

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL
7 MAIN STREET - WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588
March 25, 2024 at 6:30 PM**

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:30PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A.** 1) September 25, 2023 2) October 2, 2023
3) November 14, 2023 [Joint meeting w/SC] 4) January 22, 2024

II. PUBLIC HEARING/None

- III. APPOINTMENTS: B. By the Town Manager [Vote to Affirm]** 1) Jenna Gouin, Community Health Worker / **Present:** Lani Criasia, Chairman-Board of Health; and 2) Scott Schofield, Animal Inspector
C. By the Board of Selectmen [Vote to Appoint]: 1) Land/Trail Stewardship Committee [Members at Large]:
a) Mary Sughrue-Yacino; b) Barbara McNamee; c) Cynthia Cummiskey; d) Marcella Regal/**Present:** David Pickart, Conservation Agent; and 2) **[Vote to Reappoint eff. 1/1/24]:** Whitinsville Downtown Crossroads Historic District Commission: a) Ellen Scheible b) Jamie Pohlman c) David Blauvelt and d) Bryan Booker
D. Resignation [Vote to Accept]: William Davis, Economic Development Committee

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

V. DECISIONS

- E.** Tri-Valley Front Runners/Frank Nealon Boston Tune Up – 15K [Saturday, March 30, 2024]
F. Blackstone Valley Veterans Association/1) Request permission to hold the Memorial Day Parade in Whitinsville on Monday, May 27, 2024 at 10:00 AM; and 2) Request permission to use Memorial Park for Memorial Day exercises/**Present:** Dan Lessard
G. Armenian Church/Request to hang a banner: 1) Monday, April 15, 2024 to Monday, April 29, 2024 to advertise Martyr’s Day [Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide] on April 24, 2024; and 2) Monday, August 5, 2024 to Monday, August 19, 2024 to advertise the annual Armenian Church Picnic to be held on Sunday, August 18, 2024 from 12 Noon to 6 PM.
H. Village Congregational Church [Harvest Festival, Saturday, September 28, 2024 from 9 AM to 3 PM [*Rain date: Sunday, September 29, 2024 12 PM – 4 PM*]/1) Request to use Memorial Park on Saturday, September 28, 2024 from 9 AM to 3 PM; 2) Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Monday, September 16, 2024 to Monday, September 30, 2024; 3) Request to close Church Street from Park Street to Main Street from 8 AM to 4 PM; and 4) Request for a One-Day entertainment license
I. Safety Committee Meeting Minutes: 1) January 17,2024 2) February 28, 2024/Vote to accept recommendations
J. Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 7, 2024] / Vote to sign the warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel
K. Annual Town Meeting Election [May 21, 2024] / Vote to submit any Ballot Questions to the Town Clerk upon completion and final review by Town Counsel

VI. DISCUSSIONS

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

X. CORRESPONDENCE

- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: L. 6:30 PM /** Under MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)(3) for the following purpose: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining as the chair so declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body.

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

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A.1.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

September 25, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Vice Chairman Paulhus at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. Board Members Present: Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus. Chairman Collins and Selectman Begin are absent and it is duly noted. **Also Present:** Town Manager Adam D. Gaudette.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 14, 2023 [Exec. Sess.]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve but not release the August 14, 2023 executive session minutes with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Vice Chairman Paulhus announced that since it was not yet 7:05 PM they would move ahead to the appointments portion of the agenda.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: Paula Lea, Cultural Council / Present: Christine Johnson. Ms. Johnson noted that with this appointment the Council would have a full board. She stated that Ms. Lea is an excellent fit for this council. Ms. Lea feels that arts are important and felt this was a great place to volunteer her time. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to appoint Paula Lea to the Cultural Council. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

The Board resumed the order of the agenda and moved to the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – 7:05 PM/Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to install 2-3” underground conduits from existing jointly owned Pole 2 across the street to new secondary handhole on property located at 34 Chipper Hill Road, Northbridge per Plan #30834642 dated August 29, 2023/Present: Jeffrey Silva, National Grid. Vice Chairman Paulhus read aloud the public hearing notice. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus. Mr. Silva began and noted that the road opening permit was completed by the home owner, who installed the conduits, they were then inspected by National Grid, and they will take over ownership once it is completed and the petition is cleared. Vice Chairman Paulhus asked if there were any abutters present. There being no further comment, a motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia, and Paulhus. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the petition from Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to install 2-3” underground conduits from existing jointly owned Pole 2 across the street to new secondary handhole on property located at 34 Chipper Hill Road, Northbridge, per Plan #30834642 dated August 29, 2023. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager: 1) Heather Wade, Interim Library Director. Ms. Sasseville explained that she will soon be taking her maternity leave and Ms. Wade, the current Youth Services Librarian, will be in charge while she is away. She added that Ms. Wade has been working at the Library for the last three years and has done an amazing job. Ms. Wade stated that she loves what she does and is looking forward to stepping up to this opportunity to keep the Library moving forward in Ms. Sasseville’s absence. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the Town Manager’s appointment of Heather Wade as the Interim Library Director. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus. **2) Rose Yulfo, Junior Library Asst. Present: Rebecca Sasseville, Library Director.** Ms. Sasseville stated that this position has been vacant for two months now and feels Ms. Yulfo will be a great fit. Ms. Yulfo stated that she loves reading, has a passion for literature and looks forward to this

opportunity. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to affirm the Town Manager's appointment of Rose Yulfo as a Junior Library Assistant. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

Central New England Collectible Authority dba Northbridge Coin & Gold, 68 Church Street, Whitinsville [Robin McDonald, Mgr.] / Application for a Junk Dealer's License/Present: Robin McDonald. Mr. McDonald was also present and stated he and his wife work together in this business and they have been participating in trade shows for about 12 years. With the space on Church Street recently opening up they felt the next step would be to open a retail store. Selectman Melia asked about the bookkeeping regulations that need to be made available to the Police. Mr. McDonald stated that they will have an open registry, require a license, and inform the seller that they are required to hold their materials for 30 days. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the application for a Junk Dealer's license to Central New England Collectible Authority dba Northbridge Coin & Gold. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Our Lady of The Valley School/Request to post a lawn sign on the Rockdale Common to advertise their Trick or Trot 5K, Saturday, October 21, 2023. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the above request to post a lawn sign on the Rockdale Common to advertise their Trick or Trot 5K event on Saturday, October 21, 2023. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce/Request for an entertainment license for the Home & Community EXPO on March 16, 2024 at the Northbridge High School/Present: Jeannie Hebert, President & CEO. Ms. Hebert explained that they are planning on having the EXPO again this year at the High School Field House, and they are applying for an entertainment license for the event. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the application for an entertainment license for the Home & Community EXPO on March 16, 2024 at the Northbridge High School. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Northbridge Police Association/Request to hold a Holiday Tree Lighting and Parade Event on November 25, 2023. 1) Request to use Rockdale Common from 3 PM to 4 PM; 2) Request to use Memorial Park from 4 PM – 6 PM; and 3) Request to close Church Street from Park Street to Main Street 4 PM - 6 PM. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the above requests to use the Rockdale Common from 3 PM to 4 PM, to use Memorial Park from 4 PM – 6 PM and to close Church Street from Park Street to Main Street 4 PM - 6 PM for the Holiday Tree Lighting and Parade Events on November 25, 2023. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Ambulance Fund/Vote to write off uncollectible accounts. Present: Sharon Emerick, Finance Director/Town Accountant and David White, Fire Chief. Chief White noted that this will be the same process as last year, which they agreed it would be best to come back annually to avoid the large write off. He explained that this year they would be looking to write off \$289,133.65, which has all gone through collection and has not been received. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to write off \$289,133.65 under the uncollectible accounts for the ambulance fund. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP)/Vote to adopt. Present: David White, Fire Chief and Kevin Filchak, MEMA. Mr. Filchak was not able to attend the meeting and in his place is Richard LaTour, Assistant Director of Operations for MEMA. Chief White noted that he has been working on this plan since he became Chief and the plan is finally completed and in order to get it to the State, it needs the approval of the Board of Selectmen. The plan is for if there is an emergency in town whether it be a fire, or weather related, this plan gives the town a template to follow. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr.

Ampagoomian to adopt the Local Emergency Operations Plan. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Housing Production Plan/Vote to Adopt. Present: Lori Tanner, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (Consultant); Becky Rushford, Planning Board Chair & Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner. Mr. Bechtholdt stated that they have a presentation similar to what they had done previously. After hosting a survey and holding many public forums, the Planning Board has approved the Housing Production Plan and is recommending that the Board of Selectmen do the same. The Board is required to approve it in order for it to move forward to the State for their review. At the State level they will make sure it has all the required components and once approved it will be valid for five years. If the town creates affordable housing from there, the town will become certified and the town will retain more local control for 40B Comprehensive Permits. Currently, we are under the 10% requirement for subsidized housing inventory, so a developer can come in and not be held to the zoning and wetland bylaws and propose a large-scale residential development. This plan will identify potential locations for affordable housing and opportunities to create affordable housing. Ms. Tanner noted that the plan does include recommendations and is required to state that the town is committing to certain actions, but there is no follow-up to it, more so it is an intention. She also noted that with the current status of the town there is not that much, since the town is smaller and there is already a good amount of affordable housing. Ms. Tanner also reviewed the low-income ranges/affordable housing and the five requirements of the plan, the first being to participate in regional collaborations addressing housing development. The second requirement is a statement of characteristics of proposed residential or mixed-use developments. The third is to identify specific areas where the community will modify regulations. The fourth would be to encourage comprehensive permit applications. And the fifth would be issuing RFP's to develop SHI-eligible housing. Selectman Ampagoomian asked about in-law apartments and if the town has a bylaw to accept them. Mr. Bechtholdt stated he does not think the bylaw recognizes those and he knows the Building Inspector gets inquiries often. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the town approved a bylaw to accept them then what type of impact would that have on the 10% affordable housing requirement. Mr. Bechtholdt stated that it would provide affordable housing for residents. Selectman Melia asked if approved does it give the state authority to move migrants to town without any say like what happened in Sutton. Mr. Bechtholdt stated that it does not and its unrelated to that situation. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to adopt the Housing Production Plan as presented. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deed (Dana Scully)/Vote to approve the sale of Lot No. 7, Walnut Ave [North]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the sale of Lot No. 7, Walnut Ave [North] to Dana Scully. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Safety Committee Minutes (July 19, 2023)/Vote to accept the recommendations. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to accept the recommendations of the July 19, 2023 Safety Committee meeting minutes. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Melia and Paulhus.

Conservation Commission and Planning Board Project Updates: 1) Castle Hill Farm. Mr. Pickart announced that the Castle Hill area officially opened this past Friday, and there were about 10 people in attendance. Prior to the official opening, there were about 50 individuals from Omni Point Technologies and Access TCA working on the site. He thanked them greatly for their efforts. The kiosk mapping out the trails was purchased using CPC funds, which has been installed; they built 1.1 miles of new trails, one boardwalk is almost completed, which is 80 feet long, and materials for two bridges over streams. **2) Rockdale Pocket Park.** In 2023, the Planning Department applied through DHCD for flooding that occurred in 2011/2012, specifically the Rockdale area. Initially we received \$6,000 in disaster recovery funds for the Rockdale Youth Center relocation project out of the flood plain. The State provided us with \$1.6 million dollars for that project, which involved the rehab of the former Saint Peter's School building

and the demolition of the former Rockdale Youth Center on Route 122 - located across from Beane's Lane - and buyout the remaining mortgage for that property, which allowed the Town to raise it. That property was then conveyed to the town with the understanding that a new building could not be built and nor could a parking lot be built there as it is in the flood plain. The money received from the State was not enough to put in a park. In 2019, the Planning Board identified an opportunity in working with a developer, and they provided \$50,000 towards the design and construction of the pocket park. ARPA funds were also earmarked for the project. To date, the property has been surveyed and an architect hired to help design a park. Mr. Dryden, Senior Project Manager at Allen Engineering, was present to discuss the design scheme. He stated that the area they are looking to improve is about 2,500 square feet, which is because the foundation from the youth center still exists. Mr. Dryden noted that the top goal is to keep it simple and within budget. The space will be used primarily for passive recreation, for people to get out of the summer heat, provide small areas for people to congregate, benches and some fencing for safety and light poles. Selectman Ampagoomian voiced concerns of trash, maintenance, security and parking and asked if they received feedback from the residents in that area. Mr. Bechtholdt stated that they did not receive a negative comment and abutters that attended the meeting were very happy to see something going in there. Mr. Dryden noted that there are trash receptacles; they also selected materials that are durable and low maintenance. He explained that the site isn't a large enough site to attract people to drive too it, but more so a spot for people in the neighborhood. Selectman Melia added that Memorial Park closes at 9 PM and suggested we look to set the same regulation for this pocket park. Selectman Melia asked what the cost of the pocket park is. Mr. Bechtholdt responded that they have a seventy-five-thousand-dollar budget, but also have other opportunities for other funding if they come in over budget. **3) Mumford Riverwalk Project.** ARPA funds and funds from a developer were secured for the payment in lieu of Stone Hill. Bids were received for the construction and are within the established budget, which is a relief considering the rise in construction costs. Work is anticipated to begin in the Fall. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the proposed bridge would be handicapped accessible. Mr. Pickart replied that the trail leading to and from the bridge is not ADA compliant, but it is flat. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the signage on Linwood Avenue would be redone. Mr. Bechtholdt stated that the Conservation Commission is looking to update and keep the educational signage. **4) Benson Road Town Land.** The Conservation Commission is looking to have the two parcels placed under the Conservation Commission's ownership. In total it has 36.7 acres with one acre carved out for development of a single-family house lot. This way the town can recoup some of the lost tax revenue. In order for that to happen an ANR plan will need to be completed. **5) Other/Present: David Pickart, Conservation Agent & Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner.** Selectman Ampagoomian noted that he was approached by a resident who was concerned about the Mumford River and the algae growth and asked what the plan is to remediate it. Mr. Pickart replied that water quality is a huge issue. He further explained that he teamed up with all the towns within the watershed of the Mumford River and received a \$210,000 grant from the State to come up with a plan to improve water quality in the Mumford. He is also looking into funding for an aerial mapping program to easily track the spread of the aquatic plants and have an MVP grant to do stormwater retrofits upstream in the Whitins Pond and Carpenter Reservoir watersheds, which feed into that section of the Mumford. They are also looking into remediations for Riley Pond and Arcade Pond.

RFP Response for 193 Main Street (Fire Station Headquarters Building & Property)/Present: David Michaud, Old New England Construction, Inc. Atty. Thomas Wickstrom was present as well and introduced Mr. Michaud, Owner and Mr. Nitschke, Architect. Mr. Wickstrom stated that the Board put out an RFP for the redevelopment of the Fire Station and they would provide a presentation of their plans for the future of this building. Mr. Michaud stated that it is a great structure, but it does need a lot of work. They would be looking to keep the building as it is, clean it up, fix the masonry, install new windows doors, roof, sprinklers, etc. The first floor would be a restaurant/brewery, the second floor would be vehicle storage and the third floor would be office space. The basement level could be used for a contractor to store equipment. With the work that needs to be completed, it would be about a year and

half out. Town Manager Gaudette explained that with some of the Selectmen missing they would look to continue to an upcoming meeting to discuss details and make a decision.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: Selectman Paulhus asked for an update on the Linwood Courts project. Town Manager Gaudette explained that the base coat is down but it needs to be cured before the finishing coat can be applied. He noted they are hoping for the end of October for completion.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

Vice Chairman Paulhus noted that the next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2023.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 8:49 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Begin, Clerk

/mjc

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

September 25, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A. August 14, 2023 [Exec. Sess.]/Not released until approved by Town Counsel**
- II. PUBLIC HEARING – B. 7:05 PM/Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to install 2-3” underground conduits from existing jointly owned Pole 2 across the street to new secondary handhole on property located at 34 Chipper Hill Road, Northbridge per Plan #30834642 dated August 29, 2023/Present: Jeffrey Silva, National Grid**
-Copy of public hearing notice
-Copy of National Grid petition
-Copy of memo requesting abutters
-Copy of abutters listing
-Copy of approval from the DPW Director
- III. APPOINTMENTS:**
- C. By the Board of Selectmen: Paula Lea, Cultural Council / Present: Christine Johnson**
-Copy of Talent Bank Application
- D. By the Town Manager: 1) Heather Wade, Interim Library Director**
-Copy of appointment letter
- 2) Rose Yulfo, Library Asst. Present: Rebecca Sasseville, Library Director**
-Copy of appointment letter
-Copy of job description
-Copy of cover letter
-Copy resume
-Copy of application
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None**
- V. DECISIONS:**
- E. Central New England Collectible Authority dba Northbridge Coin & Gold, 68 Church Street, Whitinsville [Robin McDonald, Mgr.]/Request for a Junk Dealers License/Present: Robin McDonald**
-Copy of application for a Junk Dealers License
-Copy of Revenue Enforcement and Protection attestation
-Copy of Workers Compensation Insurance Affidavit
-Copy of business certificate application
-Copy of Certificate of Organization
- F. Our Lady of The Valley School/Request to post a lawn sign on the Rockdale Common to advertise their Trick or Trot 5K, Saturday, October 21, 2023**
-Copy of email request

G. Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce/Request for an entertainment license for the Home & Community EXPO on March 16, 2024 at the Northbridge High School/Present: Jeannie Hebert, President & CEO

- Copy of application for a one-day entertainment license
- Copy of Revenue Enforcement and Protection attestation
- Copy of Workers Compensation Insurance Affidavit
- Copy of certificate of insurance

H. Northbridge Police Association – Holiday Tree Lighting and Parade Event [November 25, 2023] / 1) Request to use Rockdale Common from 3 PM to 4 PM; 2) Request to use Memorial Park from 4 PM – 6 PM; and 3) Request to close Church Street from Park Street to Main Street 4 PM - 6 PM

- Copy of request form for Memorial Park
- Copy of request form for Rockdale Common
- Copy of application for a one-day entertainment license
- Copy of approval email from the Chief of Police and DPW Director to close Church Street

I. Ambulance Fund/Vote to write off uncollectible accounts. Present: Sharon Emerick, Finance Director/Town Accountant and David White, Fire Chief /No documentation

J. Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP)/Vote to adopt. Present: David White, Fire Chief and Kevin Filchak, MEMA

- Copy of draft Emergency Operations Plan

K. Housing Production Plan/Vote to Adopt. Present: Lori Tanner, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (Consultant); Becky Rushford, Planning Board Chair & Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner/No documentation

L. Pine Grove Cemetery Deed - Dana Scully/Vote to approve the sale of Lot No. 7, Walnut Ave [North]

- Copy of Pine Grove cemetery deed

M. Safety Committee Minutes (July 19, 2023)/Vote to accept the recommendations

- Copy of July 19, 2023 Safety Committee meeting minutes

VI. DISCUSSIONS:

N. Conservation Commission and Planning Board Project Updates: 1) Castle Hill Farm

- Copy of overall map
- Copy of Land Progress Report

2) Rockdale Pocket Park

- Copy of layout

3) Mumford River Walk Project/No documentation

4) Benson Road Town Land

- Copy of memorandum
- Copy of map/layout

5) Other/Present: David Pickart, Conservation Agent & Gary Bechtholdt, Town Planner/No documentation

O. RFP Response for 193 Main Street (Fire Station Headquarters Building & Property)/Present: David Michaud, Old New England Construction, Inc.

- Copy of layout of potential uses
- Copy of Proposal

- VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None**
- VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/No documentation**
- IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None**
- X. CORRESPONDENCE/None**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION/None**

A.2.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

October 2, 2023

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 1) **May 22, 2023.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Paulhus to approve the May 22, 2023 meeting minutes. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus. 2) **June 12, 2023.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Paulhus to approve the May 22, 2023 meeting minutes. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus.

PUBLIC HEARING/None

The Board moved out of order to other agenda items as some members of the Trustees and Soldiers Memorials were not yet present.

APPOINTMENTS: Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and Northbridge Housing Authority: Nancy Hill/Present: Northbridge Housing Authority Board Members and Brett Lambert, Exec. Dir. of the NHA. Selectman Collins announced that we would be moving over this item and it would be on a future agenda.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

Northbridge Cub Scout Pack 150, Troop 155 & Veteran's/Request to use Memorial Park on Saturday, November 11, 2023 from 10 AM to 2 PM for a Flag Retirement Ceremony/Present: Cub Scout Representative. Mr. Charlie Thompspon, Jack Thompson and Joe Theberge were present to discuss their request. Mr. Jack Thompson stated that they are looking to hold a flag retirement ceremony, which there has not been one in some time. He noted that a lot of their scouts have not seen a ceremony to retire flags. The plan is to set up a metal trash can on cement blocks to avoid damaging the grass and water nearby. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to approve the request to use Memorial Park on Saturday, November 11, 2023 from 10 AM to 2 PM for a Flag Retirement Ceremony. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus.

Benson Road Town-Owned Land (formerly Olson)/Vote to transfer stewardship to the Conservation Commission/Present: David Pickart, Conservation Agent. Mr. Pickart gave a quick overview stating that this is two parcels of land for a total of 36.6 acres with access from Benson Road and immediately west of Leonardo Estates. He noted that a majority of the site is undevelopable, and he is a fan of carving off a section of it to get some tax revenue from it. The Commission, pending the transfer, has no initial plans for the parcel other than to leave it as is and preserve it. Selectman Begin asked about the areas of encroachment being a cause for concern and if the Conservation Commission has thought about requiring the abutter to remove them. Mr. Pickart stated that it is something that would be looked into. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to transfer stewardship [Benson Road Town-Owned Land] to the Conservation Commission. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus.

Chairman Collins announced that the Board would be moving back to appointments,

APPOINTMENTS: Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and Trustees of Soldiers'

Memorials: Mike DeFazio, Veteran/Present: Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials Board Members. Board member Mr. Farley informed the Board that they down two Veterans on their Board and Mr. DeFazio is interested in serving on their Board. Mr. DeFazio does a lot for the Veterans and he would be a great addition to the Board. Mr. Trier added that Mr. DeFazio is currently working on a project uncovering gravestones all over cemeteries in Northbridge. Mr. DeFazio stated that he is a Veteran, he started a non-profit for Veterans, has also done a lot of work in the cemeteries as mentioned. The Board thanked him for coming forward to serve on this Board. Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials vote: A motion/Mr. Farley, seconded/Mr. Trier to appoint Mr. DeFazio to the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials. Vote yes/Farley, Trier and Manion. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin appoint Mr. DeFazio to the Trustees and Soldiers' Memorials. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus.

Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter "Festival of Trees" Event, [December 1, 2023 – December 3, 2023] in the Great Hall located at 7 Main Street, Whitinsville: 1) Application for a one-day Wines License [Friday, December 1, 2023 from 5 PM – 7 PM only]; and 2) Application for a one-day Entertainment License [Friday, December 1, 2023 5 PM – 7 PM and Saturday, December 2, 2023 10 AM – 7 PM] (Live and/or Recorded music)/Present: Leslie Reichert. Ms. Reichert stated that other towns have similar tree events and they are looking to hold one to raise money for the homeless shelter. Ms. Reichert explained that they are going to businesses and families to donate a tree, which they can decorate to be raffled off. Those that attend the event can buy raffle tickets and select the trees they would like to win, and at the end of the festival they will pick the winners to bring the trees home. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to approve the 1) Application for a one-day Wines License [Friday, December 1, 2023 from 5 PM – 7 PM only]; and 2) Application for a one-day Entertainment License [Friday, December 1, 2023 5 PM – 7 PM and Saturday, December 2, 2023 10 AM – 7 PM] (Live and/or Recorded music). Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus.

RFP Response for 193 Main Street (Fire Station Headquarters Building & Property)/Present: David Michaud, Old New England Construction, Inc. Mr. Wickstrom was also present. He stated that at the last meeting he presented a conceptual overview of what he would do with the Fire station. At this point the Board would need to vote to enter into an agreement and after that he and Town Counsel would begin working on the agreement to move forward. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to allow the Town Manager to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement for 193 Main Street, Fire Station Headquarters. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: Selectman Ampagoomian 1) mentioned that on Providence Road heading south before the Sewer Department someone dumped bedroom furniture and asked that the DPW take care of it. **2)** noted that the Whitinsville Water Company updated some streets to increase their flow and have no come back to repave those streets. Town Manager Gaudette explained that what our policy states is that we are required to wait one construction season for everything to settle and with the weather the way it has been has not allowed for paving projects to move forward. **3)** asked if the stripping on Main Street has been completed. Town Manager Gaudette replied it has not and neither has Purgatory Road. **4)** asked if there was an update on the cannabis facility that was approved. Town Manager Gaudette replied that the town approved two, one of which is a dispensary in Commerce Park and it is open. The second one that was approved on Main Street heading towards 146 and there has been no advancement on that. He stated they have not yet submitted anything to the Planning Board. Ampagoomian asked that if anything could be done to rescind their approval since they have not acted on it. Town Manager Gaudette replied that the Board could approve hundreds of Host Community Agreements if they wanted to but only two are allowed. So if in the meantime another organization came in to request an agreement they could and it would be contingent upon a certificate of occupancy, which the current establishment has not received. **Selectmen Paulhus 1)** announced that there are open seats for the School Committee for anyone that is interested as well as the Northbridge Beautification Committee is looking for volunteers to help with the

Holiday Light celebration.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None
CORRESPONDENCE/None
EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

Chairman Collins announce that the next meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2023.

A motion/Mr. Begin, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the public meeting. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Begin, Collins and Paulhus.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Begin, Clerk

/mjc

DRAFT

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

October 2, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A. 1) May 22, 2023

-Copy of May 22, 2023 meeting minutes

2) June 12, 2023

-Copy of June 12, 2023 meeting minutes

II. PUBLIC HEARING

III. APPOINTMENTS: B. Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials: Mike DeFazio, Veteran/Present: Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials Board Members

-Copy Talent Bank Form

C. Joint Appointment by the Board of Selectmen and Northbridge Housing Authority: Nancy Hill/Present: Northbridge Housing Authority Board Members and Brett Lambert, Exec. Dir. of the NHA

-Copy Talent Bank Form

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

V. DECISIONS:

D. Northbridge Cub Scout Pack 150, Troop 155 & Veteran's/Request to use Memorial Park on Saturday, November 11, 2023 from 10 AM to 2 PM for a Flag Retirement Ceremony/Present: Cub Scout Representative

-Copy of email request

-Copy of Memorial Park Request Form

-Copy of Hold Harmless Agreement

-Copy of Certificate of Liability

E. Benson Road Town-Owned Land (formerly Olson)/Vote to transfer stewardship to the Conservation Commission/Present: David Pickart, Conservation Agent

-Copy of maps

F. Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter "Festival of Trees" Event, [December 1, 2023 – December 3, 2023] in the Great Hall located at 7 Main Street, Whitinsville: 1) Application for a one-day Wines License [Friday, December 1, 2023 from 5 PM – 7 PM only]; and 2) Application for a one-day Entertainment License [Friday, December 1, 2023 5 PM – 7 PM and Saturday, December 2, 2023 10 AM – 7 PM] (Live and/or Recorded music)/Present: Leslie Reichert

-Copy of email request

-Copy one-day license application

-Copy of Revenue Enforcement and Protection Attestation

- Copy of Hold Harmless Agreement
- Copy of Workers' Compensation Affidavit
- Copy of TIPS Certification
- Copy of One-day entertainment application
- Copy of Articles of Organization
- Copy of layout

VI. DISCUSSIONS

G. RFP Response for 193 Main Street (Fire Station Headquarters Building & Property)/Present: David Michaud, Old New England Construction, Inc.

- Copy of presentation of the proposal

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

X. CORRESPONDENCE/None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

DRAFT

A.3.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 14, 2023

JOINT MEETING WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE NORTHBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER

- I. Call to Order (5:40 PM)/Joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen
- II. In attendance were: School Committee: Shannon Canoy Jill Leonard Heather Alden Jonathan Canoy
Board of Selectmen: Thomas Melia Charles Ampagoomian Russell Collins Brian Paulhus Thomas Begin.
Also in attendance were Superintendent Amy McKinstry, Director of Business and Finance Melissa Walker, and Town Clerk Linda Zywiec II. Explanation of Procedure. Only one candidate in the room at a time. Each will be asked the same question by the same person in the same order.
- III. First Candidate: Carl Cowen.
- A. What are the Main Priorities Facing the District?**
The District runs well overall. Over the last few years, the main issue has been attracting and retaining talent. This seems to be an ongoing problem across many districts. This isn't something that a quick infusion of money will fix. Good teachers seem to move on, and if it is not because of a major increase in pay, it is because of the culture in the district. The district needs to focus on attracting and retaining quality staff.
- B. Most Important Characteristics of a School Committee? Of a School Committee Member?**
Working in a collaborative and cohesive manner. They are responsible to the community and need to have the best interests of the community and students in mind when making decisions. ii. Being a good team member. Known how to switch between being a leader and a follower at times. Your view point isn't the only one and everyone has their own and needs to be able to discuss it.
- C. What do you understand the role of the School Committee to be and how will you communicate that to the Community?**
Oversight of the office of the Superintendent, Oversight and setting priorities of the Budget for the district, Overview and Development of Policies for the district.
- D. What Past/Present connections to the district do you have?**
Daughter is currently a Senior in the District, and has been in district for her whole education. Pleased with the experience she has had. He has tried to be involved whenever possible. Was part of the committee to help find a new NMS Principal, was on School Council, and the Strategic Planning '21-'24 parent council. Was an assistant track coach.
- E. What is the most important aspect of your personal or professional life that you will bring to the position?**
After Military service, worked in the JRTC program in a RI high school. Was on the Leadership team at the High School and worked alongside teachers and Admins in the school to face many challenges.
- F. What Core Values should be imparted to the students? How should that be implemented?**
It is the policy of the Northbridge Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or homelessness in its educational programs, services, activities, or employment.
The main thing that should be imparted is the rule "Treat others they way you wish to be treated." That should be the Core Value at all levels.
- G. Do you Support or not Support having a Police Officer act as the Resource Officer?**

The intent to make the connections is a good one, and police should be used as resource officers. Does not think a uniformed police officer should be posted at a school every day, as it might give off the impression that the school is not a safe place.

H. Are there any Grade levels that it is more important for a Resource Officer to interact with?

No one grade is more important in terms of what the resource officer can provide. It is important for all students of all grades to see the resource officer, both in and out of uniform at the schools.

I. What is your Educational Philosophy and how does it align with Demographic Changes?

Does not want to change much from how the district is working currently, as the current programs have been made to support the current students.

J. What are some of the most positive things you have seen about the district? What are some of the biggest issues that need to be addressed?

The positives of the district is the Culture in the schools. The main issue is needing to retain quality workers and getting parents involved at every level of the district.

IV. Second Candidate: Beth Tek

A. What are the Main Priorities facing the District?

Recovery from the Pandemic as well as Social/Emotional Health of the students and Staff. Students are behind academically and developmentally by about 3 years, according to experts. Supports Wholistic Development of the students and supporting a change in mindset to accelerate the rate of growth to recover from the Pandemic.

B. Most Important Characteristics of a School Committee? Of a School Committee Member?

1) District and School Mission/Vision focused. Comes from Leadership, but needs whole community buy in. 2) High Expectations for district 3) Tools and Measures to make sure the District is meeting the goals. 4) Effective and Effectively implemented Curriculum and Instruction. 5) Finance and Operation Oversight and Efficiency. 6) Helping shape Staff and Student mindsets to meet the District Mission. ii. Passion for Kids. Job is to support and Guide system. Need data to be able to do so. Need to get a feel for the school yourself and be present at the schools. Need to listen to families.

C. What do you understand the role of the School Committee to be and how will you communicate that to the Community?

Not here to push individual agenda, but what is best for the students. Need to get information from all sources to help guide the decisions the School Committee makes.

D. What Past/Present connections to the district do you have?

Moved here 12 years ago. Children are not at NPS. One goes to a Private School and another is School Choices out. Not here for her children, but for the district in general. Has seen more support for schools in recent years. Has not heard talk about student misbehavior at NPS and is ready to take the district to the next step.

E. What is the most important aspect of your personal or professional life that you will bring to the position?

Has been studying the Analytics of schools for 20 years since No Child left Behind. Has done work at the Federal, State, and Private levels to work with schools and how to improve needed areas. Has a PhD in Education. There is no one fix, but several effective pieces for continued improvements in Satisfaction and Achievement she can bring in.

F. Develop Plan to comfort Fears the Students may have about School/Life? It is the policy of the Northbridge Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or homelessness in its educational programs, services, activities, or employment.

Asked if there is a Curriculum in place for Social/Emotional Learning. Knows of PD for staff to help set a safe and welcoming climate to accept others. Once this is implemented, see how the students react to it and what needs to be aligned to allow the outcomes to be the most positive impact.

G. Do you Support or not Support having a Police Officer act as the Resource Officer?

Sees the Pros and Cons. Pros: Establish feeling of Safety between students and Police. Cons: Some students may feel unsafe depending on their prior contact with the Law and their families. In this district, the cons do not outweigh the pros of having the officers in the buildings. Would like for the weapons to not be on school grounds.

H. Are there any Grade levels that it is more important for a Resource Officer to interact with?

All are important when it comes to having the resource officer be present.

I. What is your Educational Philosophy and how does it align with Demographic Changes?

ILP (Individual Learning Plans) at Scale. Giving the Younger Students more time to learn about the things that interest them to accelerate learning. Giving them more freedom to choose what they learn helps them to learn faster. Also offering the ability to shadow and have internships at local businesses/trades. Helping to understand what the students are looking for and how to efficiently help them do it.

J. What are some of the most positive things you have seen about the district? What are some of the biggest issues that need to be addressed?

The most positive thing about the district is the very dedicated teachers in the district. Wants to see them given opportunities to be leaders and receive more organic recognition, as that will help retain talent. It is the policy of the Northbridge Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or homelessness in its educational programs, services, activities, or employment. ii. Reading comprehension from K-4 because of the Pandemic. It is a difficult skill to learn and the students need support and resources pro-actively to build them up. Structured supports feel more “Fail before Support is received”, but we should be giving supports before failure happens.

- V. Voting Both candidates were brought in and it was determined that with a total of 9 people between the voting members, the first to reach 5 votes would be the next member of the School Committee. A Motion was made by Jonathan Canoy to appoint Carl Cowen to the open position. This was seconded by Tom Begin. Carl Cowen received 6 votes: 2 from the School Committee, and 4 from the Board of Selectmen.

- VI. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Begin, Clerk

/mjc

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

November 14, 2023

- I. APPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEWS: School Committee [1 vacancy]**
- 1) Carl Cowen**
 - Copy of Talent Bank Application**
 - Copy of resume**
 - 2) Beth-Ann Tek**
 - Copy of Talent Bank Application**
 - Copy of resume**
- II. Adjourn**

DRAFT

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 22, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Collins at 6:30 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. Board Members Present: Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus. Selectman Begin was absent and it is duly noted. **Also Present:** Town Manager Adam D. Gaudette.

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

A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to go into Executive Session **under MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)(3)** for the following purpose: To discuss strategy with respect to litigation, Whitinsville Water Company rate increase petition to the Department of Public Utilities, DPU no. 23-64; and to reconvene in open session. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Ampagoomian/Yes, Selectman Melia/Yes, Selectman Paulhus/Yes, and Chairman Collins/Yes.

Open Session Adjourned: 6:31 PM

Executive Session Convened: 6:32 PM

Executive Session Adjourned: 6:55 PM

Open Session Reconvened: 7:00 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Senator Ryan Fattman and Representative David Muradian/1) STATE BUDGET UPDATE. Representative Muradian began and stated that the Governor's budget will be coming out Wednesday so the update will not be the exact numbers but what they are looking at currently is \$8.7 billion toward local aid in the proposed budget. The House does their version of the operational budget come April and the Senate will do their version come May. Rep. Muradian noted that the difficult nature of it is they are touting no tax increases, but there are initiatives that give local options to raise taxes. He also said that Northbridge received an additional \$246,834 that was redistributed in grant funding towards Chapter 90. The Governor's most recent actions included cuts, which both he and Senator Fattman will review, but plan to fight to do all that they can to bring more local aid and earmarks back to their communities. Senator Fattman reiterated that the State is experiencing financial challenges and said the governor announced ten days ago that there will be emergency 9C cuts, which we have not seen happen in a very long time in the Commonwealth. Senator Fattman informed the board that with the current budget, he and Rep. Muradian worked hard in partnering with the Chamber of Commerce to support some of the local businesses. The hope was to offset costs and to make business easier in the Commonwealth, especially with the rising costs, inflation and increases in the cost of living. Unfortunately, that number was cut in half for this year's budget, which is a real consequence and what we are experiencing right now. Currently, revenues are coming up short and we are looking at a shortfall between \$750 million and a \$1 billion more than what was projected. Senator Fattman added that they did pass tax relief and highlighted the main aspects of the bill. Estate tax is now doubled from \$1 billion, which makes it more fair and more competitive, increased the childcare tax credit and increased the ability for the local level to increase the property tax deductions. Senator Fattman announced that they had the opportunity to send citations to 2 young men from the local Boy Scout troop, and congratulated them on their hard work. Selectman Ampagoomian voiced concern for the governor's proposal to allocate \$32 million for electric school buses. Selectman Paulhus noted the increase in

expenditures, housing programs and migrant housing funding that go to certain towns and towns like Northbridge are left out of those or could face cuts because we don't receive those programs. He followed up asking if this would be something that continues and we will continue to see bigger gaps in our funds. Senator Fattman responded and stated that it is concerning as it is on the Federal Government and immigration policy on the southern border. He further explained that this was changed in October of 2022, when they expanded the asylum program, which used to be two or three nations in the Caribbean and South America that qualified and essentially most all nations now qualify with 30,000 people per month are allowed acceptance to come into the US and at least 100,000 on a waiting list for the last two years. Since 1983, Massachusetts has been the only state with a Right to Shelter law, which once was only for Massachusetts residents and is now expanded to everyone. He explained they have worked to try to put residency requirements in, which has unfortunately fallen on deaf ears. Selectman Collins asked about the gas tax that gets taken out for roads and bridges and if anyone has thought about the increase in electric cars that obviously do not need gas and what will happen when that money is no longer being funded. Senator Fattman added that there is a tax on underground storage tanks as well as a trust fund that is supposed to be deposited into yearly and every year the legislature takes the money out and puts it in the general fund. He noted that it is a problem, but we are far away from having an all-electric fleet. Senator Fattman mentioned Northbridge resident, George Warren, who was a huge advocate for getting the replica Liberty Bell reopened to the public. He mentioned that he did a wonderful job. Representative Muradian added that it has been a long time coming. He also commended Town Manager Gaudette, stating that any questions from the Selectmen or residents are brought to their attention and he does a great job advocating for the Town.

2) Discussion about banning the sale of nips (mini liquor bottles). Representative Muradian stated that House Bill #767 and a corresponding Senate Bill #570 for this purpose. Public hearings were held in June and the house bill has not gone any further, but the senate bill was reported favorably to Senate Ways and Means. Selectman Melia noted that a resident approached him and suggested that the town create a bylaw to ban the nips. He explained that he approached a couple of package stores and was told that banning the nips would hurt them financially if this were to go through. He then said this type of thing should be done at the State level.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 14, 2023. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Paulhus to approve the August 14, 2023 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus. **September 11, 2023.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/ Mr. Paulhus to approve the September 11, 2023 minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, and Paulhus. Abstain: Melia.

Chairman Collins announced that they are going to move appointments before the public hearings.

APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen: Conservation Commission - Marcella Regal / Vote to appoint - Present: David Pickart, Conservation Agent. Mr. Pickart stated that Ms. Regal has attended a couple of meetings a would be a great asset to the committee. He noted that she lived in Grafton before moving to Northbridge, has volunteered a lot of time and she is particularly interested in the trails at Plummers Landing. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to appoint Ms. Marcella Regal to the Conservation Commission. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

WRTA Advisory Board - Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director / Vote to appoint. Ms. Bol requested to be appointed to the Advisory Board of the WRTA since it is something she deals with on a daily basis in her realm of work. She feels it is important for her voice and the requests of the elderly to be heard by the WRTA. She explained that transportation is a struggle especially for seniors and they are finding that those needs are not being met, and yet the WRTA buses can be seen with low ridership. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to appoint Ms. Bol to the WRTA Advisory Board. Vote

yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

RESIGNATIONS: Steven Nye, Building, Planning & Construction Comm. (Resignation) / Vote to accept. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to accept his letter of resignation and send a letter of thanks. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

The meeting resumed back to the posted order.

PUBLIC HEARING / 7:05 PM – Request to transfer the Farmer Series Pouring Permit, non-alcoholic Common Victualler License, and Weekday Entertainment Licenses from Purgatory Beer Company, LLC [Kevin Mulvehill, Mgr.], 670 Linwood Ave., Bldg. C., Whitinsville, MA to Murder Hill LLC [Adrienne Roesch, Mgr.] at the same location. Chairman Collins read aloud the public hearing notice. A motion/Mr. Paulhus, seconded/Mr. Melia to open the public hearing. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus. Mr. Ben Roesch and his wife Ms. Adrienne Roesch were present. Mr. Roesch explained that the name comes from the property near their house because of the crows that reside there. A group of crows is called a murder and the property is all hillside. They had decided when they had their own business the name would be Murder Hill. Selectman Ampagoomian reminded them with their entertainment license to be cognitive of their neighbors. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the transfer of the Farmer Series Pouring Permit, non-alcoholic Common Victualler License, and Weekday Entertainment Licenses from Purgatory Beer Company, LLC [Kevin Mulvehill, Mgr.], 670 Linwood Ave., Bldg. C., Whitinsville, MA to Murder Hill LLC [Adrienne Roesch, Mgr.]. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

PUBLIC MEETING: FY 2024 Community Development Block Grant Program: Announcement of CDBG funding opportunities. Community input and public comments are welcome. Present: Wayne Darragh, Community Opportunities Group. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to open the public meeting. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus. Mr. Darragh distributed a handout to attendees. A copy of the handout is attached to these minutes with information about the grant program, eligible activities and progress on the current CDBG grant. Mr. Darragh explained that he is here tonight to begin discussion about the town's next Community Development Block Grant application. He stated that the application is due on March 25, 2024, and there will be another public hearing between now and then. Mr. Darragh pointed out that tonight's meeting is for public outreach and that a mailer was sent out to residents to inform them of the opportunity for public input. He mentioned that they have done some preliminary formulation of the approach they would like to take with this grant application and is considering doing some infrastructure work and some housing rehab work. The Slum and Blight inventories that were completed include certain roads that are considered to be in fair or poor condition and would be eligible for CBDG funds for repairs. In addition, Mr. Darragh noted that they would be looking at Church Avenue as it is a fairly major road and is in poor condition. He indicated that the estimate for the entire length of Church Avenue came in over \$3 million dollars, which makes it impossible to cover the entire cost with the grant alone. The most the town can request in this round is \$950,000 dollars, so in order to complete the entire road, we will need to take a phased approach to it. Doing that would require the designer and the DPW to come up with a breakdown of the project in 3 to 4 phases as well as submitting grant applications each year. DPW Director Jamie Luchini explained that he and the Town Planner, Mr. Bechtholdt felt this was a good approach to taking care of the infrastructure at that location, specifically the water and sewer lines, half of which was put in around 1920 and the other half in the 1950's. It is a major undertaking, but with the grant opportunity they felt it was a good opportunity to upgrade the infrastructure. Mr. Luchini added that fortunately the road substructure is laid out in two sections, which allows them to do the project in phases. Mr. Darragh acknowledged that there are other projects that can be done such as handicapped accessibility and housing rehab. They are flexible with projects but there are certain national objectives that need to be met in order to get funding. Those objectives include assistance to low/moderate

income (LMI) individuals or the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The roadway project is considered addressing the prevention or elimination of slums or blight because of the condition of the road. Mr. Darragh feels that it would be a very competitive project and they have seen a lot more communities competing for infrastructure funds due to the difficulty of the housing rehab programs. Selectman Paulhus asked about the cost and how the pricing can change over the years and gave the example that pricing goes up the second year and the grant funds are used up with the project not being completed, and asked if this is a concern or a risk. Mr. Darragh replied that it is a concern, especially now that Northbridge is a competitive community and no longer guaranteed funding so every year we are required to go out and apply each year and compete for those funds. He also noted that in the most recent funding round all of the applications were funded, and the State is not getting as many applications as they have in years' past. He also noted that it is not a reason to change the approach. Town Manager Gaudette added that every year the town tries to put money aside for a road project so there may be a time when you need to take that money to be used towards this project if needed. Chairman Collins opened the discussion to any residents that were present. Troy Anderson, resident, asked if the project would have anything to do with housing. Mr. Darragh explained the town can seek funding for multiple activities and noted that the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities had increased the maximum amount a town could receive from \$800K to \$950K. Chairman Collins asked Mr. Darragh's opinion about moving forward with an application that included both housing rehabilitation and Church Avenue. Mr. Darragh responded an application that included a small housing rehabilitation program, say 3 to 4 units, would not only impact the amount of funding available for the reconstruction of Church Avenue but it would also require a bigger administrative budget which would further limit the funding available for Church Avenue. In his opinion, the impact of such a small rehab program was not worth the tradeoff. He suggested the Town consider going all in on Church Avenue with this application in order to complete as much of the project as possible in Phase 1 then consider adding housing rehab to future applications when the costs of future phases may be less. Resident Cynthia Vlasaty requested handicapped parking on Church Street. Chairman Collins informed her that this project is for Church Avenue not Church Street, but her request could be handled by the Safety Committee. Mr. Darragh announced that there is no motion for tonight's meeting, more so for public comment, and the next meeting, February 26, 2024, will be the official public hearing. At that meeting, he will have a more detailed budget and what the application will look like. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 7, 2024] / Vote to close the warrant on Friday, March 15, 2024 at 12 Noon. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to close the Spring Annual Town Meeting warrant on Friday, March 15, 2024 and 12 Noon. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

Annual Town Election [May 21, 2024] / Vote to give notice to the Town Clerk to place vacancies from elected boards on the Town Election Warrant. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to give notice to the Town Clerk to place vacancies from elected boards on the Town Election Warrant. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

Conservation Commission Fund / Vote to accept monetary donation in the amount of \$50 from Dennis and Barbara McNamee. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to accept the monetary donation in the amount of \$50 for the Conservation Commission from Dennis and Barbara McNamee. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

Safety Committee Minutes [September 20, 2023] / Vote to accept the recommendations. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of September 20, 2023. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deed (Timothy and Jacquelyn Heffernan, Lot 66 Fir Ave South, double burial lot)/Vote to approve the sale. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the sale of Lot 66 Fir Ave. South to Timothy and Jacquelyn Heffernan. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the tree trimming that was completed on Mendon Road is National Grid work or town. DPW Director Jamie Luchini replied that it is National Grid and noted that they have been doing a lot of work getting a lot of trees and trimming taken care of.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Proposal for the Northbridge Elementary School Project. Town Manager Gaudette noted that proposals were due last week and they will be scheduling an interview with the proposer on February 26th.

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Under MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)(3) for the following purpose: To discuss strategy with respect to litigation, Whitinsville Water Company rate increase petition to the Department of Public Utilities, DPU no. 23-64.

Chairman Collins announced that the next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2024.

A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Paulhus to adjourn the public meeting. Vote yes/Ampagoomian, Collins, Melia and Paulhus.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Begin, Clerk

/mjc

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

January 22, 2024

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:30 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senator Ryan Fattman and Representative David Muradian/1) STATE BUDGET UPDATE and 2) Discussion about banning the sale of nips (mini liquor bottles)

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. 1) August 14, 2023

-Copy of August 14, 2023 minutes

2) September 11, 2023

-Copy of September 11, 2023 minutes

II. PUBLIC HEARING / 7:05 PM – B. Request to transfer the Farmer Series Pouring Permit, non-alcoholic Common Victualler License, and Weekday Entertainment Licenses from Purgatory Beer Company, LLC [Kevin Mulvehill, Mgr.], 670 Linwood Ave., Bldg. C., Whitinsville, MA to Murder Hill LLC [Adrienne Roesch, Mgr.] at the same location.

-Copy of receipt for payment of license

-Copy of application for Transfer of License

-Copy of Certificate of good standing

-Copy of Certificate of Compliance

-Copy of Corporate vote

-Copy of Articles of Organization

-Copy of Lease agreement

-Copy of Guaranty of Lease agreement

-Copy of layout

-Copy of public hearing notice

-Copy of Purchase and Sale Agreement

-Copy of Revenue Enforcement and Protection Attestation

-Copy of Workers' Compensation Affidavit

-Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance

-Copy of Tips certifications

-Copy of Common Victualler application

-Copy of entertainment application

PUBLIC MEETING:

C. FY 2024 Community Development Block Grant Program: Announcement of CDBG funding opportunities. Community input and public comments are welcome. Present: Wayne Darragh, Community Opportunities Group

-Copy of CDBG Funding Opportunity presentation

-Copy of Construction cost estimate

III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen:

D. 1) Conservation Commission - Marcella Regal / Vote to appoint - Present: David Pickart,

Conservation Agent

- Copy of memorandum of new member appointment
- Copy of Talen Bank form for Marcella Regal

2) WRTA Advisory Board - Kelly Bol, Senior Center Director / Vote to appoint/No documentation

RESIGNATIONS: E. Steven Nye, Building, Planning & Construction Comm. (Resignation) / Vote to accept
-Copy of letter of resignation

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

V. DECISIONS

F. Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 7, 2024] / 1) Vote to close the warrant on Friday, March 15, 2024 at 12 Noon/No documentation

G. Annual Town Election [May 21, 2024] / Vote to give notice to the Town Clerk to place vacancies from elected boards on the Town Election Warrant
-Copy of memo with vacancies to be placed on the ballot

H. Conservation Commission Fund / Vote to accept monetary donation in the amount of \$50 from Dennis and Barbara McNamee
-Copy of memo for donations

I. Safety Committee Minutes [September 20, 2023] / Vote to accept the recommendations
-Copy of Safety Committee minutes from September 20, 2023

J. Pine Grove Cemetery Deed: Timothy and Jacquelyn Heffernan (66 Fir Ave South, double burial lot)/Vote to approve the sale
-Copy of Pine Grove Cemetery deed

VI. DISCUSSIONS/None

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/No documentation

X. CORRESPONDENCE/None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: K. Under MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)(3) for the following purpose: To discuss strategy with respect to litigation, Whitinsville Water Company rate increase petition to the Department of Public Utilities, DPU no. 23-64/Documentation not released until approved by Town Counsel

B.1.



**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE
7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588**
Phone: (508) 234-2095 Fax: (508) 234-7640
www.northbridgema.org

Adam D. Gaudette
Town Manager

February 9, 2024

Ms. Jenna E. Gouin
(via First Class Mail and Email)
~~3 Lynde Avenue~~
Webster, MA 01570

Dear Ms. Gouin:

This letter is to inform you that you are being offered the position of Community Health Worker with the Town of Northbridge. The position is full-time (35 hours per week) with an annual salary of \$65,000 and is governed by the personnel rules and regulations of the Town of Northbridge including a six-month probationary period.

Please contact me at 508-234-2095, at your earliest convenience to complete a CORI check as this offer is contingent upon your passing a CORI check as well as a pre-employment physical and drug screen, which is to be scheduled with and completed by Driver Health Services, 126 Worcester Street, North Grafton, MA 01536. They can be reached at 774-293-5511. *Note: Please do not schedule the physical and drug screen until you hear from us after we review the results of your CORI.*

This position includes health benefits (30 days after start date) and paid time off including 2 weeks of vacation after one year. Additional details regarding benefits and more can be found in the Personnel Policy Manual that is enclosed for your convenience.

Successful results of the CORI, pre-employment physical and drug screen will be followed up with a formal appointment by the Town Manager at an upcoming Board of Selectmen's Meeting.

If you intend to accept this job offer, please sign and return the original job offer letter in the envelope provided or electronically to ssusienka@northbridgema.org and keep the copy for your records.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 508-234-2095.

Very truly yours,

Sharon L. Susienka
Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager/HR

JOB OFFER ACCEPTED:

Date: 02.11.2024

Jenna E. Gouin

~~xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx (978) 602-0019~~

[LinkedIn](#) • Webster, MA 01570

October 2, 2023

Dear Mr. Robichaud:

I am writing to express my interest in the Community Health Worker position supporting the Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health. As a dedicated human services professional with extensive experience high-risk case management, I am confident that my experience and understanding of the Central Massachusetts communities will allow me to excel in this position.

Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to working with underserved and underrepresented populations within our local communities. I have a wealth of experience in assisting individuals apply for and obtain various public benefits, seeking appropriate medical and mental health resources, supporting families and caregivers, as well as young and disabled populations. I possess excellent communication, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills, which have allowed me to work effectively with diverse teams to achieve specific targets.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute my expertise and experience to these communities. I am confident that my skills and knowledge will enable me to make a valuable contribution.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to discussing my qualifications further in an interview.

Sincerely,

Jenna E. Gouin

- Enhanced and sustained enrollee health and functional status by formulating individualized care plans for community long-term care and social support services.
- Accomplished over 80% reduction in hospital admission rates by providing prompt and effective targeted case management services to vulnerable populations.
- Coordinated and arranged delivery of suitable community long-term care and social support services as approved by One Care (OC) and Senior Care Organizations (SCO).

St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, MA

2007 - 2015

Unit Secretary Orthopedic Surgery/Neurosurgery

Spearheaded unit representation as ambassador and warmly welcomed all patients, family members, and visitors upon arrival. Executed physician orders with precision and vigilance, while proactively assessing need for follow-up. Consistently delivered exceptional experiences to staff, patients, families, and visitors. Leveraged Electronic Health Record system to streamline patient care across hospital departments and clinicians. Orchestrated patient portal registration with seamless coordination by providing education and support and ensuring optimal engagement. Cultivated robust partnerships with hospital leadership, physicians, nursing, and ancillary staff to foster collaborative teamwork. Supported safety initiatives as dedicated safety coach in collaboration with risk management to identify areas for process improvement and enhance overall safety standards.

- Implemented GEMBA principles of Lean Daily Management on unit, while upskilling staff on relevant methodologies and principles to boost productivity and efficiency.
- Oversaw volunteer program implementation by leveraging Lean Daily Management techniques to educate staff and provide ongoing support as valuable resources.
- Conceptualized and executed special caring project in partnership with nursing administration with focus on enhancing patient experiences through effective project management.
- Coordinated with vice president of marketing to promote and educate physicians on latest international classification of disease documentation changes and drive positive outcomes.

Additional Experience

Client Coordinator, RE/MAX Vision (Jo-Ann Szymczak Team), Worcester, MA

Case Manager, St. Luke's Guesthouse, Southbridge, MA

Community Services and Information Supervisor, Tri-Valley, Inc., Dudley, MA

Education

Master of Business Administration concentration in Management | Master of Science Organizational Leadership

Nichols College, Dudley, MA

Bachelor of Arts in English concentration in Writing

Worcester State University, Worcester, MA

Certifications

Disability Awareness and Cultural Competency (2016)

Massachusetts Opioid Epidemic Community Health Worker Certificate, Center for Health Impact (2017)

Massachusetts Behavioral Health Certificate, Boston University (2017)

Massachusetts Real Estate Salesperson License (2022)

Accomplishments

- COABE Journal; Volume 12, Issue 1 Spring 2023. The Power of Student Voice: Striving for Partnership, Equity, and Excellence. [Journal of Research and Practice for Adult Literacy, Secondary, and Basic Education \(mcusercontent.com\)](https://mcusercontent.com/journal-of-research-and-practice-for-adult-literacy-secondary-and-basic-education)
- Webster Adult Basic Education *Linkages* Advising Program Curriculum: Scope and Sequence Document. [Linkages Advising Program Scope and Sequence Webster Adult Education.pdf \(sables.org\)](https://sables.org/Linkages-Advising-Program-Scope-and-Sequence-Webster-Adult-Education.pdf)



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
BOARD OF HEALTH
Aldrich School Town Hall Annex - 14 Hill Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588
Phone# (508) 234-3272

MEMORANDUM

March 13, 2024

To: Adam Gaudette, Town Manager

From: Lani Criasia, Chairwoman, Board of Health

Subject: Appointment of Inspector of Animals – **Scott Schofield**

Please allow this memorandum to serve as the recommendation of this office that Mr. Scott Schofield be re-nominated to the position of Inspector of Animals for the Town of Northbridge, subject to approval by the Department of Agricultural Resources – Division of Animal Health. The Board of Health, at a meeting held March 12, 2024, voted unanimously to support this recommendation.

If you should have any questions regarding this recommendation to you as the appointing authority for this position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

LC/jmg

B.2.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114
www.mass.gov/agr



Maura T. Healey
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll
LIEUTENANT

Rebecca L. Tepper
SECRETARY

Ashley E. Randle
COMMISSIONER

March 4, 2024

RE: NOMINATION OF INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Nominating Authority:

Enclosed is the nomination form for the Inspector of Animals for your city or town. **This form is due back to the Division of Animal Health by April 1, 2024.** The appointment will run from May 1, 2024, until April 30, 2025. If more than one inspector was appointed for your city or town, there is a separate form for each. If you are nominating the same inspector(s) this year, **be sure that all of the contact information is complete and still correct.** Any corrections should be made in the space provided on the right. If you will be nominating a new inspector, that person's information should be entered in the space provided on the right. Submit a separate form for each inspector nominated. Also, be sure that all of your (nominating authority) information is complete and correct. Any changes to your information should be made in the space provided to the right.

Once all of the contact information is confirmed to be correct, all that is needed is to **have the nominee sign the form**, accepting the nomination and swearing to faithfully perform the duties of that office. **The nominee's signature must be notarized.** In many cases the city or town clerk is a notary.

Your municipality can have as many animal inspectors appointed as you feel are needed to fulfill the duties. Please note, a duty of the municipal animal inspector is the annual "barn inspection". An inspector is not able to perform an inspection on their own property. If your inspector keeps animals in your town, then the municipality will require an additional inspector to perform that inspection.

After the nominee's signature has been notarized, simply **return the form to the Division of Animal Health at the address listed at the top of the form.** Please note that this is a new mailing address. The Division of Animal Health will send back confirmation of the inspector's appointment. **Please note that regardless of when the most recent appointment was made, it is only valid through April 30, 2024.** This nomination will cover the year starting May 1, 2024, and run until April 30, 2025.

If you have any questions, please call Ashley Kraft at the cellphone number (617) 823- 0145 or email Ashley.Kraft@mass.gov.

Thank you,

Michael Cahill, Director
Division of Animal Health



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Agricultural Resources
Division of Animal Health
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Nomination of Inspector of Animals

In accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 129, sections 15 and 16, nominating authorities of each city and town are required to nominate one or more inspectors of animals by April 1, 2024. Please complete or make necessary changes and return this form to the above address. The Director will review your nomination and, assuming appointment is confirmed, will return to you a Certificate of Appointment. Please submit one form for each person nominated. Any city or town not in compliance is subject to a penalty of \$500.

City or Town of Northbridge

3/4/2024

To the Director, Division of Animal Health, Department of Agricultural Resources

In accordance with the provisions of section 15 of Chapter 129, General Laws, as amended, the following nomination of inspector of animals for the year ending April 30, 2025 is sent for your approval:

Inspector of Animals

Inspector: (Note all changes here)

Name: Scott Schofield

Name: _____

Mail Address: 7 Main St - Northbridge Board of Health

Mail: _____

Whitinsville, MA - 01588

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Phone: (508) 234-3272 Fax:(508) 234-0821

Email: _____

Email: schof6221@gmail.com

Nominating Authority: (Note all changes here)

Nominating Authority

Contact: _____

Contact: Adam D. Gaudette

Office: _____

Office: Town Manager's Office

Mail: _____

Mail: Northbridge Board of Health 7 Main St

Whitinsville, MA - 01588

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

P: (508) 234-2095 F: (508) 234-7640

Email: _____

Email: agaudette@northbridgemass.org

Acceptance of Nomination of Inspector of Animals (must be notarized)

I hereby accept my nomination as Inspector of Animals for the City or Town of Northbridge, and if and when I am appointed, I solemnly swear to faithfully perform the duties of that office, all of which are listed in General Laws Chapter 129, and Massachusetts Regulations 330 CMR 10.00-10.10 (rabies regulations).

Name (print) _____ Signed _____

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester,ss

Date: _____

Then personally appeared the above-named _____ and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his or her free act and deed, before me.

Notary Public

My commission Expires: _____

Appointment of Inspector of Animals (Division of Animal Health use only)

Notice is hereby given that I, Michael Cahill acting under authority of sections 15 and 16 of Chapter 129 of the General Laws, as amended, hereby approve the nomination of _____ as Inspector of Animals for the City or Town of Northbridge, Massachusetts.

Date Approved: _____

Director, Division of Animal Health

TALENT BANK APPLICATION

please return to:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Northbridge Town Hall
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Pursuant to Town bylaw §4-209 (Eligibility for service),
you must be a registered voter in order to serve.

✓yes per TC
2/28/24

Date:

2/26/2024

Name Mary E. Sughroe-Yacino

P. O. Box _____

Home Address ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Whitinsville

Email Address ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Telephone _____ Cell ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Business Stratus Technologies

Address Maynard, MA Tel. _____

Current Occupation/Title Technical writer

Education B.A., Worcester State University

Governmental, Civic & Community Activities Was a Girl Scout leader in

Douglas for 12 years. I also like to pick up roadside trash
to help beautify my neighborhood.

Charitable & Educational Activities _____

Town Committees or Offices Served on Friends of the Library boards in

Douglas + in Whitinsville. Served on Recycling Committee in Douglas.

I am interested in the following Committees: Trails Stewardship

Please indicate whether the applicant and/or any family members are employed by the Town of

Northbridge. No

NAME:

PRECINCT#

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

COMMITTEE INTEREST (Indicate Committee preference)

- | | |
|--------------------------|----|
| 1. <i>See other page</i> | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Present Interest or business affiliation (dates, places)

See other page

Experience: Volunteer, social service, business (dates, places)

See other page

Special skills and education (be specific)

- I'm a senior technical writer & therefore have excellent writing & editing skills.
- I'm a birder & also a native-plants enthusiast. I also enjoy day hiking & am familiar with local trails.

How experience relates to particular committee interest

I served as secretary for Friends of the WSL, so I've already offered to do that for the Trails committee. As a hiker, birder, & native-plants enthusiast, I have a genuine interest in creating & preserving trails. I've also led a bird walk on a local trail.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mail completed form to:

Northbridge Town Hall
Office of the Town Manager
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Sharon Susienka

D.

From: Bill Davis <daviswr77@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2024 7:12 PM
To: Sharon Susienka; Gary Bechtholdt
Subject: EDC

Good evening.

This email is to inform you that I have to resign from the EDC. Please pass this on to the BOS. It has been a pleasure to serve and I wish the EDC well.

Bill

Frank Nealon Boston Tune-Up 15k Course (Alternate Start)

Measured by Mark Capparella

On Feb 24, 2018

E-mail: mark_capparella@waters.com / cell: 508 740 7836

USATF Certification #MA16032JK
Effective 3/22/2018 - 12/31/2026
Drop -0.33 m/Km, Separation 0.73%

START: Starting line is on the main Nipmuc Regional High School Driveway. It is at the sidewalk curb seam in front of the fire hydrant closest to the Southeast corner of the school, and is 12 feet 3 inches away from this fire hydrant. The point is marked with PK nails, washers and paint.

FINISH: Finish line is on the main Nipmuc Regional High School driveway, which winds around the back of the school. The finish point is 5 feet, 2 inches after the preceding curb seam and 11 inches before the later curb seam. The point is 17 feet, 10 inches from the closest point on the rim of the manhole cover in the driveway before the finish. The point is marked with PK nails, washers and paint.

Split Locations

Mile 1 – 96 feet after mailbox post for #64 Mendon Street

Mile 2 – 22 feet before Verizon utility pole # 22 on South Street, 57 feet before driveway for 68 South St.

Mile 3 – 32 feet before Me. Co. utility pole # 51-50 on South St, opposite from mailbox for #154 South St

5k – 78 feet before Me. Co. utility pole # 54 on South Street, opposite 158 South St

Mile 4 – 39 feet after utility pole # 15 on Oak Dr.

Mile 5 – 61 feet after mailbox post for # 115 Moon Hill Rd.

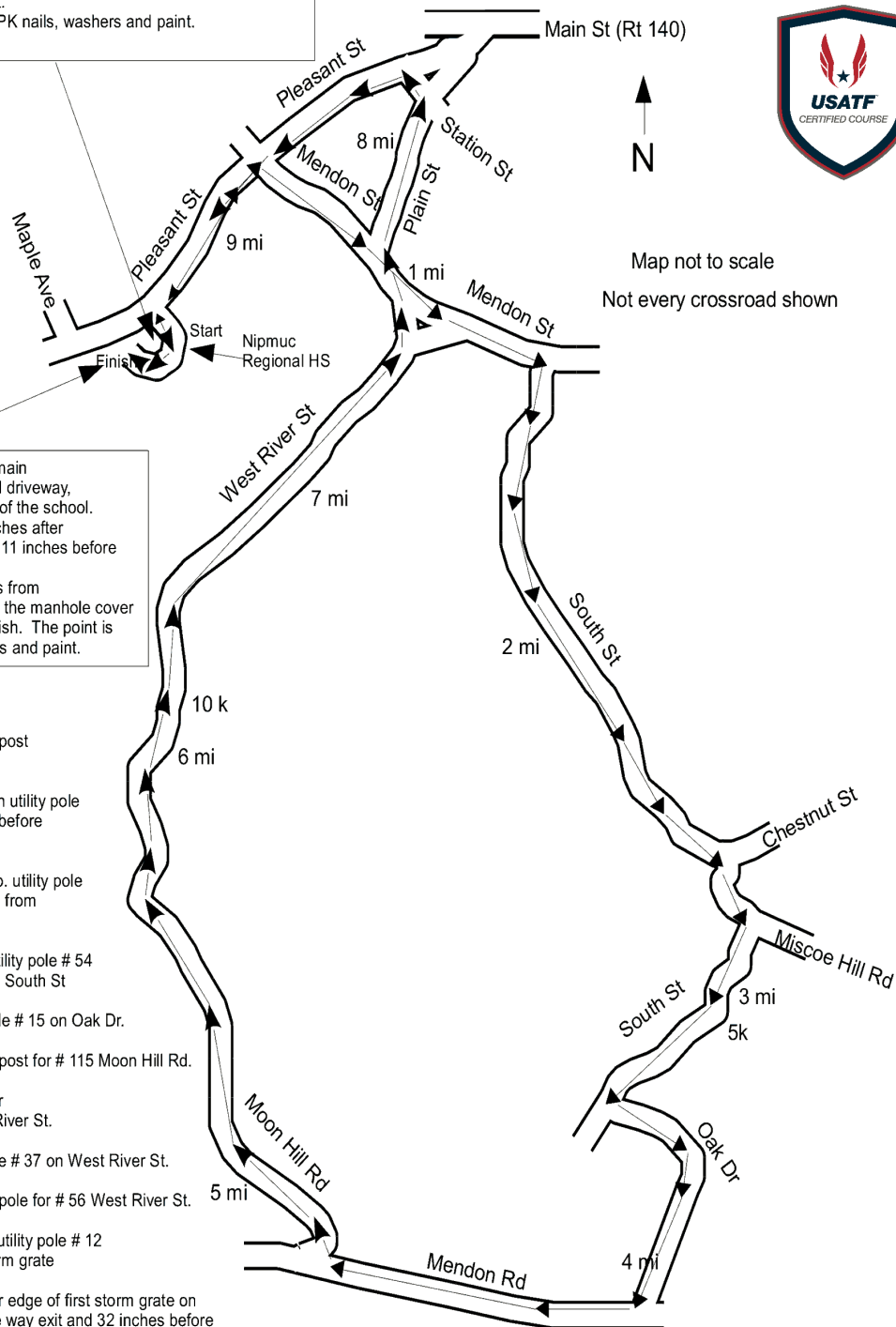
Mile 6 – 61 feet, 4 inches after mailbox post for # 165 West River St.

10k – 41 feet before utility pole # 37 on West River St.

Mile 7 – 42 feet after mailbox pole for # 56 West River St.

Mile 8 – 29 feet after Verizon utility pole # 12 on Plain St., 9 feet before storm grate

Mile 9 – 19 feet, 7 inches after edge of first storm grate on south side of BVT school one way exit and 32 inches before edge of second storm grate on south side of BVT school one way exit on Pleasant St.



Map not to scale
 Not every crossroad shown



**Road Running Technical Council
USA Track & Field**

Measurement Certificate



Name of the course Frank Nealon Boston Tune-Up 15k (Alternate Start) Distance 15 km
 Location (state) MA (city) Upton
 Type of course: road race calibration course
 Measuring method: bicycle steel tape electronic distance meter
 Measured by (name, address, phone & e-mail) Mark Capparella, 30 Scott Hill Blvd, Bellingham MA 02019
508-740-7836; mark_capparella@waters.com & Stephen Peckiconis
 Race contact (name, address, phone & e-mail) TVFR, PO Box 125 Milford, MA 01757

Date(s) when course measured: Oct 8, 2016 & Feb 24, 2018
 Number of measurements of entire course: 2 Course Configuration: figure-8/one-time
 Elevation (meters above sea level) Start 86 m Finish 91 m Highest 105 m Lowest 81 m
 Straight line distance between start & finish 110 m Drop -0.33 m/km Separation 0.73 %
 Type of surface: paved 100 % dirt - % gravel - % grass - % track - %
 Effective date of certification: Mar 22, 2018 Certification code: MA16032JK

Notice to Race Director: Use this Certification Code in *all* public announcements relating to your race.

Be It Officially Noted That

Based on examination of data provided by the above named measurer, the course described above and in the map attached is hereby certified as reasonably accurate in measurement according to the standards adopted by the Road Running Technical Council. If *any* changes are made to the course, this certification becomes void, and the course must then be recertified.

Verification of Course — In the event a National Open Record is set on this course, or at the discretion of USA Track & Field, a verification remeasurement may be required to be performed by a member of the Road Running Technical Council. If such a remeasurement shows the course to be short, then all pending records will be rejected and the course certification will be cancelled.

This certification expires on December 31 in the year 2026

AS NATIONALLY CERTIFIED BY:

Justin Kuo

Date: Mar 28, 2018

Justin Kuo • USATF/RRTC Course Certifier • 39 Oakland Road, Brookline, MA 02445-6700
 Phone: 617-731-9889 • Fax: 617-939-0992 • Email: jkuo@usatfne.org

Melissa Ciaramitaro

From: Tim Labrie
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:16 AM
To: Melissa Ciaramitaro
Subject: Re: Road Race - Boston Tune Up 3/30/24

All set. No issues as we provide coverage for this race every year.

Timothy Labrie
Chief of Police
508-234-6211

From: Melissa Ciaramitaro <mciamitaro@northbridgemass.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:33 AM
To: Jamie Luchini <jluchini@northbridgemass.org>; Tim Labrie <tlabrie@northbridgemass.org>
Subject: Road Race - Boston Tune Up 3/30/24

Good morning,

Please see attached road race request that will be going before the Board of Selectmen on their March 11th agenda. Please let me know if you have any issues with this request.

Thank you

*Melissa Ciaramitaro, Sr. Adm. Asst./HR. Asst.
Town Manager's Office
Town of Northbridge
7 Main Street Whitinsville, MA 01588
Phone: 508-234-2095 Ext. 1202*

Melissa Ciaramitaro

From: Jamie Luchini
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:33 AM
To: Melissa Ciaramitaro; Tim Labrie
Subject: Re: Road Race - Boston Tune Up 3/30/24

No issues on my end.

Thanks,
- Jamie

Jamie Luchini
Director of Public Works
Northbridge DPW

From: Melissa Ciaramitaro <mciamitaro@northbridgemass.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:33 AM
To: Jamie Luchini <jluchini@northbridgemass.org>; Tim Labrie <tlabrie@northbridgemass.org>
Subject: Road Race - Boston Tune Up 3/30/24

Good morning,

Please see attached road race request that will be going before the Board of Selectmen on their March 11th agenda. Please let me know if you have any issues with this request.

Thank you

*Melissa Ciaramitaro, Sr. Adm. Asst./HR. Asst.
Town Manager's Office
Town of Northbridge
7 Main Street Whitinsville, MA 01588
Phone: 508-234-2095 Ext. 1202*

Melissa Ciaramitaro

From: Linda Zywień
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:39 PM
To: Melissa Ciaramitaro; Sharon Susienka
Subject: Fwd: [Northbridge MA] Memorial Day Parade (Sent by Daniel Lessard, derbydan476@gmail.com)

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Contact form at Northbridge MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:49:54 AM
To: Linda Zywień <lzywień@northbridgemass.org>
Subject: [Northbridge MA] Memorial Day Parade (Sent by Daniel Lessard, derbydan476@gmail.com)

Hello lzywień,

Daniel Lessard (derbydan476@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.northbridgemass.org/users/lzywień/contact>) at Northbridge MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.northbridgemass.org/user/88/edit>.

Message:

I am requesting you to be put on the agenda for the next selectmen meeting. To request the permit to have the Memorial Day Parade.

Thank You for your help.

Dan Lessard

Melissa Ciaramitaro

From: Peter Bedigian <pbedigian@omnicontroltech.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 10:32 AM
To: Melissa Ciaramitaro
Cc: Joanne Khoury (joanne.khoury@unibank.com); George Marashian
Subject: Armenian Church Banner Requests

Hi Melissa,

Can you please put the following Armenian Church banner requests in for approval if these dates are available?

1. Martyr's Day Banner 3rd and 4th week of April – commemoration is on April 24th. **April 15th - April 29th**
2. Annual Picnic Banner in August with event being held on August 18th. **August 5th - August 19th**

Thank you.

Best regards,

Pete Bedigian

Peter J. Bedigian
President/CEO
Omni Control Technology, Inc.
1 Main St
PO Box 444
Whitinsville, MA 01588
Office: (508) 234-9121 Ext. 102
Cell: (508) 269-1354
Fax: (508) 234-9512
www.omnicontroltech.com



Melissa Ciaramitaro

From: cdexter <office@vccucc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 3:11 PM
To: Melissa Ciaramitaro; Sharon Susienka
Subject: VCC Harvest Fair Date for 2024

''

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

''

Hi Melissa,

I am writing to request a fair date on Northbridge Common for our annual Harvest Festival on

1) Saturday September 28, 2024 9-3pm with a rain date of Sunday Sept. 29, 2024 12-4pm.

2) Also request that the Village Congregational Church be permitted to have a banner hung across Church Street to advertise their Harvest Festival.

We would appreciate it being up from **Sept. 15-28, 2024.** (Is there a new special form for this?)
16th - 30th Available

I am in the process of getting the forms filled out, signed and a copy of Cert. of Ins. over to you soon.

3) We also request that a portion of Church St. be closed during the hours of the fair on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2022. We would need the road closed off from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. The fair runs from 9 am until 3 pm, but we need to be able to safely set up and take down using the street area between the church and the town common.

The length of Church St. we would need closed would extend from the corner of the Common at the intersection of Church St. and Linwood Ave., up to the intersection of Church St. and Park St., in front of the Post Office.

Thank you kindly,

Claudia Dexter

Church Administrator

Village Congregational Church

5 Church St.

Whitinsville, MA 01588

508-234-7901

www.vccucc.org

Memorial Park Request Form

Event Date: September 28, 2024 Time: 9am to 3pm

Rain date: September 29, 2024 and 11am - 4pm

Organization: Village Congregational Church

Description of the event:

Community Harvest Fair providing an array of crafts, food, entertainment and raffles open to the community and public. Serving and selling foods, drinks, raffle items. Playing music and demonstrations. We are thinking of adding a "beer garden" if feasible.

Do you plan to serve alcohol? Yes No

Do you plan to serve food? Yes No

Do you plan to have entertainment? Yes No

Contact information: Claudia Dexter 508-234-7901 M-TH 9-2pm
(Name) (Phone)

Next available agenda: _____

Date approved: _____

Date and time available: _____

cc: Chief of Police
DPW Director

Prior to consideration by the Board of Selectmen, any requests concerning the use of the Town Common shall be jointly referred to the Director of Public Works and the Chief of Police for comment. If they deem the use appropriate, they are encouraged to recommend any condition they feel necessary to protect the public's safety and preserve the character and integrity of the Town Common. These conditions would then be incorporated into the formal approval, which would be issued by the Board of Selectmen.

Note: *At their meeting of December 5, 2005, the Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the above policy as amended by Selectman Davis: **That there will be no vehicular traffic allowed on the Common without prior approval from the DPW Director or the Police Department.***

Please note in addition to this form we will also need the following:

Business Certificate/Articles of Organization [If applicable]

Hold Harmless Agreement

Certificate of Insurance [Naming the Town as an additional insured]

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

APPLICATION FOR A ONE-DAY WEEKDAY ENTERTAINMENT
LICENSE

TO THE LICENSING AUTHORITIES:

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

Village Congregational Church of Whitinsville, MA

TO: Obtain a One-day Entertainment License for:


| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| Type: (Check all that apply): | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Concert | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibition | <input type="checkbox"/> Cabaret Public Show |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Live band | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: DJ (disc Jockey) | | |
| Includes: | <input type="checkbox"/> Dancing by patrons | <input type="checkbox"/> Dancing by entertainers or performers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recorded music | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Live music | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amplification System | | <input type="checkbox"/> Floor show | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Light show | <input type="checkbox"/> Theatrical exhibition, play or moving picture show | <input type="checkbox"/> Other dynamic audio or visual show (whether live or recorded) | | | |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> INDOOR | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OUTDOOR | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | |

GIVE LOCATION BY STREET AND NUMBER:

AT: 5 Church Street Whitinsville, MA and Northbridge Town Commom
in said Town of Northbridge in accordance with the rules and regulations made under authority of said Statutes.

ON: (date and time)* September 28, 2024 9a-4p

Print date Sept. 29, 2024

 (Signature of Applicant)

Print Name: Vincent Osterman
Address: 5 Church St.
City: Whitinsville, MA
State, Zip: 01588
Phone: 508-234-7901
Email: office@vccucc.org

| | | |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| Received: | _____ | _____ |
| | (Date) | (Time) |
| Agenda: | _____ | |

Date License Granted

****Please note a separate application is needed for a one-day Sunday Entertainment**



CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

3/14/2024

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| PRODUCER Gaudette Insurance Agency, Inc. 1 Plummers Corner Whitinsville MA 01588 | CONTACT NAME: Amanda Craven PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): 508-266-6442 E-MAIL ADDRESS: acraven@gaudette-insurance.com | FAX (A/C, No): 508-234-8121 | |
| | INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE | | |
| INSURED Village Congregational Church Treasurer, Prudential Committee 5 Church Street PO Box 217 Whitinsville MA 01588 | INSURER A : Great American Insurance Company | | NAIC # 16691 |
| | INSURER B : The Travelers Indemnity Company | | 25658 |
| | INSURER C : | | |
| | INSURER D : | | |
| | INSURER E : | | |

COVERAGES

CERTIFICATE NUMBER: 1950200002

REVISION NUMBER:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

| INSR LTR | TYPE OF INSURANCE | ADDL INSD | SUBR WVD | POLICY NUMBER | POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY) | POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY) | LIMITS | |
|----------|---|-----------|----------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------|
| A | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-JECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER: | Y | | PAC0660781 | 1/1/2024 | 1/1/2025 | EACH OCCURRENCE | \$ 1,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) | \$ 100,000 |
| | | | | | | | MED EXP (Any one person) | \$ 5,000 |
| | | | | | | | PERSONAL & ADV INJURY | \$ 1,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | GENERAL AGGREGATE | \$ 3,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG | \$ 3,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | | \$ |
| | AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY | | | | | | COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) | \$ |
| | | | | | | | BODILY INJURY (Per person) | \$ |
| | | | | | | | BODILY INJURY (Per accident) | \$ |
| | | | | | | | PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) | \$ |
| | | | | | | | | \$ |
| A | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$ 10,000 | | | UMB0660782 | 1/1/2024 | 1/1/2025 | EACH OCCURRENCE | \$ 3,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | AGGREGATE | \$ 3,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | | \$ |
| B | WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below | Y/N N | N/A | UB5J484859 | 10/1/2023 | 10/1/2024 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PER STATUTE <input type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER | |
| | | | | | | | E.L. EACH ACCIDENT | \$ 1,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE | \$ 1,000,000 |
| | | | | | | | E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT | \$ 1,000,000 |

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

RE: Harvest Festival Saturday, Saturday September 28, 2024.

Town of Northbridge is Additional Insured under General Liability if required by contract.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER**CANCELLATION**
 Town of Northbridge
 7 Main Street
 Whitinsville MA 01588

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

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USE OF TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

PUBLIC WAYS FOR USE OF MEMORIAL PARK

EVENT: Village Congregational Harvest Festival

Rain Date Sept. 29, 2024

RELEASE OF CLAIMS, INDEMNITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

****Please read this document thoroughly before completing and signing****

I, Vincent Osterman, Church Moderator of Village Congregational Church, in consideration of my use of the Town of Northbridge's Public Ways for a non-town sponsored event on Sept. 28, 2024, and for other good and valuable consideration hereby acknowledged, do hereby agree to forever RELEASE the Town of Northbridge, its employees, agents, officers, volunteers, or contractors (the "Town"), from any and all claims, actions, rights of action and causes of action, damages, costs, loss of services, expenses, compensation and attorneys' fees that may have arisen in the past, or may arise in the future, directly or indirectly, from known and unknown personal injuries which I or my guests, employees, agents, successors or assigns may have as the result of my use or the use of my guests, employees or agents of the Town of Northbridge's Public Ways for a non-town sponsored event on Sept. 28, 2024, and all activities related thereto.

I further promise, to INDEMNIFY, REIMBURSE, DEFEND, and HOLD HARMLESS the Town against any and all legal claims and proceedings of any description that may have been asserted in the past, or may be asserted in the future, directly or indirectly, including damages, costs and attorneys' fees, arising from personal injuries to myself or others or property damage resulting from my use, or the use of my guests, employees or agents, of the Town of Northbridge's Public Ways for a non-town sponsored event on Sept. 28, 2024, and all activities related thereto.


I hereby further covenant for myself, my successors and assigns not to sue the said Town on account of any such claim, demand or liability.

I am fully aware that by signing this document I am releasing the Town from liability that may arise as a result of the acts or omissions of the Town. Additionally, it is my intent to release the above mentioned parties from liability and defend and indemnify said parties for liability relating to any accident and resulting injuries and/or death that may occur as a result of my use, or the use of my guests, employees or agents, of the Town of Northbridge's Public Ways for a non-town sponsored event on Sept. 28, 2024, and all activities related thereto.

To the extent I am signing this document on behalf of an organization, corporation, association or similar entity, I represent that I am fully authorized by said entity to execute this document.

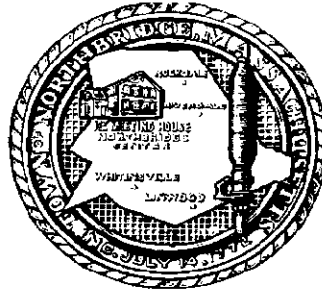
Witness my hand and seal this 20th day of March, 2024.

Name (Printed): Vincent Osterman, Church Moderator, VCC


Signature
Claudia Dettler

Witness

THIS FORM MAY NOT BE ALTERED



NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 17, 2024

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

Dear Board of Selectmen:

The Northbridge Safety Committee met **WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17, 2024** at the Police Department. In attendance: Timothy Labrie, Jamie Luchini, Gary Bechtholdt, George Murray, Robert Knapik and Matt Piekarski.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Timothy Labrie called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made (Murray) Safety Committee voted to uphold the meeting minutes of September 20, 2023. All in favor.

III. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

- The Northbridge Board of Selectman voted to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of July 19, 2023.
- Resident of Quaker Lane requesting a traffic light at the Quaker Street/ School Street intersection due to heavy traffic and increase in accidents. Tabled so Chief Labrie can speak with the Town Manager/Board of Selectman.
- A Sergeant was approached by a resident while on patrol requesting a push button pedestrian cross walk light be installed D Street @ Overlook Street. Tabled so Chief Labrie can speak with the Town Manager/Board of Selectman.

IV. 355 MAIN STREET: DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE RECONFIGURATION (SITE LAYOUT)

Robert Knapik , Allen Engineering & Associates Inc

Matt Piekarski, The Kraft Group

Site plan layout dated 12/8/23 was presented for extended curbing to help with drainage due to their lobby flooding.

Gary Bechtholdt suggested they incorporate an apron at the crosswalk.

Chief Labrie asked if anything was going in the proposed island? Matt Piekarski stated crushed stone and landscape. No trees.

George Murray asked if they needed a new cross walk sign.

Jamie Luchini stated the DPW has plans to repaint the existing crosswalk and there was already a crosswalk sign in place.

Chief Labrie – motion to accept the site plan as presented with the crosswalk apron.

Jamie Luchini second, all in favor.

V. OLD/ NEW BUSINESS

- **STATUS OF ACTION**

- A.) Shining Rock Golf Community – speed bump request. Chief Labrie followed up with the residents with the committee’s recommendation not to add speed bumps.

- B.) Summit Street- DPW installed the no parking signs as recommended

- C.) 151 Purgatory Road – Chief Labrie followed up with the resident. There is an existing mirror and blind driveway signs. DPW will continue to monitor and cut back the overgrown brush on the curve.

- **TOWN PROJECTS**

- A.) Linwood Ave – Complete Streets. Jamie Luchini will bring in a consultant for follow up

- B.) Main Street Causeway – MVP project. Status update on design.

- C.) Carpenter Road – MVP Project. Status update on design.

- **NO PARKING SIGNS ON UPTON STREET**

Resident is requesting no parking signs on lower Upton Street. Resident’s concern is when cars are parked at the lower end it completely blocks the travel lane and causes an accident concern for people turning onto Upton Street from Rte. 122.

Tabled for a site visit by Jamie Luchini and Timothy Labrie.

- **SAFETY LIGHT ON EAST STREET NEAR ST PATRICKS CHURCH – AILEEN LEMOINE**

Director of the CCD program is requesting extra lighting on the street light outside the pedestrian walkway on East Street.

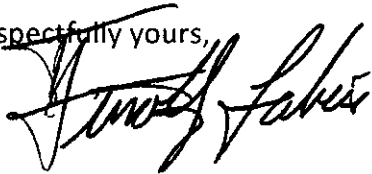
Timothy Labrie recommended the safety committee take no action because there is appropriate lighting already at the crosswalk on East Street @ Cross Street. George Murray second, all in favor.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2024 @ 10:00 am.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Timothy Labrie motioned the adjournment of the meeting at 10:42 a.m. all in favor.

Respectfully yours,



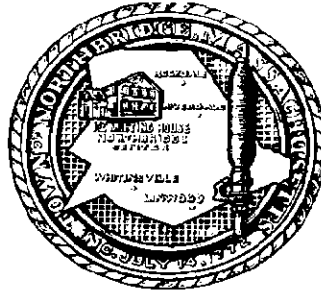
Chief Timothy Labrie
Northbridge Police Department
CHAIRMAN, NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

-LMG

Cc: Northbridge Town Clerk
/file

Northbridge Town Manager

Lt. John Ouillette



NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

February 28, 2024

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

Dear Board of Selectmen:

The Northbridge Safety Committee met **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2024** at the Police Department. In attendance: Timothy Labrie, Gary Bechtholdt, George Murray, David White, Richard Wetherbee and Steven Tyler.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Timothy Labrie called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made (Murray) Safety Committee voted to uphold the meeting minutes of January 17 2024. All in favor.

III. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

- The Northbridge Board of Selectman voted to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of September 20, 2023.

IV. LINWOOD AVENUE LAYOUT: COMPLETE STREETS FINAL DESIGN – REVIEW

Steven Tyler, PE- Howard Stein Hudson Associates, presented the final highway design plans dated 01/2024. These plans had changes the Safety Committee made in previous meetings.

Motion to move the solar rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RFB) from the crosswalk at 670 Linwood Ave to in front of the Northbridge Middle School at 171 Linwood Ave. Safety Committee recommends requesting 3 (three) RFB's on the entire project placing one at the crosswalk to the entrance of the school,

second one at the crosswalk to the entrance of the field and the third as an alternate potentially going to the 3rd crosswalk just west of the cemetery.

George Murray motioned, Gary Bechtholdt second. All in favor.

Sheets No. 35 showed the entrance to 427 Linwood Ave, Northbridge High School.

George Murray questioned if buses would be able to make the turn into the school without taking up the whole entrance/exit. Steven Tyler assured there would be plenty of room without causing any traffic hazards.

Motion to approve the layouts as proposed with the RFB motion.

Gary Bechtholdt motioned, George Murray second. All in favor.

V. OLD/ NEW BUSINESS

A.) STATUS OF ACTION

- Quaker Lane- School Street & Quaker Street vehicle traffic signal request. Chief Labrie reports following up with the Town Manager, Adam Gaudette. Mr. Gaudette stated this project is not feasible at this time and advised the residents can petition the state for a study.
- North Main Street – D Street & Overlook Street pedestrian crosswalk signal request. Chief Labrie reports following up with the Town Manager, Adam Gaudette. Mr. Gaudette stated this project is not feasible at this time and advised the residents can petition the state for a study.

B.) TOWN PROJECTS

- Main Street Causeway -Municipal Vulnerability Program /MVP Project – status update on design phase.
- Carpenter Road Causeway -Municipal Vulnerability Program /MVP Project – status update on design phase.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2024 @ 10:00 am.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Timothy Labrie motioned the adjournment of the meeting at 10:44 a.m. all in favor.

Respectfully yours,



Chief Timothy Labrie
Northbridge Police Department
CHAIRMAN, NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

-LMG

Cc: Northbridge Town Clerk

Northbridge Town Manager

Lt. John Ouillette

/File

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
WARRANT FOR SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TRANSACTION OF TOWN BUSINESS
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.**

DRAFT #9 – 3.22.24

WORCESTER, ss:

To any Constable of the Town of Northbridge in said County,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify the Inhabitants of the Town of Northbridge, qualified to vote in Town elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Northbridge High School on Linwood Avenue, in Whitinsville, in said Northbridge, Massachusetts, on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 o'clock P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the unexpended appropriated funds of one or more of the departments of the Town the following sums of money and authorize the payment of prior year bills; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 2: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the votes taken under Article 3 of the 2023 Spring Session of the Annual Town Meeting (May 2, 2023), and under Article 2 of the 2023 Fall Session of the Annual Town Meeting (October 24, 2023), appropriations and transfers under the Omnibus Budget Article; or take any other action relative thereto.

Snow & Ice - \$250,000 (est.)

Infor. Tech/Fiber Project - \$40,000

Ambulance Personnel - \$25,000

Fire Department Pers. - \$25,000

Landfill Expenses - \$25,000

Playground & Rec - \$10,000

Treasurer/Collector - \$5,000

Unemployment - \$100,000

Property & Liability - \$57,468

Workers Comp - \$14,017

ARTICLE 3: (Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the Pine Grove Cemetery Fund such sums of money, not to exceed **\$54,532,426** to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for FY 2025, beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the Retained Earnings Account of the Sewer Enterprise Fund a sum of money to operate the Sewer Enterprise Operation of the Department of Public Works for FY 2025; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the Retained Earnings Account of the Water Enterprise Fund a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise Operation of the Department of Public Works for FY 2025; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money and such additional funds as may become available from the Commonwealth's Department of Transportation, Chapter 90 Bond Issue proceeds, to be used by the Department of Public Works for the repair and maintenance of Town roads in conformance with MGL and further to see if the Town will vote to meet said appropriation by borrowing and to authorize the Treasurer/Collector, with approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor in anticipation of the receipt of said State Aid; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for FY 2025, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the M.G.L.; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to set the FY 2025 spending limits for the Town's revolving funds under section 5-113 of the Northbridge Code as follows:

| Program or Purpose | FY 2025 Spending Limit |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Playgrounds and Recreation | \$20,000 |
| Food Health and Safety | \$25,000 |
| Compost Site | \$10,000 |

or take any other action relative thereto.

~~**ARTICLE 9: (Board of Selectmen)**~~

~~To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from the Pine Grove Cemetery Trust to fund operations of the Pine Grove Cemetery for FY 2024 beginning July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2024, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works; or take any other action relative thereto.~~ **Make part of the Omnibus Budget – see breakdown for Article 3.**

ARTICLE 9: (Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve for future appropriation from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues, the amounts of money recommended by the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee for community preservation projects and other expenses for the Fiscal Year 2025, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation; or take any other action relative thereto.

Reserves:

1. a) From FY2025 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve **-the sum of \$25,000**
2. b) From FY2025 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve **-the sum of \$25,000**
3. c) From FY 2025 estimated revenues for Open Space & Recreation Reserve **-the sum of \$25,000**
4. d) From FY 2025 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve **-the sum of \$175,000**

ARTICLE 10: (Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund reserves to the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee for expenses associated with the implementation of the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to clerical assistance, office supplies, property surveys, appraisals, attorney fees, and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2025; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11: (Community Preservation Committee)

Fletcher Homestead Assessment \$50,000 from Historic CPA
Fletcher Homestead Boiler Replacement \$13,500 from Historic CPA

ARTICLE 12: (Community Preservation Committee)

2024 Debt payment for Castle Hill \$126,436 from General CPA

2025 Debt payment for Castle Hill \$131,200 from General CPA

ARTICLE 13: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$55,000 from the **unexpended balances of the Pine Grove Cemetery Accounts XXXXXX** for the following cemetery maintenance project: \$10,000 for Tree and Stump Removal and Stump Removal, \$20,000 to make Cemetery Road Improvements, and \$25,000 for Lawn Tractors, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$499,990.90, which includes \$378,547 from the Retained Earnings Account of the Sewer Enterprise Fund, and \$121,452.90 from the unexpired sewer capital accounts listed as follows:

| <u>Account #</u> | <u>Project</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 60003050-530000 | Siphon #2 | \$ 783.37 |
| 60000404-589004 | Whitinsville Interceptor | \$2,881.47 |
| 60001011-589004 | D&C Repairs | \$ 349.63 |
| 60001513-589101 | Sutton Street Sewer | \$69,612.90 |
| 60001322-585342 | Bldg. Weatherization | \$ 146.70 |
| 60001520-589004 | WWTP Facility Upgrade | \$44,227.00 |
| 60003050-530000 | Inspection Camera | \$ 3,451.83 |
| TOTAL | | \$121,452.90 |

to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works for the following purposes: the sum of \$149,999.90 for funding work recommended as a result of the Town's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) and infiltration & inflow reports for the multi-year program to make physical improvements to the Town's sewer collection system, including the sealing/replacement of leaking manhole structures and relining/replacement of deficient/cracked/broken sewer lines; and the sum of \$350,000 to complete the SCADA system upgrades; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$104,946 from the Retained Earnings Account of the Water Enterprise Fund, for the purpose of replacing nine (9) fire hydrants at the cost of \$60,000 and for the purpose of replacing the Church Ave water main at the cost of \$44,946 under the direction of the DPW Director; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to fund the capital projects shown below by appropriating and transferring the total sum of \$1,561,100 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash);

| <u>Project Title</u> | <u>Department</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|
| Real Property Valuation | Assessors | \$ 5,000 |
| Perimeter Fencing at Plummers Place | Council on Aging | \$ 40,000 |
| Green Communities Match | Town Planner/DPW | \$ 25,000 |
| Leaf Vacuum | Public Works | \$ 60,000 |
| Trackless Sidewalk Tracker | Public Works | \$225,000 |
| Sidewalk Maintenance | Public Works | \$ 25,000 |
| Pavement Maintenance | Public Works | \$200,000 |
| Repaving of Riverdale Cemetery | Public Works | \$ 19,000 |
| Quaker Street Guardrail Replacement | Public Works | \$ 9,000 |
| Town Hall Parking Lot Reclamation (Add'l Funds) | Public Works | \$ 20,000 |
| School Street Guardrail Replacement | Public Works | \$ 15,000 |
| Environmental Study Sutton St/Gendron | Public Works | \$ 50,000 |
| Upton Street – Engineering & Repairs | Public Works | \$ 75,000 |
| Repaving of Church Ave | Public Works | \$100,000 |
| Purchase New Ambulance | Fire Department | \$450,000 |
| Repair Walkway | Library | \$ 25,000 |
| Assessment/Planning/Feasibility/and, or Design | Library | \$150,000 |
| Skatepark Upgrades | Playground/Recreation | \$ 32,500 |

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Purchase 23 Department Tasers | Police Department | \$ 5,600 |
| UST Removal (Additional Funds) | Police Department | \$ 10,000 |
| Town Hall – Selectmen’s Room – AV Equipment | Facilities & Cable Staff | \$ 20,000 |
| TOTAL: | | \$1,561,100 |

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the following unexpended sums from appropriations of prior years for the purpose set forth below:

| <u>Account #</u> | <u>Project</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 01022319-585343 | NES Reuse Study | \$11,486.97 |
| 01022319-585353 | Field Mower | \$15,420.06 |
| 01022319-585009 | Hot Box Trailer | \$ 419.00 |
| 01022023-585373 | Park Christmas Trees | \$17,052.80 |
| 01022023-585374 | WWTP Brush Removal | \$ 1,300.00 |
| 01022023-585376 | Linwood Guardrail | \$ 4,263.75 |
| 01022217-585012 | Replace FD Air Bottles | \$13,060.00 |
| 01022319-585355 | FD UST Removal | \$ 750.00 |
| 01022023-585358 | Library Gas Conversion | \$27,118.00 |
| 01021915-585313 | PD Sidewalk Repairs | \$12,470.00 |
| 01021915-585314 | Town Hall Sign Board | \$ 5,656.76 |
| 01021915-585315 | Town Manager Vehicle | \$ 4,232.73 |
| 01022318-585833 | Replace Intercoms/Clocks | \$11,589.72 |
| 01022318-585334 | Upgrade Network Switches | \$25,815.00 |
| 01022318-585004 | Replace Cafeteria Tables | \$11,847.49 |
| 01022023-585391 | Ride-on Floor Scrubber | \$ 5,867.00 |
| 01022023-585393 | Middle School Clocks | \$ 225.00 |
| TOTAL | | \$168,574.28 |

Of which \$100,000 to be expended under the direction of the Chief of Police to purchase 23 Police Department Tasers, and \$68,574.28 to be spend jointly by the Fire Chief, Police Chief, and DPW Director to replace the Police Department Gas Pump; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18: (School Committee and Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$325,286 from the Town Building-Maintenance Fund, established pursuant to Chapter 438 of the Acts of 2012, for Town-owned buildings and facilities maintenance purposes in Fiscal Year 2025 as follows: \$7,000 for Middle School Auditorium Lift; \$22,000 for Middle School Loading Dock Lift Replacement; \$200,000 for Middle School Bathroom Renovations; \$43,286 for Middle School and High School Wireless Access Points Upgrade; \$8,000 to replace the Town Hall Ground Floor Exterior ADA Door; \$33,000 to replace the Town Hall Ground Floor Interior ADA Door; and \$12,000 for the Library Exterior ADA Door; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to apply for, accept, and expend Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program (“MPLCP”) grant funds if approved, and vote to appropriate or take from the undesignated fund balance (free cash); the sum of \$150,000.00, or any other sum if said MPLCP grant is approved, said sum to be expended by the Town for library assessment, planning, feasibility and/or design, or act in any manner relating thereto.

ARTICLE 20: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the custody, care and control of the former Rockdale Fire Substation property, located at 2305 Providence Road and shown as parcel 177 on Assessors' Map 22A, from the Board of Selectmen to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of disposition, whether by sale, lease – in whole or in part – or otherwise; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all action necessary to accomplish such disposition; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the custody, care and control of the former Northbridge Elementary School property, located at 30 Cross Street and shown as parcel 160 on Assessors' Map 14A, from the Board of Selectmen to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of disposition, whether by sale, lease – in whole or in part – or otherwise; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all action necessary to accomplish such disposition; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22: (Planning Board and Conservation Commission)

To see if the Town will vote to approve the following amendment to the Code of the Town of Northbridge (Bylaws) Stormwater Management Bylaw (comply with EPA mandates) -; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash, the sum of \$1,000,000 to comply with the Immediate Response Action Plan submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for activities at the Quaker Street Landfill; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24: (Bylaw Review Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to approve the grammatical and stylistic amendments to the Code of Northbridge (Bylaws) in accordance with the final report of the Bylaw Review Committee appointed in 2021 pursuant to Section 8-9(b) of the Home Rule Charter, said report being on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 25: (Bylaw Review Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to approve the substantive amendments to the Code of the Town of Northbridge (Bylaws) in accordance with the final report of the Bylaw Review Committee appointed in 2021 pursuant to Section 8-9(b) of the Home Rule Charter, said report being on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 26: (Town Manager)

To see if the Town will vote to approve the \$10,000,000 debt authorized by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee on February 15, 2024 and amended by its actions of March 14, 2024, to pay costs of roof reconstruction and the replacement to energy efficient rooftop HVAC units at the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, located at 65 Pleasant Street, Upton, MA including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto. Such debt approval by the Town to be contingent upon the District's ability to secure grant approval from the Massachusetts School Building Authority Accelerated Repair grant program, and so as long as the Town shall have voted to exclude the Town's allocable share of this debt from the provisions of G.L. c. 59, §21C (also known as proposition 2 1/2).

ARTICLE 27: (Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash), a sum of money to the Opioid Settlement Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Transfer \$124,833.13 from free cash to account 15201230-471000 for the opioid settlements that we received in Fiscal 2023

ARTICLE 28: (Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash), a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Currently \$350K – but need to finalize Snow & Ice and other transfers; also use of Building Maintenance can be shifted.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the Whitinsville Post Office and the Town Hall Annex, in Whitinsville, all in Precinct 1; the NCTV Cable Studio and the Northbridge Post Office, in Northbridge, all in Precinct 2; the Town Clerk's Office and 1Quickstop, in Whitinsville, all in Precinct 3; and the Veterans Hall (875 Hill Street), in Whitinsville, in Precinct 4; and Shaw's, in Whitinsville, in Precinct 5; twenty-eight (28) days at least before the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

WHEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of the warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting. GIVEN under our hands this 25th day of March in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Four.

SELECTMEN OF NORTHBRIDGE

Russell D. Collins, Chairman

Thomas J. Melia, Vice Chairman

Charles Ampagoomian, Jr., Selectman

Brian M. Paulhus, Selectman

Thomas Begin, Selectman

WORCESTER, SS Northbridge

Date:

By virtue of this warrant I have this day notified the inhabitants of the Town of Northbridge qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the time and place and for the purpose stated in said warrant by posting attested copies thereof as within directed.

Constable, Town of Northbridge

Special Warrant Language Request

Blackstone Valley Vocational

Regional School District

Town of Northbridge

Article : To see if the Town will vote to approve the \$10,000,000 debt authorized by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee on February 15, 2024 and amended by its actions of March 14, 2024 to pay costs of roof reconstruction and the replacement to energy efficient rooftop HVAC units at the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, located at 65 Pleasant Street, Upton, MA including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto. Such debt approval by the Town to be contingent upon the District's ability to secure grant approval from the Massachusetts School Building Authority Accelerated Repair grant program.

Suggested Motion

Motion: That the Town approves the \$10,000,000 debt authorized by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee on February 15, 2024 to pay costs of roof reconstruction and the replacement of rooftop HVAC units at the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, located at 65 Pleasant Street, Upton, MA including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto.

If a member town would like to condition its approval on the passage of a debt exclusion, a suitable motion would be as follows:

Suggested Motion

Motion: That the Town approves \$10,000,000 debt authorized by the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical School district to pay costs of roof reconstruction and the replacement of rooftop HVAC units at the District high school, located at 65 Pleasant Street, Upton, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, so as long as the Town shall have voted to exclude the Town's allocable share of this debt from the provisions of G.L. c. 59, §21C (also known as proposition 2 1/2).

Authorized Debt Rationale

Our regional vocational technical system rarely seeks support for debt projects and has not sought a bond for some twenty years. With the recent reopening of the Commonwealth's Massachusetts School Building Authority's Accelerated Repair program, BVT wishes to enable its thirteen municipalities to secure eligibility under the state's reimbursement program. In addition, the District shall pursue various energy reimbursement grant to further reduce debt obligation. A preliminary step in this process includes authorization by local town action for the District for bond approval. Northbridge would be responsible for 12.10% of the borrowing with the remaining 87.9% owned by the other 12 towns in our partnership. The anticipated bond would fully cover repairs to BVT's roof and the associated HVAC units which protect the delicate technical equipment in place at the school. Actual bond exposure would be reduced via payments received by the Commonwealth and other rebate style sources. The debt would only be utilized and be limited for the purpose identified. This is a rare opportunity to protect your vocational technical facility.

Ballot Question: Shall the town of Northbridge be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one half, so called the amounts required to pay the Town's allocable share of the bonds issued by the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational School District in order to pay costs of roof reconstruction and the replacement of rooftop HVAC units at the District high school, located at 65 Pleasant Street, Upton, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto. Kindly note, BVT received 55% MSBA reimbursement for its last three accelerated repair projects.