

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**July 15, 2019**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman James Athanas at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. **Board Members Present:** Athanas, Cannon, Melia and Nolan. **Absent:** Adam D. Gaudette, Town Manager and Selectman Ampagoomian and it is duly noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

**Presentation: 1) Years of Service Award to Harold Gould, Town Moderator.** Former Town Moderator Gould was not able to attend so therefore this item will be rescheduled.

**2) Rep. David Muradian – Update.** Representative Muradian advised that the Conference Committee still has not come to a budget resolution, which has left him with little information to update. He stated the Conference Committee voted to keep the meeting as a closed session, which means it is not open to the public. He added that he would give an update once he had a final tally on the Budget. Continuing, Mr. Muradian went on to say that the Baker-Polito administration recently announced their School Safety Grants and Northbridge will be receiving \$59,700 dollars. He stated there was a positive report from the Encore Casino that they are bringing in \$2 million dollars per day in revenue. Selectman Melia asked if there was a chance of an increase in the Chapter 90 funds as a result of pot holes and roads throughout the Commonwealth. Representative Muradian replied that after the Baker-Polito administration came in they released an extra \$1 million dollars in Chapter 90 funding, so it is a possibility. Selectman Nolan asked if there will be a sales tax holiday and Mr. Muradian responded that there will be one in August. In his closing remarks, Representative Muradian gave a thank you to the Fire Department for a spectacular firework display and for putting together a great family event.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 1) April 8, 2019.** A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mrs. Cannon to approve the April 8, 2019 minutes as presented with the reading omitted. Vote yes/Melia, Cannon and Athanas. Abstain: Selectman Nolan. **2) April 22, 2019.** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the April 22, 2019 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Melia and Nolan.

**PUBLIC HEARING/None**

**APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: 1) Election Officers:** Democrat, Republican, Unenrolled and Other Parties/Vote to appoint. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to appoint Election Officers for the Democrat, Republican, Unenrolled and Other Parties (United Independent, Mass. Independent, and American Independent) as listed in the agenda packet. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Melia and Nolan. **2) OPEB Committee: Adam D. Gaudette, Town Manager/Vote to appoint.** A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mrs. Cannon to appoint Town Manager Adam Gaudette to the OPEB Committee. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Melia and Nolan.

**APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager: Jason Schilinsky, Alternate Building Inspector.** Chairman Athanas stated that Mr. Schilinsky was unable to attend this meeting, but the Town Manager does suggest moving forward with the appointment. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Jason Schilinsky as the Alternate Building Inspector. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Melia and Nolan.

**Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and Northbridge Housing Authority (2 vacancies) (Both terms to expire May 19, 2020 - Annual Town Election) 1) Elaine Mahoney (4-yr.) . Ms. Maloney**

stated that she has history with housing as a part of her job and has also been a friend of Ms. Charbonneau and in discussion was interested on serving on the Housing Authority. **2) Kathleen Charbonneau, Tenant Member (2-yr.).** Ms. Charbonneau stated that she was previously on the Board but resigned due to illness and was clashing with the former Director. She stated that she is a resident and knows a majority of the other residents. Ms. Charbonneau stated that she enjoys the residents coming to her with their concerns. Chairman O'Brien stated that the Housing Authority voted at their meeting to appoint Elaine Mahoney and Kathleen Charbonneau to the Northbridge Housing Authority. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mrs. Cannon to appoint Elaine Mahoney to the 4-year term and Kathleen Charbonneau, [Tenant Member] to the 2-year term on the Northbridge Housing Authority. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Melia and Nolan.

#### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None**

**FY'19 End of Year Transfers / Vote to approve.** Julie Harris, Treasurer/Collector, who presented and explained the needed transfers: **1)** the first transfer is to move \$15,000 from the Department of Public Works Salary line item to a Department of Public Works Expense line item. She explained the reason for this transfer is to avoid any year-end deficit that may arise due to large fuel bills and other repairs that were not budgeted for. **2)** the second transfer is to transfer \$3,200 from Veteran's Benefits line item to the Historical Commission line item. Ms. Harris explained that the reason for the transfer was due to the creation of the Local Historic District that was created in 2017, and funds were set aside for that purpose at the 2017 Fall Annual Town meeting. However, when 2018 closed, the funding that was previously transferred to the Historical Commission accidentally closed out to free cash and as a result it left a shortfall in this year's budget. So this transfer will restore an action that had been previously done. **3)** the third transfer is to transfer \$20,000 from Veteran's Benefits line item to the Medicare line item for the town's portion of the 1.45% share. Ms. Harris explained that the rate is set in early spring for the following fiscal year based on number of employees and salary rates and those numbers change going forward. Mrs. Cannon asked about the \$15,000 coming from salaries and wages and how they are able to pull it off. Ms. Harris explained that she is not sure of the specifics, but she is guessing that the DPW has additional money that was budgeted in his salary line item that wasn't needed. Selectman Melia asked if the Finance Committee has approved these transfers. Ms. Harris replied that they voted unanimously to approve all the transfers. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the transfer of \$15,000 from the Department of Public Works Salary line item to a Department of Public Works Expense line item. Vote yes/Athanas, Nolan, Cannon and Melia. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mrs. Cannon to approve the transfer of \$3,200 from Veteran's Benefits line item to the Historical Commission line item. Vote yes/Athanas, Nolan, Cannon and Melia. A motion/Mr. Melia seconded/Mrs. Cannon to approve the transfer of \$20,000 from Veteran's Benefits line item to the Medicare line item for the town's portion of the 1.45% share. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Nolan and Melia.

**Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 22, 2019] – Vote to close the warrant on Friday, August 23, 2019 @ Noon.** A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mrs. Cannon to vote to close the October 22, 2019 Fall Annual Town Meeting warrant on Friday, August 23, 2019 at Noon. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Nolan and Melia.

**Oliver Ashton Post #343, Inc. / Vote to renew lease for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022.** Changes made to this agreement were from a one-year agreement to a three-year agreement. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to vote to renew the Oliver Ashton Post #343, Inc., lease for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Nolan and Melia.

**Rockdale Village Foundation / Vote to renew lease for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022.** Changes made to this agreement were from a one-year agreement to a three-year agreement. Harry Berkowitz, president of the Rockdale Foundation, stated that the Rockdale Foundation owns the area and sublease to the American Legion. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to vote to renew the Rockdale Village Foundation lease for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Nolan and Melia.

**Armenian Apostolic Church / 1) Application for a One-day Wines and Malts License for the Annual Picnic to be held Sunday, August 18, 2019, from 12 PM – 5 PM 2) Application for a One-day Outdoor Entertainment license for the Annual Picnic to be held Sunday, August 18, 2019, from 12 PM – 5 PM.**

A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mrs. Cannon to approve the application for a One-day Wine and Malt License for the Annual Picnic to be held Sunday, August 18, 2019, from 12 PM – 5 PM and the application for a One-day Outdoor Entertainment license for the Annual Picnic to be held Sunday, August 18, 2019, from 12 PM – 5 PM. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Nolan and Melia.

**Local Historic District Study Committee Update/Present: Harry Berkowitz, Chairman; Kenneth Warchol, Vice Chairman; and Christopher Noonan, Consultant, Preservation Services, Inc.** Mr. Berkowitz explained that they have a meeting coming up on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 6 PM to go over the draft bylaws and hope to approve it at that meeting to move forward at the Fall Annual Town Meeting on October 22, 2019. Selectman Melia asked if once the bylaw passes and the 12 properties are added to the Local Historic District, if there are more to be added after if it would have to go through the same process. Mr. Berkowitz stated that they would have to start from the beginning of the original process. Selectman Melia asked if a homeowner does not wish to be part of the local historic district would the District Study Committee move forward by adding it to the district. Mr. Berkowitz stated the Committee would look at the property, but it doesn't mean it would pass. Mr. Warchol further explained that if a property were to be removed from the Historic District, pending approval in the fall, it would go through the same process to town meeting with two thirds vote.

#### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None**

**SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS:** Selectman Melia attended the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization's meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup>, which was a result of vacant positions. He explained that he put his name in and was selected as an alternate member. He then read aloud the purpose of the committee in regard to the monies distributed to towns within the Commonwealth.

#### **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE/None**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION/None**

A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mrs. Cannon to adjourn the public meeting. Vote yes/Athanas, Nolan, Cannon, and Melia.

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:34 PM**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Daniel Nolan, Clerk**

/mjw

## **LIST OF DOCUMENTATION**

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

**July 15, 2019**

**Presentation: 1) Years of Service Award to Harold Gould, Town Moderator**

**2) Rep. David Muradian - Update**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A. 1) April 8, 2019**

-Copy of April 8, 2019 meeting minutes

**2) April 22, 2019**

-Copy of April 22, 2019 meeting minutes

**II. PUBLIC HEARING**

**III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: B. 1) Election Officers: Democrat, Republican and Unenrolled/Vote to appoint 2) OPEB Committee: Adam D. Gaudette, Town Manager/Vote to appoint**

Copy of Election Officials - Democrats

-Copy of Election Officials - Republicans

-Copy of Election Officials - Unenrolled

-Copy of Election Officials – Other Parties (United Independent, Mass. Independent, and American Independent)

**APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager: C. Jason Schilinsky, Alternate Building Inspector**

-Copy of Jason Schilinsky's resume

**D. Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and Northbridge Housing Authority (2 vacancies) (Both terms to expire May 19, 2020 - Annual Town Election)**

-Copy of letter from the Northbridge Housing Authority Boards vote to recommend Elaine Mahoney and Kathleen Charbonneau for the Appointments to the Northbridge Housing Authority

**1) Elaine Mahoney (4-yr.)**

-Copy of Talent Bank Form for Elaine Mahoney

-Copy of resume for Elaine Mahoney

**2) Kathleen Charbonneau, Tenant Member (2-yr.)**

-Copy of Talent Bank Form for Kathleen Charbonneau

**IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None**

**V. DECISIONS:**

**E. FY'19 End of Year Transfers / Vote to approve**

-Copy of transfers listing from the Town Accountant

**F. Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 22, 2019] – Vote to close the warrant on Friday, August 23, 2019 @ Noon/No Documentation**

**G. Oliver Ashton Post #343, Inc. / Vote to renew lease for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022**

-Copy of Oliver Ashton Post #343, Inc. lease

**H. Rockdale Village Foundation / Vote to renew lease for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022**

-Copy of Rockdale Village Foundation lease

**I. Armenian Apostolic Church / 1) Application for a One-day Wine and Malt License for the Annual Picnic to be held Sunday, August 18, 2019, from 12 PM – 5 PM**

-Copy of Application for a One-day Wine and Malt License application

-Copy of REAP form

-Copy of Hold Harmless Agreement

**2) Application for a One-day Outdoor Entertainment license for the Annual Picnic to be held Sunday, August 18, 2019, from 12 PM – 5 PM**

-Copy of Application for a One-day Entertainment License

-Copy of Workers' Compensation Affidavit

-Copy of REAP Form

-Copy of License Routing Slip

**VI. DISCUSSIONS:**

**J. Local Historic District Study Committee Update/Present: Harry Berkowitz, Chairman; Kenneth Warchol, Vice Chairman; and Christopher Noonan, Consultant, Preservation Services, Inc.**

-Copy of letter to the Board of Selectmen regarding the Local Historic District Study Committees Public Forum

-Copy of the Local Historic District Draft Bylaw

-Copy of Whitinsville Local Historic District Map

-Copy of Local Historic District application

-Copy of Local Historic District Public Forum Workshop notice

**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**