

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL  
7 MAIN STREET - WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588  
November 9, 2015 AT 6:30 PM**

**RECEIVED**  
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**EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:30 PM**

**Present: State Representative David K. Muradian, Jr.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK  
DOROTHY A. CROBIE**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. 1) September 14, 2015                      2) September 28, 2015                      3) October 19, 2015  
4) October 19, 2015 [Executive Session]                      5) October 27, 2015 FATM

**II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- B. 1) 7:05PM: FY'16 Tax Rate Classification Hearing / Present: Robert Fitzgerald, Principal Assessor

**III. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:**

**C. By the Town Manager:**

- 1.) Ryan J. Falvey, Student Police Officer

**IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**

**V. DECISIONS**

- D. Executive Session Minutes / Vote to release  
E. Pine Grove Cemetery/ 1) Michaela Cote [Lot No. 45B – Birch Path (North)] 2) Philip and Frances Wassenar [Lot No. 299 – Woodlawn Avenue (North)] and 3) Barbara A. Fernsten [Lot No. 1 – Walnut Avenue (North)]  
F. Village Variety, LLC [Ahmad Mustafa, Mgr.] / Application for a Non-Alcoholic Common Victualler located at 84 Border Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588  
G. District Local Technical Assistance Grant Application  
H. 2016 Selectmen's Meeting Schedule/Vote to approve  
I. 2016 Holiday Schedule/Vote to approve

**VI. DISCUSSIONS**

- J. Dedication of the Cpl. John M. Dawson Memorial, November 11, 2015 @ 11:00 AM / Present: Ronald Massey, Chairman, Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials  
K. 2015-2016 Snow & Ice Program - Present: James Shuris, DPW Director and Jamie Luchini, Hwy. Supt.  
L. Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project / Request to waive permit fees

**VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- M. 1) 2016 Senior Tax Work-Off Program  
2) Good Energy Bid Opening  
3) Community Compact/ Governor's Office  
4) CMRPC / Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program  
5) Pine Grove Cemetery / Yearly update

**VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**

**IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**X. CORRESPONDENCE**

**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

Town Clerk: 2 Hard copies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Town Clerk: E-mail hard copy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Web: Post time-stamped copy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**September 14, 2015 AT 6:00PM**

A.1

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Thomas Melia a 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 that were 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** Mr. Melia read off an introduction that outlined the process. He stated 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 that the dog known as Tiqua as a dangerous dog. Chairman Melia explained Tiqua is kept or 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 and support of their complaint. We will then allow the Gentile's to respond and present any opposing evidence. Chairman Melia clarified that during the process the board may ask questions of anyone presenting evidence. He specified the board may also ask for input from relevant Town Officials. Mr. Melia continued, after hearing the evidence presented the board will deliberate and consider what action we will take. Under the statue it may deliberate at this meeting and or at a subsequent meeting before making this decision. Chairman Melia explained under the statue the board 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, the board may make and order for a remedial action if the board finds the dog a dangerous dog the board will make one or more orders to address the situation which may include restraint, confinement, reproductive alteration or that the dog be euthanized. He clarified that anyone who will testify will first be sworn in. Mr. Melia then asked if anyone who would be testifying to raise their right hand and take the Oath. He made the audience aware that Rochelle Thompson who is the Animal Inspector submitted a report, but will not be present. Mr. Melia stated those who were present: Dan Chauvin Northbridge Animal Control Officer, Eugene Ploss Grafton Animal Control Officer, John Ouilette Northbridge Police Detective Sargent, Bob Clark of Clarks Dog Training, Bob Gibson of Gibson Kennel. Mr. Melia then took the Oath of those who intended on testifying. Chairman Melia then called Mr. and Mrs. Demers along with their lawyer Gregory Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler introduced himself and gave a brief opening. He stated he would like the board to maintain their focus that's the subject matter of this complaint. He described that it was possible for the occasion that facts which may have been discovered subsequent to this incident that may not necessarily be relevant to the incident. Mr. Wheeler stated he believes if the focus is maintained on the actual incident itself that will make for a more efficient hearing and a proper determination under Massachusetts Law. He then introduced Roger Demers, Brenda Demers and their daughter Aerial Demers and asked that Brenda be the first to testify. Mr. Wheeler speaking to Mrs. Demers asked her if she was the owner of the 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 the age of 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, he got along with all dogs especially his little brother Oden 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 if before June of 2015 Graham had ever been in any altercations at any time with another dog or another animal, had ever provoked another dog or animal to her knowledge in any way or was ever issued with an Animal Control infraction or a violation, all to which Mrs. Demers replied no. Mr. Wheeler then asked questions regarding Oden, asking if Mrs. Demers was the owner, his breed and the approximate time of purchase, and how old he was at the time of purchase. To which Mrs. Demers answered she was the owner of the male dog Oden, who was a long haired Chihuahua purchased November 2010 at 10 weeks old. Mr. Wheeler then asked as of June 2015 what Odens 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 never went after anybody, they made the family happy and

made them laugh. Mr. Wheeler asked if before 2015 Oden 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 he had not. Mr. Wheeler asked the dog's ages, if they were owned simultaneously, and how they interacted with each other. Mrs. Demers replied Graham was going to be 7 and Oden was 4 and were owned at the same time, and that they were the best buddies and explained they would snuggle together, slept with Mrs. Demers or in their own crates, their toy basket they played together and rode in the car together, 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 replied you could consider that but didn't know how you could, and they were deceased. Mr. Wheeler questioned if she had been made aware of the circumstances regarding the deaths of Graham and Oden. She replied they had gone on their 25<sup>th</sup> 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 received an email from Bob Gibson which said please contact us we cannot find your number. Mrs. Demers explained you cannot pick them up until Sunday between 5 PM and 6 PM, so she contacted Gibson's Kennel and got a voicemail and left around 4:15 PM to pick the dogs up and at 4:45 PM they received a call from Mr. Gibson stated he received their message, to which she questioned if everything was ok. Mrs. Demers stated Mr. Gibson replied he would speak to them when they arrived. Upon arrive at the kennel, Mrs. Demers continued, Mr. Gibson stated he was sorry to tell them but their dogs have been mauled by another dog, to which Mr. Demers asked Mr. Gibson which one. Mrs. Demers stated Mr. Gibson's reply was both of them. Mrs. Demers stated she did not know what else to say, and that that is the most heartbreaking thing, the family was never able to say goodbye, and never got to see them again. Mrs. Demers stated those dogs meant everything to them. She questioned how a Husky had access to their dogs and how a husky could maul two dogs to death. Mr. Wheeler asked to Mrs. Demers if Mr. Gibson identified the dog that was responsible for the mauling and deaths of both Graham and Oden. Mrs. Demers replied yes, the Gentiles Dog Tiqua. Mr. Wheeler asked if Mr. Gibson provided them with information on how the incident occurred. Mrs. Demers answered yes, his first story was that Tiqua was banging so hard that she broke her latch and then broke into the Demers dog's cage, and mauled them to death. Mrs. Demers stated Mr. Gibson said Tiqua 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 Tiqua pinned one of them in their cage after she had already mauled the other one, and a staff member found Tiqua 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 Tiqua, Graham and Oden. 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 suspect 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 have you obtained any information that could show or another dog or animal was responsible. Mrs. Demers Replied no. Mr. Wheeler questioned if following the incident have she ever had Graham or Oden inspected or analyzed by a veterinarian. Mrs. Demers answered yes, they had Bob bring both dogs to the vet and he had placed them in a freezer for the time they were gone because it had just happened soon after they dropped the dogs off. Mrs. Demers stated the vet did pictures and x-rays and has written a statement with what he had found that had happened. Mr. Wheeler asked the board if he could present the statement from the vet. Mr. Wheeler read aloud the statement from Adam Arzt of Metrowest Veterinary Associates which was submitted into evidence. Mr. Wheeler continued stating he has several photographs that Dr. Arzt had taken during his examination which he requested Ariel Demers identify to the board, and continued stating that Brenda and Roger have not seen them due to the sense of nature. Mr. Wheeler asked Ariel to go through the pictures and tell the board what they depict. Ms. Ariel Demers describes the first photographs as oden with the area shaved down where the  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch incision was on his abdomen, the second photo is before they shaved him down, the third picture is his x-ray, the fourth picture is Graham with bite marks, puncture wounds, bruising, and hemorrhaging all on his under belly. Ms. Demers explaining the next photo states it is a close up photo of the previous picture, the following picture is a particular puncture wound, following that is his x-ray showing a sprain on the spine and also you can see the spine is dislocated in an area. Ms. Demers explains the rest of the pictures are of the kennel, the first is the interior section where their dogs were in and explained Tiqua was to the right looking at the picture two cages down leaving a cage in between the two dogs, the second picture is the outdoor runs, the cage to the far left was Tiqua's cage, and to the far right was Graham and Oden. Mr. Wheeler asked Mrs. Demers how the loss of Graham and Oden impacted her. Mrs. Demers explained she was never able to say goodbye to her boys, they were everything to her husband and herself, and they were like children to them. She stated they had to pack everything up and put it away, they

have no little paws running around the house anymore, nobody to make them laugh and smile, and she stated she does not even want to be in that place anymore, and they do anything they can to not be home. Mrs. Demers explained it is not easy to find dogs that are the same, you can't just find them in the same neighborhood with the same coloring, size, breed, and it takes a lot to find new dogs and you will never have the temperament, and personality that matches what you had. She stated her dogs are gone, and for a senseless act because a dog 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, and found the 5 star kennel and thought they would be in good hands. Mrs. Demers stated this dog is a dangerous dog. Mr. Wheeler then turned to Mr. Demers for him to testify. Mr. Wheeler asked Mr. Demers the questions identical to Mrs. Demers. Mr. Wheeler asked what Graham's demeanor was. Mr. Demers stated he was a playful dog who when Mr. Demers came home from work would greet him with his favorite toy waiting to play, cuddle with him and he was a joy. Mr. Wheeler then asked if before June of 2010 Graham had ever been in any altercations at any time with another dog or another animal, had ever provoked another dog or animal to her knowledge in any way or was ever issued with an Animal Control infraction or a violation. All of which Mr. Demers replied he had not. Mr. Wheeler then asked if before June of 2010 Oden 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. All of which Mr. Demers stated no. Mr. Wheeler asked him if he had knowledge or was he made aware of the circumstances of the deaths of Graham and Oden and if so what is your knowledge. 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 and Mr. Demers took pictures of two brackets on the bottom of the cage where the Husky 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 it, and Tiqua's cage popped open allowing all three dogs into the 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 bleed out. He stated when the girls who were watching the kennel came around to find out what was going on Tiqua 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 Tiqua. Mr. Wheeler asked if anyone at Gibson Kennel including Mr. Gibson did anyone ever identify to you suspect 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 Oden. To which Mr. Demers answered no. Mr. Wheeler then asked if he has since obtained any information that shows or indicates that a dog other than the Siberian Husky Tiqua was responsible for this incident. Mr. Demers replied no. Mr. Wheeler then asked how the loss of Graham and Oden has impacted him. Mr. Demers replied when he arrives home at night he's not at the door waiting anymore, they were family, they have no kids left in the house, and those are his boys and a senseless act like this and he does not understand how a dog can murder another dog and be told that he can live his life, and stated he was still flabbergasted by the whole thing. He stated we shouldn't even be going through this and it should have been done and gone before he came home from his vacation. Mr. Melia thanked Mr. Wheeler and opened the board up to questions. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he was sorry for their loss and questioned if the dogs were ever confined outside within your home or always confined inside the home. Mrs. Demers replied they went outside and they have neighbors who have dogs who they would play with. Ms. Demers added that the dogs would go to her house where there was a Pitbull, a Labrador Retriever and a Yorkie and they always got along and never had any incidents ever. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if the dogs have ever been kenneled before. Mrs. Demers answered yes they have. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if this was the first time they have used Gibson's. Mrs. Demers replied they have used them once before. Mr. Ampagoomian verified that the first time they used Gibson that there were no issues that they were made aware of. Mr. and Mrs. Demers replied no not that they were aware of. Mr. Melia had a question as to where the two dead dogs 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 Tiqua's kennel. Mr. Nolan asked if they were made aware or have heard of any injuries that Tiqua sustained in this. Mr. Demers replied not that he was made aware of. Mr. Melia stated for the next step of the hearing we would hear the testimony of Jane and Christopher Gentile represented by their attorney Carmine Gentile who asked if Bob Clark could also come up to testify. Attorney Gentile gave an opening statement stating that he received a call several weeks ago regarding the matter which he listened to Jane and Christopher. He continued stating that much of what you heard this evening they had told him to which he

asked some questions, and unfortunately they do not have a percipient witness that saw something happen there that night who is Michael Gibson who is Bob Gibson's son and was not served a subpoena but we do have a statement from Mr. Gibson that Michael was there. He explained no one has been able to talk to the two young adults who were there and they are not here tonight so what we have is hearsay which is that the woman who was present saw Tiqua's snout on the stomach of one of the dogs and the staff subsequently found the two dogs dead and Tiqua was out. Attorney Gentile then turned to Mrs. Gentile to ask some questions. He asked if she was the owner of Tiqua. Mrs. Gentile answered yes. Attorney Gentile asked how long she has had Tiqua, what age she was when she was first purchased, and if she has ever seen her fight with another dog. Mrs. Gentile answered she is 9 years currently, 8 weeks when they got her, and she had never seen her fight with another dog. Attorney Gentile asked if she had ever had her at a kennel before, and if so approximately how many times in the 9 years that she has owned her. Mrs. Gentile answered yes, and about 5 or 6 times. Attorney Gentile asked if there were any prior incidents. To which Mrs. Gentile replied no. Attorney Gentile asked what a typical day for Tiqua was like. Mrs. Gentile answered that she hangs out at home with her since she works from home, sitting with the front door open and looking out the glass door, sitting on top of the vent because it's cold in the summer and warm in the winter, when the kids come home she gets excited that they are home. Attorney Gentile ask who are the kids and how old are they. Mrs. Gentile answered they are her two daughters aged 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 dropped Tiqua off at the kennel and asked if she got a call that there was a problem. Mrs. Gibson replied her husband dropped Tiqua off on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>, and she received a call on Sunday between 4 PM - 5 PM regarding an incident that occurred, and Bob Gibson was very emotional and stated that her dog had killed two other dogs, and at that time she could not pick her up because Mr. Gibson had not yet contacted animal control. Mr. Gibson 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 Monday morning. Attorney Gentile asked if at some point Tiqua came home. Mrs. Gibson stated Tiqua came home Monday Morning after she spoke to Animal Control in Grafton who told her that because she lives outside of his jurisdiction and she is under the control of Northbridge jurisdiction and that should could come pick her up and take her home and she was probably going to be visited by Northbridge Animal Control, which she stated she was. Attorney Gentile asked if Tiqua has remained at her home since then. Mrs. Gentile replied yes. Attorney Gentile asked if Tiqua was quarantined and for how long. Mrs. Gentile responded stating yes she was and for 45 days. Attorney Gentile asked if once Tiqua returned home she get about more or leave the house. Mrs. Gentile answered that they went for a really long walk the first day. Attorney Gibson asked if they saw other dogs. Mrs. Gibson said yes they had. Attorney Gibson asked if there were any incidents to which Mrs. Gibson answered no. Attorney Gibson asked if in the 9 years that she has owned Tiqua what other incidents have there been. Mrs. Gibson replied none and stated that in fact every time she was boarded it was at Gibson and every day they would take her for play time with other dogs and never had an incident, and would spend days with the day care dogs on days she was groomed, one time she boarded with a friend of hers that was the first time not at Gibson's, who has several Labradors where she was in their home on their turf and had no issues. Mrs. Gibson explained that Tiqua has come across dogs of all sizes. Attorney Gibson asked if there was anything else Mrs. Gibson would like to say. Mrs. Gibson 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 and failed the Demers, and did not keep their end of the bargain which was to keep our dogs safe and secure. Mrs. Gibson continued stating that all three dogs were in an area together and they were not supposed to be and they were unsupervised, to be completely honest with you and blunt it is not surprising to her at all that a dog fight broke out, how long they were together back there we don't know, no one knows exactly what happened we only know the outcome. Attorney Gentile asked for Bob Clark to testify and introduce himself. He replied he was a professional dog trainer and he owns a business called Bob Clarks dog training located in Northbridge which he has been doing for 30 years full time. Attorney Gentile asked what training he had. Mr. Clark answered stated he went to several schools, United States K-9 Academy in Waterbury, CT. and explained he has taken several seminars. Attorney Gibson asked how many dogs he works with in the course of a year. Mr. Clark replied 300 – 400 dogs per year. Attorney Gentile verified that he has been doing this for 30 years to which Mr. Clark replied yes. Attorney Gentile asked about his examination with Tiqua and when it was. Mr. Clark answered August 24<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Gentile asked how much out of the 8 hours of observed time was with Tiqua. Mr. Clark stated most of that time, there were a couple of times where they had her in a run where he would observe her, she was in there by herself to establish if she was at all agitated which 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, Tiqua 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 which 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 which were dog aggressive who 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 and they had two Chihuahua's that don't like other dogs and they acted very aggressively towards her and she just stared at them. Attorney Gentile asked if Mr. Clark felt as though Tiqua was an aggressive dog. Mr. Clark replied not at all, we spent a lot of time with her and other people and other dogs anywhere from 10 pounds to 190 pounds, 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 he thought it was possible that Tiqua killed the two dogs. Mr. Clark replied he was very sorry for the loss of their dogs but just can't see that coming from Tiqua and is flabbergasted himself but he just can't see it. Attorney Gibson stated he had no further question. Chairman Melia asked if there were any questions from the board. Mr. Nolan asked if when Tiqua was picked up if there were any injuries to Tiqua that day. Mrs. Gibson replied that there were not any large obvious injuries, 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 Tiqua has ever tried to escape or got out from your 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 Tiqua was a female. Mr. Clark responded explaining 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. Mr. Wheeler referring his question to Mr. Clark verified that he did not witness the situation involving the Demers. Mr. Clark replied he did not. Mr. Wheeler asked if it was Attorney Gentile who requested that he evaluate Tiqua. 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 the breed of Huskies is it true that they are known as natural escape artists. Mr. Clark replied some of them can be. Mr. 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 asking 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 Tiqua specifically regarding when he allowed dogs that were unleashed and asked if while she was in the cage 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 Chihuahua's 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 show him the location of the incident. Mr. Clark stated he heard two different things one was that the dogs somehow got into Tiqua's cage and 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 had not. Attorney Gentile asked Mr. Clark how much he was paid for his services. Mr. Clark answered \$125. Chairman Melia explained the next part of the hearing was the investigators but first asked if Mr. Gibson would like to come forward and speak. Mr. Gibson introduced himself and explained since he was not present he could only do an investigation of what was told to him. He explained the kennel of the Husky the lower latch which attaches to the concrete was bent and broke over, and another bracket two kennels over was bent as well, and when one gate opens those gates were not individual meaning if one gate broke or failed it caused the other gates to move. Mr. Gibson explained the Husky getting out 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 questions. Mr. Marzec asked concerning Mr. Gibson's statement regarding his son who was 24 years old, asking 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 really did not have to supervise much because he has 3 full

time managers. Mr. Marzec asked if any of the managers were present at the time. Mr. Gibson replied they were not at the time. Mr. Ampagoomian asked how often the safety of the kennels was checked. Mr. Gibson replied the outdoor kennels were checked yearly every spring, and the interior kennels are checked twice a year because they are used more often. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified that in the event there could be a loose nut, bolt, etc. Mr. Gibson answered yes. 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 and 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 and 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 in there. Mr. Gibson replied they do not, 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's and if there was anyone else he could call. Mr. Gibson replied they had no emergency contacts 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 days while they were gone trying to get in touch with them. Chairman Melia clarified that he is assuming how it 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 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 Tiqua over the dog. Mr. Gibson answered that she actually looked outside the indoor outdoor kennel and saw that Tiqua was out there with Graham and when she went outside Graham had already passed and they then proceeded to find Oden. 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 Tiqua and Graham were in Tiqua's outdoor portion of their kennel and Tiqua's mouth was on Graham's belly. With no more questions from the board Mr. Gibson asked if he could add something. Mr. Gibson added as far as Tiqua 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 Chihuahua's. 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, and he is also truly sorry for Graham and Oden and this will haunt him for the rest of his life. Chairman Melia explained that at this point he would announce the investigative reports in chronological order in which they were received. He stated the first was from Rochelle Thompson the Northbridge Animal Inspector, who was no able to attend the meeting, He stated next was Dan Chauvin the Northbridge Animal Control Officer and asked if he could 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 in which a Northbridge Dog had killed two dogs at the kennel along with the Gentiles 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 according the variables of the situation meaning vaccination status, depending if it was a dog to a human, or dog to another dog and what the variables are 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 comes tries to get through. He explained he knocked on the door and Mrs. Gentile answered the door with Mr. Gentile with no dog present or barking, and spoke with them for a couple of minutes and asked if he would like to meet the dog to which he replied certainly. He explained they asked him to enter through the rear of the house where it was safer to do so, the Gentiles opened the door and called to Tiqua and it took her about 60 seconds just to get to the door, and he stated he was expecting an enthusiastic dog to come barreling out at him but she casually walked out introduced herself, laid down and let him scratch her, pet her, and push her around to try to elicit some sort of aggressive response. Mr. Chauvin explained 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 sat, 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 at the time that the dog was up to date on her shots but was not registered at the time which was 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, and there was nothing, and he himself has never heard the Gentile name until this incident, he has never picked her up loose, 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 question from the board members. Mr. Athanas verified what Mr. Chauvin said and wrote the dog is not a dangerous or 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's 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 Tiqua killed the dogs or not is irrelevant in the fact that neither the Demers's or Tiqua was on their own turf, continuing he 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 day, 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 explained you need to be prepared for the worst thing that could happened and somewhere along the line that did not happen. He explained what he calls the three P's procedure, protocol, and presence which all three failed that day, there was no presence, no protocol being followed and whatever procedure to ensure that everything is ok by Mr. Gibson was not done because he wasn't there. Chairman Melia turned to the board for questions or comments. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if when Mr. Chauvin went to see Tiqua if the gentiles were present. Mr. Chauvin replied they were. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified that while he was there he was not able to observe Tiqua without their presence 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 stuck out during his testimony where he said when a dog kills another dog is irrelevant and asked if it was irrelevant in this case that Tiqua 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 circumstances it was ok for a dog to kill another dog. Mr. Chauvin replied it was never ok 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 who was not present at the meeting. Chairman Melia asked for the next investigator John Ouillette Detective Sargent from the Northbridge Police Department. Mr. Ouillette introduced himself and stated he has been a police officer for the past 12 years and his current position as Detective Sargent for the past 8 years. He explained the incident was brought to his attention on July 7, 2015 regarding Gibson Kennels, and he was asked to speak with the owner Robert Gibson regarding the incident between a Husky, Toy Poodle, and Chihuahua. He explained his understanding was that it took place on the weekend of June 14<sup>th</sup> while they were being kenneled there while their owners were on vacation. Chairman Melia asked if he interviewed the owner Robert Gibson. Mr. Ouillette replied he spoke to him on the day he was made aware. Chairman Melia asked if he took a statement from him. Mr. Ouillette replied he did take a written statement and had it with him. Chairman Melia asked for him 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 did take 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. Mr. Ampagoomian asked when he spoke to Mr. Gibson if his son was present. Mr. Ouillette replied he 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

give a testimony. Ms. Demers spoke on behalf of the Demers stating they know what it's like to lose not one but two dogs, and we do not want to see another dog euthanized, that is not the intention but considering the circumstances we do not have either of our dogs and they still have theirs. She explained what they are asking for is restrictions. Mr. Melia asked what she thought was a fair restriction. Ms. Demers stated a muzzle in public and no boarding at kennels and 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 hearing. Vote yes/ Messrs. Ampagoomian, Athanas, Marzec, Melia, and Nolan. Chairman Melia explained the next part in the process is to decide on an option and he explained the options, and opened it up to the board members to what they thought. Mr. Marzec stated in listening to both sides, words cannot describe how difficult it is from 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 sees and the sworn testimonies, the evidence and the fact that there doesn't seem to be any record of the incident, meaning someone there, 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 everyone. 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, if we think the dog is innocent and if we vote that with restrictions and it bites someone 3 years down the road what is the exposure to the town, would there be anything or would it just be another incident. Northbridge 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 they are acting in a regulatory capacity as well as in a judicatory capacity because you are conducting an investigation and conducting a hearing that is provided for by statute. Attorney Doneski stated questions of liability an attorney will never be able to say to you absolutely you are responsible, absolutely you 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. He continued stating having said I am not and can't say that no one would make an argument to that effect, and stated in his view the town has convened this hearing, issued subpoenas, heard testimony from those who wanted to speak, and it is your determination, you are the hearers, and the triers of fact and make the decision based on what your determination is. Attorney Doneski suggested the board to point out if they find the dog to be a nuisance dog you 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 explained to the board they do have it in their power if you find any responsibility to impose conditions on the dog. Chairman Melia clarified other than to dismiss the complaint. Attorney Doneski verified 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 let this dog roam free and remain in a fenced in area or on a leash. Mr. Nolan explained he would like to have some 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 kennel's secured. 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 curve, that in the event that the Husky allegedly broke through the gate and attacked these two dogs that he will learn to make sure that any large breed of dog is 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 the protectiveness of the young girl but her identity could have remained unknown, and justified 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 regulations would be that the dog be chaperoned while outdoors, and be reevaluated at a later point in time for the status of a nuisance dog to be lifted. Chairman Melia stated his comment which was that there is no direct evidence to show what happened that day, there is 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 and his testimony and investigation, based on the Police Department query of log on any past occurrences or issues, there is no way that he would deem it a dangerous dog. Mr.

Melia explained the board has had these cases in front of them which have been dogs who are repetitious in biting, chasing people, breaking off leashes, etc., and explained that behavior has not been shown in this case and is exactly the opposite. He stated it is 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 Tiqua 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 have the dog deemed a nuisance dog. Roll call vote: Mr. Ampagoomian yes, Mr. Nolan yes, Mr. Athanas yes, Mr. Marzec yes, Mr. Melia yes. 5-0 Chairman Melia stated that next they would discuss what sanction will be placed on this finding of a nuisance dog. Mr. Athanas stated his thought is for Tiqua 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 Tiqua 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 the motion would be to receive training through a certified kennel once a week for 30 days and receive a report. Mr. Kozak asked if we could suggest that it be decided by our Animal Control Officer so we know it is independent. Mr. Athanas stated he was fine with that. Mr. Ampagoomian seconded. Mr. Melia clarified that the 30 calendar days would start from tonight. Chairman Melia verified that a trainer would be found through the ACO with proper discipline training and report back to the board in 30 days. Mr. Marzec asked if a decision that if the findings are negative after the 30 days we can reevaluate whether or not the dog is a nuisance or not. Chairman Melia asked Attorney Doneski if that was possible as long as it was part of the motion. Attorney Doneski recommended if the board intends to set a period of time that the procedure is continued, the proceeding to receive the report and evaluate the report and at that time to make the 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 or that you determine part of your conditions should be continued to be in place or other conditions should be in place. Chairman Melia asked if he meant that the vote not be taken at this point on the sanction. 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 Tiqua receives training and evaluation at a neutral kennel chosen by the Northbridge Animal Control Officer and at the end of the period the board will receive a report and make the final evaluation and determine if any further remedial action or conditions. Mr. Marzec interjected suggesting the 19<sup>th</sup> of October would be the appropriate meeting that would give them just over 30 days and recommended to have the report in hand for October 19, 2015. Mr. Ampagoomian second the motion. Attorney Doneski reminded and suggested to the Select Board to add Mr. Nolan's suggestion as part B. Mr. Nolan added part B of the motion for Tiqua to not be allowed on 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. Chairman Melia took a roll call vote /Mr. Ampagoomian, Mr. Nolan, Mr. Marzec, Mr. Athanas, Mr. Melia. 5-0 Chairman Melia thanks everyone for the presence and announce there would be a 5 minute recess. Chairman Melia announced the meeting was back in open session and would be moving the meeting along quickly.

**APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: 1) Richard Chiras, Conservation Commission.** Jeremy Deorcy Chairman of the Conservation Commission explained the Conservation Commission Board has been able to meet with Mr. Chiras and ask him questions, and stated that they feel his knowledge of the town and the regulations that are governed by the Conservation Commission that he would make a great member. He then asked Mr. Chiras if he had any additional comments. Mr. Chiras 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 environmentalist and also a lot of people who are builders and contractors and explained he is in the middle and listens to both sides and feels as though he can make a good compromise on both ends and be a productive member of this board. Chairman Melia opened the board up for questions. Mr. Marzec thanked Mr. Chiras for submitting his name and stated he remembered his store being on Church Street and is glad to see him come out for this position. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he was interested in the comment he made regarding Mr. Chiras knowing contractors, builders, hunters, and conservationist and 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 without being cold hearted yes, no, up, down, no movement at all. Mr. Chiras replied he was willing to work, and 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 likes his comment as far as compromising and take his word on that and thanked him for his interest 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]** Tom Hanson 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. Hanson stated he believes she would be a great addition to the board. Ms. Donati stated she thinks that through her profession she has been able to learn about zoning and the correct interpretation of rules and regulations and she stated she would like to contribute what she knows to the board. Chairman Melia opened it to the board to ask any questions. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if with her profession she can see any conflict there might be serving on the zoning board. Ms. Donati stated she thinks there could 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 civil and charitable activities in town and elsewhere and would highly recommend her. 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]** Chairman of the Zoning Board Mr. Hanson explained they were trying to build their board back up with all of the resignations they have had. He explained they now have a full board but would also like preferably two associate board members so that 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 and is in corporate America and sold the old business. Chairman Melia entertained a motion. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Mr. Curving as an associate member for 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. Chairman Melia asked the audience if there were any further comments. Dennis Angelo, resident of Riverdale Street spoke addressing the excess amount of traffic and noise on the street. He stated on a daily average around 30-50 trucks going up and down the hill most of which have engine brakes blaring down the hill, there are water trucks 24 hours a day at times 7 days a week and it is and has been for the last year a nuisance and it interferes with his life. Mr. Angelo explained he is waking up at 3 in the morning, 5:30 in the morning and it's all because of the trucks, and indicated there must be something that can be done about it. He explained the gravel is not supposed to be down the hill before 7 AM and they are there at 5 AM, and there are water trucks at 3 AM with their engine brakes blaring, dust, fumes from exhaust and he would like something done. Mr. Melia asked if there were any questions and also explained that the board does not get involved in discussion for Citizens Comments and asked if he had any paperwork. He stated it was the first he has heard about it, and he knows they haul water but not at 3 AM. Mr. Angelo stated they 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 that permit and he was not aware of it and we will look into it. Mr. Angelo stated they are going through a residential area. Chairman Melia stated it was also a business area as well. Mr. Angelo stated that below the tracks was residential and as far as the water goes when they first starting 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 stated he believes they should haul the water from the side of the bridge where the wells are instead of pumping it across the river. Mr. Angelo stated the water is pumped from the other side of the river on the Quaker Street side, there is an entrance there and it is blocked off with jersey barriers. 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 yes 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 \$1.8mil).** Town Manager Kozak explained we applied for last year which is a grant program to do some infrastructure work

on Church Street Extension and unfortunately Northbridge was not chosen but we felt as though we had a strong application and Gary Bechtholdt has done a lot of work on as well as Jim Shuris with the engineering for the application and thought we should try it again. Mr. Kozak explained Ostermans Company is doing more work which helps 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. A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Nolan to authorize Chairman Melia to submit the application for the 2015 Masswork 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 that we submit letters of support from representative Muradian and Fatmann and solicit the help of George Peterson who is part of the new Parks and Recreation on Governor Baker's staff. Mr. Kozak explained we have asked our representatives and believes they all sent letters of support and stated he had a good idea. Yes vote/Unanimous.

**Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) / Vote intent to layout Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) as a public way** Mr. Kozak stated this was the first step of the process, the planning board submitted an article for the fall Annual Town Meeting to approve this and as the first step the board is required to vote the intent for the layout and at the next meeting the board could vote the actual layout. He stated he knew there was still some with which needed to be done which the contractor is working with the DPW and by the next meeting we should have a recommendation. Chairman Melia entertained a motion. A motion/Mr. Nolan seconded/Mr. Marzec moved that the board vote their intent to layout Deane Way Hillside Garden Estates as a public way. Yes vote/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. Yes vote/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 approve the Martyrs' Day banner as well we the Armenian Picnic banner. Yes vote/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 for the use of Memorial Park on Sunday October 11, 2015. Yes vote/Unanimous.

**Pine Grove Cemetery / Peter A. Hogan [Lot Nos. 85 and 87 – Fir Ave South]** Chairman Melia entertained a motion to approve. A motion Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve lot numbers 85 and 87 for Peter A. Hogan. Yes vote/Unanimous

**MRA Multisport [Alex Rogozenski] /1) Request to hold the 4<sup>th</sup> annual 1<sup>st</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> annual 1<sup>st</sup> Day 5K, nothing has changed since last year, the route is the same. He stated they start by the community center and head down Linwood Ave. and they are working with the police department on shutting down Linwood Ave. as it has been in the past. He stated it would be the same start time and course, and this year like last year is benefiting the Northbridge Middle School Boosters club. Chairman Melia entertained a motion. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to allow the 1<sup>st</sup> Day 5K Road Race and to close down Linwood Avenue. Yes vote/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 as presented by the Safety Committee. Yes vote/Unanimous.

**CDM Smith/Update re: Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, plant and permit, and Gravity Thickener Rebuild – Present: Robert Otoski, Megan Moody, Chad Kershaw DPW Director Jim Shuris**

spoke first 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 is to improve our waste water 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 waste water management plan in September of 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 waste water to the treatment plant, pump stations which when you reach a low point it needs to be pumped further to get all the way to the treatment plant, then is the waste water 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 and they were inspected and have minor recommendations made for some immediate actions 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 waste water treatment plant back in the late 90's which was completed around 2001 and 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 waste water plant which was also issued in 2013. He explained there were other components of the permit as well, the more important is aluminum. He explained the nitrogen, first stating that when it was issued they felt reasonably confident that the plant with the infrastructure as designed in 2000 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 2-4 million dollars. Mr. Kershaw continued explaining a program testing was devised, remodeling, operational changes, and to date it appears as though they have been able to succeed on that front and no substantial modifications are 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 sense we have a handle on 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 the replacing perhaps of some of the units and not waiting for failure. He explained that pumps, blowers, mixers that are 15 years old if some of these items fail it could be 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 waste water 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 influent to the plant and from the two different interceptors which has them scratching their heads as to what the actual source to the aluminum is. Mr. Kershaw stated what he believes is a reasonable recommendation to the town is 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 IPP program. Mr. Kershaw completed his updated 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 answered stating they found it on both of the two main interceptors and would not have expected there to be multiple sources of aluminum in a town like Northbridge, and it jumps which makes it seem as though it is dumps of aluminum at different times. Mr. Kozak spoke regarding the immediate action 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, 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 I 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 CWMP plan is that part of it is to have a capital project improvement section which prioritizes which comes first and what comes second both in treatment and collection. Mr. Ostoski 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. Ostoski stated the first recommendation was to complete a flow monitoring program which 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 subareas were made throughout the town where the meters were installed at the downstream end of each area. Mr. Ostoski 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 subareas, 7 had excessive inflow or infiltration, two were excessive in inflow and infiltration which were subarea's 3 and 4 which are located in the Whitinsville area of town north of Linwood Road and include Hill Street, Cottage Street, Church Street and East Street. He justified that it did make sense because it is the oldest part of the collection system, and a lot of clay pipes which is typical of infiltration and inflow. Mr. Ostoski said that for area which had exceeded the infiltration thresholds, infiltration which is the 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 3 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, brick and brits, etc. Mr. Ostoski stated that for subareas that have excessive inflow, which are your direct connections to the sewer system such as sub pumps, roof leaders, catch basins, etc. He clarified that bullets 4 and 5 are the recommendations which were suggested. He stated smoke testing and house to house with dye testing would occur in the summer which would be the summer of 2016, and also in 2017. Mr. Ostoski 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 typically when the ground water is the highest. He continued recommending manhole inspections to be completed next spring. 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. Ostoski stated that for now they have a place holder of 2017 thru 2021 which assumes that 5 smaller construction projects will occur over 5 years which allows for the budget to be spread and complete work under 1 construction season. Mr. Ostoski asked the board if they had any questions. There were no questions so Mr. Ostoski went on to discuss the gravity thickener upgrade project. He stated it consisted of rehabbing two of the original 14 foot diameter thickeners, the rehab work included the removal and replacing of the gear box, existing platform, guardrails and grating, feed well, center column, thickener arms and scraper blades and all associated electrical wiring. He stated that bids were received by the town last November and RH White Construction was the low bidder and were awarded the contract in January of 2015. This month as of September 9, 2015 the project is essentially completed all mechanisms have been installed and are in operation, 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, they were incorporated into the design and upgraded in 2000, and it is where the waste water solids are collected concentrated and then trucked out for ultimate disposal. He stated a study was done a few years ago as to how to help cut the cost of sludge disposal options and found that gravity thickening was viable to continue that operation so a couple of years ago an additional gravity thickener was added, he explained 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 have been able to use our retained earnings and 7-8 years ago rates were increased because the fees were used for capital improvements. He stated he believes we are getting close to that time where we may have to consider a fee increase to keep the capital flowing to continue to take care of these needs. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if RH White came in on budget and on time. Mr. Ostoski replied yes. Mr. Atahas asked if they had a guestimate on a dollar amount for the capital expenditures for 2017 – 2021. Mr. Ostoski stated for planning purposes they assumed a million dollars per project but it would depend on what they find from the investigation. Mr. Kershaw stated the first phase that Mr. Ostoski described is for two things, to try to quantify any infiltration problems and also to get a better idea as to where they are, the next step would be to

design and bid for a contractor to fix what is found through the camera inspection, but 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** Mr. Beaudoin stated there had been no substantial changes since the last meeting, Mr. Shuris converted the estimate on to the town's letter head to reiterate the points. He spoke with Mr. Kozak recently about validating the engineering cost, making sure the front end cost, bid package, and the engineering is all in order, he stated he plans on following up on that. He stated last week Mr. Shuris asked him to look at the emergency generator portion, and contacted caterpillar recently and gave them a rough description of the facility based on square footage and gave them an estimate for materials and then compared notes with Mr. Shuris and were pretty much spot on which is about a \$75,000 generator package. Mr. Beaudoin reminded the board that this was pre-engineering so these numbers are not married. Mr. Shuris stated he wanted everyone to understand that they are trying to work outside the flood plan and riverfront and stated if they can get a larger building on that footprint they will do it but right now they are looking at an 8,000 square foot building and will be an efficient building. Mr. Shuris stated they would improve the existing building which would be approximately \$175,000 in repairs. Mr. Shuris stated that as of right now we have smaller equipment stored at Pine Grove, not that those buildings do not need repair work but they can be used for storage. He stated there should be around 14-16 thousand square feet of inside storage when the project is complete. He clarified that the location of the building was a prime location since all the buildings they maintain are within close proximity and wish to stay there. Chairman Melia clarified with Mr. Beaudoin that at the last meeting his board had backed moving forward with this project. Mr. Beaudoin stated that was correct and they were behind it unanimously and there was no distension. Chairman Melia stated he would like the BPCC to come for every meeting to keep the public informed on the step by step process. Chairman Melia asked the board if there were any questions. Mr. Kozak stated the financial figure they were still looking at \$2 million. He also stated he spoke to the Assessor's office regarding a 5 year borrowing to save on interest and explained the average house would be about \$80 a year.

**Fundraiser for Council on Aging vehicle - Present: Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director**

**Ms. Bol** introduced herself and introduced Ted Haringa who is the Chairman of the Council on Aging and thanked him for sticking out the meeting with her. Ms. Bol stated the in town transportation program sponsored by the Northbridge Senior Center is a vital door to door service available to the elderly and disabled of any age within our community. She stated in 2014 a total of 7,894 rides were provided, Ms. Bol stated currently the Council on Aging has two vehicles, one of which is a 2005 18 passenger mini bus with a little over 81,000 miles, and it is there primary vehicle. She explained that the second vehicle is a 2008, 10 passenger van with over 110,000 miles and is used as a second vehicle when needed. Ms. Bol specified that both vehicles needless to say are showing wear and tear and are requiring additional service beyond regular maintenance. She said that it is their intention to replace the primary vehicle with a 14 passenger lift equipped mini bus. Ms. Bol continued stating that FINE (Friends of Northbridge Elders 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 to the Town of Northbridge the COA is committing to a fundraising campaign. Ms. Bol stated since COA's are not permitted to fundraise there are exceptions to this rule. She stated according to the ethics commission funds may be requested for a specific purpose, donations received must be held in a separate bank account. Ms. Bol stated they will be coordinating with FINE to set up the new account and the donations will be made to FINE because they are a private non-profit 501C-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 they wanted to make them aware of what their efforts were going to be. Chairman Melia asked the board for their 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 would roughly be \$12,000 so we are looking at about a little over \$50,000 remaining. She stated the goal for the COA would be to truly try to raise \$40,000. Mr. Kozak stated there is an article on the warrant to fund the vehicle and at this point in time we are budgeting the full amount, but we can appropriate a lesser amount and by town meeting we would have a final answer. Mr. Athanas asked how the word will be spread other than tonight's meeting. Ms. Bol stated they have prepared a letter which will be send out to local businesses, making personal visits to businesses, and hoping through press release, and the local cable station they will be able to spread the word. 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 commented that in the past all of the busses they have had come through a Mobility Assistance program which falls under the DOT and there are annual applications that can be made, and the former director was able to successfully complete that program. He stated this past March Ms. Bol submitted a lengthy and detailed report but it was unsuccessful and part of the reason was because 37% of the applications were funded and in 2014 it was 92%. Mr. Haringa explained that they came in on a year where there was high activity and not many funds and also the former director had experience in working with the people of the program and they are all aware the Northbridge had an excellent transportation system for the elderly. He stated he received a note for the former representative that many of those people have retired and the new staff is unaware of how much Northbridge does for their seniors and rightly so. He continued stated he believes this is among the first times they have had to come to the town for funding for a bus. Chairman Melia thanked them for coming in and wished them good luck.

**Selectmen's meeting schedule** Mr. Kozak stated this was asked to have on the agenda because we currently have a meeting for September 29<sup>th</sup> in which he will not be able to attend because he will be attending a manager's conference, and chairman Melia will be away October 5<sup>th</sup>. It is up to the board if they want to maintain the current schedule. Chairman Melia stated we would need to go over the agenda, but did not have a problem moving forward with the meeting without Mr. Kozak attending and canceling the October 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he thought it would be best to go ahead with the meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup> and cancel the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chairman Melia stated they would keep the meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup> and cancel the meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup> and asked if that was ok. A motion/ Mr. Marzec seconded/Nolan to move item M Selectmen's Meeting Schedule from discussions to decisions. Vote yes / Unanimous. A motion / Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Nolan to keep the September 28, 2015 meeting and cancel the October 5, 2015. Vote yes / Unanimous.

**Review procedure for Board / Committee members who resign** Mr. Ampagoomian stated we have a lot of members who serve voluntarily to serve on these boards and commissions who have longevity and when they make the commitment to move on in their lives, move to another town or just choose to step down and a letter of thank you doesn't seem to do much. He stated if it were possible to do something more for them to really show the town's appreciation for their undivided work that is unpaid and they are devoting their time to support and make the town a better place to live. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he believes they should be taking it a step further in honoring these individuals who have dedicated many years. Mr. Ampagoomian stated a plaque for them with years of service. Mr. Kozak stated we currently have that right now for every 5 years a plaque or citation is given out after 25 years of service. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified that he was thinking of the individuals who retire and leave the boards who have been on there a long period of time. Chairman Melia stated what he understood from what Mr. Kozak stated is that the standard letter is sent right after their resignation but every 5 years over 25 years receives a plaque at an awards ceremony. Mr. Kozak clarified that right now members receive a plaque at 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 stated in August Caryn Gagner brought a memo to our attention addressing Cobra head lights, and the Town Hall parking lot light and stated he needs to congratulate and compliment Ms. Gagner for bringing that to our attention. He stated he spent some time with Bob Russel and also Tommy Kuik of Kuik Electric. He stated the Mr. Kuik and himself checked out the ornamental lights, and Mr. Russel and himself checked out the Cobra headlights that National Grid maintains. Mr. Shuris explained the ornamental lights are metered which the town pays and maintains. Mr. Shuris stated that Mr. Kozak and Mr. Ampagoomian mentioned looking into LED's and stated that National Grid does not have a rate structure for LED's however some towns are purchasing the LED's 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 LED's 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 currently a cylindrical shell that the light fits into he explained the LED light would extend above that cylinder. Mr. Shuris asked for the board's permission to go ahead and have Mr. Kuik purchase 5 lights which would border Linwood Ave, Memorial Square and out to a U shape which is right now pitch dark as a sample of the lights. He stated he would like to have Mr. Kuik

install the lights make the changes necessary and find out if LED's are the way to go. Mr. Shuris explained that a Cobra head light costs about \$9.50 per month per light, and we have 44 ornamental lights down town, which amounts up to \$5,500 per year to light up all of the lights. Mr. Shuris stated he believes right now we have 7 ornamental lights which are temporarily shut off. He stated he believes that his current budget will support the lights and would be a cost saving switch in years to come. Mr. Shuris stated the only thing he was unsure of was the look. Chairman Melia asked exactly what he meant by the look. Mr. Shuris explained that right now the cylinders inside the lights is translucent and the bulb fits inside and 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 are temporarily shut off and stated Ms. Gagner stated some of the underground wiring were issues. Mr. Shuris answered that there are 44 ornamental lights downtown that Mr. Kuik and his wife walk the street and 22 out of the 44 are black which could be the bulb, ballast or faulty wiring, and stated he believes it is ballast and bulbs. Mr. Shuris stated there are lights on in town during the day and they need to be inspected during the day, and National Grid shut down 2 on Main Street, 1 on Goldthwaite Road, and turned on the Town Hall parking lot light as well. 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. Mr. Shuris stated Ms. Gagner was right, there were 22 out of 44 ornamental lights off downtown. 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. Mr. Marzec explained 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 stated he wanted to make sure it was done using the proper protocol. Mr. Shuris responded that we do not have a contract but we have used various local companies for different projects. He stated he was correct and we should go into a contract and would address it. Mr. Athanas asked if the output of the LED's 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. Mr. Athanas clarified that the goal was to get all of the ornamentals back on Church Street and Rockdale in working condition. Mr. Shuris replied yes that is the plan, and he believes there is only one pole that will not be replaced near Highland Farm. Chairman Melia stated he was in favor of getting them all illuminated. Mr. Ampagoomian asked about the pole across from the library with the plastic come over it that was hit by a vehicle. Mr. Shuris replied that he believes we have a replacement that was alluded by Bartlett. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if it would be going up soon. Mr. Shuris replied he needed to verify with the Highway Superintendent but it will be put into a work order.

**Request for no littering signs** Mr. Kozak explained we had a citizen ask about no littering signs in a couple locations. Mr. Shuris explained 10 signs were put up in Linwood Avenue. Chairman Melia stated last year there was a resident on Upper Main Street near Wal-Mart who complained about everything blowing over the parking lot into the gully and asked if that was the issue again. Mr. Luchini explained that what happened was that several months ago it was brought to the board and approved to place signs in the Linwood section of town and since then the same resident has requesting for more signs to be placed on Rt. 122 and as well as near Wal-Mart, and explained he needed permission from the board to place they signs. Chairman Melia stated the only 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. He stated he Ok'd the Linwood Ave. signs but he believes they would look lousy and if the police catch someone littering they can do their part and stop them or whatever it may be, but asked in general if littering signs are going to stop someone from littering. Mr. Luchini stated in his honest opinion he feels as though it is causing sign pollution with signs all over the place it looks just as bad as the trash does. He stated part of this request was also that the resident wanted signs on Rt. 122, which he contacted the State to which they answered if the town really wants them there they require a request from the town. Mr. Shuris stated that the resident who has requested these signs spends her own time cleaning up down town 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, the commander of the Blackstone Valley Veterans regarding the National POW-Mia Recognition Day as follows: September 18<sup>th</sup> is officially National Pow-Mia Recognition day as declared by the President. On Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, the nation will be remembering the Pow-Mia's 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 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Veterans' organization. We, the Blackstone Valley Veterans' Association, will be hosting our 30<sup>th</sup> Pow-Mia Vigil to remember our Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action. The Vigil will begin Friday September 18<sup>th</sup> and continue on until Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday evening at 7:00 P.M., there will be a candlelight ceremony to remember those hero's 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) Storm Water Seminar** Mr. Kozak stated he attended a storm water seminar in Worcester that was put on by the Stormwater Coalition which Northbridge is a part of. He explained there was a consultant available to discuss the issues that communities will most likely see when the EPA permit is released which from our understanding will be sometime this year. Mr. Kozak explained this requirement is nationwide and will do more in keeping the waters clean from drainage. He explained one of the issues once the permit is issued will be the costs which will become required and necessary, and communities will be looking at various methods to implement the permit requirements. Mr. Kozak explained the meeting was about getting towns ready for this new unfunded mandate requirement by the federal government.

**2) Good Energy Aggregation Project** Mr. Kozak stated he recently attended a public hearing in Boston at the DPU which went well. He affirmed that the utility companies attended and had no issues with Good Energy's application for the purchasing energy supply and there were no questions from the DPU regarding it. He explained we are very hopeful it will be a positive decision and hopeful that it will be determined shortly.

**3) Quinsigamond Community College Update** Mr. Kozak explained they discussed the update over a conference call and they are still active in working with a couple of properties in the community to establish the possibility to have a satellite campus here in Northbridge. He explained they were hoping 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 that the college is associated with and we also have a good potential of obtaining more funds from the state to help with any capital projects such as this which hopefully by our next meeting there will be a positive update.

**4) Lieutenant Governor Meeting on Local Issues** Mr. Kozak stated that a meeting was held in Upton which representative Muradian had invited Town Managers in the area that he represents to meet with Lieutenant Governor Polito to discuss the Baker administration's plans on working on the needs of communities. He said there is a compact meeting that is being presented between towns and the administration to help us with needs that we have which we will probably be discussing more in the next few meetings.

**5) Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission / Regional Manager Workshop** Mr. Kozak explained that there was recently a quarterly workshop with the new Executive Director of CMRPC who he was able to meet with. Mr. Kozak explained the workshop included discussion of the various services which CMRPC can provide to communities, as well as regional efforts and grant programs.

**6) School Based Behavioral Health Update/Anti-Drug Seminar/Workshop** Mr. Kozak announced to everyone that the Anti-Drug seminar was being held by the Northbridge Coalition and the purpose is to raise awareness support and awareness for addition. He announced that a presentation would take place at the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium on Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 PM which the public is invited to attend. He stated he believes there will be representatives from our coalition at the next meeting to discuss more of what they are planning on doing. Chairman Melia made an announcement that he welcomed any of the Selectmen members to attend this panel since it is a much needed workshop.

**SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**

**Selectmen Athanas 1)** announced he had received a notice about water meters being updated in his area which brought to his attention that he would like to have Randy Swigor come in and discuss what is happening with the water meters.

**2)** 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 and the person actually was incapacitated due to a medical issue and it sounds as though she was not responded to in a polite manner. He stated he would like to know what the procedure was for this type of situation moving forward.

**3)** Stated he would like to see the Memorial Square tradition carried of planted flowers and possibly start looking to get a person or several people to help carry that tradition on.

**Selectmen Athanas 1)** spoke to Mr. Shuris stating he has had a number of people ask him and knowing Mr. Shuris has answered the question Mr. Athanas sought confirmation regarding the mailboxes on Sutton Street which are placed in the middle of the sidewalk. He asked for Mr. Shuris to confirm that was up to the DOT.

Mr. Shuris verified that the information was correct and explained that there was a 6 foot sidewalk and the mailboxes have to be located behind the curb between 5-7 inches which in some cases where the post is it looks as though it is in the middle of the sidewalk, however phase two they will be located closer to the curb around 2-3 inches instead. He stated 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 stated he had an update on the wall just east of Cooper Road. He stated the stucco was put on terribly and it delaminated, 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 will not remove that 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. 2) Asked if there had been any resolution on the morning traffic at the high school. Mr. Kozak stated he believes in the past there were different schedules for dropping students off. Catherine Stickney school superintendent stated that they are working with the police department and it is currently talking about creating an additional passing lane at the Christian school because the timing of everything. Mr. Athanas clarified that they are continuing to address the issue and it will be revisited. Mr. Shuris clarified that the discussion was to move the double yellow like 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 and it has been much worse this year than 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 keep the flow of traffic going as much as possible. **Selectmen Ampagoomian 1)** thanked both Mr. Shuris and Mr. Luchini for getting the striping done on Plummer's Corner 2) asked regarding Plummer's Corner heading north on 122 and getting a left hand turn signal turning on to church street. Mr. Shuris stated he was not sure if Mr. Luchini had spoken to anyone. Mr. Luchini stated from what he understands it has been an ongoing problem for years and from his understanding there is an issue with the width that are required there and is not sure if the State are willing to go that route for it. Chairman Melia stated he was on the safety committee when all of this came up and the State has come in and would have to take property right where the Gaudette sign is and curbing and there is not enough room for two lanes. Mr. Luchini made a suggestion that down the line we look at this avenue as a mass works project. 3) Riverdale Cemetery the fence is broke. Mr. Luchini stated he just got the report today from the police and they will be contacting the involved parties insurance to make sure it is 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 gave a word of caution to make sure it is 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 sidewalk with some type of expansion joint also. 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 122. **Selectmen Nolan 1)** looking to verify that we are still releasing executive session minutes on the schedule. Mr. Kozak replied yes and more than likely the next meeting they would be reviewing some. **Chairman Melia 1)** received a call looking into the issue of a logging road going in at the bottom of Leland Road where it intersects with East Street and looks like vehicles from New Hampshire have been there and asked Mr. Kozak if he could check with the Assessor's office and let him know who owns the property and asked who would oversee that. Mr. Kozak stated he wasn't sure it would depend if it was a wetland and wasn't sure if it was the State. Chairman Melia asked if Mr. Kozak could look into that. 2) People are constantly talking about the frost heaves on Providence Road and believes it is more than frost heaves and it is only going to get worse. He asked if anything was needed. Mr. Luchini stated they have gone through the state reps and have had the same lines of communication but dealing with the State is tough, they don't jump for anyone unless it is a real safety issue, but we are in the pipeline and they are realizing we have a problem there and they are in the area. He stated he was staying on his contacts and reached out to them today 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 it. 3) He asked when they were doing the striping on Main Street and Church Street. Mr. Luchini stated it was going to be done, and the just spoke with the contractor today regarding Ovia Square Main Street and should be done later this week which will all be done at night. A motion/Mr. Athanas seconded/Mr. Nolan to enter into executive session. Roll Call Vote which will include not to return to public session: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:32 PM**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**James Athanas, Clerk**

**/mw**

## **List of Documentation**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None**

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS: 6:05 PM:**

- A.** -Copy of hearing guide  
-Copy of MGL Chapter 140, Section 157  
-Copy of letter dated July 15, 2015, from the Law Office of Gregory Wheeler  
-Copy of Animal Control Officer Report  
-Copy of Animal Inspector Report  
-Copy of email from Jeanne Gniadek  
-Copy of Grafton Dog Officer's Report  
-Copy of Pictures of Gibson Kennels  
-Copy of Statement of Robert D Gibson, Owner of Gibson Kennels  
-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  
-Copy of Notice of Hearing dated August 26, 2015 addressed to Mr. and Mrs. 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 from the Law Offices of Carmine Gentile representing Jane and Christopher Gentile  
-Copy of report and credentials of Ticqua from US K-9 Academy LTS  
-Copy of Certificate of Achievement from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

#### **APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:**

- B.** 1) Copy of Richard Chiras's Talent Bank Form  
2) Copy of Cynthia Donati's Talent Bank Form  
3) Copy of Douglas C. Curving's Talent Bank Form

#### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**

**Local Business Spotlight: Little Man Originals – No Documentation**

#### **DECISIONS**

- C.** -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.** -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.** -Copy of Draft Warrant
- F.** -Copy of email requesting 2 banners
- G.** -Copy of letter requesting approval of the usage of Town Common
- H.** -Copy of Peter Hogan Lot No. 85 and 87 on Fir Ave South receipt

- I. -Copy of email requesting approval of 5K Road Race  
-Copy of 5K Road Race Route
- J. -Copy of Safety Committee Minuets May 20, 2015  
-Copy of Safety Committee Minuets 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. -Copy of National Pow-Mia Recognition Day reading

#### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- 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**

A.2

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**September 28, 2015 AT 7:00PM**

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

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

Chairman Melia announced that Town Manager Theodore Kozak would not present tonight as well as selectmen Athanas.

**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 approve the Safety Committee Minutes from September 9, 2015. No discussion. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, Nolan.

**Deane Way (Hillside Garden Estates) / Vote to layout Deane Way as a public way Present: Brian Massey** the Chairman of the Planning Board Brian Massey announced that he was here to represent the Planning Board for the acceptance of Deane Way. Mr. Massey stated at the meeting on September 22, 2015 and the Planning Board unanimously approved the layout of Deane Way. He stated the DPW went through the project and checklist and had no issues and put it in an email and letter that it was in excellent condition. Mr. Massey also stated that J & H Engineering also looked at it and approved it as well and it has been sent off to Town Counsel. He stated the property owners in the subdivision and the abutters were invited to attend the planning board meeting. Mr. Massey stated one family attended who were just there to listen. He stated for such consideration the site inspection was convened on July 22, 2015 with a follow up inspection on September 21, 2015 shortly before the meeting. He stated the attendees of the meeting were the developer John Barges, the Director of Public Works, Highway Superintendent, and himself. He explained that they reviewed the subdivision associated, improvements including pavement, sidewalk, granite curbing, street lights, and a tension basin. Mr. Massey explained the attendees had addressed the concerns of the adjacent properties and he made the selectmen aware that there is a property owner at the end of the development that has had issues with water runoff, and possible basement flooding and from his understanding a lot of it was before the road was improved. He stated the individual attended the meeting and spoke and asked if she has had any issues since the improvements have been made and she stated not to her knowledge. Mr. Massey acknowledged that they were equally happy with what the developer has done which is what they used to make their judgement to accept the right of way. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the layout of Deane Way within the Hillside Garden Estates subdivision as recommended by the Planning Board and the Director of Public Works and is shown on the reference layout plan and legal descriptions. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, 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 accept the date change from October 3, 2015 to October 17, 2015 subject to the safety requirements by the Police Chief. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, 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, Nolan.

**Alternatives / Request to hang 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 the banner for National Inclusive Schools Week from November 29, 2015 to December 5, 2015 as long as it is available. Mr. Ampagoomian asked verifying the availability of the pole. Chairman Melia answered that if it was on the agenda he was sure that someone in the Managers office checked. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to amend the motion to include the wording "as long as it is available" Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, Nolan.

**Pine Grove Cemetery / 1.) Correction from previous deed: Michael J. and Rhonda J. Dawson of 60 Fairlawn Street [Lot No. 51B – Hemlock Path]** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to accept the correction from the previous deed to Michael J. and Rhonda J. Dawson of 60 Fairlawn Street [Lot No. 51B – Hemlock Path]. Vote yes/Messrs Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, Nolan. **2.) John Demagian of 550 Church Street, Whitinsville [Lot No. 257 – Forest Ave East (South)]** A motion/ Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve. Vote yes/Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, Nolan.

## **DISCUSSIONS**

**Northbridge Coalition Craig Maxim/School Based Behavioral Health Update** Mr. Maxim of the Northbridge Coalition explained where the coalition came from stating it has been in existence for about 4 years and came about when they were viewing communities who had issues in their youth such as suicide, depression and a number of other things. He stated the coalition was formed and started off with just a few organizations and it has grown quite a bit to include the Senior Center, schools, Faith Community, and Whittin Community Center who meet regularly to address community concerns and issues they see in the community. Mr. Maxim explained they organized a campaign a couple of years ago where they looked at mental health and substance abuse and suicide issues and developed a lot of different programs. He explained that in the past year they wanted to focus on the communities strengths and wanted to highlight those positive areas in the town such as the resources available. Mr. Maxim stated that one of the Coalition's initial goals was around substance use and drug use, and explained that 2 years ago the Coalition did have a forum which included a pediatrician from Tri-River, as well as young folks in the community. He explained a presentation was held which acted as a launch pad for a weekly meeting that occurred for about 30 young people who would attend weekly in a relapse prevention recovery group. He stated that the need is still there and it is stronger more so now than before. Mr. Maxim announced that on October 8, 2015 the Coalition would be having a forum with quite a few panelist speakers attending for folks in recovery, those that are 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 such as a recovery program and involvement in understanding what the resources are available as well as having community awareness in regards to what the issues are in terms to the opiate epidemic. Mr. Maxim highly recommended citizens to attend as it was not for those just directly affected and seeking treatment. He explained the project was funded through the Health Foundation of Central Mass with the goal of putting school based behavioral health services at Northbridge High and Uxbridge High with the idea that it would become self-sustaining. He also explained they never did come back with a full report so instead he gave a section of a report for the record. He explained the first goal was to establish behavioral health clinical services at both Northbridge

and Uxbridge High Schools, and provide 2 full days of clinical services. Mr. Maxim explained the second goal was to provide in school counseling services and gave an example of a student who compared to the year before the program began had visited the school nurse for a total of 220 behavioral health related visits and compared it to 36 visits when being treated through the school behavioral health clinic. Mr. Maxim continued, stating the third goal was to increase access to behavioral health services for adolescence students, and explained there was a waitlist which is normal of 6-12 weeks for an appointment but through this program they were able to be seen within a week to 2 weeks. Mr. Maxim explained the fourth goal was increasing access to child psychiatry and were able to have 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. Mr. Maxim continued with the fifth goal which was to be self-sustained by Endo grant funding and to increase capacity. He explained that at the end of the school year they had achieved 90% self-sustainability, and explained the grant provided the upfront costs and by the end of the year it was covered by 3<sup>rd</sup> party reimbursements. Mr. Maxim explained the program is still alive and still sustainable and has increased beyond 2 days per week, have increased to other schools, which brought him to the sixth goal which was to provide information and data to support the model of the school districts. He then explained the last goal which has 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 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 that the program is doing well and parents are reporting easier access to treatment and it has spread to other schools and districts. Mr. Marzec thanked him 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 kudos 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. Mr. Ampagoomian congratulated Mr. Maxim on a job well done and stated that Governor Baker outlined today the new overhaul for DSF and asked if he interacts with that department. Mr. Maxim replied he does and explained he has not seen the plan yet but they do have current contracts with the Department of Children and Families. Mr. Ampagoomian stated he believes he should re-announce the meeting on October 8<sup>th</sup> and he also believe the people would like to know who the panel is. Mr. Maxim agreed and stated the meeting would be on October 8, 2015 at the Middle School from 7-9 PM and Dr. Safdar Medina from Tri-River who is a pediatrician will talk about how he is seeing substance abuse affect the patients that he is seeing. He stated 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. Mr. Maxim continued announcing that Lori Johnson the schools lead nurse, pastor Howard DeVries of Celebrate Recovery, Pleasant Street Church, a high school student Isabella Lane speaking about the Josh Project, Meghan Giacomuzzi, Missin' Matt Foundation, speaking about recovery, Chief Warchol, Attorney Joseph Early and Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis. He explained what we are looking at is a couple of minutes from each of them on their perspective, and the programs they have. Chairman Melia thanked Mr. Maxim for bringing this forward and stated it is something that has to be looking into further and need more money put into rehabilitation because it is getting much worse.

**DPW Snow Plow Contractors and Drivers** Highway Superintendent Jaime Luchini first announced that the street sweeper was delivered last week it was registered and tomorrow there will be a crew coming in to train our guys on how to use it and it should be out next week weather permitting. Mr. Luchini 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 and explained they do have 1 tons, pick-ups, sidewalk plows, and if they do have CDL's they do have bigger trucks as well as any local contractors have equipment they would like to put in. He explained they have had good feedback but would prefer to have more plows on the road. Mr. Marzec verified that the insurance for the outsourced contractors was paid by for by the owner so if something happened the town would not be required to cover. My Luchini answered stating that the contractors have to have their own insurance coming in, balloon coverage, and anyone that comes in to drive our equipment is covered under

town insurance because it is town equipment. Mr. Marzec asked how it worked if someone does damage with their truck and would the towns insurance cover that. Mr. Luchini stated that for people to come in to drive our equipment, yes to a degree and their own equipment the town is not involved in and explained that once the calls come through to us we call up the owner of the vehicle and their insurance handles it. Chairman Melia explained he had 4 issues he was going to bring up under selectmen's issues but since he was here he brought them up. He verified the frost heaves on 122 has been corrected. Mr. Luchini answered that it has, 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 and the target is by the end of October is when the final coat of asphalt is going down, there are a few more structures that need to be raised but they are in the closing moments. 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 is positive. Chairman Melia asked for an update on the painting of the street lines. Mr. Luchini stated he is in contact with them constantly 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 verified that 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 explained 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 the mosquito control. He stated that September 23, 2015 the Mosquito Control reached out to his administrative assistant and stated there was an area in town where the mosquitos tested positive for West Nile Virus. Mr. McKeon stated they explained it was a low risk which Mr. McKeon preferred that there was no risked and requested them to spray in that area. He stated September 24, 2015 the area was sprayed and were notified with an automated telephone message. 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 the Code Red was excellent and stated on the map it looks as though it started at Leland Road going east on Church Street down to 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. Mr. 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, Nolan

**.Meeting Adjourned: 7:37 PM**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**James Athanas, Clerk**

**/mjw**

## **LIST OF DOCUMENTATION**

### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES / None**

### **II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- a. Copy of National Grid Petition for Pole Relocation
- b. Copy of Memorandum for request for Abutters List
- c. Copy of Abutters List
- d. Copy of Abutters Notice
- e. Copy of Abutters Notice for postponed meeting
- f. Copy of Abutters Notice for new meeting date

### **III. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: / None**

### **IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**

**Local Business Spotlight: / None**

### **V. DECISIONS**

- Copy of Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
- Copy of Public Meeting Notice
- Copy of Memorandum for the Intent to Lay Out Deane Way
- Copy of letter recommeneding the Lay out of Deane Way
- Copy of Letter from Guerriere and Halnon
- Copy of Letter from Guerriere and Halnon
- Copy of Letter from Guerriere and Halnon
- Copy of Description of Deane Way
- Copy of Description of Lots 1 Drainage Easement
- Copy of Description of Lots 2 Drainage Easement
- Copy of Description of Lots 10 Drainage Easement
- Copy of Maps
- Copy of email from Caryn Gagner requesting change
- Copy of Letter from Peter Truslow
- Copy of email from Kathrine Lyons requesting banner
- Copy of Deed for Michael J. and Rhonda J. Dawson
- Copy of Deed for John Demagain

### **VI. DISCUSSIONS**

- Copy of Coalition flyer
- Copy of Snow Plow Contractor's and Drivers Advertisement
- Copy of West Nile Virus Information Page
- Copy of Automated message for Detected Vicinity
- Copy of Map of possible detected vicinity
- Copy of Email to Jeanne Gniadek from CMMPC

### **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**

A.3

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
October 19, 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, 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 with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Messrs. Ampagoomian, Marzec, Melia, Nolan. Abstain: Mr. Athanas. 2) **September 14, 2015 [Executive Session]** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve but not release the June 8, 2015 Executive Session minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous

**PUBLIC HEARINGS: 7:10 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. Chairman Melia turned the floor over to Mr. Ahmad. Colene Halligan introduced herself and explained she was Sohail's mother and explained that her husband Sammy Ahmad and Sohail Ahmad were the main managers of Sammy's. Mrs. Halligan explained they opened in the space that was formerly Lori-Anne's which had been closed for a little over a year which was tough especially since it was opened in the winter but through the efforts 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 have heard from customers that they would like to have the availability to have the full liquor license. Mrs. Halligan stated it was a full liquor license in that facility prior to Sammy's and their original intention when first starting was the idea of a family restaurant feels as though that has been established and now would like to have the all alcohol for the convenience of the customer instead of them bringing in their own. Mrs. Halligan stated that Mr. Sohail Ahmad, Sammy Ahmad and herself were TIPS certified. Mr. Ampagoomian stated that the BOH Inspector has a list of requirements and asked regarding this list. Mrs. Halligan stated they do have a handwashing sink station that was there prior to their ownership which they moved into the kitchen. She stated she thinks there was some confusion but was under the impression that if the license was approved then the requirements were to be fulfilled and fully intend to do so. Chairman Melia asked Mr. Kozak

how many licenses were available in the 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. Chairman Melia asked for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to accept the application for an All Alcohol Common Victualler License to Sammy's Restaurante LLC d/b/a Sammy's Restaurante [Sohail Ahmad, Mgr.] Vote yes/Unanimous 2) **Request to pro-rate the annual Liquor License fee** Mrs. Halligan stated she was going by logic and explained as far as she understood the annual fee for a liquor license is approximately \$1,200 and it seems unfair that if they were lucky enough to have the license granted in November and pay the full year but for once month to have to pay again in January and explained she did not feel that it was a wise business practice for them to do that. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Marzec to prorate the cost of the license based on when and if it is approved by the state before January 1, 2016 and for the amount to be prorated by month. Vote yes/Unanimous

**7:15 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 tuned the floor over to Mr. Mustafa and his Attorney Mr. Shugrue. Mr. Shugrue introduced himself and explained that this was formerly Kappy's which was a convenience store for many years. He stated it was empty for a few years and his client has since purchased it and has been operating it as a convenience store for several months now and are doing well but their customers have indicated to them that they would like to see them have a wine 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 manor. Chairman Melia spoke to the audience asking if there were any abutters present who would like to come forward. Mr. Shugrue asked the board about the pro-rating of the fee and asked if they would consider that for their license. He explained it takes at least a month to get through to the ABCC and stated he believes they are in the same situation as Sammy's Restaurante. Chairman Melia stated if the selectmen agreed with that they could make it part of the motion for the first request. Gregory Progin a resident of Worcester stated he owned property on 26 and 34 C Street and is an abutter to Village Variety. Mr. Progin stated when he brought 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 they started to work on the property and were planning on paving it over and had unlicensed contractors and also had equipment on his property and did damage to a wall. Mr. Progin stated he spoke to the manager of Village Variety about the situation and he assured him it wouldn't happen again. Upon returning Mr. Progin stated they were still on his property and had damaged the fence he was installing. He explained he had gone over and spoke to them, and in speaking with them asked if they were licensed and they were not and he stated they seemed like they were on drugs and did not know what they were doing and did not call dig safe. Mr. Progin stated if he did not do this correctly he was concerned about him selling alcohol in the neighborhood. Mr. Progin explained that he knew it wasn't an "A" neighborhood but was motivated to bring in good tenants and prove the quality of the neighborhood. He explained that he attended the meeting because he feels as though adding alcohol as a variable in a full residential neighborhood is not a good idea and is not safe. Chairman Melia asked the board if there were any comments or questions. Being no questions he thanked him for coming forward. Chairman Melia entertained a motion to close the public hearing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. All in favor to close the public hearing: Mr. Ampagoomian/Yes, Mr. Nolan/Yes, Mr. Marzec/Yes, Mr. Athanas/Yes, and Mr. Melia/Yes. 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 beer and wine license. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant the wine and malt license with the stipulation that the employees are all TIPS certified and to prorate the license

monthly if it is approved before January 1, 2016. Vote yes/Unanimous. 2) **Application for Keno To Go** Chairman Melia explained there was no vote necessary unless the board objected to it. The board did not object to it. Mr. Ampagoomian made a comment to Mr. Progin stating that even though the license was granted for the beer and wine the board takes granting licenses very seriously and stated our own police department performs stings on selling to minors as well as the ABCC.

**7:20 Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [Sook L. Huynh, Mgr.] located at 1167 Providence Rd., Whitinsville, MA 01588 / Application for Change of Manager; New Officer/Director; Transfer of Stock; and New Stockholder** 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. 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, stockholder, 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 hope to do a great job here as well. Chairman Melia asked if there were any abutter present who would like to speak. Chairman Melia asked if the board had any questions or comments. Mr. Athanas stated he was going to be sad to see Billy go. Chairman Melia stated that he would agree with that and stated they have been tremendous throughout the years and thank him for his generosity. Chairman Melia asked for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to close the public hearing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant the application for a change in manager, new officers, and transfer of stock and new stockholder to Friendly Discount Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Discount Liquors [Sook L. Huynh, Mgr.] Mr. Ampagoomian and Mr. Marzec thanked him. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: None**

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**

**Local Business Spotlight: None**

**Dog Hearing Recommendations / Status Report** Chairman Melia asked for the Dog Officer Dan Chauvin to come forward and talk about the report that was requested by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Chauvin stated he has no concerns with the dog. He stated this dog has been in this town for 9 years off the radar with no incidents and stated there was no reason to not let the dog live out its life. Mr. Chauvin explained whatever happened at the kennel we would never know and stated this scenario will probably not be repeated. He stated the Trainor who conducted the assessment on Tiqua had no issues. Chairman Melia announced that this item was on the agenda because the Board of Selectmen accepting a motion unanimously which was to review the training report at the October 19, 2015 meeting and consider whether any further remedial action is required. Chairman Melia read aloud the final verdict of the report from Carrie F. Prest of Paw and Order who conducted the training on Tiqua. Chairman Melia asked the board if they had any questions or concerns. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Marzec voted 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 in the past. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the request of the use of the Town Common for a public Plant sale on Saturday May 21, 2015. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**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** Susan Palmer-Howes stated it was the High School DECA program which is the business club and ever year they hold a national

competition in a different location this year it is Nashville Tennessee and explained they are always looking for something to do to help raise funds. She explained that last year it was granted to them to do the can drive in April and they would like to do it again this year. Chairman Melia clarified that she was familiar with the rules and regulations. To which Ms. Palmer-Howes agreed. Mr. Ampagoomian made a suggestion to contact the Town Manager's office and request the marquee on the Town Hall Lawn to advertise the boot drive. Ms. Palmer-Howes thanked him. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the boot drive on April 2, 2015 at Memorial Square and Ovian 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 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-alcohol Common Victualler License** Ms. Picard explained it will be a creperie at large and she will be serving crepes sweet and savory, 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-alcohol 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-Alcohol Common Victualler License from Amerada Hess Corporation to Speedway, LLC** A motion/Mr. Marzec seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the transfer of Non-Alcohol 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 the Vice Chairman Chris Thompson of the finance committee to come forward and stated tonight the board would be voting the position on the warrant article for the Annual Fall Town Meeting which is Tuesday October 27, 2015. **ARTICLE 1:** (Selectmen) Bill(s) of prior year: Town Manager Kozak advised that there were no prior year bills. Vice Chairman Thompson explained the Finance committee voted passing over this article. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Marzec to pass over article 1. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Finance Committee voted to pass over Article 1. **ARTICLE 2:** (Selectmen) Budget Adjustments: Town Manager Kozak stated there was an adjustment for the Conservation Commission to raise and appropriate an additional \$15,000 to help higher a conservation agent. He explained the second is for the Fire Department to hire an additional firefighter. Town Manager Kozak stated the third is the educational fund to raise and appropriate \$113,000. He stated the BPCC is tabling the article for the DPW but certainly do need to come back to it and will be fully vetted hopefully for the Spring Annual Town Meeting. Manager Kozak stated the next was for the Soldier's Memorial for \$10,000 to raise and appropriate for repair. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Mr. Ampagoomian to support article 2. Vote yes/Unanimous. The finance committee voted unanimously to support this article. **ARTICLE 3:** (Selectmen) Stabilization Account: Town Manager Kozak recommended that \$100,000 go into the stabilization fund to be used for future capital project 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 this article. **ARTICLE 4:** (Selectmen) Transfer funds: Town Manager Kozak explained this was for the Town 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 this article. **ARTICLE 5:** (Selectmen) OPEB Trust Fund:

Town Manager Kozak justified 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 this article. **ARTICLE 6:** (Assessors) Request of 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 this article. **ARTICLE 7:** (Council on Aging) Transfer of funds: Town Manager Kozak explained this was to purchase a 14 passenger Minibus in the amount of \$50,000. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/ Mr. Nolan to support article 7. Vote yes/Unanimous. The finance committee voted unanimously to support this article but 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 at Highland Street. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if this was buildable land. Mr. Massey replied that it is. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if he was aware as to what conservation 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. **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 to accept Deane Way as a Public Way. **ARTICLE 10 :**( Building, Planning and Construction Committee) Town Manager Kozak stated that he recommends that the motion be to pass over this article. 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 Article) Whitinsville Social Library: Town Manager Kozak explained this petition is to be named to Whitinsville Social Library. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/ Mr. Athanas to support article 11. Vote yes/Unanimous. The finance committee voted unanimously to support this article. **ARTICLE 12 :(** Petition Article) Sex Offender Residencies: Town Manager Kozak explained that the proposed action by the petition is to pass over because the amendment for sex offender residencies was challenged in Supreme Court and it was found that it would not be constitutional in the state. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/ Mr. Marzec to support article 11. Vote yes/Unanimous. The finance committee voted unanimously to pass over this article.

**Fletcher Street / Vote to take down tree** Chairman Melia called Highway Superintendent Jamie Lucini forward and explained that this is before the Board because Fletcher Street is a scenic road and it is a requirement to be presented to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Luchini explained that a resident brought it to his attention that there was a tree on Fletcher Street that is an issue. He explained that three quarters of the tree is dead. He stated they checked with National Grid but it was not close enough to the powerlines for them to take any action. Mr. Luchini assured the board that the tree and stump should be removed for safety and does not believe it would make the Winter. He explained there is only a quarter of it left and it was on a scenic road. Chairman Melia explained he received a concern regarding the tree which he forwarded to the Highway Superintendent. Mr. Ampagoomian sought clarification that it was not a public shade tree. Mr. Luchini replied that it was a public shade tree but it was actually in the road. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if it fell into the category of a public hearing on removing public shade trees. Chairman Melia clarified that it is. Mr. Kozak clarified 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 snagged 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 request to hold a non-profit Motorcycle Bike Run to benefit the American Cancer Society/Relay For Life, Sunday, June 5, 2016 at 10 AM. Vote yes/Unanimous

## **DISCUSSIONS**

**Water Meters / Present: Randy Swigor, Whitinsville Water Company** Randy Swigor of the Whitinsville Water Company gave an update regarding the water meters. Mr. Swigor stated the company was updating the water meter reading system to improve its reliability, efficiency, and customer service. He explained the current meters are about 15 years old and at the end of their useful life. Mr. Swigor explained that the existing meters use an older technology and mechanically driven parts to measure the water which tend to breakdown and fail with age. Mr. Swigor announced 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. He stated that currently 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 which is to collect the meter readings from the outside of the house. He explained that 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. Mr. Swigor explained that the new meters will have a small radio device installed over the touch pad which will send the data back to the office without going house to house to retrieve the information. Mr. Swigor specified that it currently takes months to retrieve this data, but with the new system it can collect the data within minutes. Mr. Swigor described that 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. Mr. Swigor described the process which would consist of the installer going into the basement and disconnecting the existing wire of the existing meter and removing the meter and installing a new meter in its place and connecting the wire. He continued, the installer would then go outside the house and snap on the radio device over the existing touch pad and then confirm communication of the device which completes the installation. Mr. Swigor stated the typical appointment would take about 20 minutes to complete at no charge to the customer. He stated that USI started appointments at the end of September and have completed about 200 locations to date. He explained the process started slowly to ensure that everything was going smoothly and to date there have been no issues. He explained 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. Mr. Swigor stated that customers would 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. Mr. Swigor said that if there were any customers with questions they were welcome to contact their office for assistance. Mr. Swigor explained that on the Town's side of the system the town has opted to purchase and install only the outside radio devices at present. He explained that the devices would be purchased in the near future and installed by year end. He explained that no appointment is necessary and the water meters will be changed out over a multiyear period. Mr. Swigor thanked them for their time and asked if they had any questions. Mr. Athanas asked if the commercial and residential customers were treated the same. Mr. Swigor replied that they were treated the same but the commercial meter may be bigger. Mr. 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 replacing 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 erected antenna was working out. Mr. Swigor answered that it worked out fine and described that it was the receiving antenna which is on the existing tank and there is a box at the base which collects the meter reads. Town Manager Kozak verified that he would be working with Mr. Shuris on the town side to which Mr. Swigor verified that he was. Mr. Marzec asked a question unrelated to the meters but regarding Carpenter Road and all of the work being done on the water main and what the status was and what are the issues with the land owners who had silt that washed out onto their

properties. Mr. Swigor responded that they replaced 1,500 ft. of water main between Shannon and Samuel Drive and started construction about a month and a half ago and should be finished by the end of next week with the project. He explained that in early October we had 1 or 2 days of heavy rain and two property owners had silt washed onto 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. Mr. Marzec 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 it was such a heavy rainfall that it was not satisfactory at the time. Mr. 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. Mr. Athanas asked about the town 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. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if the third party contractor would have identification and if the police department would be made aware of the individuals. Mr. Swigor replied that they will have a full photo id, a label on their apparel, and on their vehicle as well and did register with the police department.

**Municipal Aggregation Plan / 1) Department of Public Utilities Approval 2) Update on proposal /**

**Present: representative from Good Energy** Mr. John O'Rourke gave an update on the Aggregation Plan. He stated the Aggregation Plan has been approved by the Department of Public Utilities along with 23 other municipal aggregation plans which were approved in record time of two and a half months. Mr. O'Rourke explained that at this point there has been a working committee each week that has done a conference call with all of the towns and have been ironing out issues with marketing on legal issues for the electric service agreement. He explained that 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 will happen this Wednesday and once completed they can then go out to bid on electric service and supply and hoping to do so this Friday if all goes well. He continued stating that they are expecting to open competitive bids on November 10, 2015. He stated that 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. Chairman Melia asked the board for questions or comments. Mr. Athanas verified that everyone was signed up automatically and needed 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 rate compared to the National Grid rate and also receive a post card if they want to opt out they can sign the post card a mail it in otherwise no action is needed. Chairman Melia asked about the mailing if it 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. Mr. O'Rourke explained that they have a website with information, and there will also be radio, and newspaper adds. Mr. Nolan asked when National Grid switches to their winter rates. Mr. O'Rourke replied November 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Nolan clarified that customers will see their 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 it is about 4 cents more for supply and is going up in November and gave him a sample bill but would be for about two months then go to the new rate. 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 announced that someone needed to be present at the bid opening on November 10<sup>th</sup> and suggested to the board they nominate him. Mr. O'Rourke stated that on November 10<sup>th</sup> each town will have their representative there to accept or reject the bid and each town should designate a primary and secondary representative to be physically at the 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 he couldn't make it. Chairman Melia asked for a motion to move this topic from discussion to decision. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to move letter O. Municipal Aggregation Plan Agreement from discussion to decisions. Vote yes/Unanimous. Chairman Melia asked for a motion to appoint a primary and a secondary. 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 that the Planning Board asked that he announce the Zoning Public Workshop which he stated would be in cooperation with the Board of Selectmen and held on Tuesday November 10<sup>th</sup> 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 towns existing Zoning Bylaws including table of use regulations, land use terms, and zoning districts. **2) Department of Housing and Community Development** Town Manager Kozak explained that we had good news which is that the town received an additional \$758,701.00 for 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 of that the Planning Board went through the State Representatives and received this. Mr. 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 through Thanksgiving weather permitting and stated for more information see the DPW homepage. **4) COA vehicle fundraising** Town Manager Kozak announced that there is a fundraising campaign currently being conducted for the Council on Aging minibus and for any questions or anyone looking to help out contact Senior Center Director Kelly Bol. **5) Legislative Breakfast update** Town Manager Kozak announced that he attended this meeting held by the MMA and talked about the FY 17 budget and as it looks now and FY 16 seems to be in really good shape. He stated as of revenues there was a little concern about expenses on health insurance costs but should not affect us. Mr. Kozak stated stormwater regulations were also discussed and explained the state is attempting to get the requirements to fall under DEP as opposed to EPA. He explained that Chapter 70 funding is being reviewed and there has been a study to understand if there are any changes needed. Mr. Kozak stated as far as Chapter 90 funding we are hoping it will be the at least the same amount as it was this year and hoping for an early release. Mr. Kozak explained the last area that was covered was the public records law which is being reviewed and could affect us as to what is required to do under Mass General Law. **6) Annual Fall Town Meeting** Town Manager Mr. Kozak made a reminder about the Fall Annual Town Meeting which will be held October 27, 2015 at 7 PM located at the Middle school and asked the citizens to attend.

**SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS Selectmen Marzec 1)** Asked what the status was on the WWI Monument in Rockdale and the bricks that were loose and whether it was safe or not. Chairman Melia stated he was an associate member of the Soldier's Memorial and stated they have a meeting scheduled tomorrow night and it has been discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Melia also stated that there is a company who is checking all of the memorials for which ones need to be repaired and maintained which will be in the near future and will report back to the Board of Selectmen. **Selectmen Athanas 1)** asked if it was possible to get a preliminary accounting just to see how we are doing on the cash in verses cash out on Pine Grove Cemetery. Town Manager Kozak replied that at the end of this month marks a year and he planned on reporting back to the board. **2)** Speaking to Mr. Shuris he stated he has had a couple of people comment on the trees on Church Street that it are blocking signage and asked if it was possible to get those 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. **Selectmen Ampagoomian 1)** asked the Town Manager what is 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 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. Mr. Ampagoomian asked him if he could find out what we can do as a community. Mr. Kozak replied that he would certainly try. 2) Mr. Ampagoomian thanked Mr. Shuris and Luchini for getting the pole out of the street on Sutton. 3) Mr. Ampagoomian asked if there was a map of where the guardrails are going on Sutton. 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) Mr. Ampagoomian 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) Mr. Ampagoomian 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) Mr. Ampagoomian asked if they could take a look at the cemetery located on Batcheller Road, and stated there were some stones 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 122 and how the plan was moving forward. Mr. Shuris stated they purchased 50 LEDS for the project and stated memorial square is complete and still need to complete in front of the Town Hall to where Harry's pizza which should be done within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Shuris explained that after that they would move on to Rockdale. Mr. Shuris explained that they did get pricing from 3 different contractors following procurement laws which range from \$85, \$92 and \$110 per hour. Mr. Shuris explained that 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) Chairman Melia stated he received a call today from a resident regarding 2 damaged fence incidents 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 last meeting and asked if Mr. Shuris had a report on it. Mr. Shuris replied that we have a price from Munity 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 waiting for a price on it. 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 is going to patch up and temporarily repair it and make it much more presentable than it is now. Mr. Luchini also stated he would take a look at the Electric pond.

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 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**

/mjlw

## **LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. 1) Copy of the minutes August 17, 2015
- 2) Copy of the minutes September 14, 2015 [Executive Session]

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- B. –Copy of Public Hearing Notice
- C. –Copy of Public Hearing Notice
- 2) –Copy of Massachusetts State Lottery Commission Letter
- D. –Copy of Public Hearing Notice

### **APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: -None**

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**

**Local Business Spotlight: -None**

### **DECISIONS**

- E. –Copy of decision and order after hearing on dangerous dog complaint letter
- Copy of evaluation of Tiqua
- F. –Copy of letter from Blackstone Valley Gardeners requesting use of the Town Common
- G. –Copy of email from Susan Palmer requesting a Boot Drive
- H. –Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery Deed
- I. –Copy of Application for Common Victualler License
- Copy of additional information
- Copy of map
- Copy of Workers Compensation Affidavit
- Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance
- Copy of Business Certificate
- Copy of License Routing Slip
- J. –Copy of Application for Common Victualler License
- Copy of map
- Copy of Business Certificate
- Copy of Workers Compensation Affidavit
- K. –Copy of position paper
- 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. –Copy of letter recommending to take down Fletcher Street tree
- M. –Copy of email request for permission to hold the Motorcycle Bike Run
- Copy of Chief Warchol's response

### **DISCUSSIONS**

- N. –No documentation
- O. –No documentation

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- P. –Copy of Town Managers Report
- 1.) –Copy of Notice of Public Workshop
- 2.) –Copy of letter from Department of Housing and Community Development

- 3.) –Copy of News Release
  - Copy of leaf collection table
  - Copy of leaf collection map
- 4.) –No documentation
- 5.) –No documentation
- 6.) –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**

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

A5

October 27, 2015

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

**Also Present:** Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager, David Doneski, Kopelman & Paige, P.C. [Town Counsel] and Sharon Susienka, Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager.

**Town Meeting Business.**

**Article 8 - Land Donation.** Town Manager Kozak advised the Board that there is a small sum of money owed the Town by the land owner [WRT Management] but that he expects it to be paid in the next day or so. Attorney Doneski stated that their owing money does not preclude town meeting from voting to support the article.

There being no further town meeting business to discuss or vote on, the Selectmen continued with the next item on the agenda—Pine Grove Cemetery update.

**Pine Grove Cemetery Update.** Attorney Doneski provided an update on Pine Grove since the Town acquired the property last year [October 2014] including the Pine Grove Cemetery Association's proposal to formally dissolve. He explained that the Association's proposal will aid in the dissolution process, allow them to close out their accounts, file a final tax return and save them some money. The details of the proposal can be found in the documentation attached to these minutes. At the conclusion of his detailed explanation, Mr. Doneski requested the Board to take a vote. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Marzec to approve the transfer of the Reserve Fund monies to an escrow fund subject to approval by Town Counsel. Discussion on the motion: Chairman Melia asked a question about the process to transfer the funds and Mr. Doneski replied that it's a process to transfer money from the Association's Reserve Fund to another holding account [escrow account] before transferring the funds to the Town. There were no further comments or questions. Vote yes/Messrs. Athanas, Marzec, Ampagoomian, and Melia.

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

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:12 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

James Athanas, Clerk

s/

## **LIST OF DOCUMENTATION**

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION**

**October 27, 2015**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None**

**PUBLIC HEARING/None**

**APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/None**

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None**

#### **DECISIONS**

- A.** Town Meeting Business – No documentation
- B.** Pine Grove Cemetery Update - Email from Attorney David Doneski dated October 22, 2015  
re: Third Quarter Pine Grove Cemetery accounting update.

#### **DISCUSSIONS**

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None**

**SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/None**

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None**

**CORRESPONDENCE/None**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/None**

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE  
PUBLIC NOTICE

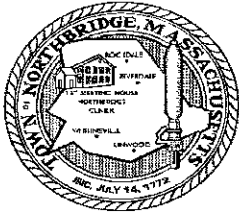
B.1

The Northbridge Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing to determine the allocation of local tax as required by Chapter 40, S. 56 of the MGL on **Monday, November 9, 2015 at 7:05 PM** in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588. Taxpayers and others are invited to present oral or written information on their views at that time. After the public hearing, the Board of Selectmen will determine the percentage of tax levy to be paid by each class of real property and personal property for FY 2016. All persons interested in this most important subject are urged to attend the meeting.

NORTHBRIDGE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Thomas J. Melia, Chairman  
October 14, 2015

***NORTHBRIDGE***  
***TAX CLASSIFICATION***  
***HEARING***  
***FY 2016***

Monday, November 9, 2015



# Town of Northbridge Board of Assessors

Town Hall, 7 Main Street

Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588-2210

(508) 234-2740

## MEMO

To: Northbridge Board of Selectmen; Thomas J. Melia, Chairman;  
Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager  
From: Northbridge Board of Assessors  
Date: November 9, 2015  
Re: Classification Hearing

Chapter 40, Sec.56 of the Massachusetts General Laws requires that the Selectmen hold an annual public meeting to determine the percentages of the local tax levy to be borne by each class of property. This is referred to as the Tax Classification Hearing.

The information contained in these handouts are intended to provide the Board of Selectmen with the information necessary to determine the selection of a Residential Factor, as well as options pertaining to residential and small business exemptions available under Massachusetts General Laws. The decision of the Board must be submitted to the State's Department of Revenue on Form LA 5.

There are three options available for the distribution of taxes.

### (1) Selection of a Residential Factor (Split Tax Rate):

The Board of Selectmen has an option to select a residential factor of "1" or less. If a factor of "1" is adopted, there would be a single tax rate for all residential, commercial, industrial and personal property. If a factor of less than "1" is adopted, there will be a shift from the residential property class to the commercial, industrial and personal property classes.

### (2) Selection of a Residential Exemption:

The Board of Selectmen may adopt a residential exemption of up to 20% of the average assessed value of all properties other than commercial, industrial and personal property. The properties must be owner occupied. All properties falling below the town average would have a reduction in taxes. Properties assessed above the town average would have a higher tax rate as well as residential non-owner occupied properties and unimproved land.

### (3) Selection of a Small Commercial Exemption:

A small commercial exemption also may be adopted by the Board of Selectmen. Any business operating as of January 1, 2015, with less than ten employees and having a total assessed value of less than one million dollars would be eligible. The savings of the eligible taxpayers will be borne by the commercial and industrial properties that are ineligible as well as vacant commercial and industrial parcels.

The proposed tax rate, pending approval by the Department of Revenue, should be:

Tax Rate = Levy \$19,936,387 / Taxable Value \$1,448,080,087 = .01377 x 1,000 = \$13.77

The levy amount may change once all the forms are completed and approved, thereby changing the tax rate by a small amount. This is an increase of \$ 0.39 per thousand from FY 2015.

Respectfully,

*Robert Fitzgerald*  
Robert Fitzgerald  
Principal Assessor

## FISCAL YEAR 2016 TAX RATE BREAKDOWN

FISCAL YEAR 2016			TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE FY 2016		
2015 Levy Limit	(Last Years Levy)	\$18,380,307	/	\$1,448,080,087	= \$ 12.69
+ Prop 2 1/2		459,508	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.32
+ New Growth		319,360	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.22
+ Debt Exclusion	(New High School)	0	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.00
	(School Land)	113,175	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.08
	(BVRHS Expansion)	94,065	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.06
	(School Roof)	172,325	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.12
	(Police Roof)	16,613	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.01
	(DPW Truck/Plow/				
+ Capital Exclusion	Street Sweeper)	381,500	/	\$1,448,080,087	= 0.26
= Tax Rate		\$19,936,853	/	\$1,448,080,087	= <u>\$ 13.77</u>

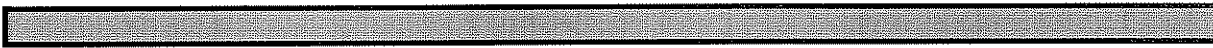
All figures are approximated for an estimated tax rate.  
The Actual Tax Rate may change after DOR certification.

## FY 2016

	<u>Average Single Family</u>	<u>Average Commercial</u>	<u>Average Industrial</u>
Value	\$268,500	\$657,400	\$744,100
<b>Single Rate</b>	13.77	13.77	13.77
Tax	\$3,697	\$9,052	\$10,246
Group Size	3437	167	37



<b>110% Shift Tax Rate</b>	13.56	15.14	15.14
110% Shift Tax	\$3,640.86	\$9,953.04	\$11,265.67
Difference	<b>(\$56.38)</b>	<b>\$900.64</b>	<b>\$1,019.42</b>

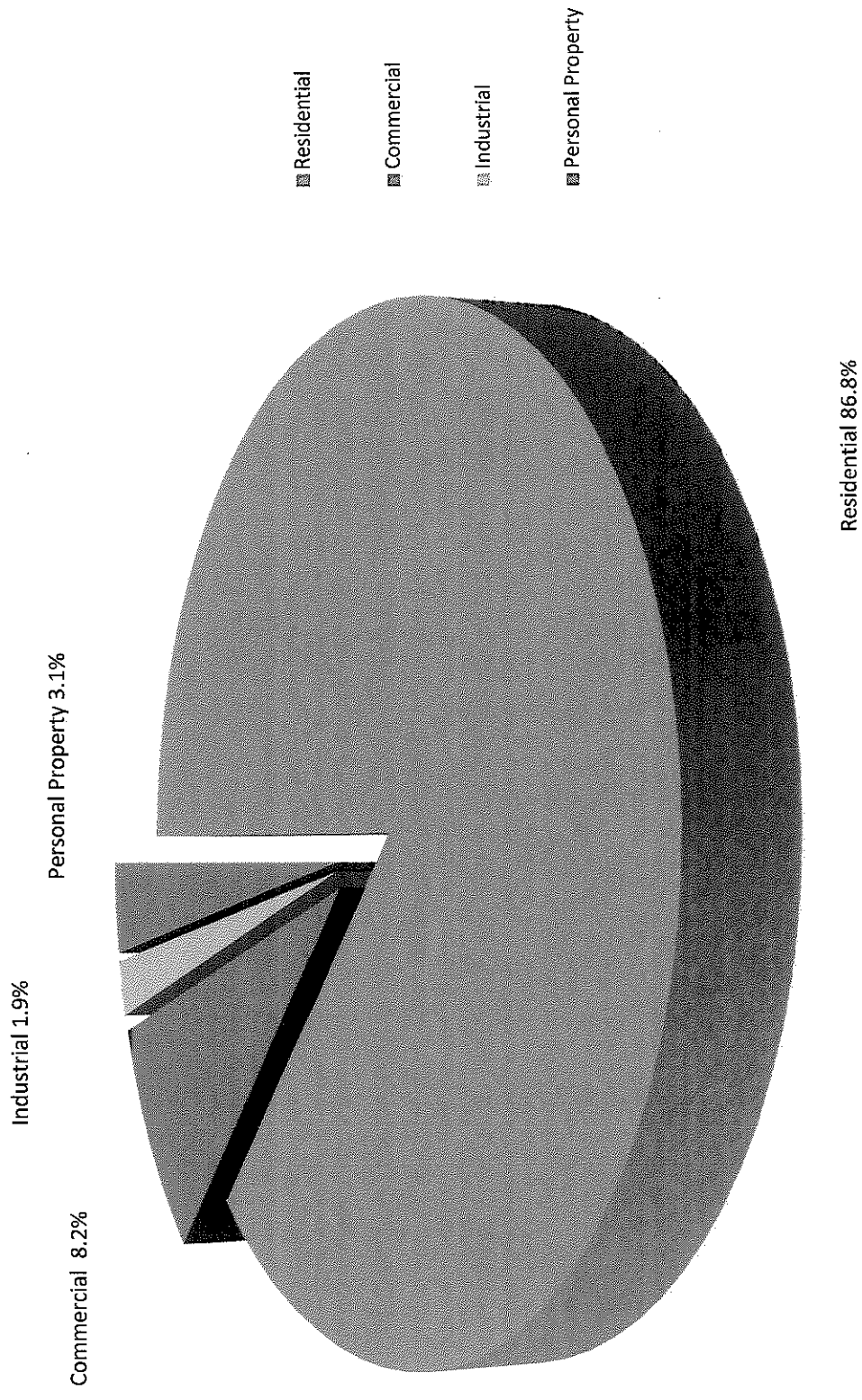


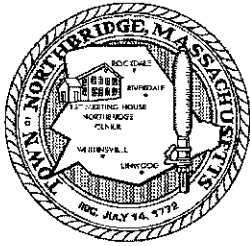
<b>125% Shift Tax Rate</b>	13.25	17.21	17.21
125% Shift Tax	\$3,558	\$11,314	\$12,806
Difference	<b>(\$83.24)</b>	<b>\$1,360.82</b>	<b>\$1,540.29</b>



<b>150% Shift Tax Rate</b>	12.73	20.65	20.65
150% Shift Tax	\$3,418	\$13,575	\$15,366
Difference	<b>(\$139.62)</b>	<b>\$2,261.46</b>	<b>\$2,559.70</b>

## FISCAL YEAR 2016 - VALUATION BY CLASS





# Town of Northbridge Board of Assessors

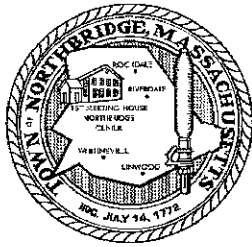
Town Hall, 7 Main Street  
Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588-2210

(508) 234-2740

## **TAX RATE IN DECENDING ORDER**

### FY 2015 TAX RATES

1. BLACKSTONE	\$ 19.48
2. UXBRIDGE	\$ 17.40
3. MILLVILLE	\$ 17.24
4. UPTON	\$ 16.95
5. SUTTON	\$ 16.68
6. HOPEDALE	\$ 16.58
7. GRAFTON	\$ 16.50
8. DOUGLAS	\$ 16.46
9. MILLBURY	\$ 16.46
10. MENDON	\$ 16.01
11. NORTHBRIDGE	\$ 13.38



# Town of Northbridge Board of Assessors

Town Hall, 7 Main Street

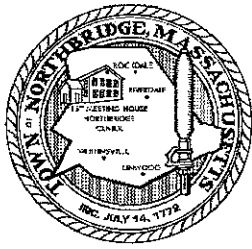
Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588-2210

(508) 234-2740

## **TAX BILL IN DECENDING ORDER**

### FY 2015 AVG SINGLE FAMILY TAX BILL

1. UPTON	\$ 6,200
2. MENDON	\$ 5,628
3. GRAFTON	\$ 5,620
4. SUTTON	\$ 5,040
5. UXBRIDGE	\$ 4,766
6. HOPEDALE	\$ 4,695
7. BLACKSTONE	\$ 4,593
8. DOUGLAS	\$ 4,343
9. MILLVILLE	\$ 4,065
10. MILLBURY	\$ 3,847
11. NORTHBRIDGE	\$ 3,566



# **Town of Northbridge Board of Assessors**

**Town Hall, 7 Main Street  
Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588-2210**

**(508) 234-2740**

## **AVG RESIDENTIAL TAX BILL INCREASE SINCE 2003**

<b>1. BLACKSTONE</b>	<b>86.7%</b>
<b>2. GRAFTON</b>	<b>84.4%</b>
<b>3. SUTTON</b>	<b>81.0%</b>
<b>4. UPTON</b>	<b>79.0%</b>
<b>5. MENDON</b>	<b>67.7%</b>
<b>6. UXBRIDGE</b>	<b>67.4%</b>
<b>7. DOUGLAS</b>	<b>60.1%</b>
<b>8. HOPEDALE</b>	<b>58.6%</b>
<b>9. MILLVILLE</b>	<b>53.8%</b>
<b>10. MILLBURY</b>	<b>47.4%</b>
<b>11. NORTHBRIDGE</b>	<b>45.5%</b>

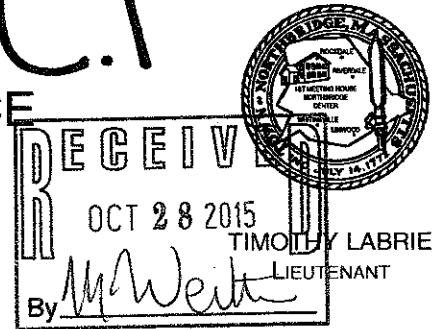


WALTER J. WARCHOL  
CHIEF OF POLICE

C.I.

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE  
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

1 HOPE STREET, WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588  
www.northbridgepolice.com  
TEL (508) 234-6211 • FAX (508) 234-9021



**To: Mr. Theodore Kozak, Town Manager (Appointing Authority)**  
**From: Walter J. Warchol, Chief of Police**  
**Subject: Appointment of One Full Time Police Officer (Certification List# 03320)**  
**Date: October 29, 2015**

The police department has completed a selection process to fill the one full time police officer position from the Permanent Intermittent Police Officer Roster List.

Officer Ryan Falvey is a Permanent Intermittent Police Officer with the Northbridge Police Department. He was appointed a Permanent Intermittent Police Officer on June 8, 2015.

The following recommendation and bypass is consistent with Department of Human Resources appointing guidelines.

I am recommending that Mr. Ryan J. Falvey of Northbridge be appointed to this position. My recommendation is based on a review of the candidate's performance in an interview and background check by ranking officers of the police department.

Based on the above criteria I recommend the following appointment:

James Berkowitz, 278 Benson Road, Northbridge, MA 01534  
**Recommend to Bypass – Declined Position**

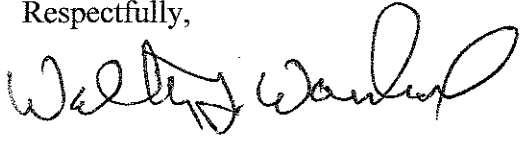
Ryan J. Falvey, 12 Prouty Lane., Worcester, MA 01602  
**Recommend to Appoint**

- Candidate performed well on the interview, scoring 4<sup>th</sup> out of seven candidates interviewed
- Candidate has MPTC Part time Police Academy
- Candidate has no college degree
- Candidate showed an intense desire to become a police officer; was well spoken during interview. Candidate displayed an honest, positive and exuberant attitude during interview.

Would you please return a Notice of Employment Form to the Department of Human Resources indicating that the above candidate has been given a conditional offer of employment with the Northbridge Police Department subject to successfully completing the following:

Any other training mandated by the Northbridge Police Department or the Municipal Police Training Committee.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter J. Warchol". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Walter" and last name "Warchol" clearly distinguishable.

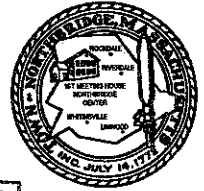
Walter J. Warchol  
Chief of Police



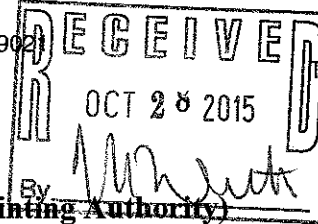
WALTER J. WARCHOL  
CHIEF OF POLICE

## TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

1 HOPE STREET, WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588  
www.northbridgepolice.com  
TEL (508) 234-6211 • FAX (508) 234-9021



MOTHY LABRIE  
LIEUTENANT



**To:** Mr. Theodore Kozak, Town Manager (Appointing Authority)  
**From:** Walter J. Warchol, Chief of Police  
**Subject:** Appointment of a Full Time Police Officer  
**Date:** October 29, 2015

I recently received a certification roster from the Human Resources Division in Boston to fill one (1) full time police officer position.

I am recommending that Mr. Ryan J. Falvey be appointed to this position. If you agree with my recommendation, Mr. Falvey should be appointed as a ***Student Officer*** contingent upon the following attached conditions. The tentative date of appointment will be the first day of the police academy at Randolph which is scheduled for January 4, 2016. I would request that you place this appointment on the Board of Selectman's agenda for the November 9, 2015 meeting.

The appointment of Ryan J. Falvey as a ***Student Police Officer*** will be contingent upon the following conditions:

- The Human Resources Division certifies the appointment and the appointments are approved by the Board of Selectmen as required by Town Charter.
- The candidate passes a drug test and all medical and PAT tests conducted under the guidelines of the Human Resources Division, Boston, MA
- Appointment will be as a Student Police Officer and will become a full time police officer after successfully completing the full time police academy conducted by the Municipal Police Training Committee. The full time appointment is subject to available funding.
- If the Student Police Officer is injured he will be covered by workman's compensation and not by MGL 111F.
- The Student Police Officer agrees to reimburse the Town of Northbridge for all recruit training costs incurred by the town during the academy training period if the officer leaves employment with the Northbridge Police Department and is employed with another police agency within a five (5) year period after graduation from the police academy. (See Attached Agreement)

- Candidate will be on a one (1) year probation period following successful completion from the full time academy.
- Candidate cannot smoke tobacco products
- Candidate will be a Wellness Employee
- Candidate must possess a MA Operator's License
- Candidate must possess a Class A License to Carry Firearms issued by the Northbridge Police Department
- New full time police officers appointed after July 1, 2009 are not eligible for the College Incentive Program (Quinn Bill)
- Upon graduation from the full time police academy the officer will be allowed to join the bargaining unit.
- The starting salary for a Student Police Officer is \$981.42.

## NOTICE

### PENSION REFORM COMMUNITIES

#### TO POLICE OFFICER AND FIRE FIGHTER CANDIDATES

Please be advised that once established you must meet Medical and Physical Fitness Standards while employed in order to maintain your employment. Every two years, you will be required to undergo a medical and physical fitness assessment. This assessment will consist of a job related physical fitness test designed to simulate the physical demands of the duties that may be performed by police officer or fire fighters, and an assessment of your overall medical condition as it relates to your ability to perform the essential functions of your job. In order to assist you in meeting these standards, wellness programs will be made available to you that will provide you with information on maintaining your physical fitness and overall health and provide an assessment of key health indicators such as blood pressure and cholesterol levels. These standards are mandated by the provisions of Section 22D of Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Chapter 697 of the Acts of 1987.

## NOTICE

### TO POLICE OFFICER AND FIRE FIGHTER CANDIDATES

Please be advised that, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 697, Section 117 of the Acts of 1987, no person who smokes tobacco products shall be eligible for appointment as a Police Officer or Fire Fighter from any Civil Service eligible list established after the effective date of this act, and no person appointed shall continue in such office or position if such person thereafter smokes any tobacco products.

# Ryan J Falvey

12 Prouty Lane • Worcester, MA 01602

Phone: 774-633-0167 • E-Mail: rfalvey827@gmail.com

# RJF

## Objective:

A position at the Northbridge Police Department where my skills, training, and background can be used as an asset.

## EXPERIENCE:

2015 – present	Northbridge Police Department
2013-present	City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks
2011-2013	Casella Waste Services
2008-2011	TMC Environmental Services

## EDUCATION:

2013-2014	Boylston Reserve/intermittent Recruit Officer 335 hour course  Certified in Radar; Field Sobriety Test; Portable Breath Test Operator; First Responder; CPR; Expandable Baton; Handcuffing; Defensive Tactics; Capsicum Spray/Foam
2008	Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational High School, Upton, MA

## Skills:

- Communicate Well
- Cooperative and flexible; adapt easily to changing needs and circumstances
- Determined and resourceful approach to problem resolution
- Able to handle multiple tasks, set appropriate priorities and deadlines
- Motivated, conscientious and confident self-starter who learns quickly
- Interact well with various personalities, cultural backgrounds and age groups
- Enthusiastic team player who enjoys challenges and performs well under pressure

*Know all Men by These Presents,*

E.1

That the Town of Northbridge, in the County of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in consideration of Two Hundred Dollars, paid by **Michaela Cote of 18 A Street, Douglas, MA**, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, does sell and convey to said Michaela Cote, that certain cemetery **Lot No. 45B**, one grave, situated on the way called **Birch Path North** in the Pine Grove Cemetery, and the sole and exclusive right of burial of the dead therein, subject to the following rules and restrictions for the regulation and government of said Cemetery; viz:

1<sup>st</sup>. That the said Lot shall not be used for any other purpose than as a place of burial for the dead, and proper Cemetery uses, such as the Town may approve; and no trees within the Lot or the Cemetery shall be cut down or destroyed without consent of the Town.

2<sup>nd</sup>. That if any trees or shrubs in said Lot shall become in any way detrimental to the adjacent lots or avenues, or dangerous or inconvenient, the Town shall have the right to enter into said Lot and remove said trees or shrubs, or such parts thereof as are dangerous, detrimental or inconvenient.

3<sup>rd</sup>. That if any monument or other structure whatever, or any inscription, be placed in the said Lot which shall be determined by the Town to be offensive, the Town shall have the right to enter upon said Lot and remove said offensive or improper object or objects.

4<sup>th</sup>. If a fence shall at any time be erected or placed in or around said Lot, the materials or design of which shall not be approved by the Town, it must be forthwith removed upon direction of the Town, and if not so removed the Town shall have the right to enter upon said Lot and remove said fence.

5<sup>th</sup>. The said lot shall be holden subject to all by-laws, rules and regulations made and to be made by the Town.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Town of Northbridge has caused these presents to be signed and sealed by its Board of Selectmen, this 9th day of November, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen.

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*Know all Men by These Presents,*

E.2

That the Town of Northbridge, in the County of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in consideration of Three Thousand Two Hundred Dollars, paid by **Philip and Frances Wassenar of 280 Williams Street, Uxbridge, MA**, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, does sell and convey to said Philip and Frances Wassenar, that certain cemetery **Lot No. 299**, two graves, situated on the way called **Woodlawn Avenue North** in the Pine Grove Cemetery, and the sole and exclusive right of burial of the dead therein, subject to the following rules and restrictions for the regulation and government of said Cemetery; viz:

1<sup>st</sup>. That the said Lot shall not be used for any other purpose than as a place of burial for the dead, and proper Cemetery uses, such as the Town may approve; and no trees within the Lot or the Cemetery shall be cut down or destroyed without consent of the Town.

2<sup>nd</sup>. That if any trees or shrubs in said Lot shall become in any way detrimental to the adjacent lots or avenues, or dangerous or inconvenient, the Town shall have the right to enter into said Lot and remove said trees or shrubs, or such parts thereof as are dangerous, detrimental or inconvenient.

3<sup>rd</sup>. That if any monument or other structure whatever, or any inscription, be placed in the said Lot which shall be determined by the Town to be offensive, the Town shall have the right to enter upon said Lot and remove said offensive or improper object or objects.

4<sup>th</sup>. If a fence shall at any time be erected or placed in or around said Lot, the materials or design of which shall not be approved by the Town, it must be forthwith removed upon direction of the Town, and if not so removed the Town shall have the right to enter upon said Lot and remove said fence.

5<sup>th</sup>. The said lot shall be holden subject to all by-laws, rules and regulations made and to be made by the Town.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Town of Northbridge has caused these presents to be signed and sealed by its Board of Selectmen, this 9th day of November, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen.

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*Know all Men by These Presents,*

E.3

That the Town of Northbridge, in the County of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in consideration of Three Thousand Two Hundred Dollars, paid by **Barbara A. Fernsten of 125 Carrington Lane, Uxbridge, MA**, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, does sell and convey to said Barbara A. Fernsten, that certain cemetery **Lot No. 1**, two graves, situated on the way called **Walnut Avenue (North)** in the Pine Grove Cemetery, and the sole and exclusive right of burial of the dead therein, subject to the following rules and restrictions for the regulation and government of said Cemetery; viz:

1<sup>st</sup>. That the said Lot shall not be used for any other purpose than as a place of burial for the dead, and proper Cemetery uses, such as the Town may approve; and no trees within the Lot or the Cemetery shall be cut down or destroyed without consent of the Town.

2<sup>nd</sup>. That if any trees or shrubs in said Lot shall become in any way detrimental to the adjacent lots or avenues, or dangerous or inconvenient, the Town shall have the right to enter into said Lot and remove said trees or shrubs, or such parts thereof as are dangerous, detrimental or inconvenient.

3<sup>rd</sup>. That if any monument or other structure whatever, or any inscription, be placed in the said Lot which shall be determined by the Town to be offensive, the Town shall have the right to enter upon said Lot and remove said offensive or improper object or objects.

4<sup>th</sup>. If a fence shall at any time be erected or placed in or around said Lot, the materials or design of which shall not be approved by the Town, it must be forthwith removed upon direction of the Town, and if not so removed the Town shall have the right to enter upon said Lot and remove said fence.

5<sup>th</sup>. The said lot shall be holden subject to all by-laws, rules and regulations made and to be made by the Town.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Town of Northbridge has caused these presents to be signed and sealed by its Board of Selectmen, this 9th day of November, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen.

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Phone: 508-498-1913  
Mike (cell) 305-763-7558

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

F

APPLICATION FOR COMMON VICTUALLER LICENSE

Required for any establishment that has the facilities to cook, prepare, heat and/or serve food

TO THE LICENSING AUTHORITIES:

The undersigned hereby applies for a License in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes relating thereto  
(FULL NAME OF PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION MAKING APPLICATION):

Hani Alshaikh  
Village Variety LLC.

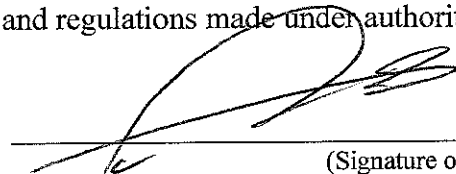
STATE CLEARLY PURPOSE FOR WHICH LICENSE IS REQUESTED: [Common Victualler]

TO: Selling Pre made Sandwiches.

GIVE LOCATION BY STREET AND NUMBER:

AT: 84 Border St  
Whitinsville MA 01588

in said Town of Northbridge in accordance with the rules and regulations made under authority of said Statutes.

  
(Signature of Applicant)

Print Name: Hani Alshaikh

Address: 84 Border St

City: Whitinsville.

State, Zip: MA 01588

Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Time)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date License Granted

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
LICENSE ROUTING SLIP**

**Business:** Village Variety  
**Applicant:** Ahmad Mustafa  
**Address:** 84 Boarder Street  
**License Type:** Non-Alcoholic Common Victular

**DEPARTMENT:**  
**PLANNING:**

**COMMENTS:**

**SIGNATURE:**

N/A - existing business

*[Signature]*  
09.18.2015

**POLICE:** No Issues as long as they comply with the towns regulations concerning alcohol establishments. All employees selling alcohol must be TIPS certified. I will have Lt. Labrie speak to the owner advising them of the towns regulations governing alcohol establishments *Walter Labrie*

**FIRE:** The fire dept. has no concerns at this time.  
*Gary A. Nestor - Fire Chief 9/22/15*

**BUILDING/ZONING:**

Approved Retail

9-23-15

*[Signature]*

**CONSERVATION:**

9/18/15

N/A

*Barbara A. Kinney*

**HEALTH:**

If applicant intends to install any new equipment it must first be approved by the Board of Health. No other issues with issuance of this license.

Jeanne M. Gniadek  
BOH Administrator  
October 1, 2015

**ASSESSORS:**

No Issues 9-21-15 *Bob Fitzgall*

**TREASURER/COLLECTOR:**

Excise  
Personal property NO BILL  
Real estate ☒

WNC  
Water / Sewer 0/0  
Other

*[Signature]*

XEL  
NOTOR  
INC

Please sign off and return the slip to the Town Manager's Office or offer comments via email to [mwetherbee@northbridgema.org](mailto:mwetherbee@northbridgema.org) or [ssusienka@northbridgema.org](mailto:ssusienka@northbridgema.org). Thanks!!

G



## District Local Technical Assistance 2016

### APPLICATION

Applications for DLTA are accepted on a rolling basis. The first round will be reviewed and considered in November 2015. A second round, based on the availability of funds, will commence March 31, 2016.

**Submission Instructions:** This application form and all supporting documents should be submitted via email to: [cryan@cmrpc.org](mailto:cryan@cmrpc.org)

Please read the attached Memorandum Guidelines before completing this application. Applications will not be considered complete unless all requested information is provided. Signoff by participating entities must be included (see form at end of application).

#### DLTA PROJECT SUMMARY

Name of Project:

Type of Project:

☐ DLTA Planning Projects:

- ☐ Planning Ahead for Housing, Economic Development and Preservation
- ☐ Regional Collaboration in Service Delivery or Procurement
- ☐ Other "technical assistance within regional planning expertise"

☐ Community Compact Cabinet Projects

Town(s)/Partners:

Amount of DLTA (and other) Funds Requested:

**NOTE:** The Lead Applicant will be required to attend a Physical Development Committee meeting to present the application before funding is approved.

H

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE \***

**2016**

<b>January 11</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>January 25</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>February 8</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>February 29</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>March 14</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>March 28</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>April 11</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>April 25</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>May 9</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>May 23</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>June 6</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>June 20</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>July 18</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>August 22</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>September 12</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>September 26</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>October 3</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>October 17</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>November 7</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>November 21</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>December 5</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>December 19</b>	<b>Monday</b>

**\*Subject to revisions and the calling of special meetings.**

## **HOLIDAYS AND SPECIAL DATES**

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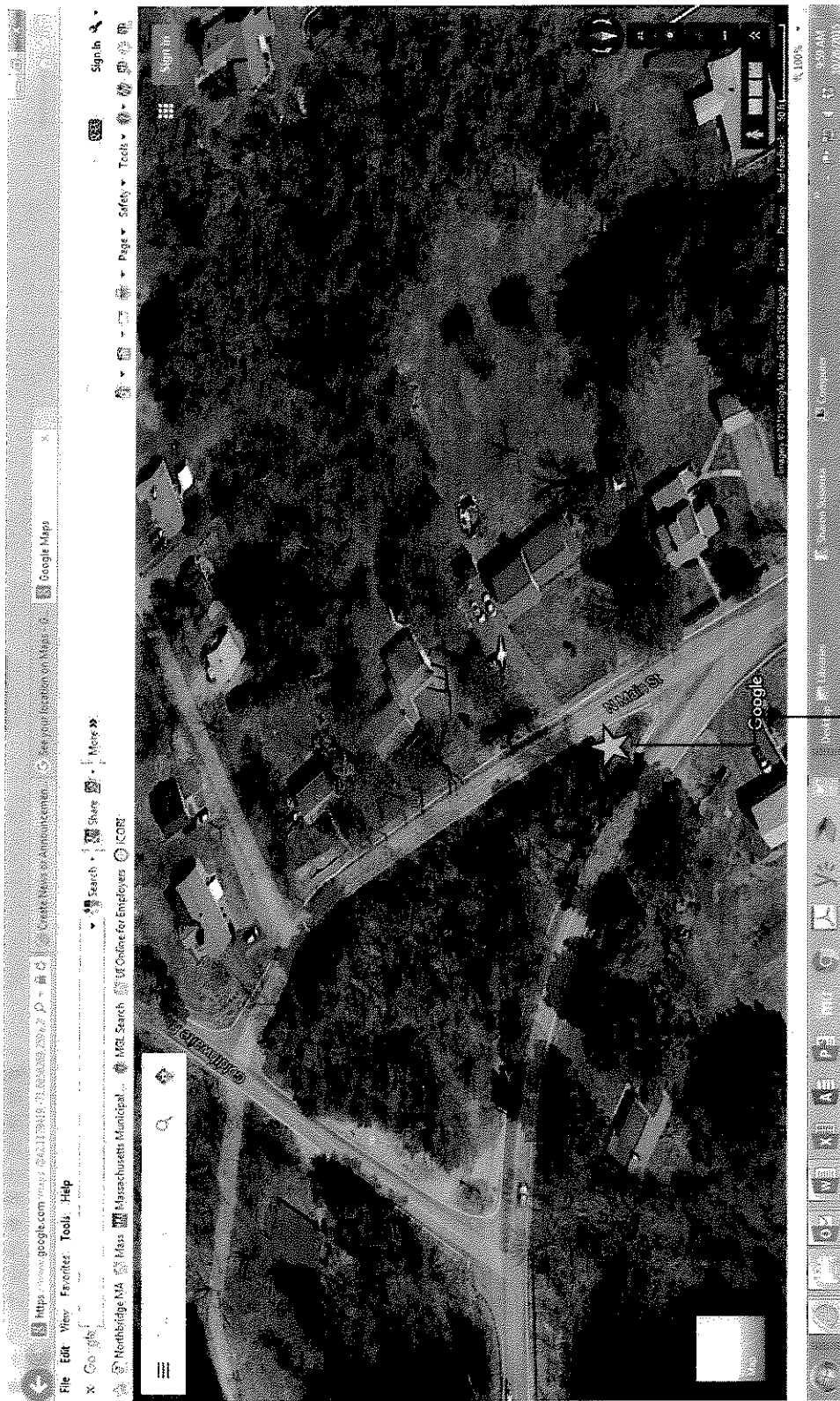
**2016**

<b>Friday, January 1st</b>	<b>New Year's Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, January 18th</b>	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, February 15th</b>	<b>Presidents' Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Friday, March 25th</b>	<b>Good Friday/Close at Noon*</b>
<b>Monday, April 18th</b>	<b>Patriots' Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Tuesday, May 3rd</b> <b>Tuesday, May 17th</b>	<b>Spring Annual Town Meeting</b> <b>Annual Town Election</b>
<b>Monday, May 30th</b>	<b>Memorial Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, July 4th</b>	<b>Independence Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, September 5th</b>	<b>Labor Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, October 10th</b>	<b>Columbus Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Tuesday, October 25th</b>	<b>Fall Annual Town Meeting</b>
<b>Friday, November 11th</b>	<b>Veterans Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Thursday, November 24th</b> <b>Friday, November 25th</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Day/Holiday</b> <b>*Holiday</b>
<b>Friday, December 23rd</b> <b>Saturday, December 24th</b>	<b>*Christmas Eve Holiday Observed</b> <b>Christmas Eve/Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, December 26th</b> <b>Sunday, December 25th</b>	<b>*Christmas Day Holiday Observed</b> <b>Christmas Day/Holiday</b>
<b>Friday, December 30th</b> <b>Saturday, December 31st</b>	<b>*New Year's Eve Holiday Observed</b> <b>New Year's Eve/Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, January 2nd</b> <b>Sunday, January 1st</b>	<b>*New Year's Holiday Observed</b> <b>New Year's Day/Holiday</b>

**\*Employees covered by AFL-CIO Contract and Town Personnel By-Laws only.  
(Subject to future Collective Bargaining Agreements)**

10/26/15 placed on web

5



*Location of the  
Cpl. John M. Dawson  
Memorial Dedication on  
Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at 11:00 AM*

- Some residents will have their roads plowed "first" and some must be "last".
- *"The workers continue until the job is done".*

The Northbridge Department of Public Works strives to provide the safest streets and roadways in the shortest period of time for the citizens. With your cooperation and common sense we will all benefit.

Please feel free to contact the Northbridge Department of Public Works if you should have any questions related to any snow storm event. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation!

James Shuris, P.E., MBA  
Director of Public Works

Jamie C. Luchini  
DPW Highway Superintendent

*Northbridge DPW "Snow Fighting Team"*

*"Moving Forward"*

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: [www.northbridgemass.org](http://www.northbridgemass.org)

**DPW General Information:** (508) 234-3581

**DPW Highway Division:** (508) 234-0816

**Snow Plowing:** (508) 234-3581

**Pot Hole Repairs:** (508) 234-3581

**DPW Sewer Division:** (508) 234-2154

**Whitinsville Water Company:** (508) 234-7358

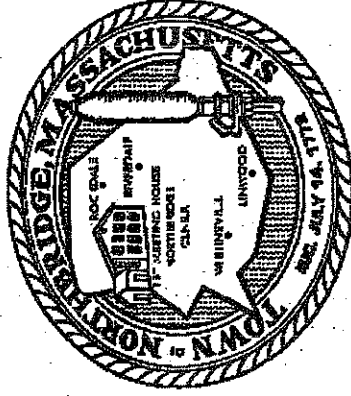
**Police General Information:** (508) 234-6211

**Fire General Information:** (508) 234-8448

**Police & Fire Emergency:** 911

# **Town of Northbridge Department of Public Works**

## **2015 - 2016 "SNOW & ICE" PROGRAM "Moving Forward"**



For the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Town of Northbridge - Department of Public Works (DPW) is pleased to make this "SNOW & ICE 2015 - 2016 PROGRAM" brochure available to you the taxpayers of Northbridge. The main objective of this brochure is to enhance community awareness concerning snowplowing operations. Our mission is to efficiently return our 83-miles of roads to "normal conditions" after each winter storm event. Your support and patience is necessary and greatly appreciated. The DPW "Snow & Ice Program" involves a four (4) part process:

- When the Snowfall Starts
- The Snowfall Continues...
- After the Storm...
- The Community Can Help

## ***When the Snowfall Starts***

Snowplowing operations begin when snow accumulates two (2) inches, or when forecasts indicate that it will. Over 24 Town and private contractor plows can be deployed and assigned to pre-determined routes.

When the snowfall starts, the DPW immediately begins to sand and salt the roads to prevent the snow from being compacted and frozen on the road surface. Top priority is given to the Town's main streets and bus routes.

## ***The Snowfall Continues...***

The drivers plow their assigned routes to "open-up" each road in a pre-determined sequence. If the intensity of the storm warrants, the plows remain in the same pattern until the storm subsides. At the end of the storm, the trucks begin to "widen-out" all roads by pushing the accumulated snow back beyond the curb line, then clearing the intersections.

It is important to note that residents may want to wait until the road has been plowed, and "widened-out" before shoveling the entrance to driveways.

Again, our initial responsibility is to keep the main lines and bus routes open and safe for travel. These roads are the key to maintaining a steady flow of traffic.

Our talented DPW Snow & Ice Staff are "well-trained" and "dedicated" to work "around-the-clock", keeping the roads open and passable. Please do not be misled by plow trucks riding with their plows up. They may be going in for fuel, repairs, headed to another assigned route or are not employed by the Town.

An area of concern is mailboxes. To reduce the possibility of damaging a mailbox, our plow truck operators are trained to avoid them. However, experience has shown that with reduced visibility during a snowstorm, combined with the height of the snow banks, it is not always possible for a driver to see a mailbox in time to avoid a collision with the "wing" or the heavy snow that is thrown by the moving plow. Any installation within the road right-of-way (including a mailbox), is placed there at the owner's risk. Therefore, property owners are encouraged to put mailboxes at the maximum allowable distance from the roadway pavement. It is strongly recommended that mailboxes and posts be inspected to insure they are properly secured and the posts are not rotten.

## ***After the Storm...***

After the snowstorm has ended our crews must continue to monitor all roads for icy spots, drifting snow, etc. At this time, an application of sand or salt is usually applied to all road surfaces. Some roads will receive an application of salt and calcium chloride to melt the remaining snow and ice.

## ***The Community Can Help***

The Community can enhance the snow plowing operation by following these suggestions:

- Make certain that your vehicle is ready for winter driving.
- Adhere to winter parking bans.
- Park vehicles off the road or in your yard during a snowstorm.
- Reduce speed and drive cautiously.
- Do not drive in winter snowstorms unless absolutely necessary.
- Do not throw, plow or blow snow onto the road. This creates a hazard to you and to others and requires the DPW staff to return to clean up at your expense.
- Plows are designed to throw snow up to 30-feet.
- Sidewalk traffic is not advised during a storm event.
- The plowing of sidewalks typically begins directly after the assigned road snow plow routes have been completed.
- Before your final driveway cleanup, check the street. If the street is not "widened-out", a plow truck should return to plow again.
- Please understand that the Town cannot shovel or plow out the end of your driveway, nor can the Town plow private property.
- Finally, please be patient. Snow plowing is an arduous and time-consuming job covering 83-miles of Town roads.

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**Melissa Wetherbee**

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**From:** Gary Bechtholdt <gbechtholdt@northbridgemass.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 02, 2015 6:23 PM  
**To:** tkozak@northbridgemass.org  
**Cc:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org; Melissa Wetherbee; jsheehan@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** BOS mtg -Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project (waive permit fees)

Ted:

It is my understanding that the Building Inspector is not authorized to waive the building permit fee(s) associated with the **ROCKDALE YOUTH CENTER RELOCATION PROJECT** and that *a formal request of the Board of Selectmen to waive such fees shall be required.*

Although this is a town sponsored project, funded through the **Community Development Block Grant –Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program**, the Contractor is responsible for securing the building permit. In talking with the Architect and Inspector of Buildings preliminary estimates suggests the permit fee may run between \$12-15K. Funds will be used towards completing the project.

Please make arrangements for the Board of Selectmen to consider this matter at its next available meeting.

**DECISIONS:**     Vote to waive permit fees for the Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project, a town sponsored/CDBG-DR funded project

Should you have any questions or require additional information please let me know.

Thanks,

-Gary

R. Gary Bechtholdt II  
Northbridge Town Planner

**COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

Town of Northbridge  
7 Main Street  
Whitinsville, MA 01588  
(508)234-2447

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – November 9, 2015**

M.

- 1) **2016 Senior Tax Workoff Program** – The 2016 Senior Tax Workoff Program will begin January 1<sup>st</sup>. Any interested individuals, age 60 and over may call the office at 508-234-2095 for further details and an application.
- 2) **Good Energy Bid Opening** - The Town's aggregation bid through Good Energy will be opened on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, at which 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.
- 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. I am also working with Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner, as well.
- 4) **CMRPC Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program** - Attended a meeting for the renewal of the Town's Pre-disaster mitigation program. CMRPC is assisting communities and updating the Town's current mitigation plan given that the current plan will expire in 2017.
- 5) **Pine Grove Cemetery/Yearly update** – Provided an overview of the revenues and expenses for Pine Grove Cemetery upon completion of its first year under direction of the Town.

M.5

**PINE GROVE CEMETERY EXPENSES  
NOVEMBER 1, 2014 TO OCTOBER 31, 2015**

<b>LABOR</b>	<b>\$10,752</b>
<b>HEAT, ELECTRICITY, WATER, ETC.</b>	<b>\$2,568</b>
<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>\$754</b>
<b>ALARM SERVICE</b>	<b>\$790</b>

<b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES/ INMATE CHARGES</b>	<b>\$10,992</b>
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<b>ONE TIME CHARGES:</b>	
<b>LEGAL, REPAIR, ALARMS</b>	<b>\$15,758</b>

<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b>\$41,614</b>
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**RECEIPTS:**

<b>DEEDS FOR PLOTS</b>	<b>\$28,500</b>
<b>BURIALS</b>	<b>\$31,200</b>
<b>CREMATIONS</b>	<b>\$8,250</b>
<b>FOUNDATIONS/MARKERS</b>	<b>\$9,035</b>

<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b>\$76,985</b>
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