

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL  
7 MAIN STREET - WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588  
October 20, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**RECEIVED  
14 OCT 16 PM 4:43**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. 1) September 8, 2014                      2) September 22, 2014                      3) October 6, 2014 [Executive Session]

**NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK  
BOBEE A. DEFRONE**

**II. PUBLIC HEARING**

**III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:**

**IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**

**V. DECISIONS**

- B. Alex Rogozenski/1) Request permission to hold "1<sup>st</sup> Day 5k" Road Race on Linwood Avenue, Thursday, January 1, 2015 at 11AM 2) Request permission to hold a half marathon, Sunday, March 29, 2014 at 10AM and 3) Request permission to hold the "Race of Rams" [Duathlon, 5k run and kids event] on Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 8AM at Northbridge High School
- C. "Save Northbridge Wrestling" fundraiser [Gracia Casey]/Request permission to hold a boot drive at Memorial Square on Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 9AM-2PM
- D. Whitin Community Center Swim Team [Denise Foster]/Request permission to hold a boot drive at Memorial Square on Saturday, November 1, 2014 from 9AM to 12 Noon
- E. Jyoti Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Gary's Variety/Notification of Change of hours
- F. Mina's Foods, Inc. d/b/a Vera's Mini Mart/Notification of Change of hours
- G. New China Pacific Restaurant, 683 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville/Application for Keno License
- H. Firefighter's Contract/Vote to approve

**COPY**

**VI. DISCUSSIONS**

- I. Cable Changes/Present: Tom Cohan, Charter Communications and Harry Berkowitz, Cable Advisory Comm.
- J. Departmental Reports: Police Dept. [Walter Warchol, Chief], Fire Dept. [Gary Nestor, Chief], DPW [James Shuris, DPW Dir.], and Planning [Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner]
- K. Local Business initiative

**VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- L. 1. Ross Rajotte Bridge - rededication ceremony, Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00AM
2. REMINDER: State Election – Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 7AM to 8PM
3. Bridge Work/Update
4. State Dept. of Public Health – Ebola update
5. Central Mass. Metropolitan Planning Organization

**VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**

**IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**X. CORRESPONDENCE**

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A.1

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
September 8, 2014**

**The Executive Session originally scheduled for 6:30 PM was cancelled.**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

**Presentation:**

**1) Volunteer Service Awards: Kenneth Guertin, 35 years of service and Lucille Blair, 55 years of service [not present].** Chairman Ampagoomian presented a Volunteer Service Award to Kenneth Guertin for his 35 years of service to the Town. He also noted that a service award will be mailed to Lucille Blair for dedicating 55 years of service to the Town. **2) Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Award presented to Police Chief Walter Warchol. Present: Paul Zbikowski, of the Department of Defense Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.** Mr. Zbikowski explained that the mission is to help Armed Services members to have a good working relationship with their employers. Mr. Zbikowski added that Officer Carmen Borrelli, a Northbridge patrolman as well as a Captain in the Army National Guard, nominated Chief Warchol for the award in recognition of Chief Warchol's understanding and tremendous support toward Officer Borelli and his time taken to serve in the National Guard.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES. June 26, 2014.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the June 26, 2014 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **July 14, 2014.** Mr. Marzec requested that the July 14, 2014 minutes be amended as follows: Under the heading of Selectmen's Concerns', Mr. Marzec's third comment regarding condolences sent to the family of Robert Parker, he would like to add the following language after the words "a member of the community": Mr. Parker was also a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission among other roles. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the July 14, 2014 minutes as amended. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Nolan, Athanas and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Melia. Mr. Melia abstained from voting, having been absent from that meeting. **July 21, 2014.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the July 21, 2014 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **August 18, 2014.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the August 18, 2014 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Athanas, and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Nolan. Mr. Nolan abstained from voting, having been absent from that meeting. **August 18, 2014 [Executive Session]** – A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve but not release the August 18, 2014 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/ Messrs. Marzec, Melia, Athanas, and Ampagoomian. Abstain/Mr. Nolan. Mr. Nolan abstained from voting, having been absent from that meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS. 7:05PM National Grid [Present: Crystal Tognazzi]/Petition to remove 2 guys and anchors off customer's private property in parking lot of 117 Church Street and to install 2 sidewalk anchors to guy a spacer cable from Cross Street to Pole 14 Church Street [Plan #17183556, dated 8/21/2014].** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Crystal Tognazzi explained that Ken Couture, owner of 117 Church Street, brought to National Grid's attention that the pole in front of his property had guys positioned on his property that needed to be removed. She added that National Grid was proposing removing the guys and installing sidewalk guys which would be the only way that they could keep the pole from moving. Ms. Tognazzi

explained that the anchors are residing in the mulched area off the sidewalk. Guys are needed due to the existence of a spacer cable which creates tension on the pole. Mr. Marzec asked how long the guys had been there and if National Grid has the right to remove them. Ms. Tognazzi responded that typically National Grid has the right to move guys on private property but that it has to be legitimately completed on paper when there is an easement to avoid repercussions if the property is sold. Mr. Marzec asked if the guys in the sidewalk would hinder walking on the sidewalk. Ms. Tognazzi responded that sidewalk guys would impinge sidewalk plowing. She continued that there was no alternative to sidewalk guys and that Mr. Couture would not grant National Grid an easement. Mr. Marzec asked if Mr. Couture receives power off the guys to which Ms. Tognazzi responded that he does receive power which crosses over the roof and that it's an illegal service. Mr. Marzec recalled that Mr. Couture appeared before the Board of Selectmen complaining about sidewalk access in front of his buildings. Ms. Tognazzi added that when the National Grid engineer was at the location the engineer discussed with Mr. Couture that sidewalk guys would need to be installed. Ms. Tognazzi said drilling through the sidewalk would be required but that National Grid would have to bring back the sidewalk to its current location. Mr. Ampagoomian asked about pedestrian safety. Ms. Tognazzi responded that all of their guys have a big yellow guide on them so that you can see them and walk around them; therefore she doesn't believe that safety would be an issue. Mr. Melia asked what would happen if the Board of Selectmen voted not to allow sidewalk guys to be installed. Ms. Tognazzi responded that National Grid would have to convince the customer to give them an easement, which would be a battle. To Mr. Melia's question about compensation, she noted that customers are not typically compensated for easement guys. Mr. Melia noted his concern that the area is a heavily used intersection and he would like to have a picture of the guys to visualize how they might appear in the sidewalk. Mr. Melia suggested that the Board might be better off saying no and letting National Grid work out something with the property owner. Town Manager Theodore Kozak suggested that the Board get information from the DPW to find out how these issues would affect DPW operations as well as pedestrians. Mr. Melia suggested that the Board continue the hearing until the next Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Tognazzi was receptive to that idea adding that the Board of Selectmen, DPW, National Grid, and the customer could meet at the site and come to an agreement. Mr. Athanas asked if it is the property owner's responsibility to shovel the sidewalk to which the answer was no. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to continue the public hearing until the next Selectmen's meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:05 PM and ask (through the Town Manager) the DPW Director and maybe the Building Inspector to inspect the area and take photographs to be sent to the Board ahead of the meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**National Grid [Present: Crystal Tognazzi] and Verizon New England/Petition for a joint pole relocation on Douglas Road to relocate Pole #26 twenty feet east to clear new driveway for large trucks @ Tom Berkowitz Trucking, Inc. [Plan #17397772, dated 7/29/14]** Ms. Tognazzi explained that the pole resides at the corner of the driveway [public property] in front of Tom Berkowitz Trucking and the larger vehicles going in and out are having difficulty without coming very close to the facilities. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the above joint pole relocation. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT. Opiate Usage/Present: Stephen Abraham, Register of Probate Court.** Mr. Abraham explained that Probate and Family Court for Worcester County covers 60 cities and towns. He discussed the opioid epidemic adding that his colleague in Greenfield started a task force, which has evolved into a collaboration including Congressman Jim McGovern, District Attorney Joe Early and Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. They are proposing to extend the task force to Worcester County, particularly Southern Worcester County, beginning October 10, 2014. Mr. Abraham cited that the timing was right particularly since the Legislature has earmarked funds for a person to run the task force. On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the task force is planning to educate the public on the issue, which affects all segments of society and entire families. Mr. Abraham brought the issue to the Board to promote discussion, involvement and support. He added that he would provide information to Chairman Apagoomian and that

he could be reached at his office if Board members had questions. Mr. Apagoomian asked how the task force coordinates with the Blackstone Valley Drug Task Force that has been so successful. Mr. Abraham responded that his task force is going to support and work in collaboration with all of the agencies, task forces, and police departments in Worcester County so that their joint efforts would be successful. Mr. Melia thanked Mr. Abraham, acknowledging the wide-ranging extent of the opioid epidemic, commenting that this is exactly what the Worcester County towns are looking for, and hoping that the Board would be supportive of this endeavor. To Town Manager Kozak's question about getting the word out within the school system, Mr. Abraham responded that the issue has no boundaries and the most important time to address the issue would be during school.

**APPOINTMENTS/Joint Appointment By the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board: Pamela Ferrara/Planning Board. Present: George Murray, Chairman of the Planning Board and Brian Massey, Planning Board member.** Mr. Murray expressed the long-standing need for an additional Planning Board member and that the Planning Board received one application for the open position. He noted that in the past, Ms. Ferrara did a very good job as Secretary to the Building, Planning, and Construction Committee, was a quick learner and he believed that she would be an asset to the Planning Board. Ms. Ferrara reviewed her qualifications including 8 years of municipal experience and expressed her desire to help the Town by being a Planning Board member. Mr. Nolan stated that Ms. Ferrara is diligent and qualified. He added that he has known her as a good neighbor for 10 years and that he wholeheartedly supports her appointment. Mr. Melia also voiced his support for Ms. Ferrara. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to appoint Pamela Ferrara to the Planning Board. Vote yes/Unanimous. Planning Board Chairman Murray and Planning Board member Brian Massey extended their votes to approve appointment of Pamela Ferrara to the Planning Board.

**John Brown, Conservation Commission [Removal per Section 8-6 of the Town Charter]/Present: Chairman Justin Arbuckle.** Mr. Arbuckle reviewed that in February 2014, the Conservation Commission lost contact with Mr. Brown. He added that Barbara Kinney, Conservation Secretary, had tried to reach out to Mr. Brown and that they heard he had some health issues and had possibly moved away. Mr. Arbuckle noted that Mr. Brown had been a valuable member of the Conservation Commission but that it had been very difficult for the Commission to conduct meetings in his absence, causing the Commission to go past the 28-day limit on several projects and not having a quorum for voting. Mr. Arbuckle stated that Mr. Brown had not responded to a registered letter that had been sent to and received by him. Mr. Melia noted that he had read all the documentation and thought the Commission had done all it could possibly do including encouragement to Mr. Brown if he wished to return to the Commission. Mr. Melia added that the Commission had too much work and could not function effectively without full membership. He advocated removing Mr. Brown and moving on with another appointment. Mr. Athanas noted that the Town Manager's Office had also sent Mr. Brown a letter, inviting him to the Selectmen's meeting, with no response. A motion/Mr. Athanas, seconded/Mr. Marzec to remove John Brown from the Conservation Commission per Section 8-6 of the Town Charter. Vote yes/Unanimous. Preparations will begin to appoint a replacement member.

**Pine Grove Cemetery Agreement.** Per Mr. Ampagoomian, this has been tabled to the next meeting because Town Counsel has been talking to Pine Grove's Counsel about some issues, which need to be resolved. Town Manager Kozak said he had recently spoken with Town Counsel who felt that the matter would be ready for discussion by the next Selectmen's meeting.

**Proposed Industrial Park on Providence Road.** Town Manager Kozak said that Mr. Melia had asked about utilization of the Town-owned site of about 25 acres of land across from the sewer beds on Route 122. He added that the new Highway Superintendent had been discussing with some individuals about lumber and other opportunities for the site. Town Manager Kozak noted that there would be some costs to remove lumber but also some opportunity to profit from it because the lumber is so valuable. Mr.

Kozak noted that he recently visited the site with the Highway Superintendent to get a better idea of what the Town might do with this area. There was discussion about development of a new road alongside Route 122, which might bring in some fill. Mr. Kozak added that the Highway Superintendent would be in touch with the State to determine State-owned boundaries near the site. Town Manager Kozak stated that there are 2 culverts on the site, one of which is closer to the area of interest and might interfere with wetlands or require fill due to a possible drainage issue. Town Manager Kozak concluded that the Selectmen might want to do more investigation in conjunction with the Highway Department, concerning ledge, culverts, or industrial and commercial development, putting together a plan as to how they would want to proceed. It might take some survey work or wetland mapping, the cost of which could be covered by the lumber sale. Also useful might be discussion with neighboring property owners to see what interest they might have in development of this site. Mr. Marzec recalled that a couple of years ago this issue came up, particularly re-locating some of the Town buildings that are in dire need, going off the top of the hill toward Providence Road. Town Manager Kozak responded that those ideas are possible; he again stressed the importance of putting together a plan. Mr. Marzec asked if there was any access by Linwood Avenue other than the Cemetery. Mr. Kozak responded that he didn't think Linwood Avenue would provide access but a plan involving nearby property owners in conjunction with Cemetery access could be developed. Mr. Melia expressed his support of this initiative and asked how it would be spearheaded, suggesting that neighbors might be invited to a discussion/meeting on this issue. He advised putting together a plan, probably to be presented at Town Meeting, and procuring funding to start the initiative. Mr. Marzec noted that something should be done with the property, which is in a prime location and should be used. Mr. Athanas asked if a survey had ever been done on the property to which Town Manager did not know and that it would have to be researched. Mr. Marzec recalled that the site had been discussed previously regarding the DPW, among the issues being the fill and ledge. Town Manager Kozak suggested getting the Planning Board involved to determine potential usage. He agreed to contact the Planning Board and invite Town Planner Gary Bechtoldt to a Selectmen's meeting for discussion. Also suggested was involving Town Counsel. Mr. Kozak recommended starting with wetlands mapping due to possible drainage issues. Mr. Ampagoomian requested that the Town Manager provide follow-up by getting the Town Planner on board as well as getting guidelines from the DPW. Mr. Kozak cautioned that the process could be lengthy but thought it was worth researching. Mr. Marzec emphasized that funding would have to be secured to determine viability from the perspective of the Town.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT. 1) U.S. House Bill HB 1840** – The Town Manager advised the Board that the Town of Mendon is requesting our support for a proposed law to waive federal income taxes for participants of the Senior Tax Work-Off Program. Town Manager Kozak explained the Senior Tax Work-Off program allows seniors to provide service in a volunteer manner to get a credit on their real estate taxes. He believes that seniors should not be taxed on this and supports the bill. He will put together a letter of support for the law. **2) Road & Bridge/Updates** – The Town Manager provided an update on the progress of the Hill Street and Douglas Road paving projects, along with the Ross Rajotte & Douglas Road bridge project updates. **Roads:** Town Manager Kozak explained that most of the Hill Street work has been done and that there will be some other work to be completed near the driveways when work on the other roads is completed. Bad areas on Douglas Road have been re-milled and resurfacing should be completed within a week. Additional work near driveways and other work such as signage will be done after work on other roads is completed. The Town Manager noted that Sprague Street would be the next street to be worked on. If there are enough funds left, work would then begin on Old Quaker Street. **Bridges:** With respect to the Ross Rajotte Bridge, the DPW Director has talked to the State, which is working with the Contractor on the crack--not a structural concern but it should not have happened. He reported that the Douglas Road Bridge is well under way and the project should be completed this fall. Work is to be started on the temporary bridge. Town Manager Kozak stated he was pleased with the roads and bridges progress. **3) MassWorks Grant Application** –The Town Manager noted that the application has been submitted to the state in the amount of \$1,720,000.00 dollars for the

reconstruction of Church Street Extension, between Route 122 and Quaker Street. The Town Manager expressed his gratitude for Town Planner Bechtholdt's hard work, to DPW Director Shuris and his consultants for putting together cost information, and to Mr. Osterman who owns the Industrial Park. Mr. Kozak is hopeful that the grant will be approved, which the Town should hear about sometime after January 1, 2015. He added that his office had been encouraged by support from legislative offices as well as the Chamber of Commerce. The Town Manager also noted that his office had sent letters to neighboring communities requesting support. **4) Proposed Regulation on Tobacco Use - Board of Health Meeting on 9/16/14 @ 7:00 P.M.** – Mr. Kozak advised there will be a meeting to discuss the issue of having an ordinance to raise the age limit to 21 for purchasing tobacco products. Questions should be directed to the Board of Health. **5) Proposed 10% Reduction of Town Department Budgets** – Town Manager Kozak provided an overview of the budget items to be reduced if a 10% cut was required. He explained that the budget review is routinely done a couple of times a year to inform the public of what might occur if the budget were reduced. He cautioned that this was strictly informational and the 10% cut details did not indicate that a budget reduction was imminent. He also characterized the potential impact of such a reduction as severe. Accordingly, Mr. Kozak met with Town Departments to determine what a 10% budget reduction would mean: Police Department - \$245,000, which could mean 3 full time police officers (including a school resource officer utilized for drug education) and 2 part-time auxiliary officers or 2 full-time police officers and 3 part-time dispatchers (which could be switched to the police department), 2 part-time reserve officers, one cruiser and software upgrades. Fire Department - \$128,000, which could mean 2 firefighter/paramedic positions with benefits, reduction in call firefighter hours, training, and stipends. DPW - \$100,000, which would mean reduction of 1 or 2 employees, combination of custodial services, road maintenance funds, and street light reductions. Library - \$16,000, which would reduce the hours of operation by 5 hours per week along with personnel, which could lead to issues with certification, which was a concern in the past. Council on Aging - \$16,000 with reduction of hours, personnel, and various expenses. Town Hall - \$160,000, which would mean a reduction of personnel and hours of operation along with availability to the public, outside consultant training programs, and a hold on equipment purchase to upgrade the departments. The Town Manager said any questions may be directed to the Town Manager's Office.

At the request of the Town Clerk, Town Manager Kozak reminded everyone that the State Primary election is tomorrow from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, so try to get out and vote! Finally, he reminded everyone that this week is the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9-11 and to the Town Manager's knowledge, no town activities have been planned.

**SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Athanas** – 1) Recalled that a few months ago he had inquired about the building maintenance update noting that the railing [adjacent to the Town Hall parking lot] is falling down. Mr. Kozak responded that the schedule was being worked on and that it was pretty much done. He then advised that the railings don't belong to the Town; they are on private property. Mr. Kozak noted that the Town maintains the railing that is close to the building driveway. 2) Mr. Athanas also asked if there was any road money left in the 5-year plan that the Selectmen had accelerated. Mr. Kozak said that there were funds left and he would check with DPW Director Shuris as to the amount. **Selectman Marzec** -1) Commented that he was grateful to see the progress made with the Hill Street paving repairs. However, he noted that Sutton Street, a prime East/West connector going through the Town, remains a concern. He added that there are several detour signs in the area and that the street was being patched. He cautioned that as the winter approaches, the Selectmen have to hold the Contractor accountable because if repair work isn't completed, with the current "washboard" conditions the street will be virtually impassable and it could lead to accidents and other problems. 2) Asked if there had been discussion as to when the fence that came down at the Linwood Avenue Bridge [across from the Mill] was going to be repaired. He added that Mass DOT had given the Selectmen a concerning report that the Town has a bridge headed toward serious disrepair. Mr. Marzec advised that the Selectmen need to be proactive and see about securing some funds to repair the bridge; it is a major thoroughfare leading to the

schools. Noting that he was at the site at the time of the accident, Mr. Melia added his concern that it was taking a long time for the repairs, going on about 2 months. Town Manager Kozak said that he had received a complaint from a citizen last week and asked the DPW Director to check into the situation. **Selectman Melia** - Stated that he had received a complaint regarding the Salvation Army location in Linwood that within approximately the last month there appeared to be a lot of trash dumped at the property. He added that if you drive by on weekends the trash stretches over 50 yards. He noted that a letter from the owner of the property to the abutters expressed the desire to expand to the south side of the building while everything that is being stored up is to the north side of it. Mr. Melia expressed concern also that to drivers in the area it appears to be a dump. He suggested the Town Manager have the Board of Health or Building Inspector check on the situation and to provide a report. **Selectman Athanas** - Asked about the status of the China Pacific. Town Manager Kozak responded that the Board of Health is waiting for the developer to finish the work. **Chairman Ampagoomian** - Noted that the Plummer's Park fence appears to have been deliberately taken down low enough so that people could skate board on the area. He requested that DPW check it and have the police get involved.

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

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:09 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**James Athanas, Clerk**

**/pf**

## LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

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

September 8, 2014

- A. Presentation: 1) Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Award presented to Police Chief Walter Warchol: – Copy of information regarding Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve awards.  
2) Volunteer Service Awards: Kenneth Guertin, 35 years of service and Lucille Blair, 55 years of service [not present]—Copies of certificates

#### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- B. 1) Copy of June 26, 2014 minutes  
2) Copy of July 14, 2014 minutes  
3) Copy of July 21, 2014 minutes  
4) Copy of August 18, 2014 minutes  
5) Copy of August 18, 2014 [Executive Session] minutes

#### II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- C. Copy of National Grid's request for a pole location: cover letter, petition, order, and map; copy of abutters notice; copy of memo requesting an abutters list; copy of abutters list

#### III. APPOINTMENTS:

- D. 1) Copy of Pamela Ferrara's talent bank form  
2) Copy of letter to John Brown dated 9/3/14 [by Town Manager] regarding his removal from the Conservation Commission; copy of letter to John Brown dated 7/30/14 [by Conservation Commission]; copy of email from Barbara Kinney to John Brown dated 7/24/14 asking if he is willing to resign his position; copy of email from Barbara Kinney to John Brown dated 6/16/14 notifying him that the Conservation Commission has been having difficulty doing business due to his absence, etc.

#### IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

- E. Opiate Usage/Present: Stephen Abraham, Register of Probate Court – **No documentation**

#### V. DECISIONS

- F. Copy of National Grid's / Verizon's request for a joint pole re-location: cover letter, petition, order, and map  
G. Pine Grove Cemetery Agreement - **No documentation**

#### VI. DISCUSSIONS

- H. Proposed Industrial Park on Providence Road – **No documentation**

#### VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- I. 1) U.S. House Bill HB 1840 – **No documentation**  
2) Road & Bridge/Updates – **No documentation**  
3) MassWorks Grant Application – **No documentation**  
4) Proposed Regulation on Tobacco Use -Board of Health Meeting on 9/16/14 @ 7:00 PM - **No documentation**  
5) Proposed 10% Reduction of Town Department Budgets - **No documentation**



**VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**

**IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**X. CORRESPONDENCE**

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - CANCELLED**

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

A.2.

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
September 22, 2014**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES/NONE.**

**PUBLIC HEARING [Continued from 9/8/14]: 7:05PM - National Grid [Present: Crystal Tognazzi]/Petition to remove 2 guys and anchors off customer's private property in parking lot of 117 Church Street and to install 2 sidewalk anchors to guy the spacer cable from Cross Street to Pole 14 Church Street [Plan #17183556, dated 8/21/2014].** Ms. Tognazzi began and distributed a couple of emails from Bob Russell, National Grid's Municipal Representative for Northbridge, to the Selectmen. Ms. Tognazzi summarized the email contents as follows: Mr. Russell met with DPW Director James Shuris and the customer on Wednesday morning and they determined that the Town property line is exactly at the edge of sidewalk concrete. The customer has a berm with mulch inside so right where the sidewalk ends is where his property begins. Mr. Shuris and Mr. Russell determined that National Grid must enter at the edge of the concrete in order to stay within the public way. The drill bit is 6 inches wide and therefore they must enter a section of the concrete. The DPW Director wanted National Grid to know that it was a very congested area, 90% of which requires hand shoveling. He is aware that there could be a problem with sidewalk plowing and therefore requested to be present while National Grid drills. The final location of the guy anchors would be dependent on the drilling process and what they encounter underground. National Grid would do their best to stay as close as possible to the edge of concrete and would make the repairs accordingly. Ms. Tognazzi brought pictures to indicate what a sidewalk guy looks like. She explained that minimum clearance is 6 feet and maximum clearance is 10 feet between the pole and the end of the guy. From the sidewalk to the bar that goes across holding it open is a minimum of 10 feet for pedestrian crossing indicating that it would be safe for pedestrians crossing under the guy. National Grid's minimum requirement for vehicles or anything else crossing under it would be 16 feet, which Ms. Tognazzi noted on the diagram she provided. She then explained that National Grid currently has a down guy and anchor behind Pole 14 that is in the property at 117 Church Street. National Grid is proposing 2 sidewalk guys to be struck in a "V" off Pole 14. It's an intermediate pole which means it has single phase primary and then a 3-phase system going down Church Street. The only way they can counter the pull on the pole is to place 2 sidewalk guys instead of having those guys on private property. Mr. Melia asked if National Grid uses that option on other properties to which Ms. Tognazzi responded that they do that when an easement is not an option and they can't place the guys on private property. She noted that if the Town allows National Grid to have a down guy on public property they would prefer to do that but in this case that wasn't an option. Mr. Melia expressed concern for someone hitting the guy wire and difficulty with a plastic barricade. He then asked Ms. Tognazzi what happens if the Selectmen don't allow it. She responded that National Grid had proposed the replacement of the pole but the overhead supervisor had looked at it and based on the age and condition did not think that was cost effective. She advised that using a larger pole with National Grid covering the cost is an option. She added that National Grid has limited authority. Mr. Melia stated that he has an issue with the proposed sidewalk guys. He noted that he doesn't like the design and he felt it wasn't in the best interest of the Town to proceed with it due to the thick residential area with children and bicycles, along with the possibility of vandalism, which he thought would be unhampered by the flimsy barricade. He did not think the Selectmen should approve National Grid's proposal and added that he thought National Grid should provide another option or replace the pole. Mr. Marzec concurred with

Mr. Melia's statements and voiced concerns about public safety at the site. He questioned that if the pole is bad this would be a temporary fix, in which case why not replace the pole now? Ms. Tognazzi cautioned that the spacer cable is extremely heavy and there is constant tension on the pole. She agreed with the Selectmen's concerns but stated that if guys are not added the damage could be far worse. She noted that the only alternative would be to add a sub-pole to counteract the tension on the existing pole. Mr. Athanas asked if pole replacement would force the property owner to obtain conforming service. Ms. Tognazzi responded that National Grid could not force the customer to make such changes. Mr. Melia insisted that he would like to see another option. Ms. Tognazzi responded that she would have to get her supervisor involved. There being no further discussion, a Motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Ampagoomian asked if there was anyone present who wished to comment on the issue and no one responded. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas not to allow the petition to remove the 2 guys and anchors off a customer's private property in the parking lot of 117 Church Street and to install 2 sidewalk anchors to guy and spacer cable from Cross Street to Pole 14 Church Street as illustrated on Plan Number 17183556, dated 8/21/2014. Vote yes/Unanimous. Mr. Ampagoomian clarified to Ms. Tognazzi that the Selectmen would wait to hear from National Grid about a new proposal/design that would be more public safety oriented.

**APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: Michelle L. Methé, Council on Aging. Present: Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director and Michelle L. Methé.** Ms. Methé, a resident of Northbridge, introduced herself noting her desire to be on the Council on Aging. Ms. Bol conveyed that she is very excited that Ms. Methé has expressed an interest in the Council on Aging. Ms. Bol noted that she is most impressed with Ms. Methé's extensive background working personally and professionally with seniors. She added that she favored having Ms. Methé approved for the appointment and it would fill the very last seat on the Council on Aging. Mr. Marzec thanked Ms. Methé for coming forward to apply for the position, stating that he had known Ms. Methé for many years and gave her his wholehearted support. Ms. Methé explained that she has been employed for 6 years as an occupational therapist for Overlook, an entity of Masonic Home, working with the senior population in their homes. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Marzec to appoint Ms. Methé to the Council on Aging. Vote yes/Unanimous.

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

**Fall Annual Town Meeting [October 28, 2014]/Vote to sign the warrant.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to sign the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**Safety Committee Minutes [August 20, 2014] / Vote to accept recommendations.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan, to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of August 20, 2014. Vote yes/Unanimous. There were no concerns voiced. Mr. Ampagoomian noted that the Safety Committee questioned the Selectmen's street light policy. Town Manager Kozak said he thought that the Committee questioned whether the street light policy was ever voted. Mr. Melia who had been Chairman of the Safety Committee said he thought it was voted. Mr. Kozak agreed to research it.

**Northbridge Youth Softball Association/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from November 30, 2014 to December 28, 2014 to advertise registration dates for the spring season.** Present: Chris Mathis, representative with the Northbridge Youth Softball Association. Mr. Mathis noted that Sharon Susienka of the Town Manager's office informed him that there were 2 week increments with no conflicts, and he was hoping to have a 3<sup>rd</sup> week. He noted that 2 weeks would be December 28<sup>th</sup> to January 11<sup>th</sup> but that he'd like to have December 21<sup>st</sup> to January 11<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Ampagoomian noted that the dates appearing on the agenda were different from those given by Mr. Mathis. Mr. Mathis responded

that he thought the agenda dates were a misprint. He added that registration would be January 7<sup>th</sup> and January 10<sup>th</sup>. Town Manager Kozak recommended that approval of the banner dates of December 21<sup>st</sup> to January 11<sup>th</sup> be contingent upon no one else requesting the week of December 21<sup>st</sup>. If someone comes forward to request the week of December 21<sup>st</sup> the dates of the Youth Softball banner will revert to the originally requested December 28<sup>th</sup> to January 11<sup>th</sup>. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the Youth Softball banner dates of December 21, 2014 to January 11, 2015 to be contingent upon no one else requesting the week of December 21<sup>st</sup>. If someone comes forward to request the week of December 21<sup>st</sup> the dates of the Youth Softball banner will revert to the originally requested December 28, 2014 to January 11, 2015. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**Blackstone Valley Gardeners [Cynthia Kosciak]/Requests permission to use Memorial Park on Saturday, May 30, 2015, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. for a plant sale.** Mr. Melia noted that this is a yearly request. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant permission to Blackstone Valley Gardeners to use Memorial Park on Saturday, May 30, 2015, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. for a plant sale. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**Village Congregational Church [Robert G. Sherwood, Pastor]/Request permission to use Memorial Park on Sunday, October 5, 2014, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for a worship service.** A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Athanas to grant permission for Village Congregational Church to use Memorial Park on Sunday, October 5, 2014, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for a worship service. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce [Leslie Ruchala]/Requests a one-day Wines & Malt License for an "After Hours Event" at the New Milford Regional Medical Center located at Osterman Commerce Park, 100 Commerce Drive, Northbridge, on Thursday, October 2, 2014 from 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.** Ms. Ruchala explained that the event would commemorate the opening of the New Family and Occupational Medicine Center at Osterman Commerce Park. A motion/Mr. Marzec, seconded/Mr. Melia to grant Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce [Leslie Ruchala] a one-day Wines & Malt License for an "After Hours Event" at the New Milford Regional Medical Center located at Osterman Commerce Park, 100 Commerce Drive, Northbridge, on Thursday, October 2, 2014 from 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**Alternatives Unlimited, Inc. [Karen Goldenberg]/Request for a one-day Wines & Malt License for a "Bag Toss Competition" fundraising event to be held at the Alternatives' Whittin Mill Community Plaza (weather permitting) or the Singh Performance Center [back up location] on October 11, 2014 from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.** Present: Molly Hollibaugh from the Board of Directors at Alternatives and Michael Seibold, Director of Community Services at Alternatives. Ms. Hollibaugh distributed information to the Selectmen, explaining that the goal was to bring a new event and new faces to the Alternatives Plaza. The main purpose of the event is to increase awareness of the services that Alternatives provides and to raise needed funds. They are trying to get community members to visit and learn about Alternatives. Noting that Bag Toss has become a very popular game, Ms. Hollibaugh commented that it can be played by people of all ages and abilities. She stated that there will be friendly competition with hopefully between 80 and 100 participants, a guitar player and refreshments. She also advised that they won't be serving liquor until 1:00 P.M. She added that they have several companies sponsoring the event including Koopman Lumber, Foxy Travel, Gaudette Insurance, and Zentangle Ink. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to grant Alternatives Unlimited, Inc. a one-day Wines & Malt License for a "Bag Toss Competition" fundraising event to be held at the Alternatives' Whittin Mill Community Plaza (weather permitting) or the Singh Performance Center [back up location] on October 11, 2014 from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Vote yes/Unanimous. Ms. Hollibaugh noted that more information and registration for the event is available on the Alternatives' website.

**Determination and Consent Pursuant to Massachusetts Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1.7 – Representation of the Towns of Northbridge and Sutton for Sewer Connection/Intermunicipal Agreement.** Town Manager Kozak reviewed that there was an article on the warrant for the Northbridge Town Meeting to approve an Intermunicipal Agreement between the Towns of Sutton and Northbridge to extend a sewer line from Sutton into Northbridge that would go up to the Walmart facility. Mr. Kozak noted that both Northbridge and Sutton use the same law office, Kopelman & Paige, for legal representation the agreement would allow both towns to use one attorney. Since both towns consider this to be a worthwhile project, he recommends that Northbridge along with Sutton use the same attorney. A motion/Mr. Nolan, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement for Representation of the Towns of Northbridge and Sutton for Sewer Connection as required by the Massachusetts Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1.7. Vote yes/Unanimous.

**Pine Grove Cemetery Agreement.** Town Manager Kozak provided an overview stating that at last year's Town Meeting there was an approval to allow an agreement between the Town and the Pine Grove Trustees to be voted by the Selectmen. He noted that there were issues that had to be negotiated between Town Counsel and the attorney for the Trustees of Pine Grove Cemetery. These issues had been resolved and the Agreement was ready to enable the Selectmen to make a decision to allow the Town to take control of the Pine Grove Cemetery and all its assets from the Trustees. Town Counsel and Mr. Kozak recommended going forward with the Agreement, which is expected to be scheduled for the beginning of October this year. Mr. Melia inquired when the Agreement becomes public to which Mr. Kozak responded that once the Agreement is signed it becomes a public document. Mr. Marzec noted that he was and still is opposed to the issue, strictly on financial grounds. He added that with the budgetary issues the Town is facing now and in the foreseeable future he doesn't think it's appropriate to take over the cemetery. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Nolan to approve the signing of the Agreements for the donation of the Pine Grove Cemetery property to the Town of Northbridge consisting of an asset donation agreement, a real estate donation agreement, a transfer assignment and assumption agreement and a memorandum of agreement concerning expenditure of funds by Pine Grove Cemetery Association prior to final transfer to the Town, all subject to final approval of form by Town Counsel and to authorize the Chairman to execute such documents on behalf of the Board. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Athanas/Yes, Selectman Marzec/No, Selectman Melia/Yes, Selectman Nolan/Yes, and Chairman Ampagoomian /Yes. Vote was 4-1 in favor.

**Foodmart Convenience Store / Application for KENO To Go License.** Chairman Ampagoomian noted that his understanding was basically that the Selectmen do not have to take any action if they have no objections to the application. He explained that KENO to Go is a new game that Treasurer Grossman has introduced. He summarized from the Treasurer's wording that the Massachusetts Lottery is offering existing non-pouring agents their KENO To Go game, identical with existing online games such as Megabucks and Mass Cash. It is not providing agents with a KENO monitor as part of this program at this time. A member of the audience, Harry Berkowitz, explained from his experience that you go online to buy the ticket and cash the ticket later. No objections were made by the Selectmen.

**Central Mass Metropolitan Planning Organization / Vote to appoint Selectmen's delegate.** Town Manager Kozak explained that this is for transportation projects and every 3 years there is a new vote for membership for this Committee. Mr. Melia volunteered to be the Delegate, stating that he was the representative 3 years ago and Mr. Hebert of the Organization was helpful in assisting the Selectmen to obtain funds for repair of Sutton Street. Mr. Melia added that Thursday evening there is a meeting at the Uxbridge Town Hall with representatives of other Boards of Selectmen in the Valley to vote for a new representative and he would gladly volunteer. A Motion/Mr. Marzec, Seconded/Mr. Nolan to make Mr. Melia the Central Mass Metropolitan Planning Organization delegate. Vote Yes/Messrs. Marzec, Athanas, Nolan, Melia, and Ampagoomian.

## DISCUSSIONS

**Sewer Abatement Appeal [Michael & Paula Minichiello]** Chairman Ampagoomian stated that this has been resolved to the satisfaction of the residents who applied for this and therefore would not be addressed.

**WGM Fabricators, Inc. / Request for the Selectmen to adopt a resolution.** Present: James Sheehan, Building Inspector. Mr. Ampagoomian explained that Mr. Sheehan attended a meeting about WGM Fabricators, Inc., a new corporation. Town Manager Kozak noted that WGM Fabricators, Inc. had approached the State to seek funding through bonds which is allowed. He added that the company wishes to relocate to Northbridge and enhance a piece of property on Douglas Road. The Town does not currently have an active industrial development finance authority and the State is asking to relinquish that ability through the Board of Selectmen so the agency that awards economic authority to the Towns can go forward with the granting of the bonds for the project. Mr. Sheehan stated that he met with the owner of Woonsocket Glass and representatives last week regarding the property at 369 Douglas Road. He noted that the property is zoned Industrial conforming to zoning and meets the required setbacks, frontage area and use, currently light manufacturing/industrial. Mr. Sheehan stated that the lot contains approximately 3 acres and about 300 feet of frontage. He noted that the owner of Woonsocket Glass is interested in developing the property and spoke with Mr. Sheehan about new curb cuts, new driveway, parking requirements, proposal for a 9,000 square foot addition to the building and the approval process to site plan and conservation. Mr. Sheehan added that Woonsocket Glass is a wholesale end distributor and fabricator of glass and mirror products to service commercial and manufacturing for the glass industry throughout New England. He noted that the Company was talking about the possibility of 2 shifts, approximately 30 – 35 employees maximum per shift. At this point Mr. Sheehan thinks the Company has started the approval process for site plan and conservation. Mr. Kozak explained that the purpose of tonight's discussion was to ask the Selectmen to relinquish that ability to the Massachusetts Development to issue the bonds. Mr. Kozak clarified that Selectmen ability would be relinquished just for this individual project. Mr. Melia voiced that he saw no reason to be against the resolution. He added that he thought it would be beneficial to the Town to encourage the new company coming from another state, bringing business into the Town and moving into a vacant building. Mr. Kozak noted that the Company may also appear before the Board for a "T.I.F." (Tax Increment Financing Plan). A Motion Mr. Melia, Seconded/Mr. Marzec WGM Fabricators, Inc. / to move a Request for the Selectmen to adopt a resolution from Discussions to Decisions. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Melia/Yes, Selectman Nolan/Yes, Selectman Athanas/Yes, Selectman Marzec/Yes, and Chairman Ampagoomian/Yes.

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**Charter Communications –Change to digital broadcasting/Present: Harry Berkowitz, Chairman of the Legal Advisory.** Mr. Berkowitz stressed the importance to the public of getting a digital cable box by October 14<sup>th</sup>. He clarified that if you already have a box you're ok, but if you have the cable hooked directly using a cable ready television you will no longer get a signal on October 14<sup>th</sup>. He added that this will happen throughout the whole system; they're going 100% digital which will increase the number of channels that would be available. Mr. Berkowitz was referring to a letter that Charter had sent to their customers with the October 14<sup>th</sup> deadline and a lengthy list of the channels that will appear. He added that you can call an 800 number and they would ship the box to your house or you can pick one up at one of Charter Communication's stores, at no charge for either of those options. Mr. Berkowitz said that he didn't know if the Charter Grafton location would have the boxes. He thought the easiest way to obtain the box would be to call the 800 number. He added that the box is supposed to come with a diagram but it shouldn't be that difficult to hook it up. He noted that he did address with Tom Cohen how it would be handled if anyone has a problem hooking up the box. Mr. Cohen communicated by email that the customer can request a technician to come to the home to install the box for which there would be a charge. Mr. Cohen stated that on a case by case basis they would waive the installation fee if the customer has difficulty installing the box, such as instances involving a senior citizen or a handicapped

individual. Mr. Berkowitz emphasized the importance of getting the cable box as soon as possible due to the October 14<sup>th</sup> deadline fast approaching. Additionally, Mr. Berkowitz stated that from the standpoint of NCTV there has been a problem with Charter. He noted that he thinks Charter has gone partially digital with the audio resulting in NCTV no longer getting its full audio signal sent out on Local Access. Mr. Berkowitz clarified that NCTV sends out a stereo signal and Charter does not accept it; they only accept one channel. So if you have a program for music broadcast in stereo you might get the music but not the lyrics or only a part of the music. Mr. Berkowitz stated that NCTV has addressed this repeatedly with Charter. He noted that it's a problem if you play music on Bulletin Board. Furthermore, he explained if there is a church service they might record on the right channel only; and because Charter is only accepting on the left channel you don't hear anything. Mr. Berkowitz added that Charter did send out a person who worked for Local Access, informing NCTV that they could only access the left channel setting. Mr. Berkowitz noted that NCTV actually purchased stereo equipment some time ago to send to the head end (where its signal is sent and distributed); he doesn't know why Charter isn't using it. Mr. Berkowitz stated that the last thing NCTV was told was that Phil Adrian who also works in Local Access was supposed to be working on this issue. Mr. Berkowitz emphasized that this is not the fault of NCTV which had spent a lot of money and provided updates to improve service to customers. He added that this included using NCTV's own equipment to fix the sound for the Selectmen's meeting broadcast. He further noted that the contract with Charter, signed by the Selectmen, specifies that if you give Charter in stereo signal they will transmit in stereo signal. Mr. Berkowitz stated that he addressed this with Tom Cohen of Charter who responded that this wording didn't apply to Local Access. Mr. Berkowitz added that NCTV hoped to get the problem straightened out prior to Comcast takeover, projected for January. Mr. Athanas asked what Charter would charge for each box. Mr. Berkowitz responded that the first year the box is free (only one box is provided by Charter). After that it's \$6.99 per month for each box. He noted that the digital boxes at the Town Hall will be free. Mr. Kozak added that he lives in a different community covered by Comcast which charges for the digital boxes. He commented that unfortunately it is part of the industry. Thanking Mr. Berkowitz for coming to the meeting and explaining about the Charter letter, Mr. Melia noted that cable customers had received a similar letter a couple of years ago. Mr. Berkowitz responded that the previous letter only applied to a specific area that was being tested; it went digital about a year ago so everyone in that area has a digital box. Mr. Melia questioned Charter's marketing strategy in offering so many channels; he felt that Charter should try to save customers money instead of increasing the number of channels, many of which might not be necessary. Mr. Berkowitz noted that since cable channels are bundled the cable companies have to pay extra money for a series of channels. Mr. Melia asked what we could do as a community. Mr. Berkowitz responded that individuals could refuse to do business with the cable company but the satellite option is pretty much the same cost. Selectman Marzec commented that he was flabbergasted and angry about the projected cost increase, especially when multiple TVs in a household are involved. He asked if one could purchase digital boxes elsewhere than through Charter. Mr. Berkowitz said that when he asked Charter about this they responded that you have to purchase the boxes from Charter because the boxes need to have Charter coding. Mr. Marzec stated his frustration that the cable company charges so much money already and forces you to spend more money for boxes and excessive channels. He referred to cable as a monopoly over which we have no control. Mr. Ampagoomian suggested inviting Charter and continuing the discussion at another meeting to which Mr. Marzec was agreeable. Mr. Berkowitz added that the Board could invite Representative Pederson and Tom Cohen of Charter. Mr. Kozak noted that he had asked Representative Pederson to come to tonight's meeting but he had other commitments. He added that Mr. Pederson planned to attend the Selectmen's meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kozak stated that he planned to invite Charter customers to attend the meeting. Mr. Berkowitz said that NCTV had approached Charter about their high rates to which Charter held firm noting that the State has jurisdiction over the rates. Mr. Marzec asked if there was any way that Charter could offer the Town a package deal. Mr. Berkowitz responded that there would be a provision for nursing homes with a box at each floor level instead of on each TV that would provide decoding but it would not be offered to households.

**DECISIONS. WGM Fabricators, Inc. / Request for the Selectmen to adopt a resolution.** A Motion/Mr. Nolan, Seconded/Mr. Melia that the Board of Selectmen adopt a resolution that the Board of Selectmen acting in the name and on behalf of the Town of Northbridge, Massachusetts and the Authority hereby request the Agency assume the role of the Authority in financing the project by issuance of the bonds pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 23G and Chapter 40D and finance the project and that the Board of Selectmen cause a copy of this resolution to be delivered to the Agency. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Athanas/Yes, Selectman Marzec/Yes, Selectman Nolan/Yes, Selectman Melia/Yes, and Chairman Ampagoomian/Yes.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - 1. Emergency Management/Code Red.** Town Manager Kozak said that he wanted to remind the Public that as the weather becomes more challenging with the winter months we do have Code Red which enables us to get emergency messages out to homeowners. Noting that Code Red is available to homeowners on the Northbridge Home Page, Mr. Kozak invited homeowners who had not already done so to sign up on their computer at home or on their cell phone. He stated that this has been a successful program adding that questions about it can be directed to the Town Manager's Office or Police Department.

**2. Special Legislation Veteran Bridge.** Town Manager Kozak announced that his office received notice from Senator Moore's office that special legislation has been passed recently for communities and that we will be renaming the Douglas Road Bridge located outside the Town offices in honor of Corporal Thomas S. Perone.

**3. WRTA Ridership /Update.** Town Manager Kozak stated that his office had received another update from Central Mass. and that ridership is still increasing which is encouraging.

**4. Leaf Collection Schedule.** Town Manager Kozak explained that the DPW has been preparing for the collection and they anticipate that it will start around October 20<sup>th</sup>. He added that this year the DPW will be approaching leaf collection differently, taking sections of town for leaf pick-up on specified days of the week which would allow more organization. He noted that information on this can be obtained online through DPW or by calling the DPW. He added that Director Jim Shuris would be invited to a future Selectmen's meeting to explain about the program.

**5. Roads program/Update.** Town Manager Kozak noted that Hill Street, Douglas Road and Sprague Street have been completed with the exception of some street strapping and landscaping that he expected to be done within the next week or two. He added that the work had proceeded well. Mr. Kozak explained that some work would be done on Old Quaker Street this week with leftover funds from the project.

**6. ICMA Conference.** Mr. Kozak said that he had attended the International City Managers Association Conference last week in North Carolina and that it was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ICMA. He noted that he attended several workshops including planning, economics and downtown development, and computer systems, along with a trade show. Mr. Kozak added that he received an award from ICMA for 30 years of Administrative service to municipalities. The Selectmen congratulated Mr. Kozak.

**SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS. Selectman Melia 1)** Offered congratulations on Mr. Kozak receiving the ICMA award, noting the challenge of his many years of municipal service. Mr. Melia noted that he had received several compliments on road work on Hill Street and Douglas Road adding that he hadn't seen Sprague or the other streets. He mentioned that people seem very happy with the good job that the



DPW has done on the project. Mr. Melia said he spoke with DPW Director Jim Shuris, who explained that the road striping would be done when Quaker Street and whatever street is left to do are complete. Mr. Melia noted that he drove past the Salvation Army site on his way to the meeting and their chain fence is up, hopefully to deter people from going in there at night. He added that it is still a mess there and he was going to ask Jim Sheehan to inspect it if it comes under his domain. Mr. Melia commented that neighbors and drivers from other towns shouldn't have to look at it while traveling on Providence Road, the main road that goes through Northbridge. He added that the Board of Health, Building Inspector or both should be down there. Town Manager Kozak said he would do his best to check into it. **Selectman Athanas 2)** On the roads, a number of people said they love the work that has been done. Mr. Athanas noted that people are concerned with Sutton Street not being "buttoned up" and winterized for this year and that the work has slowed from the early part of the season. He asked for a guarantee that it would be completed in the next month or so. Town Manager Kozak said he would check on it. **Selectman Marzec 3)** asked if there was any update on the New China Pacific. He also questioned the status of the repair work on the Linwood Avenue bridge, several items of which he found troubling. Mr. Marzec further asked for an update regarding the municipal agreement, noting that there were 2 firms that came before the Selectmen concerning energy. Mr. Kozak responded that the first step in the municipal agreement is to go before the Town Meeting and if it does happen the Selectmen would consider through an agency the proposals. Lastly Mr. Marzec wanted to extend his thoughts and feelings toward the family of Ocean Taylor who was struck by the bus in Town. He hoped that he was on the mend. **Selectman Nolan 4)** asked if progress could be made to release some of the older Executive Session minutes. Mr. Kozak responded that he had spoken to Town Counsel about it.

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

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:18 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**James Athanas, Clerk**

/pf

## LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

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

September 22, 2014

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

**II. PUBLIC HEARING [Continued from 9/8/14]:**

**A. 7:05PM - National Grid [Present: Crystal Tognazzi]/**Petition to remove 2 guys and anchors off customer's private property in parking lot of 117 Church Street and to install 2 sidewalk anchors to guy the spacer cable from Cross Street to Pole 14 Church Street [Plan #17183556, dated 8/21/2014].

**III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:**

**B.** Copy of Michelle L. Methé's Talent Bank Application to the Council on Aging

**IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**

**V. DECISIONS**

**C.** Copy of the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant

**D.** Copy of the August 20, 2014 Safety Committee Minutes.

**E.** Copy of Northbridge Youth Softball Association's request to hang a banner across Church Street from November 30, 2014 to December 28, 2014 to advertise registration dates for the spring season.

**F.** Copy of Blackstone Valley Gardeners request for permission to use Memorial Park on Saturday, May 30, 2015, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. for a plant sale.

**G.** Copy of Village Congregational Church's request for permission to use Memorial Park on Sunday, October 5, 2014, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for a worship service.

**H.** Copy of Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce's application packet for a one-day Wines & Malt License for an "After Hours Event" at the New Milford Regional Medical Center located at Osterman Commerce Park, 100 Commerce Drive, Northbridge, on Thursday, October 2, 2014 from 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

**I.** Copy of Alternatives Unlimited, Inc.'s application packet for a one-day Wines & Malt License for a "Bag Toss Competition" fundraising event to be held at the Alternatives' Whitin Mill Community Plaza (weather permitting) or the Singh Performance Center [back up location] on October 11, 2014 from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

**J.** Copy of the Intermunicipal Agreement between Northbridge and Sutton for a sewer connection on Main Street.

**K.** Copy of the Pine Grove Cemetery Agreement

**L.** Copy of letter from the State regarding a KENO To Go License at Foodmart Convenience Store

**M.** Copy of letter from the Central Mass Metropolitan Planning Organization to appoint Selectmen's delegate

**VI. DISCUSSIONS**

**N.** Copy of Sewer Abatement Appeal from Michael & Paula Minichiello and backup documentation. [This item was cancelled as the issue was settled prior to the Selectmen's meeting.]

**O.** WGM Fabricators, Inc./Request for the Selectmen to adopt a resolution

**P.** Charter Communications - Change to digital broadcasting/Present: Harry Berkowitz

**VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Q.** 1. Emergency Management/Code Red
- 2. Special Legislation Veteran Bridge
- 3. WRTA Ridership /Update
- 4. Leaf Collection Schedule
- 5. Roads program/Update
- 6. ICMA Conference

**VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**

**IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**X. CORRESPONDENCE**

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:15 P.M.**

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

BoS Agenda 10/20/14

10/16/14 } c: POLICE CHIEF  
SPW DIR

B

**Sharon Susienka**

---

**From:** Alex Rogozenski <arogozenski@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 05, 2014 10:44 AM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org; dgosselin@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** MRA Multisport races in 2015

Hi - hope you are doing well. I'd like to seek approval to hold our 3 races again next year. the same 3 we have planned would be:

- 1) 1st Day 5k - 5k road race on Linwood Ave on january 1 at 11am
- 2) Whitinsville Half Marathon - sunday march 29 at 10am. course goes out Main St towards walmart, into Sutton and Douglas, and back into town on Lackey Dam Rd.
- 3) Race of Rams - sunday may 17 at 8am for duathlon and 5k run and kids event. Will switch venue from Balmer School to the High School to alleviate past course concerns.

as with all events in the past, we'll work on staffing each one with the appropriate Police Detail. for Race of Rams, we'll secure the permits to use the school grounds too.

I know there is a BoS meeting monday night (10/27), but not sure if i could get squeezed in or not.

~~10/27~~  
10/16

--  
Thanks,  
Alex Rogo  
(c) 774-272-1767

*no conflict*

## Sharon Susienka

---

**From:** Walter J. Warchol <wwarchol@northbridgemass.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 07, 2014 7:55 AM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** RE: MRA Multisport races in 2015

Sharon:

As long as he complies with the police department's traffic safety requests there should be no issues. These three races are an annual event and we have had no issues.

Chief Warchol

**From:** Sharon Susienka [mailto:ssusienka@northbridgemass.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 06, 2014 4:26 PM  
**To:** wwarchol@northbridgemass.org; James Shuris  
**Subject:** FW: MRA Multisport races in 2015

Gentlemen:

This request will go before the Selectmen on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please provide me your comments or concerns, if any, in writing. Thank you.

*Sharon L. Susienka*  
*Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager*  
*Town of Northbridge*  
*Phone: 508-234-2095*  
*Fax: 508-234-7640*

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- 3) Race of Rams - Sunday May 17 at 8am for duathlon and 5k run and kids event. Will switch venue from Balmer School to the High School to alleviate past course concerns.

As with all events in the past, we'll work on staffing each one with the appropriate Police Detail. For Race of Rams, we'll secure the permits to use the school grounds too.

I know there is a BoS meeting Monday night (10/7), but not sure if I could get squeezed in or not.

--  
Thanks,

## Sharon Susienka

---

**From:** James Shuris <jshuris@northbridgemass.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 09, 2014 2:03 PM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org; wwarchol@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** RE: MRA Multisport races in 2015

Sharon:

Another nice event(s).

All roads listed should be in good (to better) condition as we move forward.

Jim Shuris

---

**From:** Sharon Susienka [mailto:ssusienka@northbridgemass.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 06, 2014 4:26 PM  
**To:** wwarchol@northbridgemass.org; James Shuris  
**Subject:** FW: MRA Multisport races in 2015

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*Town of Northbridge*  
*Phone: 508-234-2095*  
*Fax: 508-234-7640*

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I know there is a BoS meeting Monday night (10/7), but not sure if I could get squeezed in or not.

10/7/14 } Emailed to Police Chief  
DPW Dir.

**Sharon Susienka**

---

**From:** Gracia144 <gracia144@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 06, 2014 7:29 PM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** Northbridge High School Boot Drive

C.

Good Morning Sharon-

I am writing to request that "Save Northbridge Wrestling" is on the meeting agenda for the selectman's meeting on the 20th. We are raising funds for the Northbridge High School Wrestling Team to exist. We would like to do a "boot drive" on Saturday, October 25th from 9-2. All funds would go directly to the Northbridge High School Wrestling Team and their expenses.

Thank you for your time and let me know if you need anything further!!  
Gracia Casey

at Memorial Square

Sent from my iPad

No conflict

## Sharon Susienka

---

**From:** Walter J. Warchol <wwarchol@northbridgemass.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 07, 2014 2:08 PM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** RE: Northbridge High School Boot Drive

Sharon

I do not for see a problem as long as they comply with a boot drive policy.

Chief Warchol

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sharon Susienka [mailto:ssusienka@northbridgemass.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 07, 2014 10:49 AM  
**To:** wwarchol@northbridgemass.org; James Shuris  
**Subject:** FW: Northbridge High School Boot Drive

Gentlemen: This request is scheduled to go before the Board of Selectmen on Monday, October 20th. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns with this request. Thank you.

Sharon L. Susienka  
Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager  
Town of Northbridge  
Phone: 508-234-2095  
Fax: 508-234-7640

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gracia144 [mailto:gracia144@yahoo.com]  
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Thank you for your time and let me know if you need anything further!!  
Gracia Casey

Sent from my iPad



## Sharon Susienka

---

**From:** James Shuris <jshuris@northbridgemass.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 08, 2014 8:07 AM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org; wwarchol@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** RE: Northbridge High School Boot Drive

Sharon:

Other than keeping the public ways clean and unharmed - during and after the event - DPW has no concerns.

Jim Shuris

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sharon Susienka [mailto:ssusienka@northbridgemass.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 07, 2014 10:49 AM  
**To:** wwarchol@northbridgemass.org; James Shuris  
**Subject:** FW: Northbridge High School Boot Drive

Gentlemen: This request is scheduled to go before the Board of Selectmen on Monday, October 20th. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns with this request. Thank you.

Sharon L. Susienka  
Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager  
Town of Northbridge  
Phone: 508-234-2095  
Fax: 508-234-7640

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**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org  
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Thank you for your time and let me know if you need anything further!!  
Gracia Casey

Sent from my iPad

10/8/14 } c: Police Chief

D.

**Sharon Susienka**

---

**From:** swimdiva97 <swimdiva97@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 07, 2014 8:41 PM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** Boot drive

Hi sharon

Can I be added on the next Selectmans meeting a boot drive for Swim Team?

Looking to have one Saturday ~~Oct 25th~~ or Nov 1st

9AM to NOON

Swimmingly  
Denise Foster  
NHS Swim Team  
Head Coach  
Swimdiva97@charter.net

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

no conflicts

## Sharon Susienka

---

**From:** Walter J. Warchol <wwarchol@northbridgemass.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 08, 2014 1:31 PM  
**To:** ssusienka@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** RE: Boot drive

No issues as long as they follow the boot drive policy.

Chief Warchol

**From:** Sharon Susienka [mailto:ssusienka@northbridgemass.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 08, 2014 10:24 AM  
**To:** wwarchol@northbridgemass.org  
**Subject:** FW: Boot drive

Chief:

The WWC swim team wants to do a boot drive on October 25<sup>th</sup> but that date is already taken. The alternative date is November 1<sup>st</sup> which is the last day that boot drives are allowed in town. Let me know if you have any issue with that date before I schedule it on the Selectmen's agenda.

Thanks.

*Sharon L. Susienka*  
*Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager*  
*Town of Northbridge*  
*Phone: 508-234-2095*  
*Fax: 508-234-7640*

**From:** swimdiva97 [mailto:swimdiva97@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 07, 2014 8:41 PM  
**To:** [ssusienka@northbridgemass.org](mailto:ssusienka@northbridgemass.org)  
**Subject:** Boot drive

Hi sharon

Can I be added on the next Selectmans meeting a boot drive for Swim Team?

Looking to have one Saturday Oct 25th or Nov 1st

Swimmingly  
Denise Foster  
NHS Swim Team  
Head Coach  
[Swimdiva97@charter.net](mailto:Swimdiva97@charter.net)

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission  
239 Causeway Street  
Boston, MA 02114  
[www.mass.gov/abcc](http://www.mass.gov/abcc)

E.

**RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE APPLICATION  
MONETARY TRANSMITTAL FORM**

APPLICATION SHOULD BE COMPLETED ON-LINE, PRINTED, SIGNED, AND SUBMITTED TO THE  
LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY.

REVENUE CODE: RETA

CHECK PAYABLE TO ABCC OR COMMONWEALTH OF MA:

NO FEE

A.B.C.C. LICENSE NUMBER (IF AN EXISTING LICENSEE, CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE CITY):

090400030

LICENSEE NAME:

Jyoti Enterprises, Inc. db/a Gary's Variety

ADDRESS:

2201 Providence Road

CITY/TOWN:

Northbridge

STATE

MA

ZIP CODE

01534

**TRANSACTION TYPE (Please check all relevant transactions):**

- Change of Hours
- Change of DBA
- Charity Wine License

THE LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY MUST MAIL THIS TRANSMITTAL  
FORM ALONG WITH THE CHECK, COMPLETED APPLICATION, AND  
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION  
P. O. BOX 3396  
BOSTON, MA 02241-3396**

October 14, 2014

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission  
239 Causeway Street  
Boston, MA 02114

CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE VOTE

Dear: Town Hall

This is to certify that at a special meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Jyoti Enterprise Inc -DBA Gary's Variety & Spirits held at the offices of the corporation located at 2201 Providence Rd Northbridge, MA 01534 on 10/14/2014 at 8PM, all the DIRECTORS/MEMBERS being present and voting, it was unanimously VOTED:

Change of Hours – EVERY Sunday to open from 10AM-11PM

By unanimous consensus therefore we shall move toward adopting the elements required by said vote.

Sincerely,



Harshad Patel

Secretary

508-208-0135

-cell ✓

Hnpatel55@yahoo.com

## **Change of Hours Checklist**

**This application will be returned if the following documentation is not submitted:**

- Vote of Corporate Board or LLC

Note: No fee is required for this transaction as formal ABCC approval is not necessary

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission  
239 Causeway Street  
Boston, MA 02114  
[www.mass.gov/abcc](http://www.mass.gov/abcc)

F.

RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE APPLICATION  
MONETARY TRANSMITTAL FORM

APPLICATION SHOULD BE COMPLETED ON-LINE, PRINTED, SIGNED, AND SUBMITTED TO THE  
LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY.

REVENUE CODE: RETA

CHECK PAYABLE TO ABCC OR COMMONWEALTH OF MA:

NO FEE

A.B.C.C. LICENSE NUMBER (IF AN EXISTING LICENSEE, CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE CITY):

090400021

LICENSEE NAME: *Mina's Foods, Inc.*

~~MINA'S FOOD~~ DBA Vera's mini mart

ADDRESS:

1 Plummers Corner

CITY/TOWN:

Whitinsville

STATE

MA

ZIP CODE

01588

TRANSACTION TYPE (Please check all relevant transactions):

- Change of Hours
- Change of DBA
- Charity Wine License

THE LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY MUST MAIL THIS TRANSMITTAL  
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION  
P. O. BOX 3396  
BOSTON, MA 02241-3396

## **Change of Hours Checklist**

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Octoter,14, 2014

The commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission  
239 Causeway Street ,Boston, Ma 02115

CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE VOTE

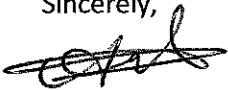
Dear: XXX Town Hall

This is to certify that at a special meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Mina's Foods Inc, dba VAra's Mini Mart, held at the offices of the corporation located at 1 Plummers corner whitinsville MA 01588 on 9/28/14 at 8PM, all the DIRECTORS/MEMBERS being present and voting, it was unanimously VOTED:

Change of Hours – EVERY Sunday to open from 10AM-PM

By unanimous consensus therefore we shall move toward adopting the elements required by said vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Vera', written over a horizontal line.

Name

Secretary

Phone Number 508-234-9326

EMAIL verasminimart@aol.com

BOS Agenda 10/20/14

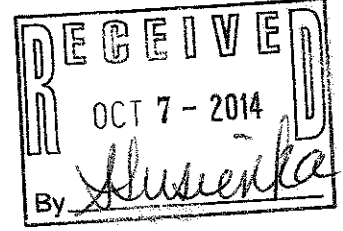


# Massachusetts State Lottery Commission

STEVEN GROSSMAN  
*Treasurer and Receiver General*

BETH BRESNAHAN  
*Executive Director*

G.



October 02, 2014

Town of Northbridge  
Board of Selectmen  
7 Main Street  
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Dear Sir/Madam:

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 10, section 27A, (as amended on 5/20/96), you are hereby notified that an application for a Keno license has been received by the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission, (MSLC) from:

New China Pacific  
683 Linwood Avenue  
Whitinsville, MA 01588

\* If the board does not object to this - no action needs to be taken.

If the city/town objects to the issuance of the Keno license, it must claim its right to a Hearing before the MSLC within twenty-one(21) days of receipt of this letter.

In accordance with section 27A(b), the objection of the city or town must be "as a result of an official action" taken by said city or town regarding the Keno applicant. In order to be fair and apply the same criteria to all cities, towns, and applicants, the MSLC defines an "official action" to be one in which the applicant appeared, or was given the opportunity to appear, before the licensing authority to discuss the issue at the local level in a open hearing or meeting prior to the Hearing at the MSLC.

Please address your written objection to William J.Egan Jr., General Counsel, Massachusetts State Lottery Commission, 60 Columbian Street, Braintree, MA 02184

Very truly yours,

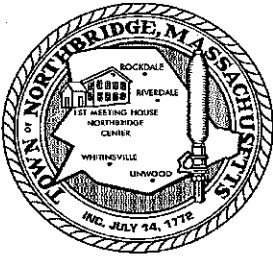
Arthur Buckley  
Supervisor, New Agent Licensing

Certified Mail - Return  
Receipt Requested: 7011 2000 0001 7142 1016



Supporting the 351 Cities and Towns of Massachusetts

H.



# COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

R. Gary Bechtholdt II, Town Planner  
7 Main Street Whitinsville, MA 01588  
Phone: (508) 234.2447 Fax: (508) 234.0814  
gbechtholdt@northbridgemass.org

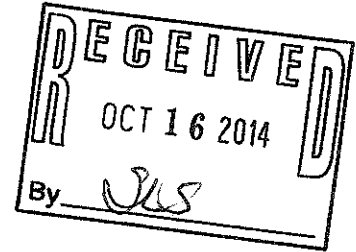
## MEMORANDUM

Date: October 14, 2014

To: Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager  
Northbridge Board of Selectmen

From: R. Gary Bechtholdt II, Town Planner

RE: QUARTERLY REPORT (JULY – SEPTEMBER 2014)  
Community Planning & Development Office



Please accept this as the Community Planning & Development 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report for 2014. Provided below is a summation of projects, applications, meetings, and initiatives during this quarter.

### SUBDIVISIONS

Carpenter Estates -Located off Carpenter Road this single-access roadway was originally approved in 2007; includes 18 single-family homes and 45 acres of dedicated open space. Planning Board endorsed revised subdivision plan for Low Impact Development modification; construction has yet to commence. Reference is made to (original) Definitive Subdivision plan entitled "Carpenter Estates" dated June 20, 2006 prepared by Heritage Design Group [PL BK 861 PL No. 12]; Flexible Development Special Permit dated January 11, 2007 [BK 41827 PG 249]; Planning Board Certificate of Approval dated May 10, 2007 [BK 41827 PG 233]; Planning Board action dated July 26, 2013 [Low Impact Development]; & (new) Covenant dated October 24, 2013 [BK 52019 PG 367].

Camelot -Located off Hill Street and Hillcrest Road (w/the Hills at Whitinsville), subdivision development is to include 65 single-family house lots (approx. 20 building permits for new homes has been issued). JH Engineering Group, LLC continues to oversee construction of the subdivision development on behalf of the Planning Board.

Farnum Circle -Two lot subdivision terminating in a cul-de-sac located off Hill Street (near Sprague Street); originally approved in 2002, roadway remain incomplete. Planning Board called in the performance bond and has been working with the property owners in prioritizing completion of remaining work. It is anticipated that a third-party contract will address the scope of work; to include underground utilities, paving and landscaping in the Spring of 2015.

Hemlock Estates -Located off Gendron Street; originally approved in 2004 for 102-unit Senior Living development (Special Permit -Pine Knoll, an Adult Living Community) subdivision was modified in 2008; now consisting of 21 townhouse units (Senior Living Dev.) and 31 single-family house lots (Flexible Development). Remaining units within Pine Knoll, including the three (3) affordables has been purchased; the new Owner has petition the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variance concerning the affordable unit

requirement; upon granting the variance the Owner shall solicit the Planning Board (Special Permit Granting Authority) to modify the Special Permit issued for Pine Knoll Senior Living Development. Developer (J&F Marinella) has installed binder course to Phase III (last phase of project) and is currently addressing the waterline looping out onto Adams Circle. Developer is also looking to the Planning Board to amend its conditions of approval specific to Smith & Gendron Street improvements. JH Engineering Group, LLC continues to oversee construction of the subdivision development on behalf of the Planning Board.

Hillside Garden Estates -Located off Thurston Avenue (Deane Way); originally approved in 2005 for 18-unit Senior Living development, subdivision modified in 2010 to nine (9) single-family house lots. Developer (John Barges) recently installed top course pavement in preparation for street acceptance at the 2015 Spring/Fall Annual Town Meeting. JH Engineering Group, LLC continues to oversee construction of the subdivision development on behalf of the Planning Board. Concerns specific to Lot #10 –Deane Way have been referred to and reviewed by the Inspector of Buildings /Zoning Enforcement Officer where the lot development was found to be in compliance with zoning.

Leonardo Estates –To be located off (603) Highland Street; Planning Board issued Certificate of Approval - Definitive Subdivision (dated May 30, 2014) for eighteen (18) single-family house lots (and 2 frontage lots) to be serviced by public water and municipal sanitary sewer. Appeal period has expired; definitive plan shall be endorsed by the Planning Board and recorded at the Worcester Registry of Deeds prior to commencement of construction, etc.

Presidential Farms -Located off Hill Street; consisting of Washington Street, Kennedy Circle, Wilson Street, Roosevelt Drive, and extending through Lincoln Circle; this single-family subdivision includes 105 house lots and ±40 acres of open space for passive & active recreation. Home construction continues within Phases III & IV (approx. 70 building permits for new homes has been issued). Developer, David Bossi remains responsive to addressing Planning Board concerns. House lot development within Phase IV currently underway; JH Engineering Group, LLC continues to oversee construction of the subdivision development on behalf of the Planning Board.

Shining Rock Golf Community -Majority of the development has been completed; house lot development on Shining Rock Drive (extension) and Fairway Drive remain. JH Engineering Group, LLC continues to oversee construction of the subdivision development on behalf of the Planning Board.

## ANR PLANS

The Planning Board reviewed/approved one (1) ANR plan during this quarter:

- Roosevelt Drive –Conveyance of land between two (2) adjacent house lots.

## SITE DEVELOPMENTS

4 & 16 North Main Street –Planning Board issued site plan approval [Certificate of Approval dated March 12, 2014] for a gas station, convenience store and Dunkin Donuts (donut/coffee shop) for 4 & 16 North Main Street; redevelopment of site has yet to commence.

Linwood Mill Lofts –EA Fish Development (Developer) installed a pedestrian crosswalk on Linwood Avenue, within the vicinity of one of its driveways. Work was coordinated and completed under the supervisor of the Department of Public Works.

Osterman Commerce Park – (Phase 1), the ±24,000 square-foot medical office building “Milford Regional Medical Center” completed construction; Phase 2 (wetland crossing) underway with construction activity within remaining phases underway in preparation for planned build-out; Planning Board issued Special Permit [Planned Business Development] and Site Development Plan approvals [Phase 1 & 2] for subject property located off Church Street Extension. Planned Business Development (PBD) will include a ±4,600 LF roadway (private drive); ±26.4 acres of dedicated open space; and ±206,500 square-feet of building space at build-out; Phase 1 includes ±1,575 LF of roadway from Church Street Extension, a ±24,000 SF Medical office building and a ±12,000 SF Office building; Phase 2 includes ±1,275 LF of roadway (wetland/resource crossing). Reference is made to Planning Board Certificate of Approval dated July 31, 2013 and Special Permit Decision [01-SPP-2013];

Large Scale Solar Photovoltaic Installation –Planning Board granted site development approval (with conditions) a 1.3MW solar electrical generating facility pursuant to Article XX –Large Scale Solar Photovoltaic Installations of the town’s Zoning Bylaw. Reference made to Certificate of Approval dated April 25, 2014. Development of site has yet to commence.

135 Providence Road (Salvation Army Thrift Store) –Planning Board granted site development plan approval dated September 23, 2014 for building expansion to include three (3) additional business/retail space totaling an additional ±19,308 square-foot.

## **ZONING AMENDMENTS**

Table of Height & Bulk Regulations –Planning Board conducted its public hearing (September 16, 2014) pursuant to Mass General Laws Chapter 40A Section 5; upon taking public testimony including letters of support from the Inspector of Buildings and the Fire Chief the Board voted (4-0) to support and recommend the zoning amendment article to (1) increase the maximum height permitted within the Industrial –One and Industrial –Two Zoning Districts from 30-feet & 45-feet (respectively) to 60-feet and (2) increase the maximum number of stories within the I-1 & I-2 Zoning Districts from 2 and 3-stories (respectively) to 4-stories.

## **OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN –UPDATE**

The Open Space & Recreation Plan Update Committee convened two (2) public meetings during this quarter; the Committee hopes to present a formal draft in the Spring of 2015 and plans to present a general overview to the Board of Selectmen during the next quarter.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT –DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDS (DHCD)**

The Community Planning & Development Office continues to administer and oversee the Disaster Recovery grant funds for the Rockdale Youth Center Relocation Project; procurement for Designer Services

(Architect) concluded in September 2014 with Northbridge issuing an Award of Contract to Dixon Salo Architects, Inc. (Worcester, MA) for a scope of work (\$65,000.00) to include preparing construction documents and overseeing construction; the Environmental Review Record was submitted to DHCD (Department of Housing & Community Development) in August 2014; in correspondence dated September 2014 DHCD issued Northbridge its Environmental Release; as a result of the need to hire a Construction Manager/Architect and the requirements of the Flood Buyout Program the budget originally proposed (awarded) will need to be increased (amended) by an additional sum of ±\$180,500.00; discussions with DHCD specific to the need for additional funds was initiated earlier this year.

#### **DISTRICT LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM -PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT AREA**

In August 2014, Northbridge was selected for District Local Technical Assistance -Round II where CMRPC (Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission) has worked with the Community Planning & Development Office in the preparation of a Reuse Plan for 2040 Providence Road, a designated Priority Development Area of the Blackstone Valley Regional Prioritization Initiative Program; the subject property, a former auto salvage yard had a Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessment completed in 2011-2012 (Fuss & O'Neil) as part of a Brownfields Assessment Grant awarded to Northbridge from the US Environmental Protection Agency; preparation of a Reuse Plan will help identify new uses and encourage clean-up and redevelopment of the site for economic development (-see 2040 Providence Road below).

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**

MassWorks Infrastructure Grant Program –In August 2014, the town submitted a MassWorks Infrastructure Grant application for economic development to be done in conjunction with the planned build-out of the recently approved Osterman Commerce Park located off of Church Street Extension (includes the new Milford Regional Medical Center); the public infrastructure project requested, to be known as the “Church Street Extension Corridor Project” is to consist of roadway and geometry improvements to Church Street Extension and Quaker Street (totaling \$1.72mil); the project will include extending sidewalk from its current terminus on Church Street Extension through to the Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park; signalization of the Church Street and Quaker Street intersection and creation of a left-turn lane on Church Street Extension to Osterman Commerce Park.

Sewer Extension (Sutton/Northbridge) –It is the understanding of the Planning Office that the Board of Selectmen may look to formalize an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Sutton to allow for sanitary sewer (Sutton) to extend into Northbridge to provide an initially connection to the Walmart facility located on Main Street; as you will recall in 2009 the Planning Office, as part of the town’s 43D –Expedited Permitting Initiative worked with Graves Engineering, Inc. in the preparation of a Northbridge/Sutton Sewer Extension Feasibility Study (February 2009); extending sewer as described in Feasibility Study will improve and enhance development options for the subject areas, including Main Street and Lasell Road; as detailed in the Study a sewer pump station (on Main Street) will be required, as well as other associated infrastructure; in talking with the Town Manager and Sewer Superintendent the Planning Office reminded them of the need to install necessary improvements not only to satisfy the Walmart facility but to allow for the project build-out for future economic development within the area.

2040 Providence Road –Reuse Study –On August 26, 2014 the Planning Board hosted a public workshop specific to 2040 Providence Road in conjunction with the preparation of a Reuse Study for the property; workshop was well attended with approximately a dozen neighbors and residents attending; public workshop was aimed at starting the conversation and brainstorming about potential reuse of the site, a former auto salvage yard located within walking distance of downtown Rockdale, direct access to the Blackstone River and along the route of the recently established WRTA busing; study will examine existing conditions, environmental assessment (brownfield) and explore potential redevelopment opportunities that are economically viable, environmentally friendly and complementary to the surrounding area; possible rezoning/zoning amendments may be considered for mixed-use at the 2015 Spring Annual Town Meeting.

Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce –On September 14, 2014 the Town Planner and I met with Jeannie Hebert (Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce) and April Anderson Lamoureux (Anderson Strategic Advisors, LLC) a consulting firm working with the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce (as mentioned by Tim Murray during the 7/14 BOS meeting); reviewed the various economic development initiatives currently underway in Northbridge, including the Reuse Study for 2040 Providence Road, the potential to extend Sutton municipal sewer to service designated Priority Development Sites along Main Street; the MassWorks Infrastructure Grant to improve Church Street Extension and Quaker Street intersection (Osterman Commerce Park build-out), the economic development strategies for increased job creation and new business opportunities within the Whitin Machine Works (Mass Downtown Initiative Program /DHCD), as well as, potentially partnering with MassDevelopment on the town-owned industrial land on Providence Road.

MassDevelopment –On October 08, 2014 had an initial discussion with representatives from MassDevelopment regarding the town-owned land off Route 122 (Providence Road) to see if there was an opportunity to partner with MassDev on the evaluation of the property for economic development; they plan to visit the site in the upcoming weeks and will coordinate a subsequent meeting with MassDevelopment including their real estate division as part of a potential predevelopment analysis.

#### **NORTHBRIDGE MEMORIAL TOWN HALL –INTERIOR STUDY**

In working with the Town Manager, the Town Planner met with McGinley Kalsow & Associates, Inc. to discuss scope of work to identify interior improvements within the Great Hall and the Board of Selectmen's Chamber; initial report (with cost estimates) is anticipated to be received on or before October 31, 2014.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETINGS**

- None

#### **TECHNICAL REVIEW MEETINGS**

The Community Planning & Development Office hosted one (1) Technical Review Meeting during this quarter: August 06, 2014 (135 Providence Road).

**PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS**

The Planning Board met six (6) times and hosted one (1) public workshop this quarter; all approved meeting minutes of the Planning Board are posted on the town's website

- Planning Board meetings -July 08, 2014 (approved); July 22, 2014 (approved); August 12, 2014 (approved); August 26, 2014; September 16, 2014 (approved); & September 23, 2014 (draft)
- Planning Board public workshop –August 26, 2014 (2040 Providence Road)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETINGS**

- July 14, 2014 –Farnum Circle & Blackstone Valley Chamber/Worcester Chamber of Commerce

**SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- August 20, 2014

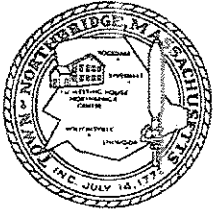
**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- September 17, 2014 –Zoning Amendment Article (Planning Board Chairman)

If you should require additional information or have any questions please contact the Planning office.

Cc: Planning Board  
/File





Town of Northbridge  
**Fire Department**

193 Main Street  
Whitinsville, MA 01588  
(508) 234-8448

Gary A. Nestor  
Fire Chief

October 14, 2014

To: Mr. Theodore D. Kozak, Town Manager

From: Gary A. Nestor, Fire Chief *gan*

Subject: Quarterly Report

This is a summary of the fire department activity from July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014. The fire department responded to 216 fire emergencies, 506 ambulance emergencies, 83 non-emergency calls for service, visited the schools to conduct SAFE classes 11 times, and installed smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the homes of 25 senior citizens. Overall, this program has been very successful with the firefighters visiting and installing detection devices in the homes of 32 seniors. In addition to this, fire prevention activities accounted for 152 inspections, 141 permits issued, and collection of \$ 5,580.00 in permit fees. Of the 506 ambulance emergencies, there were 290 ALS calls and the ambulance service collected \$ 187,778.72.

During this period we had 1 structure fire, 1 motor vehicle fire, and 14 outside fires. The fire losses to the affected properties will exceed \$ 300,000.00. We responded to fires in other communities 10 times under our mutual aid agreements, and received mutual aid for fire and EMS incidents 64 times. The call fire and ambulance payroll for this period was \$ 22,366.07.

We were notified in July that we were receiving a FEMA Grant towards purchasing a new ladder truck. The grant was in the amount of \$ 712,500.00 and will pay for approximately 75 percent of the vehicle. We have an article on the Fall Town Meeting Warrant for \$ 240,000.00, which will give us the additional revenue necessary to move forward with the project. In anticipation of a positive outcome at the Town Meeting, we have drawn up the specifications and advertised for bids.

In September we started the process of dismantling the municipal fire alarm system in preparation for the consolidation of the Public Safety Dispatch project. This process will take several months to complete. We are still working with the Master Box owners while they transition to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party answering service.

**“Smoke Detectors Save Lives”**