 1, 2015 to April 1, 2016 as presented. The parking ban can be extended if the weather warrants it. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia.

National Park Designation / Present: Kenneth Warchol, Meghan Kish, Superintendent, and Jennifer Smith, NPS Director. Meghan Kish, Superintendent of the Northbridge National Park as well as other National Parks gave an overview on the designation. Ms. Kish advised that on December 19, 2014, the Blackstone River Valley National Park became the 402nd National Park. In the Legislation, there are 6 nodes and Whitinsville is one of them. It is Ms. Kish's responsibility to set the boundary for the new park, which includes Slater Mill in Pawtucket, the Kelly House in Blackstone State Park as well as Slatersville and Ashton RI, and Hopedale and Whitinsville, MA. Prior to getting in to the National Historic Park the Town needs to be in set boundaries and the Commission then can prepare to oversee the preservation of the buildings. At this point, the Town needs to re-establish the Local Historic District Study Committee. The boundaries are already proposed and the next step would be to hold a public

hearing and then get Town Meeting approval. Being in the boundary allows for the investment of resources, which is an incentive toward moving forward with this. Megan DiPrete, Deputy Director of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, which includes 25 communities in total, will be helping with this project. Ms. Kish said she is hopeful that this is something the community is interested in and will always be happy to help out in all areas of the process.

Aldrich School Fence / Present: Kenneth Warchol, Chairman, Northbridge Historic Commission. Chairman Warchol spoke about the removal of the Aldrich School Fence. Mr. Warchol asked for approval to remove the fence in front of the former Grammar School because it is one of the most beautiful squares, however, it is blocked by the fence. He added that since there is no longer a school there it would make sense to remove the fence to reveal the historical look. There being no further discussion, a motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to move item H. Aldrich School Fence from discussions to decisions. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the removal of the Aldrich School Fence. Chairman Melia verified that it would be done by the Town's Department of Public Works. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT 1) Aggregation Bid Results – The Town Manager attended the bid opening for the electricity aggregation program, which involves 23 communities. The low bid by Con Edison came in at 9.49 cents and will go into effect in January 2016, for 24 months. For comparison purposes, National Grid's winter rate is 13.1 cents. Mr. Kozak advised that a letter describing the program details will be sent to all home owners in Town who have National Grid as their supplier. Customers will automatically be enrolled into the program but will have the opportunity to opt-out of the program, if they so wish. Customers who have a different supplier but want to switch to Con Edison must first opt-out of their current program. Mr. Kozak stressed the fact people should make sure there are no fees to end the contract with their current third-party supplier. Once a customer has ended that supplier contract they may opt into the Con Edison program with the Town. **2) Veterans Day Services** – The Town Manager attended Veterans Day services, which included the dedication of the Cpl. John Dawson Square. Despite the bad weather, the event was well-attended and beautifully done by the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials. **3) Stormwater Update** – Mr. Kozak attended a Regional Stormwater meeting and discussed plans for next year's EAP requirements by the government. **4) WRTA Bus Program** - The WRTA provided the Town with updated ridership numbers and it shows that the program is still picking up passengers so they will continue to go forward with the bus program. **5) Senior Center Luncheon** – The Town Manager attended a luncheon sponsored by Senator Michael Moore and the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce. They served a turkey dinner and dessert to over 100 people, which was a large increase over last year.

Town Manager Kozak announced the Fire Truck is ready and we should be receiving it within the next two weeks.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: Selectman Ampagoomian: Reported that Charter Communications reception has been deplorable, pixilated, freezing, and frequently shuts down. He suggested that anyone who is having these issues should call Northbridge Community Television and suggest a letter campaign to our Senators' Offices since the fees continue to rise and it is bad service to begin with. **Selectman Nolan:** Congratulated the Northbridge High School football team and wished them luck at the Super Bowl in a couple of weeks. **Chairman Melia:** Stated that the dedication ceremony of the Cpl. Dawson monument was a very moving ceremony and the Soldiers' Memorial Committee did an excellent job.

Chairman Melia announced the next Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2015.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded Mr. Nolan to adjourn the meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Nolan, and Melia.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:51 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mjw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

November 23, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. November 9, 2015 Executive Session Minutes – removed from documentation as they have not been released.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS: Massachusetts Electric Company / Petition for new Pole and Pole Relocation (Pollard Road): National Grid requests to relocate pole # 8 to clear the Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Line and install pole # 8-50 for line span and relocate pole # 9 also for line span.

Present: Crystal Tognazzi

- B. -Copy of National Grid Petition
- Copy of Public Hearing Notice
- Copy of Memorandum for Abutter's List
- Copy of Abutters List

III. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: None

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: Little Man Originals - Present: Christine Guanipa, Proprietor / No Documentation

V. DECISIONS

- C. Pine Grove Cemetery Deed
 - Copy of note from Mary Bedoian
- D. Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [Sook L. Huynh, Mgr.] / Request to pro-rate the Annual Liquor License fee - **No Documentation**
- E. Pine Knoll Sub-division
 - Copy of Motion for Pine Knoll donation
 - Copy of Memo from Town Planner Gary Bechtholdt regarding the approval of agreement and acceptance
 - Copy of Agreement for Donation of Funds to the Town
 - Copy of Certificate of Compliance
- F. Winter Parking Ban [December 1, 2015 to April 1, 2016]
 - Copy of Winter Parking Ban Announcement

VI. DISCUSSIONS

- G. National Park Designation - **No documentation**
- H. Aldrich School Fence - **No documentation**

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- I. 1) Aggregation Bid Results - **No documentation**
- 2) Veterans Day Services - **No documentation**
- 3) Stormwater Update - **No documentation**
- 4) WRTA Bus Program - Copy of WRTA Routes and monthly ridership numbers
- 5) Senior Center Luncheon - **No documentation**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS / No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA / No documentation

- X. CORRESPONDENCE / No documentation**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION / No documentation**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
December 7, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 6:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Marzec, Nolan, and Melia. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager

A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – To discuss strategy with respect to litigation. – and to reconvene in Open Session. Chairman Melia then declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the body. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, Mr. Melia/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, and Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:31 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:32 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:45 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present

Mr. Ampagoomian announced that on this day, December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor murdering more than 2,000 Americans. Five battle ships, three destroyers, and seven other ships were sunk or damaged in the attack including the USS Arizona that was hit four times and eventually sank to the bottom of the Pearl Harbor. Mr. Ampagoomian then reminded everyone of Stanley Thomas who was on the USS Arizona, was lost in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. November 9, 2015. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the November 9, 2015 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager [Vote to affirm] 1) Rebecca Sasseville, Sr. Library Assistant. Jennifer Woodward, Library Director, stated that Ms. Sasseville has been volunteering at the Library and will be attending graduate school for Library Science in January. Ms. Sasseville stated it would be exciting to work for the Town especially at the Library. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Rebecca Sasseville to the position of Sr. Library Assistant. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Michelle Methé, Asst. Senior Center Director.** Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director, introduced Ms. Methé, stating she has extensive knowledge and experience with the elderly population and also served on the Council on Aging Board. She was crucial to the process of re-writing center policies and is knowledgeable of most Senior Center operations. Ms. Methé stated she is privileged to have been chosen for this opportunity and looks forward to working at the Senior Center. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to affirm the Town Managers appointment of Michelle Methé to the position of Assistant Senior Center Director. Vote yes/Unanimous.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: Schotanus Design Center, 83 Church Street, Whitinsville. Present: Ms. Jesse Schotanus. Ms. Schotanus mentioned the Schotanus Design Center designs kitchens, remodels bathrooms, additions, etc. They thrive for local subcontractors and try to keep everything in downtown Whitinsville. Ms. Schotanus has been in the design field for 15 years. Her father, Peter Schotanus, and mother Judy Schotanus, started the business in 2004 in South Grafton and then moved to Whitinsville in

October of 2011. The hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 5 PM and Friday and Saturday from 9 AM to 1 PM. Visit their webpage at <http://www.schotanusdesigncenter.com>.

Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials [Present: Ronald Massey]/Request Board of Selectmen to accept the Cpl. Dawson Memorial located at the intersection of North Main Street and Purgatory Road. Mr. Massey announced that the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials are honored to have been able to participate in the creation of the Cpl. John Dawson Square. With the help of monetary donations, donations of materials, as well as labor from local businesses and contractors, this beautiful square was built at no cost to the Town of Northbridge. The Board of Trustees is now offering the Col. John Dawson Square to the Town of Northbridge. The total cost of this square was \$21,525. The Board of Trustees offers this square to the Town of Northbridge to own. Chairman Melia then read aloud a thank you letter the Board of Selectmen received from the Dawson Family. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to accept the Cpl. John Dawson Memorial located at the intersection of North Main Street and Purgatory Road as well as all monetary and material donations provided for the memorial. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Deane Way/Vote to accept deed as authorized by Town Meeting [Article 9 – FATM 2015]. Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner, updated the Board regarding the vote to accept the Deane Way deed. He noted that Town Counsel has worked with the developer's attorneys in finalizing all of the documentation and everything is in order. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to accept the deed as authorized by Town Meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deeds/1) Duane J. and Paula VandenAkker [Lot No. 52, Hemlock Path North]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the sale of Lot No. 52 - Hemlock Path North to Duane J. and Paula VandenAkker. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) James and Martha Buma [Lot No. 300, Woodlawn Ave North].** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the sale of Lot No. 300 - Woodlawn Ave North to James and Martha Buma. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Departmental Updates/Present: Neil Vaidya, Town Accountant; Julie Harris, Treasurer/Collector; Robert Fitzgerald, Principal Assessor; Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director; and Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the following Department Heads were present to provide updates on their departments including accomplishments and future needs. The above Department Heads provided their departmental updates covering the period of July 2015 through December 2015. A copy of the Department Heads' reports can be found attached to these minutes.

Selectman Ampagoomian questioned Mr. Vaidya if he believed the auditors would find any red flags. Mr. Vaidya responded that usually, if there are any red flags, he is notified from the start but as of now, there has not been anything. He said the Auditors were happy with the bank reconciliations as well as the tax title work.

Selectman Ampagoomian asked Ms. Harris how the time cards were working out. Ms. Harris replied at this time the Town does not have time cards that are attached to the system but she is hoping to go that route in the future once all the other bugs are worked out. Selectman Ampagoomian then asked Ms. Harris how many tax title liens would be sent out. Ms. Harris replied there are about 200 letters going out. Chairman Melia asked if the electronic payroll would be a paperless program. Ms. Harris replied that right now we still have paper checks but soon employees will be able to log in to look at everything online.

Chairman Melia questioned Ms. Bol, Senior Center Director, about the cost of the new van was. Ms. Bol replied it was \$63,000 of which \$12,000 was received from the FINE group, \$20,000 was received from Unibank, and \$6,000 was received from local businesses and individuals. \$25,000 was the amount remaining which was funded by Town Meeting.

Selectman Marzec asked Mr. Bechtholdt what time the November 10, 2015 Zoning Workshop was held and how many people attended. Mr. Bechtholdt replied the workshop was held from 6 PM - 7 PM and other than the Planning Board members, there were 2 attendees. He noted that as far as notifications go, the workshop was advertised on local access channels, announced at the Selectmen's meeting, and was also on the Town's web page. Given the poor attendance, the discussion was great. Selectman Marzec asked if Mr. Bechtholdt would share the meeting notes. Mr. Bechtholdt replied he definitely would and members of the Select Board were welcomed to attend the next meeting, which the Planning Board would greatly appreciate. Mr. Bechtholdt stated he would coordinate with the Select Board on dates that would work. Selectman Athanas asked the cost of the Great Hall restoration. Mr. Bechtholdt replied the decorative plaster was upwards of \$40,000, and in total the project would be in excess of \$100,000. The grant is a State funded 50% reimbursable matching grant program. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Bechtholdt what was going on with the tree cutting taking place behind Church Street and if it would be opened up to residential area and business. Mr. Bechtholdt stated there are 3 separate property owners; some of the land is zoned industrial and the other two are zoned residential. The owners are looking at a potential mixed use but nothing has been formalized. What they are currently proposing will require zoning amendments, which will be brought to the Board's attention once formalized. Chairman Melia asked what the total acreage is. Mr. Bechtholdt replied he believes it is over 200 acres.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT 1) Quinsigamond Community College Update: Mr. Kozak reported that QCC is currently looking at the former Milford Whitinsville Regional Hospital site on High Street as a satellite location and working with the Congressman's office to obtain funds to move forward with the project. **2) Mass Works Grant:** The Town Manager said the Town received notification that we were unsuccessful in obtaining a grant for the Church Street Extension Project. There was a high volume of time and effort put towards this very competitive grant by Mr. Bechtholdt which does not go unnoticed. Mr. Kozak and Mr. Shuris will be discussing the possibility of improving the road. **3) Governor's Community Compact:** Indicated that the Governor's office is offering various opportunities to communities. This topic was discussed during the recent Department Head Meeting and Department Heads will report back if they are interested in those opportunities. **4) Electricity Aggregation Program:** Advised that the program has successfully started and will take effect with the February billing. Customers can opt-out at any time. Mr. Kozak clarified that the opt-out portion of the program is a requirement of Mass. General Law. Any questions can be referred to Con-Edison at 855-788-9885. **5) CMRPC Legislative Breakfast:** Discussed community compact for regionalization efforts. Discussion also included retirees and the difficulty of finding qualified candidates to replace those retiring. One of the encouragements was internships, which is something we have already been working on. Currently there is no forecast for state aid and no foreseeable reason there would be a significant decrease.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: Selectman Marzec/1) Announced his concern regarding economic development in town; looking at land the town owns and asked how the town could adequately deal with the land and develop it. He stated that he believed the town should take advantage of the small piece of land along Route 146 that Northbridge has access to. Mr. Bechtholdt reassured Mr. Marzec by stating with the potential introduction of sewer in that area, the chance of economic development would surely open up. **2)** Stated that he would like to invite Mr. Lachapelle, other coaches and members of the football team to the next meeting to congratulate them on a job well done. **3)** Reminded the DPW about the raised manhole covers on Sutton Street and hoped that something would be done before the snow falls. Highway Superintendent, Mr. Luchini, reassured the Board that the contractor has a completion date of winterizing everything within 2-3 weeks. Mr. Marzec then expressed his appreciation in regards to the bumps, which were fixed around the bridge and near the railroad tracks. **4)** Mentioned that he was having difficulty with unlocking the door to Town Hall with the key card and he wanted to make sure it gets looked at. **5)** Thanked everyone who helped not only with the Cpl. Dawson Memorial but other projects as well. **Selectman Athanas/1)** Says he has been asked about the mailboxes on Sutton Street and that it does not seem as though there is enough room for a wheelchair to pass. Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini

stated the Mass State code that DOT follows requires a 36-inch egress for wheelchairs and strollers. He added that all sidewalks on Sutton Street are in compliance. **2)** Asked for a building asset list for Town owned properties and the maintenance schedule. Town Manager Kozak stated there is a list and the DPW has started on the fall cleanup. Mr. Luchini clarified that fall cleanup consists of an exterminator spraying the buildings, gutter cleaning, and he is currently looking into painting contractors. **3)** Asked if we have heard from the BPCC regarding the proposed DPW building and if the Selectmen would receive a presentation. Town Manager Kozak replied that at last week's meeting, the BPCC hired an OPM to help with the proposal for the Spring Town Meeting, so we should be hearing more in January. **4)** Congratulated Coach Lachapelle and the Rams on their Super Bowl Victory. **Selectman Ampagoomian/1)** Pointed out that the sign for the entrance to Shaw's Plaza is covered by trees. **2)** Mentioned a concern with a big orange barrel in a hole on Route 122 across from the Goulet Field. **3)** With respect to lower Sutton Street, he asked if the upright poles for the traffic light would be installed before the winter. Mr. Luchini replied that he has not heard that to be part of the winterization plan and does not believe it will be completed because the contractor is more focused on the roads. **4)** Asked if the Pool Room at the Senior Center was dedicated yet. Ms. Bol replied it had not yet been dedicated. She stated the plan is to schedule an open house in the spring and during that time is when the dedication of the Pool Room to Jack Driscoll would take place. **5)** Received an email from someone who was a good friend of Mr. Driscoll and mentioned the possibility of Sutton Street Bridge being dedicated to Mr. Jack Driscoll. **Chairman Melia/1)** Congratulated the football team, players, coaches as well as the families for a great win and an outstanding accomplishment. **2)** Sends the Board's condolences to Fire Chief Gary Nestor, who recently lost his mother. The funeral mass will be held at St. Peter's this Thursday. **3)** Asked if there was a date for the fence to be removed at the former Aldrich school. Mr. Luchini replied it would be taken down as soon as time allows; by the first of the year at the latest.

Town Manager Kozak announced that the Riverdale Cemetery fence is currently down and will be replaced with a more appropriate fence that is a little stronger. The Town did receive money from the individual's insurance and will be working with the Historic Commission on replacing it with a more authentic looking fence. He also announced that the Santa Parade would be held Saturday, December 12, 2015, from 10 AM - 3 PM.

Chairman Melia announced the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 21, 2015.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mjw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

December 7, 2015

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Copy of November 9, 2015 minutes

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager [Vote to affirm]:

B. Rebecca Sasseville, Sr. Library Assistant

- Copy of appointment letter for Rebecca Sasseville, Sr. Library Assistant

Michelle Methé, Asst. Senior Center Director

- Copy of appointment letter for Michelle Methé, Asst. Senior Center Director

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

Local Business Spotlight: Schotanus Design Center –Present: Jesse Schotanus

- No documentation

V. DECISIONS

C. Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials [Present: Ronald Massey]/Request Board of Selectmen to accept the Cpl. Dawson Memorial located at the intersection of North Main Street and Purgatory Road

- No documentation

D. Deane Way/Vote to accept deed as authorized by Town Meeting [Article 9 – FATM 2015]

- Copy of Deane Way email
- Copy of Deane Way Deed

E. Pine Grove Cemetery Deeds

- Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Duane J. and Paula VandenAkker [Lot No. 52, Hemlock Path North]
- Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to James and Martha Buma [Lot No. 300, Woodlawn Ave North]

VI. DISCUSSIONS

F. Departmental Updates

- Copies of Departmental update reports from Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector, Principal Assessor, Council on Aging, and Planning

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

G. 1) Quinsigamond Community College Update -No documentation

2) Mass Works Grant -No documentation

3) Governor's Community Compact -No documentation

4) Electricity Aggregation Program -Copy of letter from Con Edison Solutions.

5) CMRPC Legislative Breakfast -No documentation

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS / None

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA / None

X. CORRESPONDENCE / None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

H. Under M.G.L Chapter 30A, S21 #3 – To discuss strategy with respect to litigation.

- Documentation removed as the minutes have not been released

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
December 21, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia. Selectman Marzec was absent and it is duly noted. **Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Presentation: Proclamation for the Northbridge High School Football Team and Coaches - The team was not able to make this meeting and the presentation will be rescheduled.

Approval of Minutes: December 7, 2015 (Executive Session) - A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve but not release the December 7, 2015 executive session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Public Hearings: None

Appointments/By the Board of Selectmen: Worcester County Selectmen's Association/Voting member and alternate. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to nominate Selectman Ampagoomian, based on previous years and continued interest, to carry on as the voting member for Northbridge for the Worcester County Selectmen's Association. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas to nominate Mr. Nolan as the alternate member for the Worcester County Selectmen's Association. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia. **Resignation: Jeremy Deorsey, Conservation Commission.** Chairman Melia read aloud Mr. Deorsey's letter of resignation. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to accept the resignation of Jeremy Deorsey from the Conservation Commission. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Citizens' Comments/Input: None

2016 Miscellaneous License Renewals [Common Victualler, Class II, Class III, Automatic Amusement Devices, Entertainment, etc.]/Vote to approve subject to the payment of all monies due the Town. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the 2016 miscellaneous License renewals subject to the payment of all outstanding monies due the town. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

2016 Annual Liquor License Renewals/Vote to approve subject to the payment of all monies due the Town. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the 2016 Liquor License renewals subject to the payment of all outstanding monies due the town. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Tri-Valley Front Runners, Inc. [Michael Nixon]/Request permission to hold the "Frank Nealon Boston Tune-Up" Road Race on Saturday, April 2, 2016 @ 10 AM subject to the safety requirements of the Police Department. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the above event subject to the safety requirements of the Northbridge Police Department. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Trading Post General Store, 178 Church Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588/Application for Keno To Go License. The Board has no objection for the Keno To Go License therefore no action is necessary.

Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [Sook L. Huynh, Mgr.], 1167 Providence Rd., Whitinsville, MA / Application to transfer the Non-Alcoholic Common Victualler License from Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [William Giannopoulos, Mgr.]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the transfer of the Non-Alcoholic Common Victualler License from Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc., 1167 Providence Rd., Whitinsville, MA, [William Giannopoulos, Mgr.] to Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. [Sook Huynh, Mgr.]. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Highland Street/Vote to accept donation of land as authorized by Town Meeting [Art. 8 – 2015 FATM]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan that the Board vote to accept on behalf of the Town the deed of Highland Street Land Association, LLC conveying to the Town 6 parcels of land, as described in the deed, pursuant to the vote under article 8 of the warrant for the 2015 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deeds

- 1) Kay Kowalczyk [Lot No. 26A, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 26A, Birch Path North to Kat Kowalczyk. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 2) Branden J. and Sharon R. Humphrey [Lot No. 26B, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 26B, Birch Path North to Branden J. and Sharon R. Humphrey. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 3) Sharon R. Humphrey [Lot No. 26A, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 26A, Birch Path North to Sharon R. Humphrey. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 4) Alice Hubert [Lot No. 25B, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 25B, Birch Path North to Alice Hubert. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 5) Dennis and Lisa Magowan [Lot 25A, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot 25A, Birch Path North to Dennis and Lisa Magowan. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 6) Norman C. and Kelly A. Magowan [Lot No. 25B, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 25B, Birch Path North to Norman C. and Kelly A. Magowan. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 7) Stanley P. and Claire L. Lisak [Lot No. 24B, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 24B, Birch Path North to Stanley P. and Claire L. Lisak. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 8) Claire L. Lisak [Lot No. 24B, Birch Path Road].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 24B, Birch Path Road to Claire L. Lisak. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 9) Bruce W. Lisak [Lot No. 24A, Birch Path Road].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 24A, Birch Path Road to Bruce W. Lisak. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.
- 10) Brad S. Lisak [Lot No. 24A, Birch Path North].** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the sale of Lot No. 24A, Birch Path North to Brad S. Lisak. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Departmental Reports: Town Clerk, Library, Building Inspector, Board of Health, and School Department. Town Manager Kozak mentioned that the following Department Heads were present to provide updates on their accomplishments and their future needs. The above Department Heads provided their departmental updates covering the period of July 2015 through December 2015. A copy of the department head's report can be found attached to these minutes.

Selectman Nolan asked Town Clerk Doreen Cedrone, how the public can access the Pine Grove Cemetery Plots. Ms. Cedrone explained that it is one of Town Manager Kozak's goals to have the program online but we are not there quite yet. Once online, the public will be able to view a map of the Cemetery and view a database of those who are buried.

Selectman Athanas asked Library Director Jennifer Woodward, about the library's e-books feature and how residents could use it. Ms. Woodward explained that with an active Library Card anyone can check out e-books, unfortunately it is one user at a time per book. Chairman Melia clarified with Ms. Woodward regarding her shortage of employees and asked how many full time and part time employees she had. Ms. Woodward replied she currently has one full time person, which is herself, seven part-timers, one of which is 20 hours per week, and the remaining employees range between 5-15 hours per week. At least two employees work per shift.

Chairman Melia confirmed with Building Inspector Mr. Sheehan about the decrease in building permits. Mr. Sheehan verified that there was an increase in building permits and a decrease in housing units due to the slowdown in subdivisions in 2006.

Selectman Ampagoomian asked Ms. Gniadek, Board of Health Administrator, about tanning salons and the increased chances of melanoma and if the Town has addressed the issues with salon owners. Ms. Gniadek replied that typically they wait for direction from Massachusetts Department of Public Health but as of now, has not received anything. Selectman Nolan wanted to verify with Ms. Gniadek the schedule regarding the recycling center, which is closed during the months of January and February and will reopen in March weather permitting.

Selectman Ampagoomian expressed his concern to both the Board of Health Administrator and the Building Inspector regarding abandoned houses and asked if there was anything that could be done to get these houses leveled. Ms. Gniadek replied that there is a process and it was a lengthy one. It starts with condemning a building, once a house has been condemned a year, the Town can take ownership of it, level it and put a lien on the property and once the property sells the town can get the money back. Houses would need to be handled individually depending on the circumstances. Mr. Sheehan stated his duty is to make sure that unoccupied homes are boarded up and safe. He added that other towns participate in a program where they are provided with a list of foreclosures and said that might be something to look into-- to create a database of foreclosed homes in Northbridge. Chairman Melia made an announcement to contact the Police Department if any activity is seen in/or around abandoned homes so it can be looked into and handled.

Selectman Athanas questioned School Superintendent, Catherine Stickney, if this was the first year of the Honor's Program. Ms. Stickney clarified that it just began in the Fall and there are over 100 students--sophomores, freshmen and a few juniors who applied to the career academies. Chairman Melia inquired about the student enrollment rate and where a majority of the decrease was. Ms. Stickney replied that there was a shortage in kindergarteners this year but other than that it has been even across the board.

Land Development and Zoning Issues. Present: Attorney Henry Lane, representing a developer; Town Planner, Gary Bechtholdt; Chairman of the Planning Board, Brian Massey; and Vice Chairman of Conservation, Justin Arbuckle. They discussed the facts regarding the land clearing project located on the Southeast corner of Church Street headed east on Church Street that follows down to Providence Road. In total, over 260 acres have been cleared and broken down into three separate forest cutting plans. Permits were issued by the State Department of Conservation and Recreation. The first plan consists of 40 acres, which is 2 subject parcels--Rosemary Papazian, 508-510 Church Street, and TSE Development LLC, which is currently undeveloped. The second plan consists of 150 acres and includes 2 parcels behind Leland Road, and also with frontage on Providence Road. This is zoned Industrial One (No residential use allowed). The first parcel is owned by Whitinsville Redevelopment Trust and is undeveloped. The second parcel is owned by Sidney Covich and is also undeveloped. The third plan consists of 72 acres and includes 1 parcel of undeveloped land owned by Trimount Trust and zoned Industrial Two (No residential use allowed). Mr. Henry Lane, representative of a developer, explained they currently harvested the wood to make some money and explained they do intend on developing the land eventually. He also said there have been several

plans for this land in the past. The most recent owner would like to begin the process again. He explained the zoning is restrictive since large parts of it are zoned for industrial purposes and it is more than likely not the best site for industrial development. Mr. Lane stated he hopes to come back in the future with plans for mixed use, which will include some residential components, as well as a potential the site for a school. Mr. Massey explained that right now everything is still in the works and when that information is definite then they can begin discussing and commenting. Selectman Ampagoomian asked what DCR's guidelines are for the selective forest cutting. Mr. Bechtholdt replied that the Conservation Commission received a notice of intent and assessed it to see if it required any local review. Mr. Justin Arbuckle of the Conservation Commission explained they did receive the forest cutting plans for review. The plans were filed under M.G.L Chapter 132, and the Conservation Commission does not have any direct jurisdiction over the land. The forest cutting plans are intended for a resource area where the land use is not changed and allows the timber and resources to be pulled out of the area and the area is then left for regrowth. There are stipulations that exempt them from such things as wet land protection acts, river crossings, and how close they can get to wetlands, which again is under the stipulation that there is not going to be a change in the land use. If there was going to be a change in land use then it would have to be filed under M.G.L. Chapter 131, which would be up to the Conservation Commission to monitor as opposed to DEP and DCR. Selectman Athanas sought verification on the protocols, which he understood to be they chose the option to clear more and bypass some of the erosion controls that requires them to maintain the existing zoning on the property. Mr. Arbuckle explained the regulations do not stipulate any zoning changes. Mr. Arbuckle gave the example of going from a forest to house lots, as an example of a change in land use. Selectman Athanas clarified that with what was filed the land should be maintained as a forest, to which Mr. Arbuckle agreed. Selectman Athanas then stated from what it sounds like is that they will be coming forth with plans to change the zoning. Mr. Arbuckle agreed and explained the plan should have been filed under M.G.L Chapter 131 and should have been presented similarly to other subdivisions that have gone into forest area. Mr. Lane explained that in order to file under Chapter 131, there needs to be a development plan to design around, which would cause the plans to be filed under a forest clearing plan. Town Manager Kozak questioned what kind of requirements the developer would have if they wish to go forward before a vote for the possibility of a Special Town Meeting to change the zoning requirements was completed. Mr. Bechtholdt explained that in order for town meeting action to take place, the Planning Board would need to hold a public hearing prior to that. They would need to provide a recommendation at Town Meeting whether it be a special Town Meeting or the Spring Annual Town Meeting. If the town decides to rezone, there is opportunity for a developer to secure the existing rights that would then become grandfathered. So there is an opportunity for a property owner or developer to file a preliminary plan and they would secure grandfathering rights to maintain the prior zoning. Mr. Arbuckle reminded everyone that filing under M.G.L Chapter 132, wetlands cleaning cannot happen in the buffer zone, which is 100 ft. on either side of the wetland for another 5 years after this so any plans that go forward would be restricted by the wetlands.

Town Manager's Report 1) Evergreen Center / Wreath Presentation - The Town has received the annual wreath, which was presented by Olivia Stone, an Evergreen client, and her mentor, Barbara Edwards. The wreath will be hung outside the Town Hall during the Holiday Season. 2) Municipal Aggregation Program Update - The Aggregation Program is moving forward and the plan is to advertise information about the program in local newspapers. Individuals who have questions can contact the Town Manager's Office or Con Edison directly. 3) Water Meter Replacement Program - The Whitinsville Water Company has installed approximately half of the water meters and radio transmitters for their customers. The DPW Director has received bids to install transmitters for the Northbridge Water customers, which he plans on moving forward with after the first of the year. 4) Sutton Street Project Update - The structures have been lowered in the streets and the paving of driveway aprons is completed. Construction on the sewer inserts should be completed soon to allow hookups. 5) DPW Facility Update - The Building Planning and Construction Committee has hired Cardinal Construction to oversee the scope of work and prepare cost estimates for the proposed DPW site project, which is to be prepared for the Spring Town Meeting. Currently the project manager has put together an RFP for engineering services and looking to do

more work on the hydraulics. **6) New Ladder Truck Update** - The new ladder truck has been delivered and training is currently ongoing. Wal-Mart will be hosting a Public Safety Day on Tuesday, December 29, 2015 at 11 AM in the Wal-Mart parking lot to allow individuals to view the new truck.

Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Athanas(1) Asked if there have been any complaints regarding the water meters. Town Manager Kozak answered that we have not heard any complaints on the water meters or transmitters from the Whitinsville Water Company's customers. **2)** Informed Hwy. Superintendent Luchini he has received complaints as to the amount of signage placed on Sutton Street saying there are about 30 no parking signs and an additional 20 miscellaneous signs and it looks horrible. Mr. Luchini stated he would look into it and verify if it was a DOT regulation or if something can be done. **3)** Asked if once the Sutton Street project was completed whether the blinking light would remain at the 5 corners. Mr. Luchini replied yes. **Selectman Nolan** asked how much of the Sutton Street project remains providing they are able to resume work in April. Mr. Luchini replied he believes they are at about 85% complete. **Selectman Ampagoomian(1)** Commended the men and women of the Northbridge Fire Department for putting together the grant, which allowed the Town to get funds for a new ladder truck. **2)** Asked if the Board could be updated on the DPW Facility. Mr. Kozak replied he would invite the BPC to a meeting sometime in January with updates.

Chairman Melia announced the next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2016.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Nolan, and Melia.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:53 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

/mjw

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

December 21, 2015

Copy of the Northbridge High School Proclamation

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. -Copy of December 7, 2015 [Executive Session] -Removed from documentation as the minutes have not been released

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

III. APPOINTMENTS:

B. Worcester County Selectmen's Association

- Copy of Worcester County Selectmen's Association renewal form

RESIGNATIONS:

C. Jeremy Deorsey, Conservation Commission

- Copy of resignation email received from Jeremy Deorsey

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

None.

V. DECISIONS

D. 2016 Miscellaneous License Renewals

- Copy of 2016 Miscellaneous License Renewals list

E. 2016 Annual Liquor License Renewals

- Copy of 2016 Annual Liquor License Renewals list

F. Tri-Valley Front Runners, Inc. requesting permission to hold the "Frank Nealon Boston Tune-Up" Road Race on Saturday, April 2, 2016 @ 10 AM

- Copy of email from Tri-Valley Front Runners, Inc. requesting permission to hold the "Frank Nealon Boston Tune-Up"
- Copy of Police Chief Warhol's response
- Copy of course map
- Copy of Hold Harmless Agreement

G. Trading Post General Store's application for Keno To Go License

- Copy of letter regarding Trading Post General Store's application for Keno To Go License

H. Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors application to transfer the Common Victualler license

- Copy of application to transfer the Common Victualler license for Friendly Discount Liquors

I. Highland Street/Vote to accept donation of land as authorized by Town Meeting [Art. 8 – 2015 FATM]

- Copy of memorandum recommending the Town Accept the donation of Granite Hills
- Copy of the verbiage for the motion to accept the deed of Highland Street Land

J. Pine Grove Cemetery Deeds

- 1) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Kay Kowalczyk [Lot No. 26A, Birch Path North]
- 2) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Branden J. and Sharon R. Humphrey [Lot No. 26B, Birch Path North]

- 3) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Sharon R. Humphrey [Lot No. 26A, Birch Path North]
- 4) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Alice Hubert [Lot No. 25B, Birch Path North]
- 5) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Dennis and Lisa Magowan [Lot 25A, Birch Path North]
- 6) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Norman C. and Kelly A. Magowan [Lot No. 25B, Birch Path North]
- 7) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Stanley P. and Claire L. Lisak [Lot No. 24B, Birch Path North]
- 8) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Claire L. Lisak [Lot No. 24B, Birch Path Road]
- 9) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Bruce W. Lisak [Lot No. 24A, Birch Path Road]
- 10) Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed to Brad S. Lisak [Lot No. 24A, Birch Path North]

VI. DISCUSSIONS

K. Departmental Reports

-Copy of Departmental Reports from Town Clerk, Library, Building Inspector, and Board of Health

L. Land Development and Zoning Issues

- Copy of Forest cutting subject parcels
- Copy of Forest cutting subject parcel 1
- Copy of Forest cutting subject parcel 2
- Copy of Forest cutting subject parcel 3
- Copy of Zoning Districts Subject Parcels
- Copy of zoning map of Northbridge
- Copy of Northbridge Zoning Bylaw Table of use and area of regulations
- Copy of Northbridge Zoning Bylaw Table of use and area of regulations subject to the parcels

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

M. 1) Evergreen Center / Wreath Presentation

- Copy of photo of the Wreath Presentation
- 2) Municipal Aggregation Program Update - **No documentation**
- 3) Water Meter Replacement Program - **No documentation**
- 4) Sutton Street Project Update - **No documentation**
- 5) DPW Facility Update - **No documentation**
- 6) New Ladder Truck Update - **No documentation**

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS -No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA - No documentation

X. CORRESPONDENCE -No Documentation