

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL
7 MAIN STREET - WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588
May 8, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A. 1) March 13, 2023 2) March 13, 2023 [Exec. Sess.]
3) March 27, 2023 4) April 10, 2023 5) May 2, 2023 [SATM]**

II. PUBLIC HEARING

III. APPOINTMENTS: B. Playground & Recreation Commission/Vote to appoint: 1) Michael Haslam [Eff. Immediately] 2) Karen Rogers [Eff. 7/1/23]/Present: Mike Dempsey

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

V. DECISIONS:

C. Blue Zone Integrated Fitness Studio, 102 Church Street/Request to use Memorial Park on Saturday, May 13, 2023 from 11 AM to 12 PM for a one-hour outdoor yoga class [Rain date: May 20, 2023]/Present: Laura Polymeros

D. Mandatory Water Restriction for non-essential outdoor water use beginning May 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023 during the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM

E. 2023 Junk Dealers License Renewal/Pedro Martel III DBA Junk in the Trunk – Vote to renew

VI. DISCUSSIONS:

F. Upcoming Road Projects in Northbridge/Present: Jamie Luchini, DPW Director

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

X. CORRESPONDENCE

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
March 13, 2023

A.1.

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, Begin, Collins, Melia and Paulhus. **Also present:** Adam D. Gaudette, Town Manager.

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 negotiating position of the body.

A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to go into Executive Session **Under M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21 #3** – To discuss strategy with respect to litigation (Opioid Litigation) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Ampagoomian/Yes, Selectman Melia/Yes, Selectman Paulhus/Yes, Selectman Begin/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 addressed the Board and noted that due to redistricting, he now serves all precincts in Northbridge. He then introduced his two aides: Kylie Gibbons, District Director and Amanda Hellier. Senator Fattman explained that if he is unable to attend a meeting either one of them may attend on his behalf and provide updates, etc. Ms. Gibbons pointed out that one great aspect of their job is being out in the district and getting to know people. She stated they are happy to visit and hear about the Town's needs not only for constituents but for the municipality as well. They can bring these needs before the State and have conversations about it, as well as be a resource for the Town. Ms. Hellier stated that she has been primarily engaging with Senior Centers and she would be thrilled to connect with the Council on Aging. Senator Fattman mentioned the hearing process for Ways and Means began today, which puts the House and Senate budgets forward. He indicated that the Governor's budget did include an increase of 14.5%. Next, he expressed that he is hopeful to see the tax reform bill pass as he feels it will make Massachusetts a more economically competitive state. He also added the State has \$2.9 billion dollars in ARPA funds, some of which was used by the Whittin Community Center for updates to the gym including having the floor refinished and making it handicapped accessible. Selectman Ampagoomian informed the Senator he received a call from a resident who lives at 192 Providence Road, where there is an oak tree in the state's right of way and one of the branches are overhanging. He asked if Mass. Highway would check it out. Selectman Ampagoomian added he hopes that Senator Fattman and his counterparts in the Senate and House push back on the proposal to change the State flag. Selectman Paulhus asked the Senator to continue to fight for revenues for small town budgets, especially with the rate of inflation. He reasoned that a 2% increase for certain categories wouldn't necessarily keep smaller towns level-funded. Senator Fattman explained that he served as a Selectman prior to becoming a Senator for that exact reason; that the State's budget increases but smaller towns continue to struggle financially and the very reason he has criticized the Governor's current budget. He said the schools in our area haven't experienced a positive financial impact because part of the problem is the fact that the schools in our area are considered wealthy due to the State's funding formula. Selectman Melia asked Senator Fattman to comment on the pros and cons of the millionaire's tax. Senator Fattman advised he was not in favor of it, particularly as related to home sales.

He felt that as individuals on the back 9 of life, you start to think the Massachusetts isn't the place for you resulting in the loss of institutional knowledge that migrates south or west, not only socially, but business and service-wise. Senator Fattman further noted that Governor Healy proposed taking the money and putting it into a trust fund that would be used specifically for transportation and education, which he feels is good from the merits of the actual law, the way people interpreted and voted in favor of it, because there was some conversation in the Legislature that just said pass it and put it in the general fund to be spent as they wished, which he felt was very deceptive to the voters. One critique about the money that went in, which a lot of people haven't picked up on yet was the 62F (taxpayer refunds) and Massachusetts law requires that when tax revenue collections in a given fiscal year exceed an annual tax revenue cap, the excess revenue is returned to taxpayers. The Governor took that money from surtaxes and put it into the trust fund and exempted the 62F law from being impacted. So, if there is an influx of revenue that 62F is not impacted, which is not the spirit of the law but just the beginning discussions. Lastly, he noted that he hopes that they exempt housing sales, which he thinks will go a long way for our long-term economic competitiveness. Selectman Collins added that it would be great to get more funding for Chapter 90. Senator Fattman acknowledged this request. In closing, the Senator advised the Board that he would be in the hallway if any constituents had anything they would like to talk to him about.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None

PUBLIC HEARING/None

RESIGNATIONS: Carole Sweeney, Council on Aging. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to accept the resignation of Ms. Carole Sweeney from the Council on Aging and send a letter of appreciation. Vote yes/Unanimous.

APPOINTMENTS: Stefanie Brill, Council on Aging. Jean Mistretta, Council on Aging Chairman, introduced herself and Stefanie Brill. Ms. Mistretta observed that Ms. Brill has been around Plummers Place since it was the Senior Center, and has worn many hats. She has worked the desk, scheduling medical rides, she has picked up food donations, driving for medical rides and they are thrilled to have her join the Council on Aging. Ms. Brill pointed out that she has been a volunteer for many years and her vision was always to serve on the COA. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian seconded/Mr. Melia to appoint Stefanie Brill to the Council on Aging. Vote yes/Unanimous.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT: Anthony Penticost, Smith Street (private way) / Condition of road. Anthony Penticost, Tracy Penticost and Barbara McNamee of Smith Street were present to discuss the condition of Smith Street. Mrs. Penticost advised that she and her husband have been living on Smith Street for about 5 years now, and they have had a noticeable increase in traffic on their street, which is a private way and it is their understanding that the town provides maintenance to the road as necessary. Smith Street is not in great condition and the patchwork is not sufficient for the volume of traffic anymore. Mrs. Penticost noted that there was a water main break over the summer and the Whitinsville Water company came out to fix the issue, but it caused serious damage to the road, leaving about 10 feet of gravel where the pavement was dug up. Mr. Penticost added that the water main repair area is now sinking. He acknowledged that the Highway Department is great, they come and patch the holes but it's not enough for the condition of the road. To pave the road, it would be 450 feet. Ms. McNamee added that she has lived on Smith Street for 7 years and mentioned she has also seen the street deteriorate greatly over the last couple of years as the result of development on Hemlock Street. She also stated she was aware that the developer agreed to pave Gendron Street and that they should have paved Smith Street as well due to the fact that all the cement and lumber trucks came in through Smith Street. Continuing, Ms. McNamee said she looked up the bylaw for private streets and would like to know how old it is, how it was determined, and if it needs to be updated. She then asked how many private roads are there in town. Chairman Collins replied that there are 43. He added that the town bylaws are under review as we speak. Town Manager Gaudette explained that there would have been an actual law that passed in order for a town to adopt it as a bylaw. The main

reason towns adopted this bylaw was to allow them to spend public dollars on private ways, as up until then it was not allowed. He further explained that the bylaw allows the town to put a certain amount of funds and work into the road but not do the same level of repairs/work we would on a public street. He noted that this is unfortunately one of the things that happen when someone buys a home on a private street, which are typically private homeowners associations or road associations that will charge a dollar amount per home to go towards grading and maintenance of the road. Town Manager Gaudette explained that there are a lot of things they can do up until what is called a betterment, which would bring the road up to a public road level with drainage and everything else. He explained that this would need to go through town meeting, but the homeowners would split the cost of the betterment. Town Manager Gaudette recommended going before the Planning Board and explained that the road is still a private subdivision that has not been accepted by the town. When they decided to pave Gendron Street that was through a public hearing process as they were permitting it. Ms. McNamee asked about the \$500 limit that the town can spend on private roads and asked with inflation if that could be increased. Town Manager Gaudette explained that the Bylaw Review Committee would need to review it first, and added there is an article on the Spring Town Meeting warrant. Chairman Collins reiterated the Town Manager's advisement to go before the Planning Board since the worsening condition of the road is caused by the development and increase of construction trucks and residents.

Blackstone Valley Veterans Association/1) Request to hold a Memorial Day Parade in Whitinsville on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM 2) Request permission to use Memorial Park for Memorial Day exercises. Present: Dan Lessard. Mr. Lessard noted that they are requesting to hold the parade as they have in the past and noted they will be in contact with the Police, Fire and DPW to coordinate further. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the above request to hold a Memorial Day Parade in Whitinsville on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the above request to use Memorial Park for Memorial Day exercises. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Castle Hill Farm Purchase / Vote to support the Treasurer's decision to borrow for 15 years. Present: Julie Harris, Treasurer/Collector. Town Manager Gaudette reminded the Board that at the Fall Town Meeting the voters approved the purchase of Castle Hill Farm with a purchase price of \$1.45 million with \$1.2 million to be borrowed through the CPA funds and another \$250,000 from CPA reserves. We have been working with our financial advisors and CPC to balance out what we can afford. They looked at 3 different scenarios and the terms, interest rates and cost to borrow \$1.2 million are as follows:

TERM	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST
15 years	3.75%	\$360,000
20 years	4.25%	\$535,000
30 years	4.75%	\$883,000

The CPC receives approximately \$200,000 a year and they are looking to put a down payment on the Castle Hill property and still have money for other projects. It was recommended that the 15-year loan was in the best interest of the town since it has the lowest interest rate and the least amount of debt service. Town Manager Gaudette noted that this decision would typically be made by the Treasurer/Collector but they wanted to bring it forward to the Board and ask that they support her recommendation to borrow for 15 years. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to support the Treasurer's decision to borrow for 15 years for Castle Hill Farm Purchase (with CPC funds). Vote yes/Unanimous.

Open Sky Community Services/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 21, 2023 to June 3, 2023 to advertise the Valley Friendship Tour on June 3, 2023. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve Open Sky's request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 21, 2023 to June 3, 2023 to advertise the Valley Friendship Tour that will be held on June 3, 2023. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Pine Grove Cemetery Deed/1) Amy Depasquale [Lot No. 63B (South), one full grave]. A motion/Mr. Begin, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the sale of Lot No. 63B (South), one full grave] to Amy Depasquale. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) Steven Sinson [Lot No. 32A & 31B, Walnut Path, two graves].** A motion/Mr. Begin, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the sale of lot No. 32A & 31B, Walnut Path, two graves to Steven Sinson. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Joint meeting with the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials

Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials Award Program Presentation/Present: Richard Trier (Non-Veteran member) and Thomas Farley, (Veteran member). Mr. Trier thanked the Board for their support over the last year. With the money allocated to the Trustees, they were able to construct a brand new civil war memorial walkway, flagpole repining, and added signage to the "Squares" for those killed in action, which was a larger project. He further thanked Jamie Luchini and the DPW for all of their assistance on these projects. He explained that they are looking to do another project they feel is very important and honors those Veterans that are still with us. Mr. Trier turned it over to Mr. Farley to explain the Outstanding Community Service Recognition Award. Mr. Farley explained the Trustees are asking the public to complete and submit forms to nominate a Veteran for the Outstanding Community Service Award. This person could be a Veteran that now serves on a Board or Committee, or coaches a team, or gives back to the community in any way. He explained they would be looking to honor a veteran with the award once a year on Memorial Day. They would like to put a plaque on the park bench as well. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if those nominated would be informed that they received the award. Mr. Trier noted that the disadvantage of telling them is the ones who were nominated but not chosen may get discouraged. They are trying to keep it an award based on merit. He noted he would lean towards keeping it quiet until someone is honored, and they would notify the recipient before Memorial Day so that his or her family can be there. Selectman Melia asked who would choose the individual. Mr. Trier noted that the Trustees of Soldiers Memorials would collect the nominations and choose the recipient. Selectman Collins asked how they would come up with the Summary of Veteran's Activity and how they would come up with the information if they do not plan to tell them. Mr. Trier noted that the person who nominates the Veteran would provide them with as much information as possible.

Conservation Commission/Request to manage Benson Road Town-Owned Land / Present: David Pickart, Conservation Agent. Town Manager Gaudette explained that the Board has been talking about different properties the town owns and are available for surplus. A resident has reached out about this particular property on Benson Road, which the Conservation Commission has been talking about for some time. They are here tonight to discuss the significance of the property and why they think we should maintain it instead of auctioning it off. Selectman Melia asked if we were to sell it if we would bring in a private company to price it out. Town Manager Gaudette stated that you would just make the assumption that the value is over \$25,000, and per Chapter 30B, anything over that amount needs to be done through an RFP. Town Manager Gaudette added that this property does not have any conservation restrictions. Selectman Melia followed up by asking what the process would be if we were to go ahead to sell the property. Town Manager Gaudette replied that the Board would declare it surplus, they would put it forward at a Town Meeting to ask for authorization to sell the parcel, and pending that approval, the Town Manager would then write an RFP, advertise the property and from there they would receive proposals and decide whether or not it was in the best interest of the town to sell to one of those proposals. The RFP would allow the town to give it to the best use instead of the best price. David Pickart, Conservation Agent, Justine Carroll, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, and Barbara McNamee, Vice Chairman, were present. Mr. Pickart explained that at the time he began working for the Town there were two areas reserved as conservation lands, which is considerably low. He also noted that he looked into the Natural Heritage Atlas, which identifies important wildlife habitat features and Northbridge only had two certified vernal pools. Vernal pools are isolated depressions that fill with water in the spring and is used for breeding amphibians that cannot tolerate the presence of fish. This property has one of the two certified vernal pools in Northbridge. Surrounding towns such as Grafton and Sutton have 2 dozen, Uxbridge has 8 or 9, and Upton has about 40. Selling a property that has a known vernal pool for development in the eye of the conservation

world would not be considered a wise choice. There are four other suitable areas for vernal pool breeding, which have not been inventoried or certified. The land is identified on the bio map, which is put together by the Natural Heritage Endangered Species program and is identified as core habitat for a vernal pool because the organisms like not only the pool but they move into the uplands for most of their lifespan and like woods. Generally, 150 feet to 1,500 feet is the distance they will travel depending on the species. 750 feet around a vernal pool is a typical range of protection and in Northbridge our bylaw only protects 80 feet. Most of the site is also identified as prime forest, which is important to preserve. It is two parcels of land, one that abuts Benson Road and the other is land locked. The Commission looked into the possibility of a majority of this property being turned over to the Commission, but they also recognize that they don't want to eliminate tax revenue. What they came to was a suitable 42,000 square foot area on Benson Road, with frontage, which could be carved out of this property and sold as a buildable lot. The Commission requested that less the 42,000 square foot property, the remaining property be designated under the management of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Pickart noted that the Conservation Commission is making progress on the Open Space and Recreation Plan, and as part of that they have rated the undeveloped land in Northbridge, identifying parcels that would be of Conservation interest and next to Castle Hill this is number 1. Selectman Ampagoomian asked how conservation manages the properties. Mr. Pickart noted that a lot of them have not been inventoried yet, which is on the to-do list this coming season and as they get to know more about them, they can then designate their uses. These properties also get trail maps associated with them, which are available on the Conservation Commissions page on the town's website, www.northbridgemass.org. Selectman Ampagoomian asked about the proposal map and the gravel area for vehicles to park off Benson Road, and asked if it will increase the possibility of the same issues that happened at Shining Rock. Mr. Pickart noted that vandalism is always an issue, and Shining Rock has gotten better. They are now adding security cameras to conservation land, which could aid in addressing these issues. Selectman Paulhus asked if they could restrict what is built on the property that is being sold. Town Manager Gaudette replied that the restrictions would be set in the zoning, which is a single-family residential zone, which is why they are cutting out a 1-acre lot because that is the minimum zoning. Selectman Begin asked if Mr. Pickart has been able to walk the property. Mr. Pickart noted that he has, but not at the right season to see the vernal pools. Selectman Begin also asked if this would be an area for a conservation restriction. Mr. Pickart replied that if someone were to buy it and offered to cover most of the expenses, maybe. Conservations restrictions are a lot of work, and they can require a lot of time and money. Selectmen Begin inquired as to whether there were any land trust organizations that would potentially be interested in coming in. Mr. Pickart replied that there is a land trust in Milford and Ms. McNamee added that Metacomet Land Trust covers Northbridge. She added that if the land were turned over to the Conservation Commission it would be protected, which would not need a conservation restriction. Selectman Begin asked that if the Conservation Commission does take this parcel of land, would there be a chance that they come forward to ask for Community Preservation grants to build trail systems or capital requests to the Town Manager, etc. Town Manager Gaudette noted that the idea is the sale of portion of the parcel going towards the funding for what they would do on the Conservation parcel. Selectman Collins asked if Mr. Pickart could elaborate on the things they could do on this property that they aren't able to do on Castle Hill. Mr. Pickart replied that Castle Hill does not appear to have any vernal pools on the property, restricted uses etc. Selectman Collins expressed concern that the property will not be easily maintained by the Conservation Commission with their minimal budget. Town Manager Gaudette acknowledged that it was a win for the town since it is not receiving funding from the town and by selling a portion of it they can make some revenue off the sale and turn it over to the Conservation Commission to maintain and upkeep. Selectman Collins asked if the Windstone Development off Highland Street is affecting this area. Mr. Pickart replied that it does not and explained it stops and can't go further. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the town were to sell the whole parcel could they put in restrictions as open space use or a land use restriction. Town Manager Gaudette reiterated that the Town owns it right now and what the Town would do is turn the land over to the Conservation Commission for the top piece and the bottom lot there would be no restrictions on. He suggested to aim for the Fall Town Meeting and between now and then get a survey of the land and a proposed A&R plan for the cut-out portion so people can see what it looks like and prepare a narrative for the layout of the land.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: 1) Key Meetings Attended: Monday, February 27, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting. Monday, February 27, 2023 – Met with Jeanne G, BOH Chair Lani C, and Jesse Arroyo from Envirotrac to discuss next steps with the Quaker Landfill in regard to DEP compliance with the landfill cap. Monday, February 27, 2023 – Attended the Board of Selectmen Meeting. Tuesday, February 28, 2023 – Met with Jamie L and Jon Charwick, Activitas, to discuss the bid for the Linwood Basketball project. Tuesday, February 28, 2023 – Attended the virtual meeting of the Playgrounds and Recreation Committee along with Jon Charwick, Activitas, to discuss the bid for the Linwood Basketball project. Wednesday, February March 1, 2023 – Welcomed new Town Accountant Sharon Emrick on her first day with the Town. Wednesday, February March 1, 2023 – Met with A. McKinstry and M. Walker from NPS to discuss FY2024 Budget. Wednesday, February March 1, 2023 – Met with Fire Chief David White to discuss FY2024 Budget. Wednesday, March 1, 2023 – Attended the Finance Committee Meeting. Thursday, March 2, 2023 – Participated in the Community Reading at NES. Thursday, March 2, 2023 – Attended a virtual meeting with NFP and Julie Harris to discuss our FY2024 Health Insurance Renewal. Thursday, March 2, 2023 – Attended the Fire Station project site visit meeting. Friday, March 3, 2023 – Participated in a virtual conference call with Eyepoint Pharmaceuticals for an update on the project which is currently under design. Friday, March 3, 2023 – Conference Call with the MADEP Regional Director regarding the Quaker Street landfill. Friday, March 3, 2023 – Participated in a secondary virtual meeting with NFP to discuss our FY2024 Health Insurance Renewal. Friday, March 3, 2023 – Participated in a conference call with CPC Chair Glenn King, Julie Harris and Gary Bechtholdt regarding debt schedule options for the Castle Hill purchase. Monday, March 6, 2023 – Participated in a follow-up virtual meeting with NFP to discuss our FY2024 Health Insurance Renewal. Monday, March 6, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting. Tuesday, March 7, 2023 – Virtual Conference Call with David Eisen, Abacus, architect for the NES Feasibility Study. Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – Attended the Finance Committee Meeting; BVT and Police Dept. presentations. Thursday, March 9, 2023 – Attended the Fire Station project site visit meeting. Miscellaneous Calls/Visits with Residents, Staff, and Board Members. Selectmen Melia asked for an update on the Quaker Street Landfill. Town Manager Gaudette noted that the town does not own the property but there was an agreement made that the Town would be able dump trash there, then there was an effort to cap the landfill and no longer use it as a landfill. Part of the capping requires monitoring the site, which then provides information. One of which the Town has been putting aside funding for well treatment for filtering of water systems at five or more homes because they found certain levels of contaminates in their water. There was a recent third party study that was conducted and they found exposed trash so DEP is preparing to come out with an order to have the cap reshaped to resolve it. They will be having a conference call next week prior to them issuing an order and then they will be responsibility of maintaining and repairing the cap between the owner the town and DEP. Selectman Melia noted that there was a company that wanted to purchase that property. Town Manager Gaudette confirmed that prior to him it was purchased by an entity with the intent to bring in contaminated soils to the site to help reshape the cap. The issue is that the town does not allow what's called Com97 Soils, based on a bylaw. Selectman Melia asked why it wouldn't be the responsibility of the owner to make these repairs. Town Manager Gaudette replied that it is because we were the ones that authorized and managed the landfill itself. **2) Fire Station Project:** Weekly design team meetings continue to occur every Monday morning and weekly construction meetings every Thursday afternoon with the project team, the GC M. O'Connor, and the site contractor Leahy. The steel envelope is completely set on the main building as well as the outbuilding framing (wood). The contractor is working on interior walls and building design systems. The Design Team continues to work through bidding questions/change order clarifications. The BPCC meets next on 3/14/2023. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if there were any hang ups on the project. Town Manager Gaudette replied that every week they discuss any issues with all committee and subcommittees involved. As of right now the only delay is for the element called a switch gear, which is relevant to providing electricity to the facility. Because it is a custom-made piece it is taking some time to build. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if the permit has been received from the State for the traffic control lights. Town Manager Gaudette replied yes. **3) Northbridge Elementary School Reuse Study:** The architect team from Abacus and the BPCC/Town Manager held a public forum presentation

on January 18, 2023 to get feedback from residents on proposed uses and layouts. An existing conditions survey is complete as is an Environmental Phase 1 and Phase 2. The BPC has postponed the meeting for tomorrow 3.14.23 until next week but no date has been set just yet to discuss next steps which shall include finalizing a draft report for BPC review. The Selectmen have placed an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to get voter authorization to dispose of the property. Selectman Melia asked if the Town Manager is able to comment on what may come in. Town Manager Gaudette replied that they will have a draft report prior to town meeting but you won't really know until you advertise it. **4) Linwood Basketball Courts Project**: The Town only received one bid (Quirk Construction) and unfortunately it came in over budget. Thus, the plan is to go to the Spring Town Meeting and seek additional funds such that the contractor can begin construction in June and finish at the end of August. Selectman Paulhus asked if the funds would be coming from CPC funding. Town Manager Gaudette replied that it would be coming from Free Cash. **5) Cable Advisory Committee**: The Cable Advisory Committee and the Town Manager held a public hearing on January 24, 2023 at Town Hall to discuss the Franchise Agreement renewal with Charter/Spectrum. The hearing was continued to a later date. The current agreement expires at the end of May 2023. The Cable Committee recently met with Bill Hewig, Attorney from KP Law on 2/21/2023 to prepare for the next hearing date, as well as issuing the Town's points of interests to Charter. **6) FY2024 Budget and Capital Development**: The Board of Selectmen have voted to place their standard articles on the warrant, which closed last week on Friday, March 3rd. The Town Manager and Police Chief met with the Finance Committee at their meeting this past week on Wednesday, March 8th, 2023. The Committee also met with Dr. Fitzpatrick from BVT and will meet with NPS on March 15th at the Budget Public Hearing.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: Selectman Melia mentioned the Linwood Avenue sidewalk condition and asked if there was anything that could be done. Jamie Luchini replied that he wanted to make repairs several years ago, but they then got involved with the Complete Streets program and this year they are trying for a grant to repair a lot of sections on Linwood Avenue, which would include a complete rebuild of many of the intersections there and make them all ADA compliant and some paving of the road. He noted that they are waiting for the Action Grant process before spending money making repairs. Currently, it is in the budget to match what the State would provide if we were approved. If it is not approved through the grant, then they will need to make repairs.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION / 6:30 PM - Under M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21 #3: To discuss strategy with respect to litigation (Opioid Litigation) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 8:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Paulhus, Clerk

/mjc

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

March 13, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Visit from State Senator Ryan Fattman

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None

II. PUBLIC HEARING/None

III. A. 1) RESIGNATION: Carole Sweeney, Council on Aging
-Copy of email resignation from Carole Sweeney

2) APPOINTMENT: Stefanie Brill, Council on Aging
-Copy of letter confirming the COA Board voted to recommend appointment of Stefanie Brill
-Copy of Talent Bank Form

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT: B. Anthony Penticost, Smith Street (private way) / Condition of road/No documentation

V. DECISIONS:

C. Blackstone Valley Veterans Association/1) Request to hold a Memorial Day Parade in Whitinsville on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM 2) Request permission to use Memorial Park for Memorial Day exercises/Present: Dan Lessard
-Copy of email request for the parade and use of Memorial Park

D. Vote to support Treasurer's decision to borrow for 15 years for Castle Hill Farm Purchase (with CPC funds)/Present: Julie Harris, Treasurer/Collector
-Copy of letter regarding the Castle Hill Farm land acquisition
-Copy of estimated debt service for 15 years
-Copy of estimated debt service for 20 years
-Copy of estimated debt service for 30 years

E. Open Sky Community Services/Request to hang a banner across Church Street from May 21, 2023 to June 3, 2023 to advertise the Valley Friendship Tour on June 3, 2023
-Copy of email requesting to hang a banner

F. Pine Grove Cemetery Deed/1) Amy Depasquale [Lot No. 63B (South), one full grave]
-Copy of cemetery deed for Amy Depasquale [Lot No. 63B (South), one full grave]

2) Steven Sinson [Lot No. 32A & 31B, Walnut Path, two graves]
-Copy of cemetery deed for Steven Sinson [Lot No. 32A & 31B, Walnut Path, two graves]

VI. DISCUSSIONS:

Joint meeting w/ the Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials

G. Trustees of Soldiers' Memorials: Award Program Presentation/Present: Trustees Members

- Copy of award for the Community Service Award Program
- Copy of nomination for the Community Service Award Program

H. Conservation Commission/Request to manage Benson Road Town-Owned Land / Present: David Pickart

- Copy of memo regarding the town owned surplus property
- Copy of maps of the potential conservation land

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: February 27, 2023 – March 10, 2023

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

X. CORRESPONDENCE/None

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:30 PM - Under M.G.L. c.30A, §21 #3 (Opioid Litigation) -To discuss strategy with respect to litigation, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.
-Omitted**

A.3.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 27, 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, Melia and Paulhus. **Also Present:** Town Manager Adam D. Gaudette.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Presentation: Volunteer Service Award presented to Harry Berkowitz in honor of his more than 30 years of service to the Town of Northbridge. Chairman Collins read aloud and presented a plaque to Mr. Harry Berkowitz and congratulated him on his 30+ years of service. Chairman Collins thanked him for his service to the Town.

Certificate of Special Recognition: Jillian Shenian – First Female State Trooper from Northbridge. Representative Muradian and Senator Fattman were present to recognize Northbridge's first female State Trooper. Also in attendance were members of the State Police, Northbridge Police, and Ms. Shenian's family to witness this proud moment. Representative Muradian spoke to Ms. Shenian stating that she makes our community so proud and he knows that she is going to do great work. He then read aloud a special citation from the Mass. House of Representatives. Senator Fattman reminded those present of how serious a job it is to be a police officer, with what happened this afternoon in Nashville. He also expressed respect for Ms. Shenian's courage and willingness to help people in need. He then read aloud a special citation from the Mass. Senate. Chairman Collins expressed that we appreciate Ms. Shenian and her family for being a part of this town and all that she has gone through to become a State Police Officer. He added that we hope for her safety every day. He then read aloud the Certificate of Special Recognition from the Town of Northbridge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 1) December 5, 2022. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to approve the December 5, 2022 meeting minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) December 19, 2022.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to approve the December 19, 2022 meeting minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING/None

APPOINTMENTS: By the Board of Selectmen (Vote to reappoint): Ann Riley, Board of Registrars. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to reappoint Ann Riley to the Board of Registrars. Vote yes/Unanimous.

By the Town Manager (Vote to Nominate): Danielle Edmands, Alternate Animal Inspector [emergency backup]. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the nomination of Danielle Edmands as the Alternate Animal Inspector as the emergency backup. Vote yes/Unanimous.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

K & B Krayons & Beyond, Inc./Request to hold a boot drive at Memorial Square and Ovia Square on 1) Saturday, June 3, 2023 [Rain date: June 10, 2023] and 2) Saturday, August 12, 2023 [Rain Date: August 19, 2023]/Present: Brandi Cespedes. Ms. Cespedes explained that K&B Krayons is a local non-profit organization and she has lived in Northbridge herself since 2004. She explained she took a trip in 2017 to the Dominican Republic, where she noticed children that should have been in school standing on the side of the road with no clothes on, which is why she started this organization. She was hoping to hold

a boot drive to help raise awareness and get some recognition. She informed the Board that their major fundraiser takes place at Gillette Stadium, since all of their concession stands benefit non-profit organizations and they have had a contract with them for about 8 years now. Up until now that has been the sole source of funding and she has added in some poker nights and things like that. She also indicated she partners with Net of Compassion in Worcester, who has an outreach program on Wednesdays, and she helps supply some of the items that they provide to those in need. She also works with Project Just Because in Hopkinton. Chief Labrie stated that he has a couple concerns that he would be looking to address down the road. He said there currently is a policy under which Boot Drives are allowed. He recommended that the Board limit her request to one drive, to give others a chance to participate. He also expressed his concerns for safety issues as it is a very busy intersection in town. He added that with all the social media avenues available, it would be easier for organizations to go that route if the Boot Drive Policy were to be removed. He recommended the Board eliminate these all together in the future. He added that if the Board did not wish to eliminate them that they make more stringent changes such as checking these non-profits and show proof of where this money is going. Town Manager Gaudette noted that the bylaw currently allows one boot drive per month from April to November. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve K & B Krayons & Beyond, Inc.'s request to hold a boot drive at Memorial Square and Ovia Square on Saturday, June 3, 2023 [Rain date: June 10, 2023]. Vote yes/Unanimous. The Board denied the request for a boot drive at Memorial Square and Ovia Square on Saturday, August 12, 2023 [Rain Date: August 19, 2023].

Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 2, 2023] / 1) Vote to sign warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to sign the Spring Town Meeting Warrant [May 2, 2023], upon completion and final review by Town Counsel. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Dog Hearing [Holt] / Vote to set a dog hearing at 7:05 PM on Monday, April 10, 2023. Town Manager Gaudette explained that we have received a complaint from a resident who would like to have a vicious dog hearing per the Bylaw. Tonight, the Board would be setting the date to hold the hearing, and from there we will notify the complainant and defendant of the set date and time. Chief Labrie noted that they received a couple of complaints regarding an unleashed dog in a multifamily neighborhood and that one of his officers did respond and will plan to attend the hearing to testify. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to set a dog hearing at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2023. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Safety Committee Meeting Minutes [January 18, 2023]/Vote to accept the recommendations. A motion/Mr. Begin, seconded/Mr. Melia to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of January 18, 2023. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Sign Purchase & Sale Agreement for Castle Hill Farm Purchase / Present: Glen King, CPC Chair. Mr. King noted that they are moving forward with the acquisition of a portion of the Castle Hill property that was approved at the Fall Annual Town Meeting. They are now at the point of signing the Purchase and Sale Agreement. Selectman Melia asked if he could explain the portion of the agreement that notes the Seller has informed the Buyer that the Seller will make a monetary donation in the amount of \$50,000. Mr. King explained that the Sellers are making a contribution that will be managed by the Conservation Commission for the maintenance of the property. Currently, discussions are underway to see what fields should be mowed, cleaned up and whatever maintenance needs to be completed. The Seller graciously offered to begin the funding of that, which can only be used for the maintenance of Castle Hill. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to sign the Purchase & Sale Agreement for the Castle Hill Farm purchase. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Open Sky Community Services/Request to hold the Annual Valley Friendship Tour 5K on Saturday, June 3, 2023 beginning at 8:30 AM. Town Manager Gaudette expressed concern that the Road Race is the same date as the boot drive. Chief Labrie stated that the race comes down Douglas Road and runners

turn right onto Linwood Ave. then left on Cross Street, straight up Prospect Street, left onto Cottage Street, left onto Hill Street and back. He added that it is a walk, which is usually escorted by police so there are plenty of officers. He did not believe it would be an issue. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve Open Sky's request to hold the Annual Valley Friendship Tour 5K at 8:30 AM on Saturday, June 3, 2023. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Cable Franchise Agreement Renewal Update / Present: Harry Berkowitz. Mr. Berkowitz noted that he met with the representative last week from Charter to present their requests. He reported that they requested a 5% grant each year for the next ten years, in addition to a capital grant on years 1 and 5 for \$250,000, which would be for equipment. As of right now, it doesn't sound like they will exceed 5% total. The 5% is based on revenues taken in from cable customers. Mr. Berkowitz explained that they requested to have 3 HD channels added to the Spectrum line up, the local access channel, the School channel and the government channel. Charter reported that that request could only be done on a lease basis and we would be required to pay Charter back \$10,000 a year per channel. They also requested an electronic programming guide for the local channels and offered to pay the cost. In addition, they requested keeping the local origination site at the Cable Studio, Town Hall and Northbridge High School. They would like to lock their local channels and keep them in sequence. For the \$10,000 annual charge for the HD channels, they would request that be a separate deal and not part of the contract, so they have the ability to drop it if needed. Charter will no longer give seniors discounts and refuse to give capital equipment funding. Mr. Berkowitz reasoned that Grafton is receiving 5% plus capital equipment funding along with other towns. Worcester is receiving the program guide but Charter is refusing to give it to the Town of Northbridge. Selectman Paulhus asked if the local channels are still able to be streamed. Mr. Berkowitz replied that the local channels are streamed through the web but that is thanks to the crew at the cable studio. Selectman Paulhus asked where the funding comes from for them to be able to stream the local channels. Mr. Berkowitz replied that it is their own expense.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: Key Meetings Attended: Monday, March 13, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting. Monday, March 13, 2023 – Attended the Board of Selectmen Meeting. Wednesday, March 15, 2023 – Met with Whittin Community Center staff and Town Accountant Sharon Emerick to discuss AROA projects. Wednesday, March 15, 2023 – Attended the Finance Committee Meeting; public hearing on the FY24 Budget. Thursday, March 16, 2023 – Attended the Fire Station project site visit meeting. Thursday, March 16, 2023 – Participated in a virtual meeting with MADEP and BOH staff/members regarding the Quaker Landfill. Friday, March 17, 2023 – Held a Department Managers' meeting. Monday, March 20, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting. Monday, March 20, 2023 – Ran the Cable Advisory Committee's Zoom meeting with Charter. Tuesday, March 21, 2023 – Met with John Brissette, HUB Insurance, to discuss General Liability Insurance proposal. Tuesday, March 21, 2023 – Attended the BPCC Meeting for the Fire Station and NES projects. Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – Met with Jamie L, DPW, and Terry M and David W of Whitinsville Water Company for a quarterly meeting. Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – Attended a virtual Group Health Insurance Subcommittee Meeting. Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – Attended the Finance Committee Meeting. Thursday, March 23, 2023 – Attended an Electricity Aggregation meeting to discuss this year's bid preparation. Thursday, March 23, 2023 – Attended the Fire Station project site visit meeting. Friday, March 24, 2023 – Met with Michael Welch, CEO of Unibank. Miscellaneous Calls/Visits with Residents, Staff, and Board Members. 2) **Fire Station Project:** Weekly design team meetings continue to occur every Monday morning and weekly construction meetings every Thursday afternoon with the project team, the GC M. O'Connor, and the site contractor Leahy. The steel frame is installed in the main building and light gauge metal framing for the interior walls of the administration area is underway. MEP above ceiling and in wall rough in continues in the apparatus bay and administration area. AVB application for the outbuilding and main building continues. CMU install for the hose tower continues. Next steps include roofing the main building and concrete work for the column infills and the training mezzanine. The BPCC met this past week on 3/21/2023 to approve Change Order #4 and Payment Requisition #10 for the GC as

well as invoices for the OPM, Architect and Testing Services. **3) Northbridge Elementary School Reuse Study:** The architect team from Abacus and the BPCC/Town Manager held a public forum presentation on January 18, 2023, to get feedback from residents on proposed uses and layouts. An existing conditions survey is complete as well as an Environmental Phase 1 and Phase 2. The BPCC met this past week on 3/21/2023 to discuss next steps which shall include finalizing a draft report for BPCC review. The Selectmen have placed an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to get voter authorization to dispose of the property. **4) Linwood Basketball Courts Project:** The Town only received one bid (Quirk Construction) and unfortunately it came in over budget. Thus, the plan is to go to the Spring Town Meeting and seek additional funds such that the contractor can begin construction in June and finish at the end of August. **5) Cable Advisory Committee:** The current Charter/Spectrum Franchise Agreement expires at the end of this May 2023. The Cable Advisory Committee held a public hearing on January 24, 2023 at Town Hall to discuss the Franchise Agreement renewal with the public. The hearing was continued to a later date. The Cable Committee met this past week on 3/21/2023 with Bill Hewig, Attorney from KP Law, and John Maher from Charter to discuss the Town's points of interests. Mr. Hewig will continue to negotiate with Mr. Maher on the suggested terms and the Committee is scheduled to meet again in April. **6) FY2024 Budget and Capital Development:** The Finance Committee met this past week on 3/22/23 and met with NPS, hear presentations on the two petition articles, and vote their positions in order to finalize the Warrant booklet. The Selectmen will vote next Monday, 3/27/23 to set the Warrant pending Counsel's review. The Warrant will then be posted next week on Friday, 3/31/23 in order to comply with the Bylaw requirement.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: **Selectman Melia/1)** mentioned to Mr. Luchini that the southern end of Sherry Street is filled with enormous potholes. Mr. Luchini noted that the rain last week didn't help the road situation but said they will take a look at it and use the hot box to repair it. **2)** He also added that Linwood Avenue is in rough shape. Mr. Luchini noted that Linwood Ave. is still under the Complete Streets Program and will be approached this year for an action grant, which won't be a total paving of the road but will include a section of it as well as ADA ramps, intersections and sidewalks. There is also an article on town meeting to match the state grant and cover what the grant doesn't. **Selectman Ampagoomian** asked who is responsible for bridge decking. Mr. Luchini replied that technically it is the Town's, but it requires a lot more engineering so he is trying to get the ball rolling on those.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Dog Hearing set for April 10 at 7:05 PM.

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

A motion/Mr. Begin seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to adjourn the public meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:51 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Paulhus, Clerk

/mjc

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

March 27, 2023

Presentation: Volunteer Service Award presented to Harry Berkowitz in honor of his more than 30 years of service to the Town of Northbridge.

Certificate of Special Recognition: Jillian Shenian – First Female State Trooper from Northbridge

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A. 1) December 5, 2022**
-Copy of December 5, 2022 meeting minutes
- 2) December 19, 2022
-Copy of December 19, 2022 meeting minutes
- II. PUBLIC HEARING/None**
- III. APPOINTMENTS: B. By the Board of Selectmen (Vote to reappoint): Ann Riley, Board of Registrars/No documentation**
- C. By the Town Manager (Vote to Nominate): Danielle Edmands, Alternate Animal Inspector [emergency backup]**
-Copy of letter from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
-Copy of email from Mrs. Gniadek notifying us that Mr. Guilbault is no longer able to serve
-Copy of Nomination form for Danielle Edmands as backup
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None**
- V. DECISIONS**
- D. K & B Krayons & Beyond, Inc/Request to hold a boot drive at Memorial Square and Ovia Square on 1) Saturday, June 3, 2023 [Rain date: June 10, 2023] and 2) Saturday, August 12, 2023 [Rain Date: August 19, 2023]/Present: Brandi Cespedes**
-Copy of completed Boot Drive Request from for June 10, 2023
-Copy of completed Boot Drive Request Form for August 19, 2023
- E. Spring Annual Town Meeting [May 2, 2023] / 1) Vote to sign warrant upon completion and final review by Town Counsel**
-Copy of draft spring ton meeting warrant
- F. Dog Hearing [Holt] / Vote to set a dog hearing at 7:05 PM on Monday, April 10, 2023/No documentation**
- G. Sign Purchase & Sale Agreement for Castle Hill Farm Purchase / Present: Glen King, CPC Chair**
-Copy of Purchase and Sale Agreement

H. Safety Committee Meeting Minutes [January 18, 2023]/Vote to accept the recommendations

-Copy of Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

I. Open Sky Community Services/Request to hold the Annual Valley Friendship Tour 5K on Saturday, June 3, 2023 to begin at 8:30 AM

-Copy of email requesting the Annual Valley Friendship Tour

-Copy of route maps for the Valley Friendship Tour

-Copy of email from the Chief of Police confirming he has no concerns

-Copy of email from the DPW Director confirming he has no concerns

VI. DISCUSSIONS:

J. Cable Franchise Agreement Renewal Update / Present: Harry Berkowitz

-Copy of email regarding the projected Capital Expenses from Attorney William Hewig

-Copy of Projected Capital Expenses from NCTV

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: Copy of March 13, 2023 – March 24, 2023 Town Managers Report

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/No documentation

X. CORRESPONDENCE/None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 10, 2023

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, Begin, Collins, Melia and Paulhus. **Also Present:** Town Manager Gaudette.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 1) January 9, 2023. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to approve the January 9, 2023 meeting minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **2) January 23, 2023.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Begin to approve the January 23, 2023 meeting minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **3) February 13, 2023.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the February 13, 2023 meeting minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous. **4) February 27, 2023.** A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the February 27, 2023 meeting minutes as presented with the readings omitted. Vote yes/Unanimous.

There was still 4 minutes before the scheduled public hearing so Selectman Collins moved to appointments. The following items were moved out of order.

APPOINTMENTS/ By the Town Manager (Vote to Affirm): Thomas Parente, DPW Secretary/Present: Jamie Luchini, DPW Director. DPW Director Mr. Luchini introduced Mr. Parente and recommended he be appointed as the DPW Secretary. He added that Mr. Parente worked for us in the past at the Sewer Division and he has worked with him several times over the last 25 years in many different capacities and knows he is a valuable asset to any department. Mr. Parente stated that he is thankful to have this opportunity and to come back to a great town and he looks forward to his time here. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to affirm the Town Manager's appointment for Thomas Parente as the DPW Secretary. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Annual Reappointment (Vote to reappoint): Daniel Chauvin, Animal Control Officer. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to reappoint Daniel Chauvin as the Animal Control Officer. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Pine Grove Cemetery/Vote to approve the sale of lots to: 1) Russell H. and Geraldine Vanderbaan [Lot No. 62, Fir Ave., (South)]. A motion/Mr. Begin, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the sale of lot No. 62, Fir Ave., (South) to Russell H. and Geraldine Vanderbaan. Vote yes/Unanimous. **Gerald and Katherine Gonynor [Lot No. 61, Fir Ave., (South)].** A motion/Mr. Begin, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the sale of lot No. 61, Fir Ave., (South) to Gerald and Katherine Gonynor. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Soorp Asdvadzadin Armenian Apostolic Church / Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, August 6, 2023 until Sunday, August 20, 2023 to advertise the annual Church Picnic to be held Sunday, August 20, 2023 from 12 Noon to 5 PM. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, August 6, 2023 until Sunday, August 20, 2023 to advertise the annual Church Picnic to be held Sunday, August 20, 2023 from 12 Noon to 5 PM. Vote yes/Unanimous.

It was now 7:05 and the Board resumed there place on the agenda with the Public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING: 7:05 PM - Dog Hearing / Present: Samantha Egan (Complainant) vs. Heather Holt (Dog Owner). A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Paulhus to open the public hearing. Vote

yes/Unanimous. Chairman Collins asked that those testifying at the hearing tonight stand to take the following oath: "Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?" Chairman Collins called the Complainant forward to testify. Samantha Eagan, of 24 D Street stated that she has a video of the attack that happened to her dog as well as screen shots printed out of conversations between her and Ms. Eagan. She explained that she was taking her dog for a walk down the street and out of nowhere a dog came running out from the left side of her vision and pinned her dog to the ground. She further explained that there were no lacerations to her dog, but the event was extremely traumatizing. She stated that there have been multiple other complaints about the dog that attacked hers, and she fears for the safety of the children that live in the neighborhood. Ms. Eagan stated she does not take her dog for a walk anymore because she does not feel comfortable doing so. Selectman Begin asked if there were any other incidents prior to this one. Ms. Eagan replied that this is the first one. Selectman Begin asked what the extent of the injuries were to her dog. Ms. Eagan replied that his hip was injured, which she was working with Ms. Holt to assist with the expenses of the vet visit but she did not want to burden her with an extra payment with how hard times are financially for many people right now. She stated she has not been able to take him to the vet but he has started limping badly and falls down going up the stairs. Selectman Melia asked what kind of dog she has. Ms. Eagan stated he is a Black Long Haired dog that was a rescue from Mississippi. Selectman Melia followed up asking what is the breed of the dog that attacked hers. She stated she believes it is some sort of terrier mix. Selectman Melia asked if her dog was on a leash. Ms. Eagan replied yes. Selectman Ampagoomian asked how many times she has walked past this residence with her dog. She replied that she used to walk by nightly or daily with her dog, but since the incident she only lets the dog outside of her house. Selectman Ampagoomian asked if in the times he has walked past the house if there had been any altercations. Ms. Eagan replied that she has only heard dogs barking when she would walk by, other than that she had only heard stories throughout the neighborhood about the dog. Selectman Melia asked how long she has lived at 24 D Street. She replied since about October of 2022. Chairman Collins asked for her to provide the Board of Selectmen with the screenshots of the conversations between herself and Ms. Holt. Selectman Begin asked how the interactions have been between herself and Ms. Holt. She stated that she has remained as civil as possible. Selectman Begin followed up asking if there has been a resolution between the two of them, to which she replied no. Chairman Collins asked for Ms. Holt to come forward and identify herself. Ms. Holt, of 8D Street stated that she also has the video of the altercation and copies of the text messages between the two of them. Ms. Holt explained that the night of the incident was an elevated one, she has living there almost ten years with her husband and child and at that particular time she had asked her daughter to let the animals out. She explained that they have a tether that is secured to their residence and have let their dogs out multiple times with no incidents like this occur. At the time the complainant was walking past her residence happened to be the exact same time that her daughter opened the door. In doing so, the female dog pushed passed her daughter and the male dog followed. Ms. Holt explained that in the video you can see that the dog excitedly see the complainants dog and it looked like another friendly dog that they play with, which is was not. She informed the Board that after that both her and her daughter ran towards the dogs gained control. Ms. Holt advised that during the transgression of everything that happened that evening the complainant was very adamant and speaking loudly throughout the neighborhood telling them that she was going to have her dogs removed, put down and taken. Ms. Holt reasoned that she was calm with the exception of one moment when a neighbor had come during the middle of the incident took one of her dogs and put him in her residence as she asked. She explained her daughter was upset and yelled and Ms. Holt yelled to her to get into their residence. Ms. Holt stated that she then waiting for the complainant to pick up her items that had fallen to the ground and the complainant went back to her residence, which is when she walked her other animal into her residence. Selectman Paulhus asked if anything like that has ever happened before maybe with kids running by or other animals. Ms. Holt replied that in her back yard area her female had done it once when she first got her. Since then she has gone to training and they are both collar trained, house trained, manner trained and leash trained. Selectman Ampagoomian asked what the breed of the dogs are. Ms. Holt replied that the female is an American Stafford Terrier and her male is a Boxer Terrier. Selectman Ampagoomian asked what time this happened at. Ms. Holt stated that it was after dark as she had to turn

her porch light on. Town Manager Gaudette asked if she could expand on her dogs being excitable, and if it's the dogs are wagging their tails in a manner to play or was it more an aggressive manner. Ms. Holt noted that they were excited and looking to play. Chairman Collins asked that in the time it took for her and her daughter to respond was it difficult to get her dog off of the complainants. Ms. Holt stated that her dog was not on the other dog it was just difficult for her to grab his collar. Selectman Melia noted that according to the complaint there was an attack and asked if there was any biting. Ms. Holt stated that according to the vet statement there was no break in skin and no damage, which she further added she did pay that bill. Ms. Holt then followed up stating that the report provided that the dog had a minor limp, which they provided an NSAID and Gapopenten, which is a nerve blocker. Selectman Begin asked if her back yard is fenced. Ms. Holt replied that there is a fence along the side, then a trail that she believes would feed up to Border Street, but aside from the front entrance there is no way for the dogs to get out of the back yard. Selectman Begin asked if the dogs go into the back yard off leash. Ms. Holt stated that they do, and they are collared, which she used for the backyard, and when they go out the front they have the tether and/or the leash. Selectman Begin clarified that when she says collar that it is an E-collar, where she has a controller, and they are supervised. She confirmed. Town Manager Gaudette asked the complainant to come forward and if she could identify if the dog that attacked hers was excited in a playful manner or aggressive towards her dog. Ms. Eagan stated that it was all kind of a blur, but she thought maybe it came off as playful at the start but as her dog saw that it wasn't the dog he knew, things escalated from there. Ms. Eagan added that if you look closely Ms. Holt's dog tried to go after her dog again. Town Manager Gaudette asked if there was growling, showing of the teeth or aggressive barks. Ms. Eagan replied yes she felt it was aggressive. Selectman Begin after reading through the screenshots of their conversation asked about Ms. Eagan's dog not getting along with other dogs and if that was true. Ms. Eagan further explained that her dog loves other dogs and just doesn't like coming face to face quickly, he liked to take his time to get to know other dogs and especially when it comes to off leash. Ms. Eagan further explained that he is not aggressive at all towards any dogs. She added that the night of the incident, her dog who would normally play with her nieces small Pitbull mix, tucked his tail and went upstairs. Chairman Collins called Dog Officer Daniel Chauvin and Police Officer O'Donnell and Chief Labrie forward. Officer O'Donnell stated that their stories both lined up after speaking with both of them. Officer O'Donnell asked Ms. Eagan if he could look the dog over to determine the extent of the attack to which she stated he was too traumatized to be seen. Officer O'Donnell reviewed options, she was provided with the Animal Control Officers number and was advised that personal items that may have been damaged could be pursued in court. Selectman Paulhus asked if there have been any other complaints or responses for either the defendant or the complainant. Officer O'Donnell replied that this incident was the first time he had ever met either of them for any type of call. Chief Labrie added that he had done a search of the logs and did not find any other calls to either address. Chief Labrie noted that Officer Chauvin did respond and sited the owner of the dogs, for failure to restrain \$25 for each dog and \$25 for one dog for attacking, for a total of \$75. Chief Labrie noted that it did go to court and the Clerk Magistrate found she was guilty of failure to restrain and dismissed the \$25 attacking fine. There were no further questions for Officer O'Donnell, Chief Labrie or ACO Daniel Chauvin. Chairman Collins asked is Ms. Eagan could come forward and asked her what she was looking to get for an outcome from this. Ms. Eagan replied that she wants peace of mind that the children in the neighborhood don't have to live in fear every time they go outside, and she would like to be able to walk her neighborhood without having to watch over her shoulder. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to close the public hearing. Vote yes/Unanimous. Selectman Melia expressed that he did not feel the Board had to take any further action since the Clerk Magistrate had already heard and decided on the fines of this case. He added that we have not had any problems in the past, which is a good thing for Ms. Holt, but if it comes in front of the Board again, they might not be as favorable. Selectman Melia explained that there are several things that they can do to take action, but they don't like doing that on the first offense. The Board of Selectmen agreed to take no action.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

Bylaw Review Committee: Request to extend the term of the Committee for an additional 6 months/Present: Russell Collins or Richard Sasseville. Chairman Collins noted that there have had several setbacks so they are looking to extend the term until the Fall Town Meeting. He explained that there are a lot of items to go through and Departments to meet with. Mr. Sasseville of 217 Jefferson Avenue noted that he is the Vice Chairman of the Bylaw Review Committee. He added that part of the delay is this process beginning in the middle of Covid. He also noted that the Town Clerk is a crucial part to their meeting and with the Election they were unable to meet before the Election. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian to approve the request to extend the term of the Committee for an additional 6 months. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Northbridge Firefighters (IAFF Local 3338)/1) Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, May 7, 2023 to May 14, 2023 to advertise the Spaghetti Supper to be held on Saturday May 13, 2023 from 4 PM to 8 PM 2) Application for a one-day weekday Entertainment License for the Fireworks event to be held from 6 PM to 10 PM on Saturday, July 15, 2023 at Lasell Field (Middle School) /Present: Dep. Chief Anthony Genga and Scott McKeown, Event Organizers. Selectman Melia reminded the Board that Town Manager staff notified them of a rain date of July 16, 2023. Dep. Chief Genga informed the Board that Firefighter McKeown and his wife are going to take over the events for the fireworks, but he was unable to be here tonight due to a call. Dep. Chief Genga added that there is nothing different from years past. Chairman Collins asked if they would have the food trucks again this year. Dep. Chief Genga reported that he hopes to, and he created a committee this year to handle a lot of the planning. Since coming into his new position he has been very busy so sharing some of the planning aspects was the best option. Dep. Chief Genga reiterated that the fireworks are 100% funded through donations and he felt it was important to make that know. They rely on town businesses, contributions from the gate and from vendors for the following year. Moving the date out a little does provide opportunity for more profit and allows the event to continue in the future. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, May 7, 2023 to May 14, 2023 to advertise the Spaghetti Supper to be held on Saturday May 13, 2023 from 4 PM to 8 PM. Vote yes/Unanimous. A motion/Mr. Ampagoomian, seconded/Mr. Melia to approve the one-day weekday Entertainment License for the Fireworks event to be held from 6 PM to 10 PM on Saturday, July 15, 2023 [Rain date: July 16, 2023] at Lasell Field (Middle School). Vote yes/Unanimous.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: 1) Key Meetings Attended: Monday, March 27, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting. Monday, March 27, 2023 – Participated in an MMA Webinar on Legislative Priorities. Monday, March 27, 2023 – Attended the Board of Selectmen Meeting. Thursday, March 30, 2023 – Attended a regional Health Insurance Virtual Meeting at HPI headquarters in Westborough. Monday, April 3, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting. Wednesday, April 5, 2023 – Conference Call with Attorney Rick Holland, KP Law, and Assessor Bob Fitzgerald regarding the McQuades Lane Solar PILOT. Thursday, April 6, 2023 – Attended the weekly Fire Station Project site visit and construction meeting. Miscellaneous Calls/Visits with Residents, Staff, and Board Members. **2) Fire Station Project:** Weekly design team meetings continue to occur every Monday morning and weekly construction meetings every Thursday afternoon with the project team and the General Contractor, M. O'Connor. The steel frame is installed in the main building and light gauge metal framing for the interior walls of the administration area is underway. MEP above ceiling and in wall rough in continues in the apparatus bay and administration area. AVB application for the outbuilding and main building continues. CMU install for the hose tower continues. Next steps include roofing the main building and concrete work for the column infills and the training mezzanine. The BPCC will meet next week on 4/11/2023 to review Payment Requisition #11 for the GC as well as invoices for the OPM, Architect and Testing Services. **3) Northbridge Elementary School Reuse Study:** The architect team from Abacus and the BPCC/Town Manager held a public forum presentation on January 18, 2023, to get feedback from residents on proposed uses and layouts. An existing conditions survey is complete as well as an Environmental Phase 1 and Phase 2. The BPCC will meet next week on 4/11/2023 to discuss

finalizing the draft report to post on the Town's website ahead of the Town Meeting. The Selectmen have placed an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to get voter authorization to dispose of the property.

4) Linwood Basketball Courts Project: The Town only received one bid (Quirk Construction) and unfortunately it came in over budget. Thus, the plan is to go to the Spring Town Meeting and seek additional funds such that the contractor can begin construction in June and finish at the end of August. **5) Cable Advisory Committee:** The Committee Chair, Harry Berkowitz, attended the Selectmen Meeting last week to provide an update. The current Charter/Spectrum Franchise Agreement expires at the end of this May 2023. The Cable Advisory Committee held a public hearing on January 24, 2023 at Town Hall to discuss the Franchise Agreement renewal with the public. The hearing was continued to a later date. The Cable Committee has met with Bill Hewig, Attorney from KP Law, and John Maher from Charter to discuss the Town's points of interests. Mr. Hewig will continue to negotiate with Mr. Maher on the suggested terms and the Committee is scheduled to meet again in April. **6) FY2024 Budget and Capital Plan Development:** The Warrant has been finalized in compliance with the Bylaw requirement. Staff has been preparing the FinCom Booklet for Town Meeting, the Board of Selectmen will vote their positions on all the articles at their meeting on April 24th. The Spring Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2023 at 7 pm at the Middle School Auditorium.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** asked if the Whitinsville Water Company has provided us with a schedule as to what streets they will be repairing. Mr. Luchini replied that he is meeting with them on Friday to do walkthroughs on all the roads that they dug into. **2)** asked when the ornamental lights that are damaged would be repaired. Mr. Luchini replied that two of the three will be replaced on May 5, which he just received from the insurance agent at Bartlett. **3)** asked for an update on the Birch tree in Memorial Park. Mr. Luchini noted that if it passes at town meeting they can move forward with it. He noted that they would also incorporate the Christmas trees as well. **4)** asked for an update on the Sutton Street intersection. Mr. Luchini answered that we just received confirmation from our consultants that they have submitted the round about drawings that the State requested, and it is in their hands. Chairman Collins commented that he thought the plan was to install lights. Mr. Lucnini replied that we submitted several options for plans and the state requested more review and studies on a roundabout, so the consultants came back and reengineered the plan, and provided it to the State. **5)** asked if there was an update on Church Street Extension and the traffic control light. Mr. Luchini replied that there hasn't been anything right now as the focus is on the Sutton Street intersection and depending on how that goes they can explore other avenues like a TIP project. **6)** asked about the dead trees along the roadway and if there was a plan to remove them. Mr. Luchini explained that he just increased his budget this year for more tree work, which is pending approval at Town Meeting. He noted that most of the tree work that they do are call ins for hazard trees and they try to remove as many as possible. He outlined that he has a stack of them that get rated every year and the worst of them are removed.

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

Reminded everyone watching that the Annual Sprin Town Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 7 PM at the Middle School Auditorium. A copy of the warrant is posted online and any questions can be directed to the Town Manager's Office.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:47 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Paulhus, Clerk

/mjc

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

April 10, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A. 1) January 9, 2023**
-Copy of January 9, 2023 minutes
- 2) January 23, 2023
-Copy of January 23, 2023 meeting minutes
- 3) February 13, 2023
-Copy of February 13, 2023 meeting minutes
- 4) February 27, 2023
-Copy of February 27, 2023 meeting minutes
- II. PUBLIC HEARING: B. 7:05 PM - Dog Hearing / Present: Samantha Egan (Complainant) vs. Heather Holt (Dog Owner)**
-Copy of outline on how to conduct a hearing
-Copy of copy of MGL Chapter 140 section 157 nuisance dog
-Copy of instructions on options
-Copy of complaint of a vicious or barking dog
-Copy of letters regarding the notice of hearing
-Copy of Police report
-Copy of letter to the Clerk Magistrate notifying of a violation issued
-Copy of non-criminal violation
-Copy of email from the Administrative Assistant of the Chief of Police regarding the outcome of a hearing appealing the violation
-Copy of letter to Clerk Magistrate notifying of a payment made
-Copy of town bylaw regarding dogs
-Copy of the Owners right to petition the court to review the dog order/decision
- III. APPOINTMENTS/ C. By the Town Manager (Vote to Affirm): 1) Thomas Parente, DPW Secretary/Present: Jamie Luchini, DPW Director;**
-Copy of resume of Thomas Parente
-Copy of application of Thomas Parente
- 2) Annual Reappointment (Vote to reappoint): Daniel Chauvin, Animal Control Officer/No documentation
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None**

IV. DECISIONS:

**D. Bylaw Review Committee: Request to extend the term of the Committee for an additional 6 months/Present: Russell Collins or Richard Sasseville
-Copy of memo requesting an extension for the 2023 Fall Town Meeting**

**E. Northbridge Firefighters (IAFF Local 3338)/1) Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, May 7, 2023 to May 14, 2023 to advertise the Spaghetti Supper to be held on Saturday May 13, 2023 from 4 PM to 8 PM 2) Application for a one-day weekday Entertainment License for the Fireworks event to be held from 6 PM to 10 PM on Saturday, July 15, 2023 at Lasell Field (Middle School) /Present: Dep. Chief Anthony Genga and Scott McKeown, Event Organizers
-Copy of email requesting to hang a banner for the Spaghetti Supper
-Copy of Application for a one-day weekday entertainment license
-Copy of Revenue Enforcement and Protection Attestation
-Copy of Workers' Compensation Affidavit**

**F. Soorp Asdvadzadin Armenian Apostolic Church / Request to hang a banner across Church Street from Sunday, August 6, 2023 until Sunday, August 20, 2023 to advertise the annual Church Picnic to be held Sunday, August 20, 2023 from 12 Noon to 5 PM.
-Copy of email requesting to hang a banner for the Annual Church Picnic**

**G. Pine Grove Cemetery/Vote to approve the sale of lots to: 1) Russell H. and Geraldine Vanderbaan [Lot No. 62, Fir Ave., (South)]
-Copy of cemetery deed for Lot No. 62, Fir Ave., (South)**

**2) Gerald and Katherine Gonynor [Lot No. 61, Fir Ave., (South)]
-Copy of cemetery deed for lot No. 61, Fir Ave., (South)**

VI. DISCUSSIONS/None

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: March 27, 2023 – April 7, 2023

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/No documentation

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

X. CORRESPONDENCE/None

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

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

A.5.

May 2, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman Russell D. Collins at the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium, 171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA.

Present: Board Members: Melia, Paulhus, Collins, Begin, and Ampagoomian.

Also Present: Adam D. Gaudette, Town Manager and Sharon Susienka, Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager.

Town Meeting Business. There being no business before the Board at this time, a motion/Mr. Melia seconded/Mr. Ampagoomian, to adjourn the Selectmen's Meeting at the conclusion of the Spring Annual Town Meeting this evening. Vote yes/Melia, Paulhus, Collins, Begin, and Ampagoomian.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Paulhus, Clerk

/sls

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

May 2, 2023

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None

PUBLIC HEARING/None

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

DECISIONS

A. Town Meeting Business / None

DISCUSSIONS/None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION/None



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
PLAYGROUND & RECREATION COMMISSION
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL
7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588

B.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 2, 2023
TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Michael Proto, Chair, Play & Rec Commission
SUBJECT: Recommendation for Appointments

Please be advised that at our meeting of April 25, 2023, the Commission met and interviewed the following applicants who expressed an interest in serving on the Playground & Recreation Commission: Michael Haslam, Karen Rogers, and Pascale Zayas.

As a result of the meeting, we are recommending Michael Haslam for appointment effective immediately to replace the vacancy created by the departure of former member, Shawn Roby.

In addition, 2 current members of the Commission will not be seeking reappointment upon expiration of their term on June 30, 2023, so we are respectfully requesting the Board appoint Karen Rogers and Pascale Zayas effective July 1, 2023, which would allow the Commission to continue to operate seamlessly and without quorum issues.

Sincerely,

Michael Proto

Michael Proto, Chairman
Playground & Recreation

B.1.

Per Town Clerk's Office: February 6, 2023

(date)

Registered

Non-Registered

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.

Date: 2.21.2023

Name Michael Haslam

P. O. Box

Home Address ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ - Northbridge, Ma 01531

Email Address ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~@gmail.com

Telephone Cell ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Business Town of Southbridge Fire Department

Address 24 Elm St. Southbridge Tel. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Current Occupation/Title Firefighter - Paramedic

Education Nichols College - Public Administration / Eastern Gateway C.C. - Early Childhood Education / Eastern Gateway C.C. - Information Technology

Governmental, Civic & Community Activities Northbridge Youth Lacrosse - President / Coach
Massachusetts Youth Lacrosse - Girls Regional Director

Charitable & Educational Activities Department of Fire Services Fire Instructor III

Town Committees or Offices None

I am interested in the following Committees: Parks and Rec

Please indicate whether the applicant and/or any family members are employed by the Town of Northbridge. No

NAME: Blaskin, Michael

PRECINCT#

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

COMMITTEE INTEREST (Indicate Committee preference)

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. <u>Playground & Rec Commission</u> | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Present Interest or business affiliation (dates, places)

Town of Southbridge Fire Department - Firefighter - Paramedic

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

Northbridge Youth Lacrosse - President/Coach
Mass Youth Lacrosse - Metro West - Central Girls Director

Special skills and education (be specific)

Professionally Certified (Probald) - Fire Officer III - Fire Instructor III - Hazmat OLR
Firefighter 1/11 - National Fire Academy Juvenile Firesetter Interventional Specialist 1/11

How experience relates to particular committee interest

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mail completed form to: Northbridge Town Hall
Office of the Town Manager
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

B.2.

Per Town Clerk's Office: February 6, 2023

(date)

X Registered

Non-Registered

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.

Date: February 10, 2023

Name Karen Rogers

P. O. Box

Home Address XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, Whitinsville, MA 01588

Email Address XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@gmail.com

Telephone N/A Cell 508-789-8451

Business Hasbro, Inc.

Address Pawtucket, RI (remote) Tel. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Current Occupation/Title Sr. Manager, Accounts Payable & Purchasing

Education Clark University, MBA

Governmental, Civic & Community Activities

Charitable & Educational Activities

Town Committees or Offices

I am interested in the following Committees: Board of Health, Playground & Recreation, Planning Board, Conservation Committee, Council on Aging, Planning Board, and Building Planning & Construction

Please indicate whether the applicant and/or any family members are employed by the Town of Northbridge. No

Karen Rogers

NAME:

PRECINCT#

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

COMMITTEE INTEREST (Indicate Committee preference)

1. Playground & Recreation
2. Council on Aging
3. Conservation Commission
4. Community Preservation
5. Board of Health
6. Planning Board
7. Building, Planning Construction

Present Interest or business affiliation (dates, places)

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

- sports volunteer - grade school, JR/High
- Annually volunteer w/ Hasbro, Inc. - Global Day of Joy - Schools or Mental Health hospitals - Rhode Island
 - Cradles to Crayons - Massachusetts
 - Ronald McDonald House - Rhode Island
 - Soccer coordinator
 - Baseball VP
 - Softball Secretary
 - Softball VP

Special skills and education (be specific)

- Change management
- Finance - Accounts Payable
- People Management
- Operational/Processes
- Project Mgmt.

How experience relates to particular committee interest

- interact w/ people on a professional level for 25+ years
- volunteer @ non-profit organizations for betterment of children

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mail completed form to:

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

C.

Memorial Park Request Form

Event Date: 5/13/23 Time: 11am to 12pm

Rain date: 5/20/23

Organization: Blue Zone Integrated Fitness

Description of the event: Yoga in the Park class to benefit Girls on the Run.

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: Laura Polymeros 781 244 9050
 (Name) (Phone)

Next available agenda: 5/8/23
 Date and time available: Yes

Date approved: _____
 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]

Melissa Ciaramitaro

From: Tim Labrie
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2023 3:47 PM
To: Melissa Ciaramitaro; Jamie Luchini
Subject: Re: Memorial Park Request

No issues

Timothy Labrie
Chief of Police
508-234-6211

From: Melissa Ciaramitaro <mciamitaro@northbridgemass.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 4, 2023 3:46 PM
To: Tim Labrie <tlabrie@northbridgemass.org>; Jamie Luchini <jluchini@northbridgemass.org>
Subject: Memorial Park Request

Good afternoon,

I believe I forgot to send this off to both of you. Sorry about that. Please see attached Memorial Park Request form. This is on the agenda for Monday. Please let me know if you have any issues with this.

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: Adam Gaudette
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 11:29 AM
To: Jamie Luchini
Cc: Melissa Ciaramitaro; Russell Collins, Selectman
Subject: RE: Water Restriction Planning

Importance: High

Let's have BOS vote on May 8th.

Mel, please add to agenda...thx

From: Jamie Luchini <jluchini@northbridgemass.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:15 AM
To: Adam Gaudette <agaudette@northbridgemass.org>
Subject: Fw: Water Restriction Planning

Adam,

This is the first I've heard of this in 9 years. I wanted your input on sending out this with the water bills next week. Also, as a follow up, I am meeting with Terry next week to discuss our "enforcement" plan for this year.

Thanks,

- Jamie

Jamie Luchini

Director of Public Works

Northbridge DPW

From: Terry McGlone <tmcglone@whitinsvillewater.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 12:30 PM
To: Jamie Luchini <jluchini@northbridgemass.org>
Subject: Water Restriction Planning

Jamie – I'd suggest we get together in the next week or so to discuss planning for the potential summer water restrictions. Hopefully we don't get there but I'd rather be prepared than not.

Also, you may not be aware that one of the best kept secrets in Northbridge is that the State imposed a mandatory water ban on Whitinsville/Northbridge in 2011 which goes into effect next week. From May 1st to September 30th, folks

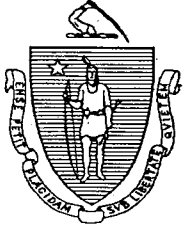
are not supposed to use automatic sprinkler systems, or wash their cars or building exteriors between 9am and 5pm. I've snipped a copy of the notice on our website below for your information.

I plan to remind our customers with a note on their upcoming bills that the non-essential ban will be in effect starting May 1st. I'd also suggest adding it to Northbridge's water invoices, but I'd like your OK first. The wording would be something like this – "Notice, The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has mandated a ban on non-essential water use throughout Northbridge from 9am to 5pm daily beginning May 1st. The use of automatic sprinkler systems or the washing of cars or building exteriors, is prohibited during these hours. Please refer to Whitinsville Water's website for details and clarifications."

Please review & get back to me - Thanks



Terence McGlone
General Manager
Whitinsville Water Company
PO Box 188, 44 Lake Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588
(508) 234-7358



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Central Regional Office, 627 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

DEVAL L. PATRICK
Governor

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
Lieutenant Governor

IAN A. BOWLES
Secretary

LAURIE BURT
Commissioner

February 26, 2010

Whitinsville Water Company
Attn: Randy Swigor
P.O. Box 188
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Town: Northbridge
PWS Number: 2216000
Program: Water Management Act (WMA)
WMA Permit #: 9P-2-12-216.01
Action: Final 20 Year Permit Renewal

Dear Mr. Swigor:

Please find the attached documents:

- Findings of Fact in Support of the Final WMA Permit Renewal Decision; and
- Final Water Management Act Permit 9P-2-12-216.01 for Whitinsville Water Company in the Blackstone River Basin.

The signature on this cover letter indicates formal issuance of the attached document. If you have any questions regarding the permit, please contact Susan Connors at (508) 767-2701 or Barbara Kickham at (508) 767-2724.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marielle Stone".

Marielle Stone
Section Chief
Drinking Water Program

Enclosure: February 25, 2010 Summary of Changes to the Final Renewed Water Management Permit
ecc: MassAudubon
Blackstone Headwaters Coalition
Blackstone River Watershed Association
Massachusetts Water Works Association
Duane LeVangie, MassDEP-WMA-Boston

Y:\DWPArchive\CERO\Northbridge-2216000-WMA Final Permit-2010-03-01

Communication for Non-English Speaking Parties (310 CMR 1.03(5)(a))

English

This document is important and should be translated immediately.

Spanish

Este documento es importante y se debe traducir inmediatamente.

Portuguese

Este original é importante e deve ser traduzido imediatamente.

Italian

Questo documento è importante e dovrebbe essere tradotto immediatamente.

Greek

Αυτό το έγγραφο είναι σημαντικό και πρέπει να μεταφραστεί αμέσως.

French

Ce document est important et devrait être traduit immédiatement.

Chinese (traditional)

這個文件重要和應該立刻被翻譯。
这个文件重要和应该立刻被翻译。

February 25, 2010 Summary of changes to the Final Renewed Water Management Permit

1. Findings of Fact, Safe Yield Permit Factor, last paragraph changed to:

This permit is issued under the Interim Safe Yield methodology adopted by MassDEP on December 14, 2009. Under MGL c 21G, §11 MassDEP cannot issue permits when the combined existing, permitted, and proposed withdrawal volumes exceed the safe yield of the water source. If MassDEP determines that the Long-Term Safe Yield is less than the Interim Safe Yield calculated for this basin, the volumes authorized in all Water Management permits in this basin shall be reviewed and the permitted volumes adjusted accordingly. The final Long-Term Safe Yield for the Blackstone River Basin will be developed by November 3, 2010. Permit review in accordance with the Long-Term Safe Yield shall be no later than the 5-year review in 2014. Access to water volumes authorized beyond Period One (Years 2-5) of this permit is contingent upon all permitted withdrawals in the basin being within the Long-Term Safe Yield, and on MassDEP completing a 5-year review modification or a permit amendment incorporating the Long-Term Safe Yield determination.

2. Findings of Fact, Additional section added entitled “Response to Comments”
3. Permit, Special Condition 1, Maximum Authorized Annual Average Withdrawal Volume, bullet item under table changed to:

* This permit is issued under the Interim Safe Yield methodology adopted by MassDEP on December 14, 2009. Under MGL c 21G, §11 MassDEP cannot issue permits when the combined existing, permitted, and proposed withdrawal volumes exceed the safe yield of the water source. If MassDEP determines that the Long-Term Safe Yield is less than the Interim Safe Yield calculated for this basin, the volumes authorized in all Water Management permits in this basin shall be reviewed and the permitted volumes adjusted accordingly. The final Long-Term Safe Yield for the Blackstone River Basin will be developed by November 3, 2010. Permit review in accordance with the Long-Term Safe Yield shall be no later than the 5-year review in 2014. Access to water volumes authorized beyond Period One (Years 2-5) of this permit is contingent upon all permitted withdrawals in the basin being within the Long-Term Safe Yield, and on MassDEP completing a 5-year review modification or a permit amendment incorporating the Long-Term Safe Yield determination.

4. Permit, Special Condition, Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use, deleted:

To the extent feasible, all summer outdoor water use should take place before 9 am and after 5 pm when evaporation and evapotranspiration rates are lower.

5. Permit, Special Condition, Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use, in Table, Section for Permittees not meeting 65 RGPCD time language added to 1. b) :

b) **Nonessential outdoor water use is allowed ONE DAY per week** before 9 am and after 5 pm; whenever a Drought Advisory or higher is declared by the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force.

6. Permit, General Conditions, deleted:

No withdrawal in excess of 100,000 gallons per day over the registered volume (if any) shall be made following the expiration of this permit, unless before that date MassDEP has received a renewal permit application pursuant to 310 CMR 36.00.

7. Appendix A, Section MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan, first paragraph changed to:

MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan

In order to be considered functionally equivalent with the RGPCD performance standard, the permittee must be in compliance with the permit Special Condition, Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use, and must adopt and implement the MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan that requires all the following residential conservation programs:



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Central Regional Office, 627 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

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Secretary

LAURIE BURT
Commissioner

**Findings of Fact in Support of the Final Permit Decision
Whitinsville Water Company, Water Management Permit 9P-2-12-216.01**

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has completed its review of the Water Management Act (WMA) 20 Year Permit Renewal application for the Whitinsville Water Company (WWC) in the Blackstone River Basin pursuant to the Water Management Act, MGL c 21G. As a result of the review, WWC's response to the Order to Complete issued April 8, 2009, and general comments received on the draft permit, MassDEP hereby issues this Water Management Act Permit #9P-2-12-216.01 (the "Permit") in accordance with the Water Management Act ("the Act").

MassDEP makes the following Findings of Fact in support of the attached permit renewal, and includes herewith its reasons for approving the Permit and for the conditions of approval imposed, as required by MGL c 21G, §11 and the "Massachusetts Water Resources Management Program", 310 CMR 36.00 ("the Regulations").

Whitinsville Water Company's Water Withdrawal History

WWC holds a registration statement (2-12-216.01) for an average annual daily withdrawal volume of 1.09 million gallons per day (MGD). WWC was issued a Water Management Act permit in November 1990 in order to increase the total authorized withdrawal volume and to add the Meadow Pond gravel packed well as an emergency source. The original permit expired on February 28, 2009, however an interim permit was issued authorizing the continued withdrawal of the previously permitted volume. WWC's reported withdrawal volumes for 2008, 2007 and 2006 were 1.24 MGD, 1.27 MGD and 1.14 MGD, respectively. These volumes include water sold by WWC to Northbridge Water Company.

The Water Management Act

Permit Factors

The Act requires that MassDEP issue permits that balance a variety of factors including:

- Reasonable protection of existing water uses, land values, investments and enterprises;
- Reasonable conservation consistent with efficient water use;
- Reasonable protection of public drinking water supplies, water quality, wastewater treatment capacity, waste assimilation capacity, groundwater recharge areas, navigation, hydropower resources, water-based recreation, wetland habitat, fish and wildlife, agriculture, flood plains; and
- Reasonable economic development and job creation.

Safe Yield Permit Factor

Among the minimum permit factors Section 7 requires is a determination by MassDEP that permitted water withdrawals are within the safe yield of the water source from which they are made. Section 2 of the Act defines "safe yield" as: "the maximum dependable withdrawal that can be made continuously from a water source including ground or surface water during a period of years in which the probable driest period or period of greatest water deficiency is likely to occur; provided however, that such dependability is relative and is a function of storage and drought probability".

For the purposes of the Water Management Program, MassDEP considers a water source to be any one of Massachusetts' 27 major river basins. A map of the 27 major river basins has been developed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation and can be viewed at:
<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/waterSupply/intbasin/basins.jpg>

On December 14, 2009, MassDEP, with the assistance and concurrence of a group of stakeholders, identified a methodology for determining an Interim Safe Yield while a final Long-Term Safe Yield is developed. The Interim Safe Yield methodology is described at:
<http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/resources/watercon.htm#managemt>.

This permit is issued under the Interim Safe Yield methodology adopted by MassDEP on December 14, 2009. Under MGL c 21G, §11 MassDEP cannot issue permits when the combined existing permitted and proposed withdrawal volumes exceed the safe yield of the water source. If MassDEP determines that the Long-Term Safe Yield is less than the Interim Safe Yield calculated for this basin, the volumes authorized in all Water Management permits in this basin shall be reviewed and the permitted volumes adjusted accordingly. The final Long-Term Safe Yield for the Blackstone River Basin will be developed by November 3, 2010. Permit review in accordance with the Long-Term Safe Yield shall be no later than the 5-year review in 2014. Access to water volumes authorized beyond Period One (Years 2-5) of this permit is contingent upon all permitted withdrawals in the basin being within the Long-Term Safe Yield, and on MassDEP completing a 5-year review modification or a permit amendment incorporating the Long-Term Safe Yield determination.

Findings of Fact for the Performance Standards

MassDEP has determined that there is documented evidence that water withdrawals and an increase in development and impervious area, combined with the out-of-basin export of wastewater, substantially contribute to low flow in the Commonwealth. These low flows impact the ability of rivers and tributaries to adequately serve all of the competing uses described in the Act. To better achieve the balance of competing water uses mandated by the Act, the MassDEP refers to the Water Conservation Standards adopted by the Water Resources Commission.

Specific performance standards are applied to new Water Management permits and to existing permits at the time they are amended, during 5-year permit review, or permit renewal. Consistent with Section 3 of the Act, the performance standards of 65 residential gallons per capita day or less and 10% or less of unaccounted for water, summer limits on withdrawals, and efforts to offset the impacts of increasing withdrawal volumes are based on the Massachusetts Water Conservation Standards approved by the Water Resources Commission in July 2006.

These standards can be found at:

http://www.mass.gov/Eoeea/docs/eea/water/water_conservation_standards.pdf.

MassDEP believes these standards are reasonable based on studies and data developed throughout the country, the 1996 AWWA Leak Detection and Water Accountability Committee report on water accountability (AWWA Journal; July 1996; pp. 108-111), and the fact that the average values in 2008 for Massachusetts were 62 RGPCD, and 14% UAW. While these performance standards represent the minimum standards required for compliance with the Permit, MassDEP believes that through the implementation of all the terms and conditions of Water Management permits, municipalities can meet the performance standards for RGPCD and UAW.

WWC will be required to meet the 65 residential gallons per capita day (RGPCD) and 10% unaccounted-for-water (UAW) performance standards for calendar year 2011. MassDEP will consider any permittee that has been unable to meet the 65 RGPCD or 10% UAW performance standard within 5 years of receiving its permit to be achieving functionally equivalent compliance with the performance standards, if they:

- are complying with the Water Conservation requirements included in the permit,
- have implemented the required limits on nonessential outdoor water use, and
- are making demonstrable efforts to finance, implement and enforce a MassDEP-approved compliance plan.

Because circumstances vary, a permittee may present an analysis of the cost effectiveness of implementing certain conservation measures required by MassDEP and offer alternative measures. The analysis must explicitly consider environmental impacts and must produce environmental benefits. MassDEP will allow permittees to:

- Document economic hardship and present an analysis demonstrating that implementation of specific measures will cause or exacerbate significant economic hardship;
- Present reasons why specific measures are not cost effective because the cost would exceed the costs of alternative methods of achieving the appropriate standard; and
- Propose specific conservation measures that would result in equal or greater system-wide water savings or equal or greater environmental benefits than the conservation measures included in the MassDEP Functional Equivalence Plan(s) (See Appendix A & B).

MassDEP will review permittees' detailed, written cost effectiveness analysis to determine whether unique circumstances make specific Best Management Practices (BMPs) less cost-effective than alternatives, or not feasible for a particular PWS when developing the compliance plan.

Findings of Fact for the Special Permit Conditions

In issuing permits, MassDEP looks primarily at site-specific impacts and other issues specific to the system, such as impacts to nearby streams, wetlands, or other water users, justification of long-term demand projections and the capacity of permitted withdrawal points. The conditions are intended to ensure the efficient use of water and to mitigate the potential impact of withdrawals.

The summary of permit conditions, as part of MassDEP's findings of fact, is not intended to, and should not be construed as, modifying any of the Permit conditions. In the event of any ambiguity between the summary and the actual permit conditions, the Permit language shall be controlling.

The existing permit included a condition that WWC complete Zone II delineations for all sources. MassDEP records indicate that all of WWC's sources have approved Zone II delineations. Public Water Systems are required to obtain MassDEP approval of Zone II delineations during the new source approval process and prior to activating any new sources; therefore this condition has been removed as a Water Management permit condition.

Special Condition 1, Maximum Authorized Annual Average Withdrawal Volume, reflects authorized withdrawal volumes determined from the November 18, 2008 water needs forecast for WWC prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Office of Water Resources. The water needs forecast was prepared based on the Water Resources Commission's policy for developing water needs forecasts, which is available at: http://www.mass.gov/Eoeea/docs/eea/wrc/090501_waterneedsforecast_policymethod.pdf.

The volume allocated for Period One of the permit is determined from DCR's projections for WWC that assume water use based on 65 RGPCD and 10% UAW. Periods Two, Three, and Four are the maximum authorized in your expiring permit and are less than DCR is projecting for your demand beginning in 2014. WWC may choose to apply now for a new permit (BRP WM03) to receive an increase in authorized withdrawal volume beginning Period Two of the Permit in accordance with 310 CMR 36.34(3) and 310 CMR 36.20, or you may wait until such time as the additional volumes are necessary. Note that an approval to increase your permitted volumes must be obtained prior to withdrawing the additional volumes. MassDEP will consider an increase in authorized withdrawal volume based on DCR's projections for Periods Two, Three, and Four.

Special Condition 2, Maximum Authorized Daily Withdrawals from each Withdrawal Point, reflects the maximum daily withdrawal rates by source, according to MassDEP approved Zone II rates. A Notice of Noncompliance (NON) was issued April 8, 2009 for failure to comply with this special condition. WWC satisfactorily complied with the requirements of the NON in the response received by MassDEP on June 17, 2009. WWC requested through a permit to add the Meadow Pond GP Well as an emergency source in 1990. The well has never been used on a regular basis due to high levels of iron and manganese. WWC conducted pumping tests on the Meadow Pond GP Wells 1 and 2 in December 2004 and Technical Deficiency was issued July 2005. WWC must complete the Source Approval process prior to receiving approval to operate to Meadow Pond GP Wells.

Special Condition 3, Ground Water Supply Protection, the Best Effort requirement has been met for the permit renewal process. WWC has submitted copies of letters from June 2009 to Northbridge and Sutton requesting protection of WWC's Zone II areas in those communities. Northbridge does not have a compliant bylaw, but the map associated with the bylaw is compliant and Northbridge has adopted a floor drain control. Sutton does not have a compliant bylaw or floor drain control; however, the bylaw in Sutton includes all MassDEP approved Zone II areas. This condition describes that continued compliance with the "Best Effort" requirement for ground water supply protection is required until both Northbridge and Sutton adopt fully compliant wellhead protection controls.

Special Condition 4, Performance Standard for Residential Gallons Per Capita Day Water Use, discussed previously. In 2008 the RGPCD for WWC was 61 gallons as determined by MassDEP from information submitted in the 2008 Annual Statistical Report.

Special Condition 5, Performance Standard for Unaccounted for Water (UAW), discussed previously. In 2008 the percentage of unaccounted for water for WWC was 19.2% as determined by MassDEP from information submitted in the 2008 Annual Statistical Report.

Special Condition 6, Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use is based upon WWC's Residential Gallons per Capita Day (RGPCD) for the preceding year, and will be implemented according to either: 1) calendar triggered restrictions; or 2) streamflow triggered restrictions.

1. Calendar triggered restrictions: Restrictions shall be implemented from May 1st through September 30th. Many public water suppliers will find this option easier to implement and enforce than the streamflow triggered approach.

2. Streamflow triggered restrictions: Restrictions shall be implemented at those times when streamflow falls below designated flow triggers measured at an assigned, web-based, real-time U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) stream gage from May 1st through September 30th. At a minimum, restrictions shall commence when streamflow falls below the trigger for three consecutive days. Once implemented, the restrictions shall remain in place until streamflow at the assigned USGS local stream gage meets or exceeds the trigger streamflow for seven consecutive days.

The basis for streamflow triggers is derived from Aquatic Base Flow (ABF) values calculated by the Sustainable Yield Estimator (SYE)¹ for simulated natural flow applied to the assigned local USGS stream gage. The two-tiered trigger values are based on flow levels that are protective of aquatic habitat for fish spawning during the spring bioperiod, designated with the June ABF; and protective flows for fish rearing and growth during the summer bioperiod, designated with the August ABF trigger. Protective flow levels are derived from index gage flow data which represent the least altered stream flows in Massachusetts, and are further described in the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)² and USGS Index Reports³.

If WWC selects the streamflow approach, it has been assigned the USGS local stream gage of #01111212 – Blackstone River at Uxbridge, MA. The June ABF estimated using SYE is 0.90 cfs and the August ABF value is 0.35 cfs. These cfs units translate to your local gage streamflow triggers as 221 cubic feet per second (cfs) for May and June, and 86 cfs for July, August and September.

Should the reliability of flow measurement at the Blackstone River gage be so impaired as to question its accuracy, Permittee may request MassDEP's review and approval to transfer to another gage to trigger restrictions. MassDEP reserves the right to require use of a different gage.

¹ Archfield, S.A., Vogel, R.M., Steeves, P.A., Brandt, S.L., Weiskel, P.K., and Garabedian, S.P., 2010, The Massachusetts Sustainable-Yield Estimator: A decision-support tool to assess water availability at ungaged stream locations in Massachusetts: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009-5227, 41 p. plus CD-ROM. See <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2009/5227/>

² Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), 2008 Index Streamflows for Massachusetts, May 2008, Prepared by Office of Water Resources for the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission, 45 p., plus CD-ROM.

³ Armstrong, D.S., Parker, G.W., and Richards, T.A., 2008, Characteristics and classification of least altered streamflows in Massachusetts: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2007-5291, 113 p., plus CD-ROM.

Drought triggered restrictions are incorporated into the seasonal limits on outdoor water use as outlined in this Special Condition. Times of low streamflow and drought do not always coincide, but both low streamflow and drought conditions can have adverse effects on water supplies, natural resources and aquatic life. Please note that many communities impose drought-based outdoor water use restrictions before the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force declares a Drought Advisory because drought conditions can begin to impact local water supplies before a regional advisory is declared.

Special Condition 7, Requirement to Report Raw and Finished Water Volumes, ensures that the information necessary to evaluate compliance with the conditions included herein is accurately reported.

Special Condition 8, Water Conservation Requirements, incorporates the Water Conservation Standards for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts reviewed and approved by the Water Resources Commission in July 2006.

Response to Comments

A draft Water Management Permit was issued on February 3, 2010. The Whitinsville Water Company did not submit comments on the language or the requirements of the draft permit. Comments were received from the Charles River Watershed Association, Massachusetts Audubon, and the Ipswich River Watershed Association. While the comments addressed a wide range of concerns, many of the comments were directed at larger statewide policy questions or issues that had been previously discussed by the Water Resources Management Advisory Committee. MassDEP anticipates that a number of the issues mentioned will be discussed by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Sustainable Water Management Initiative over the current year. Permit reviews that incorporate the outcome of the Sustainable Water Management Initiative shall be no later than the 5-Year Review in 2014. Permit modifications as appropriate shall be made at that time. MassDEP did modify the final permit primarily to clarify its position on several issues, including, its position regarding allocation volumes should they exceed the final Long-Term Safe Yield as outlined in Special Condition #1.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
 Central Regional Office, 627 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

DEVAL L. PATRICK
 Governor

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
 Lieutenant Governor

IAN A. BOWLES
 Secretary

LAURIE BURT
 Commissioner

**WATER WITHDRAWAL PERMIT
 MGL C 21G**

This permit is issued pursuant to the Massachusetts Water Management Act for the sole purpose of authorizing the withdrawal of a volume of water as stated herein and subject to the following special and general conditions. This permit conveys no right in or to any property beyond the right to withdraw the volume of water for which it is issued.

PERMIT NUMBER: 9P-2-12-216.01

RIVER BASIN: Blackstone

PERMITTEE: Whitinsville Water Company

ISSUANCE DATE: March 1, 2010

EXPIRATION DATE: February 28, 2029

NUMBER OF WITHDRAWAL POINTS: 3
 Groundwater: 3 Surface Water: 0

USE: Public Water Supply

DAYS OF OPERATION: 365

LOCATION(S):

Table 1: Withdrawal Point Identification

Source Name	PWS Source ID Code
Meadow Pond TWF (Whitinsville)	2216000-01G
Cook Allen TWF (Sutton)	2216000-02G
Meadow Pond GP Well	2216000-03G

SPECIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. Maximum Authorized Annual Average Withdrawal Volume

This permit authorizes the WWC to withdraw water from the Blackstone River Basin at the rate described below in Table 2. The volume reflected by this rate is in addition to the 1.09 million gallons per day previously authorized to WWC under Water Management Act Registration 2-12-216.01 for withdrawal from the Blackstone River Basin. The permitted volume is expressed both as an annual average daily withdrawal rate (million gallons per day or MGD), and as a total annual withdrawal volume (million gallons per year or MGY) for each five-year period of the permit term.

The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) bases these withdrawal volumes on the raw water withdrawn from the authorized withdrawal points, and will use the raw water amount to assess compliance with the registered and permitted withdrawal volumes.

Table 2: Maximum Authorized Annual Withdrawal Volumes

5-Year Periods		Total Raw Water Withdrawal Volumes			
		Permit		Permit + Registration	
		Daily Average (MGD)	Total Annual (MGY)	Daily Average (MGD)	Total Annual (MGY)
Period One Years 2-5	3/1/2010 to 2/28/2014	0.31	113.15	1.40	511.00
Period Two* Years 6-10	3/1/2014 to 2/29/2019	0.34	124.10	1.43	521.95
Period Three* Years 11-15	3/1/2019 to 2/28/2024	0.34	124.10	1.43	521.95
Period Four* Years 16-20	3/1/2024 to 2/28/2029	0.34	124.10	1.43	521.95

* This permit is issued under the Interim Safe Yield methodology adopted by MassDEP on December 14, 2009. Under MGL c 21G, §11 MassDEP cannot issue permits when the combined existing permitted and proposed withdrawal volumes exceed the safe yield of the water source. If MassDEP determines that the Long-Term Safe Yield is less than the Interim Safe Yield calculated for this basin, the volumes authorized in all Water Management permits in this basin shall be reviewed and the permitted volumes adjusted accordingly. The final Long-Term Safe Yield for the Blackstone River Basin will be developed by November 3, 2010. Permit review in accordance with the Long-Term Safe Yield shall be no later than the 5-year review in 2014. Access to water volumes authorized beyond Period One (Years 2-5) of this permit is contingent upon all permitted withdrawals in the basin being within the Long-Term Safe Yield, and on MassDEP completing a 5-year review modification or a permit amendment incorporating the Long-Term Safe Yield determination.

2. Maximum Authorized Daily Withdrawals from Each Withdrawal Point

Withdrawals from individual withdrawal points are not to exceed the approved maximum daily volumes listed below in Table 3 without specific advance written approval from MassDEP. The authorized maximum daily volume is the approved rate of each source. In no event shall the combined withdrawals from the individual withdrawal points exceed the withdrawal volumes authorized above in Special Condition 1.

Table 3: Maximum Authorized Daily Withdrawal Volumes

Source Name	PWS Source ID Code	Max Daily Volume
Meadow Pond TWF (Whitinsville)	2216000-01G	0.85 MGD
Cook Allen TWF (Sutton)	2216000-02G	0.98 MGD
Meadow Pond GP Well	2216000-03G	*

*Meadow Pond GP Well has not been in operation for more than 5 years and is therefore subject to the Source Approval Process before the well may be placed into operation for Public Water Supply use.

3. Ground Water Supply Protection

MassDEP records indicate that WWC satisfied MassDEP's Best Effort requirements [310 CMR 22.21(1)(d)] for Ground Water Supply Protection in 2009. The Best Effort Requirement will need to be repeated, at MassDEP's direction, for WMA water withdrawal permit reviews or amendments; new source approvals (including replacement wells); monitoring waiver applications; Zone II re-delineations; and Sanitary Survey stipulations, until the Towns of Northbridge and Sutton adopt the appropriate controls.

4. Performance Standard for Residential Gallons Per Capita Day Water Use

Permittee's performance standard for residential gallons per capita day (RGPCD) is 65 gallons. Permittee shall be in compliance with the performance standard by December 31, 2011 and each year thereafter. Permittee shall report its RGPCD and the calculation used to derive that figure as part of its ASR including, without limitation, the source of the data used to establish the service population and the year in which this data was developed. See Appendix A for additional information on the requirements if the performance standard for RGPCD is not met.

5. Performance Standard for Unaccounted for Water

Permittee's performance standard for unaccounted for water (UAW) is 10% of overall water withdrawal. Permittee shall be in compliance with the performance standard by December 31, 2011. Permittee is required to report its UAW annually in its Annual Statistical Report (ASR) and the ASR shall include the calculation used to derive that figure as part of its ASR including, without limitation, the source of data used, the methodology for calculating UAW and any assumptions used in making the calculation. Any adjustment in the calculation of UAW made as a result of confidently estimated uses shall be fully documented as required in the ASR. See Appendix B for information on requirements if the performance standard for UAW is not met.

UAW is defined as the residual resulting from the total amount of water supplied to a distribution system as measured by master meters, minus the sum of all amounts of water measured by consumption meters in the distribution systems, and minus confidently estimated and documented amounts used for certain necessary purposes.

UAW shall include, without limitation: unavoidable leakage, recoverable leakage, meter inaccuracies (unless they fall under the category of source meter calibration which allows for adjustment per results of source meter calibration); errors in estimation of stopped meters, unauthorized hydrant openings, illegal connections, stand pipe overflows, data processing errors; and undocumented fire fighting uses. The need for water main flushing and the use of water in

construction or meter calibration shall be metered or estimated as appropriate to assist in determining actual demand. Volumes flushed to waste shall be reported on permittee's ASR.

Uses that can be confidently estimated and documented in writing include: storage tank overflow and drainage; water main flushing and flow testing; fire fighting; bleeding or blow-offs; sewer and storm water system flushing; and cleaning and street cleaning. Any adjustments made as a result of the properly documented source meter calibration shall be provided as required by the ASR. Any adjustment in the calculation of UAW made as a result of confidently estimated uses shall be fully documented as required in the ASR.

6. Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use

Permittee shall limit nonessential outdoor water use through mandatory restrictions from May 1st through September 30th as outlined in Table 4 below. Permittee shall be responsible for tracking streamflows and drought advisories and recording when restrictions are implemented if streamflow triggered restrictions are implemented. See *Accessing Streamflow and Drought Advisory Website Information* in Table 4 for instructions.

Permittee shall document compliance with the summer limits on nonessential outdoor water use annually in its Annual Statistical Report (ASR), and indicate whether it anticipates implementing calendar triggered restrictions or streamflow triggered restrictions during the next year. Nothing in this permit shall prevent Permittee from implementing water use restrictions that are more restrictive than those set forth in this permit.

Water Uses Restrictions

Nonessential outdoor water uses that are subject to mandatory restrictions include:

- irrigation of lawns via sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems;
- washing of vehicles, except in a commercial car wash or as necessary for operator safety; and
- washing of exterior building surfaces, parking lots, driveways or sidewalks, except as necessary to apply surface treatments such as paint, preservatives, stucco, pavement or cement.

The following uses may be allowed when mandatory restrictions are in place:

- irrigation to establish a new lawn and new plantings during the months of May and September;
- irrigation of public parks and recreational fields by means of automatic sprinklers outside the hours of 9 am to 5 pm; and
- irrigation of lawns, gardens, flowers and ornamental plants by means of a hand-held hose.

Water uses NOT subject to mandatory restrictions are those required:

- for health or safety reasons;
- by regulation;
- for the production of food and fiber;
- for the maintenance of livestock; or
- to meet the core functions of a business (for example, irrigation by golf courses as necessary to maintain tees, greens, and limited fairway watering, or irrigation by plant nurseries as necessary to maintain stock).

Table 4 Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use

<p>Permittees meeting the 65 RGPCD standard for the preceding year (as reported in the ASR and accepted by MassDEP) must implement either:</p>
<p>1. Calendar Triggered Restrictions from May 1st through September 30th No nonessential outdoor water use from 9 am - 5 pm</p>
<p>2. Streamflow Triggered Restrictions from May 1st through September 30th No nonessential outdoor water use from 9 am - 5 pm whenever:</p> <p>a) Streamflow at the assigned USGS local stream gage 01111212 - Blackstone River, Uxbridge, MA falls below the following designated flow triggers for three (3) consecutive days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• May 1st through June 30th: 221 cfs (based on minimum flows that are protective of habitat for fish spawning during the spring bioperiod), and• July 1st through September 30th: 86 cfs (based on minimum flows that are protective of habitat for fish rearing and growth during the summer bioperiod). <p>Once implemented, the restrictions shall remain in place until streamflow at the assigned USGS local stream gage meets or exceeds the trigger streamflow for seven (7) consecutive days; or</p> <p>b) A Drought Advisory or higher is declared by the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force.</p>
<p>Permittees NOT meeting the 65 RGPCD standard for the preceding year (as reported in the ASR and accepted by MassDEP) must implement either:</p>
<p>1. Calendar Triggered Restrictions from May 1st through September 30th</p> <p>a) Nonessential outdoor water use is allowed TWO DAYS per week before 9 am and after 5 pm; and</p> <p>b) Nonessential outdoor water use is allowed ONE DAY per week before 9 am and after 5 pm whenever a Drought Advisory or higher is declared by the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force.</p>
<p>2. Streamflow Triggered Restrictions from May 1st through September 30th Nonessential outdoor water use is allowed ONE DAY per week before 9 a.m. and after 5 p.m. whenever:</p> <p>a) Streamflow at the assigned USGS local stream gage 01111212 - Blackstone River, Uxbridge, MA falls below the following designated flow triggers for three (3) consecutive days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• May 1st through June 30th: 221 cfs (based on minimum flows that are protective of habitat for fish spawning during the spring bioperiod), and• July 1st through September 30th: 86 cfs (based on minimum flows that are protective of habitat for fish rearing and growth during the summer bioperiod). <p>Once implemented, the restrictions shall remain in place until streamflow at the assigned USGS local stream gage meets or exceeds the trigger streamflow for seven (7) consecutive days; or</p> <p>b) A Drought Advisory or higher is declared by the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force.</p>

Instructions for Accessing Streamflow and Drought Advisory Website Information

Streamflow information is available at the USGS National Water Information System (NWIS): Web Interface. The USGS NWIS default shows Massachusetts streamflows in real time, i.e., the most recent, usually quarterly hourly, reading made at each USGS stream gage.

Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use are implemented when the mean daily streamflow falls below the designated trigger. The mean daily flow is not calculated until after midnight each day when the USGS computes the hourly data into a mean daily streamflow. As a result, permittees must use the mean daily streamflow from the preceding day when tracking streamflows.

Mean daily streamflow gage readings are available at the USGS NWIS Web Interface at <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/current/?type=flow>.

- Scroll down to 01111212 - Blackstone River, Uxbridge, MA.
- Click on the gage number.
- Scroll down to “Provisional Date Subject to Revision – Available data for this site” and click on the drop down menu.
- Click on “Time-series: Daily data” and hit GO.
- Scroll down to the “Available Parameters” box. Within the box, be sure “Discharge (mean)” is checked, then, under “Output Format” click “Table” and hit GO.
- Scroll down to “Daily Mean Discharge, cubic feet per second” table and find the current date on the table.
- Compare the cubic feet per second (cfs) measurement shown on the table to the cfs shown under Streamflow Triggered Restrictions above.

Drought Advisory information is available at the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Drought Status Website at <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/waterSupply/rainfall/drought.htm>.

- Under “Drought Status Reports”, click on “drought map” on the right-hand side of the page. The color coded map displays the six drought regions in Massachusetts. Restrictions are implemented when a Drought Advisory, Watch, Warning or Emergency is announced through the DCR website.

Public Notice of Water Use Restrictions

Permittee shall notify its customers of the restrictions and the consequences of failing to adhere to the restrictions.

- For calendar-triggered restrictions, customers shall be notified by April 15th each year.
- For streamflow-triggered restrictions, when streamflow at the assigned USGS local stream gage falls below a streamflow trigger for three consecutive days, customers shall be notified as soon as possible, but within three days of implementing the restrictions.

Notice to customers shall include the following:

- A detailed description of the restrictions and penalties for violating the restrictions;
- The need to limit water use, especially nonessential outdoor water use, to ensure a sustainable drinking water supply and to protect natural resources and streamflow for aquatic life; and
- Ways individual homeowners can limit water use, especially nonessential outdoor water use.

Notice that restrictions have been put in place shall be filed each year with MassDEP within 14 days of the restriction's effective date. Filing shall be in writing on the Water Use Restrictions Form at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/approvals/wmgforms.htm#conserve>.

Notice to customers and MassDEP need not be provided if Permittee has already implemented water use restrictions that conform to the applicable restrictions and those restrictions are still in force.

8. Requirement to Report Raw and Finished Water Volumes

WWC shall report annually on its ASR the raw water volumes and finished water volumes for the entire water system and the raw water volumes for individual water withdrawal points.

9. Water Conservation Requirements

At a minimum, WWC shall implement the following conservation measures forthwith and shall be in compliance with these measures on or before February 28, 2014. Compliance with the water conservation requirements shall be reported to MassDEP upon request or by February 28, 2014, unless otherwise noted below.

Table 5: Minimum Water Conservation Requirements

System Water Audits and Leak Detection
1. At a minimum, conduct a full leak detection survey every three years. The first full leak detection survey shall be completed no later than 3 yrs from the date of last documented leak detection survey.
2. Perform a leak detection survey of those sections of the distribution system that have not been surveyed within the last year whenever the percentage of unaccounted for water increases by 5% or more (for example an increase from 3% to 8%) over the percentage reported on the ASR for the prior calendar year. Within 60 days of completing the leak detection survey, Permittee shall submit to MassDEP a report detailing the leak detection survey, any leaks uncovered as a result of the survey or otherwise, dates of repair and the estimated water savings as a result of the repairs.
3. Conduct field surveys for leaks and repair programs in accordance with the <i>AWWA Manual 36</i> .
4. Permittee shall have repair reports available for inspection by MassDEP. Permittee shall establish a schedule for repairing leaks that is at least as stringent as the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leaks of 15 gallons per minute or more shall be repaired as soon as possible but not later than one month after leak detection.*• Leaks of less than 15 gallons per minute, but greater than 5 gallons per minute, shall be repaired as soon as possible but not later than two months after leak detection.*• Leaks of 5 gallons per minute or less shall be repaired as soon as possible but not later than six months after leak detection, except that hydrant leaks of one gallon or less per minute shall be repaired as soon as possible.*• Leaks shall be repaired in accordance with the priority schedule including leaks up to the property line, curb stop or service meter, as applicable:• Have water use regulations in place that require property owners to expeditiously repair leaks on their property.

Table 5 Continued: Minimum Water Conservation Requirements

<p>System Water Audits and Leak Detection Continued</p> <p>The following exceptions can be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair of leakage detected during winter months can be delayed until weather conditions become favorable for conducting repairs;* and • Leaks in freeway, arterial or collector roadways may be coordinated with other scheduled projects being performed on the roadway.** <p>*Reference: MWRA regulations 360 CMR 12.09 **Mass Highway or local regulations may regulate the timing of tearing up pavement on roads to repair leaks.</p>
<p>5. Ensure placement of sufficient funds in the annual water budget to conduct water audits and leak detection and repair leaks as necessary.</p>
<p>Metering</p>
<p>1. Calibrate all source and finished water meters at least annually and report date of calibration on the ASR.</p>
<p>2. Ensure that the system is 100% metered, including all water use at municipal facilities (schools, school athletic fields, etc.). Permittee reports its system is 100% metered.</p>
<p>3. All water distribution system users shall have properly sized service lines and meters that meet AWWA calibration and accuracy performance standards.</p> <p>AWWA References: AWWA Manual M22 – Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters AWWA Manual M6 – Water Meters, or as amended</p>
<p>4. Permittee shall have an ongoing program to inspect individual service meters to ensure that all service meters accurately measure the volume of water used by your customers. The metering program shall include regular meter maintenance, including testing, calibration, repair, replacement and checks for tampering to identify and correct illegal connections.</p>
<p>5. Ensure placement of sufficient funds in the annual water budget to calibrate, repair, or replace meters as necessary.</p>
<p>Pricing</p>
<p>1. Implement a water revenue structure that includes the full cost of operating the water supply system in compliance with state and federal requirements. Evaluate revenues every three to five years and adjust rates as needed. Full cost pricing factors all costs - operations, maintenance, capital, and indirect costs (environmental impacts, watershed protection) - into the revenue structure.</p> <p>AWWA References for Additional Information on Pricing: AWWA Manual 1 – Principals of Water Rates, Fees and Charges AWWA Manual 29 – Fundamentals of Water Utility Financing</p>
<p>2. Permittee shall not use decreasing block rates. Decreasing block rates which charge lower prices as water use increases during the billing period, are not allowed by M.G.L. Chapter 40 Section 39L.</p>

Table 5 Continued: Minimum Water Conservation Requirements

Residential and Public Sector Conservation
1. Permittee shall meet the standards set forth in the Federal Energy Policy Act, 1992 and the Massachusetts Plumbing Code.
2. Meter or estimate water used by contractors using fire hydrants for pipe flushing and construction.
<p>3. Municipal buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By January 1, 2011, submit to MassDEP a listing of all municipally owned public buildings served by WWC and a description of whether or not the buildings are fitted with water-saving devices (e.g. faucet aerators, toilet displacement devices or low flow toilets, low flow shower heads, etc.). • A letter to the Northbridge DPW dated June 22, 2009 was submitted to MassDEP demonstrating a “Best Effort” to get the Town of Northbridge to ensure that all municipally owned buildings are fitted with water saving devices. The retrofit “Best Effort” may need to be repeated, at MassDEP’s direction, during a 5-Year Review or permit amendment. <p>Note municipally owned public buildings that may be scheduled for rehab or demolition after the January 1, 2014 deadline for completing the retrofits, may with MassDEP’s approval, be exempted from this condition based on the schedule of work. Status report required above should identify those buildings and schedule for repairs/demolition.</p>
Industrial and Commercial Water Conservation
<p>1. WWC reports in the 2008 Water Conservation Questionnaire that it serves no significant water users in the Industrial and Commercial Categories. If any facilities are identified in the future as significant water users, then WWC shall develop and implement an outreach program designed to inform and (where appropriate) work with its largest industrial, commercial and institutional water users on ways to reduce their water use. Such outreach plans can include, but are not limited to: information on water audits, meter sizing, water reuse, low-flow plumbing fixtures, mandatory outdoor water use restrictions, suggestions for contacting trade associations for process specific information on water use reductions, and information on contacting the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs Office of Technical Assistance for Toxics Use Reduction (OTA) which offers a range of assistance and information to help facilities improve water use efficiency and reduce wastewater discharge. OTA can be contacted at (617) 626-1060 or at www.mass.gov/envir/ota.</p>
<p>2. Upon request by MassDEP, Permittee shall report on industrial, commercial and institutional water conservation including the results of its review of water use records for industrial, commercial and institutional water users, the inventory of the largest water users, copies of any outreach materials distributed to industrial, commercial and institutional water users, and to the extent practical, a summary of water use reductions or savings that have resulted. Upon receipt of this report, MassDEP will take whatever action it deems appropriate to promote the interests of the WMA, including without limitation requiring Permittee to take additional actions to reduce industrial, commercial and institutional water use.</p>
Lawn and Landscape
<p>1. Review Permittee’s water use restriction bylaw to determine if it provides authority to implement and enforce water use restrictions required by Special Condition, “Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use”. If it does not, adopt a water use restriction bylaw, ordinance or regulation by May 1, 2011, to implement the new restrictions.</p>

Table 5 Continued: Minimum Water Conservation Requirements

Public Education and Outreach

1. Develop and implement a Water Conservation Education Plan. Permittee's Water Conservation Education Plan shall be designed to educate Permittee's water customers of ways to conserve water. Without limitation, Permittee's plan may include the following actions:
 - Annual work sheets, included in water bills or under separate cover, to enable customers to track water use and conservation efforts and estimate the dollar savings;
 - Public space advertising/media stories on successes (and failures);
 - Conservation information centers perhaps run jointly with electric or gas company;
 - Speakers for community organizations;
 - Partner with garden clubs, or other private and non-profit organizations, to promote efficient water use;
 - Provide information on water-wise landscaping, gardening, efficient irrigation and lawn care practice;
 - Public service announcements; radio/T.V./audio-visual presentations;
 - Joint advertising with hardware stores to promote conservation devices;
 - Water conservation workshops for the general public
 - Use of civic and professional organization resources;
 - Special events such as Conservation Fairs;
 - Develop materials that are targeted to schools with media that appeals to children, including materials on water resource projects and field trips; and
 - Make multilingual materials available as needed.

References and additional information available through the USEPA Water Sense Program at <http://www.epa.gov/watersense>.

2. Upon request of MassDEP, Permittee shall report on its public education and outreach effort, including a summary of activities developed for specific target audiences, any events or activities sponsored to promote water conservation and copies of written materials.

GENERAL PERMIT CONDITIONS (applicable to all Permittees)

1. **Duty to Comply** The permittee shall comply at all times with the terms and conditions of this permit, the Act and all applicable State and Federal statutes and regulations.
2. **Operation and Maintenance** The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and equipment installed or used to withdraw water so as not to impair the purposes and interests of the Act.
3. **Entry and Inspections** The permittee or the permittee's agent shall allow personnel or authorized agents or employees of MassDEP to enter and examine any property for the purpose of determining compliance with this permit, the Act or the regulations published pursuant thereto, upon presentation of proper identification and an oral statement of purpose.
4. **Water Emergency** Withdrawal volumes authorized by this permit are subject to restriction in any water emergency declared by MassDEP pursuant to MGL c 21G ss 15-17, MGL c 150 s 111, or any other enabling authority.
5. **Transfer of Permits** This permit shall not be transferred in whole or in part unless and until MassDEP approves such transfer in writing, pursuant to a transfer application on forms provided by MassDEP requesting such approval and received by MassDEP at least thirty (30) days before the effective date of the proposed transfer. No transfer application shall be deemed filed unless it is accompanied by the applicable transfer fee established by 310 CMR 36.37.
6. **Duty to Report** The permittee shall complete and submit annually, on a form provided by MassDEP, all of the information required by said form including, without limitation, a certified statement of the withdrawal. Such report shall be received by MassDEP by the date specified on the form each year. Such report must be mailed or hand delivered to:

Department of Environmental Protection
Drinking Water Program
Water Management Program
One Winter Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
7. **Duty to Maintain Records** The permittee shall maintain withdrawal records and other information in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with this permit.
8. **Metering** The withdrawal point(s) included within this permit are metered and shall be calibrated annually. Meters shall be maintained and replaced as necessary to ensure the accuracy of the withdrawal records.

APPEAL RIGHTS AND TIME LIMITS

This permit is a decision of MassDEP. Any person aggrieved by this decision may request an adjudicatory hearing under the provisions of MGL c 30A. Any such request must be made in writing, by certified mail and received by MassDEP within twenty-one (21) days of the date of receipt of this permit. No request for an appeal of this permit shall be validly filed unless a copy of the request is sent by certified mail or delivered by hand to the local water resources management official in the city or town in which the withdrawal point(s) is located; and for any person appealing this decision, who is not the applicant, unless such person notifies the permit applicant of the appeal in writing by certified mail or by hand within five (5) days of mailing the appeal to MassDEP.

CONTENTS OF HEARING REQUEST

310 CMR 1.01(6)(b) requires the request to include a clear and concise statement of the facts which are the grounds for the request and the relief sought. In addition, the request must include a statement of the reasons why the decision of MassDEP is not consistent with applicable rules and regulations, and for any person appealing this decision who is not the applicant, a clear and concise statement of how that person is aggrieved by the issuance of this permit.

FILING FEE AND ADDRESS

The hearing request, together with a valid check, payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$100 must be mailed to:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 4062
Boston, MA 02211

The request shall be dismissed if the filing fee is not paid, unless the appellant is exempt or granted a waiver as described below.

EXEMPTIONS

The filing fee is not required if the appellant is a city or town (or municipal agency), county, district of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or a municipal housing authority.

WAIVER

MassDEP may waive the adjudicatory hearing filing fee for any person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of MassDEP that the fee will create an undue financial hardship. A person, seeking a waiver must file, together with the hearing request, an affidavit setting forth the facts, which support the claim of undue hardship.

Appendix A – Residential Gallons Per Capita Day (RGPCD)

I. Compliance Plan Requirement

If the permittee fails to achieve and document compliance with the RGPCD performance standard in its Annual Statistical Report (ASR), then the permittee must file with that ASR a Residential Gallons Per Capita Day Compliance Plan (RGPCD Plan) which shall:

- a. meet the requirement set forth below in Section II;
- b. include measures to be implemented to meet the performance standard); and
- c. include the schedule for implementing such measures.

The filing of an RGPCD Plan shall not constitute a return to compliance, nor shall it affect MassDEP's authority to take action in response to the permittee's failure to meet the performance standard.

If an RGPCD Plan is required, the permittee must:

- a. submit information and supporting documentation sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its RGPCD Plan annually at the time it files its ASR; and
- b. continue to implement the RGPCD Plan until it complies with the performance standard and such compliance is documented in the permittee's ASR for the calendar year in which the standard is met.

II. Contents of an RGPCD Plan

A permittee that does not meet the 65 RGPCD performance standard within 2 years, has the choice to file an RGPCD Plan containing measures that the permittee believes will be sufficient to bring the system into compliance with the performance standard (Individual RGPCD Plan) or may adopt the MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan that includes mandated Best Management Practices (BMPs).

A permittee that has been unable to meet the 65 RGPCD performance standard within 5 years must implement the MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan to be considered functionally equivalent with the performance standard.

At a minimum, all RGPCD Compliance Plans must include a detailed:

- a. description of the actions taken during the prior calendar year to meet the performance standard;
- b. analysis of the cause of the failure to meet the performance standard;
- c. description and schedule of the actions that will be taken to meet the performance standard; and
- d. analysis of how the actions described in c. will address the specific circumstances that resulted in the failure to meet the performance standard.

RGPCD Plans may be amended to revise the actions that will be taken to meet the performance standard.

Individual RGPCD Plan

Individual RGPCD Plan will document a plan to adopt and implement measures tailored to the specific needs of the water supply system that the permittee believes will be sufficient to bring the system into compliance with the performance standard within three years.

At a minimum, all Individual RGPCD Plans for failure to meet the RGPCD performance standard must include implementation of at least one of the following residential conservation programs:

- a. a program that provides water saving devices such as faucet aerators and low flow shower heads at cost;
- b. a program that provides rebates or other incentives for the purchase of low water use appliances (washing machines, dishwashers, and toilets); or
- c. the adoption and enforcement of an ordinance, bylaw or regulation to require the installation of moisture sensors or similar climate related control technology on all automatic irrigation systems.

If the permittee is already implementing one or more of these programs, it must include in its Individual RGPCD Plan the continued implementation of such program(s), as well as implementation of at least one additional program. All programs must include a public information component designed to inform customers of the program and to encourage participation in the program.

Without limitation, the Individual RGPCD Plan for failure to meet the RGPCD performance standard may include any of the actions set forth in the MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan below.

MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan

In order to be considered functionally equivalent with the RGPCD performance standard, the permittee must be in compliance with the permit Special Condition, Seasonal Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use, and must adopt and implement the MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan that requires all the following residential conservation programs:

- a. a program that provides water saving devices such as faucet aerators and low flow shower heads at cost;
- b. a program that provides rebates or other incentives for the purchase of low water use appliances (washing machines, dishwashers, and toilets);
- c. the adoption and enforcement of an ordinance, bylaw or regulation to require the installation of soil moisture sensors or similar climate related control technology on all automatic irrigation systems;
- d. the use of an increasing block water rate or a seasonal water rate structure as a tool to encourage water conservation;
- e. the adoption and enforcement of an ordinance, bylaw or regulation to require that all new construction include water saving devices and low water use appliances; and
- f. the implementation of monthly or quarterly billing.

Hardship

A permittee may present an analysis of the cost effectiveness of implementing certain conservation measures included in the MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan and offer alternative measures. Any analysis must explicitly consider environmental impacts and must produce equal or greater environmental benefits. Suppliers will be able to present:

- a. Reasons why specific measures are not cost effective because the cost would exceed the costs of alternative methods of achieving the appropriate standard;
- b. Alternative specific conservation measures that would result in equal or greater system-wide water savings or equal or greater environmental benefits than the conservation measures included in the MassDEP RGPCD Functional Equivalence Plan; and
- c. When applicable, an analysis demonstrating that implementation of specific measures will cause or exacerbate significant economic hardship.

Appendix B – Unaccounted for Water (UAW)

I. Compliance Plan Requirement

If the permittee fails to document compliance with the UAW performance standard in its Annual Statistical Report (ASR), then the permittee must file with that ASR an Unaccounted for Water Compliance Plan (UAW Plan) which shall:

- a. meet the requirements set forth below in Section II;
- b. include measures to be implemented to meet the performance standard; and
- c. include the schedule for implementing such measures.

The filing of a UAW Plan shall not constitute a return to compliance, nor shall it affect MassDEP's authority to take action in response to the permittee's failure to meet the performance standard.

If a UAW Plan is required, the permittee must:

- a. submit information and supporting documentation sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its UAW Plan annually at the time it files its ASR; and
- b. continue to implement the UAW Plan until it complies with the performance standard and such compliance is documented in the permittee's ASR for the calendar year in which the standard is met.

II. Contents of a UAW Compliance Plan

A permittee that does not meet the 10% UAW performance standard within 2 years, has the choice to file a UAW Plan containing measures that the permittee believes will be sufficient to bring the system into compliance with the performance standard (Individual UAW Plan) or may adopt the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan that includes mandated Best Management Practices (BMPs).

A permittee that has been unable to meet the 10% UAW performance standard within 5 years must implement the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan to be considered functionally equivalent with the performance standard.

At a minimum, all UAW plans must include a detailed:

- a. description of the actions taken during the prior calendar year to meet the applicable performance standard;
- b. analysis of the cause of the failure to meet the performance standard;
- c. description and schedule of the actions that will be taken to meet the performance standard; and
- d. analysis of how the actions described in c. will address the specific circumstances that resulted in the failure to meet the performance standard.

UAW plans may be amended to revise the actions that will be taken to meet the performance standard.

Individual UAW Compliance Plan

Individual UAW Plan will document a plan to adopt and implement measures tailored to the specific needs of the water supply system that the permittee believes will be sufficient to bring the system into compliance with the performance standard within three years. Individual UAW compliance plans may include any of the actions set forth in the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan compliance plan below.

MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan

In order to be considered functionally equivalent with the UAW performance standard, the permittee must adopt and implement the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan that, at a minimum, requires all the following measures:

- a. within one year of filing the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan, complete a water audit and leak detection survey of the entire system and submit completed audit and survey to MassDEP;
within one year of completing the audit and leak detection survey, conduct sufficient repairs to reduce by 75% (by water volume) all leaks detected in the survey;
within one year of completing such repairs, conduct additional repairs of leaks detected in the survey as may be necessary to reduce permittee's UAW to 10% or the minimum level possible;
- b. if UAW remains above 10%, repeat the steps outlined in paragraph a.;
- c. implementation of a program that ensures the inspection and evaluation of all water meters and, as appropriate, the repair, replacement and calibration of water meters in accordance with the following schedule:
 - Large Meters (2" or greater) - within one year of filing the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan
 - Medium Meters (1" or greater and less than 2") - within two years of filing the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan
 - Small Meters (less than 1") - within three years of filing the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan;
- d. implementation of monthly or quarterly billing within three years of filing the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan; and
- e. within one year of filing the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan, implementation of a water pricing structure that achieves sufficient revenues to pay the full cost of operating the system including, without limitation, the costs of repairs under paragraph a., the costs of meter repairs, replacements and calibrations under paragraph c., the costs of employees and equipment, and ongoing maintenance and capital costs.

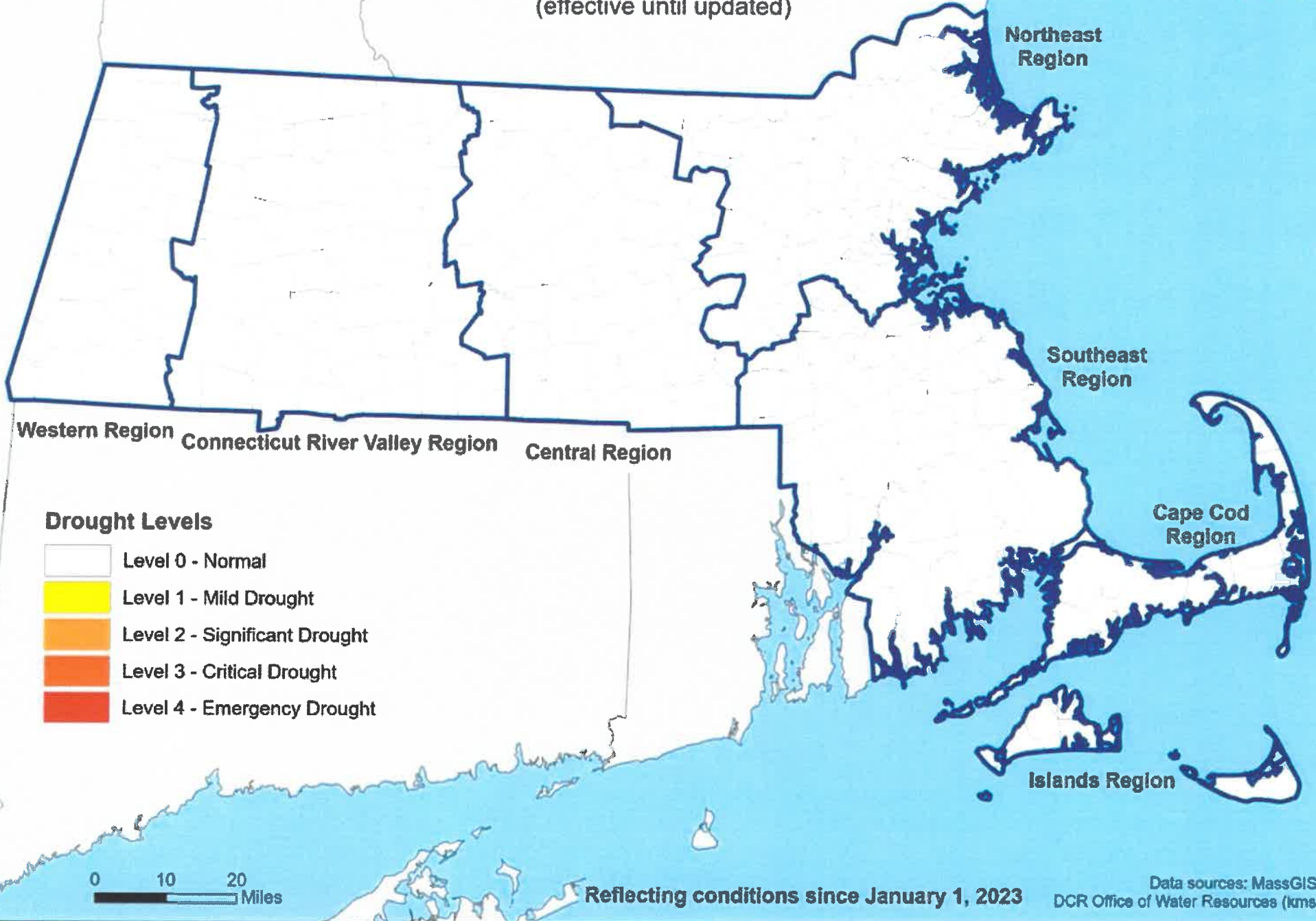
Hardship

A permittee may present an analysis of the cost effectiveness of implementing certain conservation measures included in the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan and offer alternative measures. Any analysis must explicitly consider environmental impacts and must produce equal or greater environmental benefits. Suppliers will be able to present:

- a. Reasons why specific measures are not cost effective because the cost would exceed the costs of alternative methods of achieving the appropriate standard;
- b. Alternative specific conservation measures that would result in equal or greater system-wide water savings or equal or greater environmental benefits than the conservation measures included in the MassDEP UAW Functional Equivalence Plan; and
- c. When applicable, an analysis demonstrating that implementation of specific measures will cause or exacerbate significant economic hardship

MASSACHUSETTS DROUGHT STATUS

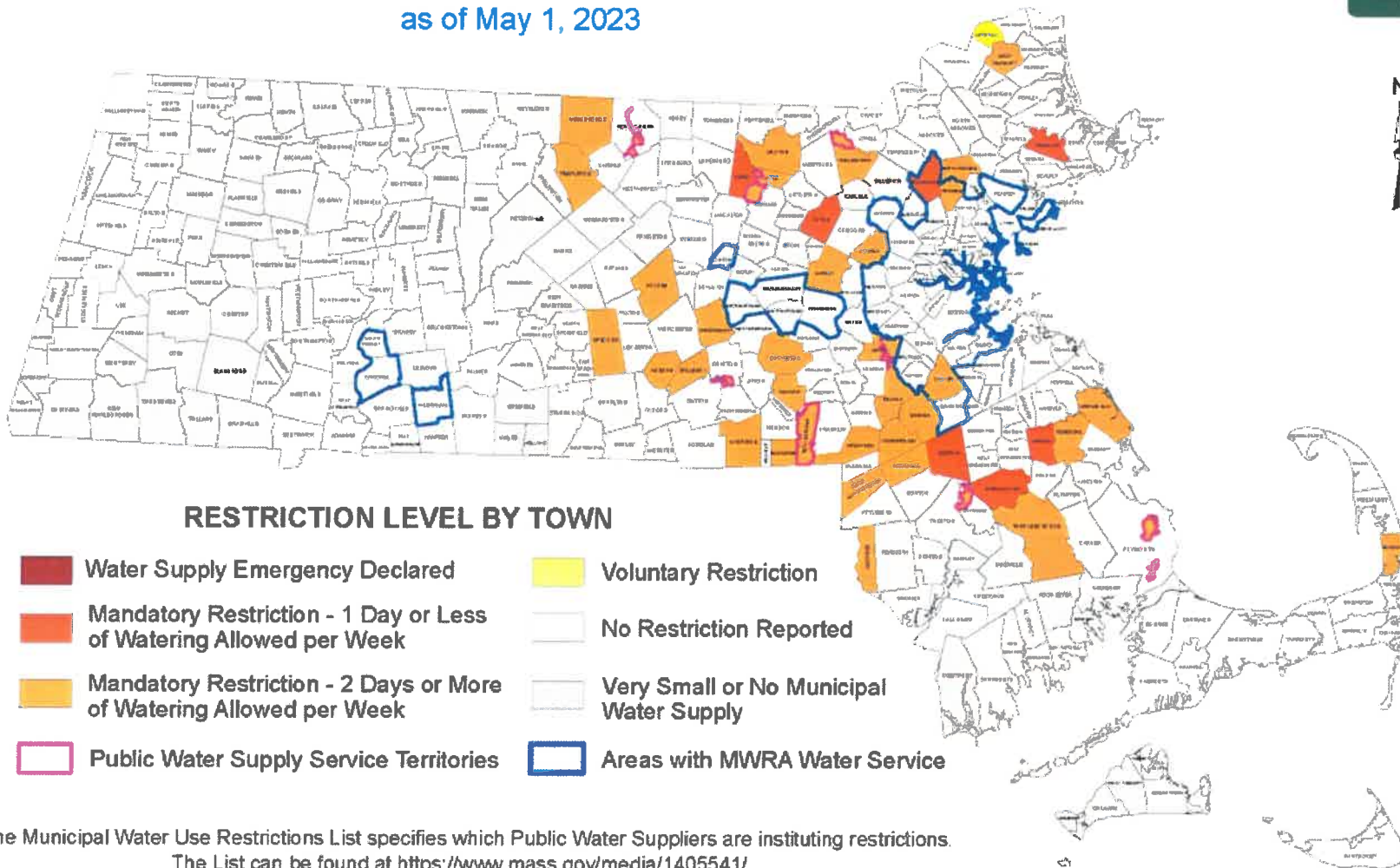
Drought status declared February 13, 2023
(effective until updated)



CURRENT MUNICIPAL WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

Non-Essential Outdoor Water Use Restrictions

as of May 1, 2023



RESTRICTION LEVEL BY TOWN

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Water Supply Emergency Declared |  Voluntary Restriction |
|  Mandatory Restriction - 1 Day or Less of Watering Allowed per Week |  No Restriction Reported |
|  Mandatory Restriction - 2 Days or More of Watering Allowed per Week |  Very Small or No Municipal Water Supply |
|  Public Water Supply Service Territories |  Areas with MWRA Water Service |

The Municipal Water Use Restrictions List specifies which Public Water Suppliers are instituting restrictions. The List can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/media/1405541/>.

SOURCES:

MassDEP Bureau of Water Resources, Water Management Program; MassDEP GIS Program; MassGIS. Restriction Level data provided by municipal Public Water Suppliers or by MassDEP internet search. For more information contact MassDEP Water Management Program at 617-292-5706.

NOTE: Sub-town water supply service areas are approximate.

2023 Junk/Bowling Billiards Renewals

E.

Establishment

Expires May 1, 2023 - Junk Dealer License \$100

Pedro Martell III dba Junk in the Trunk

Manager/Owner

Mr. Pedro Martell III

License Type

Junk Dealers



Town of Northbridge F. Department of Public Works

11 Fletcher Street, P.O. Box 88

Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588-0088

Tel. No. (508) 234-3581 – Email: Jluchini@northbridgemass.org

Jamie. Luchini
Director of Public Works

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 2, 2023

RE: Upcoming Road Projects in Northbridge

To: Adam Gaudette
Town Manager

Adam,

Here is the list of roads that we are looking at to re-pave this upcoming construction season:

Purgatory Road	Complete	Cold-Plane	\$250,000
Main Street	Arcade St to pole #50 pole #60 to pole #68	Cold-Plane Cold-Plane	\$180,000
Elston Avenue	Complete	Reclamation	\$56,000
Sherry Street	Complete	Reclamation	\$61,000

The total Chapter 90 funds are \$465,000 for FY 24'. We were approved \$200,000 at the Spring Annual Town Meeting for additional paving funds. This gives us a total of \$665,000. We plan on doing our annual paving markings program which costs around \$50,000. The estimated paving projects total \$547,000, plus the \$50,000 for pavement markings gives us an estimated total of \$597,000 for our Roads Program this year. If bids come back favorable, we could possibly add more paving projects or reestablish some crack-sealing of previously paved roads this Fall.

I have attached a spreadsheet that shows a three-year projection of our Roads Program. These are delineated by color, year by year. Please note that these are just possible projections that are based on level funding from Chapter 90, \$200,000 Town funding, and are also based on unit pricing for this year. Most importantly, as we have seen in the past, planning must be adjusted as roads fail prematurely due to weather or other factors.

Please let me know if you have any further questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

Jamie Luchini
Director of Public Works

Road Cost Estimates

<u>Road</u>	<u>Cold Plane</u>	<u>Reclamation</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Budget Est.</u>
Purgatory Rd.	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 385,000.00		23	
Elston Ave.	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 56,000.00		23	
Main St Sections	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 291,000.00		23	
Sherry St.	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 61,000.00		23	\$ 547,000.00
East St. (Cross-Leland)	\$ 226,000.00	\$ 373,000.00		24	
Whitin Ave	\$ 91,000.00	\$ 138,000.00		24	\$ 511,000.00
Carpenter Rd. Cause. To Town Line	\$ 132,000.00	\$ 200,000.00		25	
Ash, Bartlett Fowler	\$ 106,000.00	\$ 164,000.00		25	
Jon Cir , Paul Pl,Delmar Section of Sheryl	\$ 156,000.00	\$ 255,000.00		25	\$ 551,000.00
Spring St	\$ 71,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	Depends on Subdivision		
Church Ave.	\$ 185,000.00	\$ 305,000.00	CBDG Grant		
Highland St Fowler -> Windstone	\$ 103,000.00	\$ 153,000.00			
Goldthwaite Rd Hill -> Swift	\$ 111,000.00	\$ 176,000.00			
Hill St Main -> #154	\$ 108,000.00	\$ 173,000.00			
A,B,C,D 1/2 Border	\$ 267,000.00	\$ 438,000.00			
		\$ 547,000.00	Total Paving		
		\$ 50,000.00	Line painting		
			Cracksealing		
		\$ 597,000.00	Total Roads Program		
			Fy 2023		

Town Manager's Report for the Period of April 24, 2023 – May 5, 2023

1. Key Meetings Attended:

- Monday, April 24, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting.
- Monday, April 24, 2023 – Attended the Board of Selectmen Meeting.
- Tuesday, April 25, 2023 – Moderated an MMA Webinar on Public Records and Open Meeting Laws.
- Tuesday, April 25, 2023 – Virtual Conference Call with the Aggregation Electricity program members to prepare for the May 2nd bid.
- Wednesday, April 26, 2023 – Went to lunch with Sharon and Melissa to celebrate Administrative Professionals Day.
- Thursday, April 27, 2023 – Conference Call with Chief Labrie and Labor Counsel Brian Maser to prepare for Grievance Arbitration Hearing.
- Thursday, April 27, 2023 – Virtually attended the weekly Fire Station Project Construction Meeting.
- Thursday, April 27, 2023 – Virtually attended the monthly MSHG (health insurance) Board Meeting.
- Monday, May 1, 2023 – Participated in the weekly Fire Station Design Team virtual meeting.
- Tuesday, May 2, 2023 – Virtual Conference Call with the Aggregation Electricity program members regarding the new bid starting in December 2023.
- Tuesday, May 2, 2023 – Attended and participated in the Spring Annual Town Meeting.
- Wednesday, May 3, 2023 – Received General Liability Insurance proposals for FY2024.
- Thursday, May 4, 2023 – Attended a site visit meeting with Shining Rock Association along with Jamie Luchini, DPW Director, regarding sidewalk conditions.
- Thursday, May 4, 2023 – Quarterly Meeting with Mike Hunnewell, owner of ESKAR Recreational Marijuana Dispensary on Church Street Extension.
- Thursday, May 4, 2023 – Attended the weekly Fire Station Project Construction Meeting.
- Miscellaneous Calls/Visits with Residents, Staff, and Board Members.

2. **Fire Station Project:** Weekly design team meetings continue to occur every Monday morning and weekly construction meetings every Thursday afternoon with the project team and the General Contractor, M. O'Connor. Brick veneer for the administration area continues. MEP above ceiling and in wall rough in continues in the apparatus bay and administration area. AVB application for the main building continues. Painting of the apparatus bay steel joists continues. Installation of the hose tower stairs has begun. Windows for the outbuilding have been installed. Next steps include continuing the MEP rough in and AVB applications, begin work on the primary electrical duct banks, complete the brick veneer, and begin installing windows for the main building. A Request for Proposal is being developed for furniture. The next BPCC meeting is scheduled for May 17th at which time they will review Requisition #12 and ant Change Order requests.

3. **Northbridge Elementary School Reuse Study:** The architect team from Abacus and the BPCC/Town Manager held a public forum presentation for residents on proposed uses and layouts. The draft report was posted on the Town's website ahead of the Town Meeting. The Selectmen placed an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to get voter authorization to dispose of the property, but the article was Passed Over by the voters. The BPCC will meet next on May 17th to discuss the project and next steps. Then the Town Manager will discuss with the Selectmen at their meeting on May 22nd.
4. **Linwood Basketball Courts Project:** Now that the Spring Annual Town Meeting voters approved the additional funds needed for the project, the Town will enter into an Agreement with Quirk Construction who will look to start the project in early June.
5. **Cable Advisory Committee:** The current Charter/Spectrum Franchise Agreement expires at the end of this May 2023. The Cable Advisory Committee has held a public hearing to discuss the Franchise Agreement renewal with the public. The Cable Committee has met with Bill Hewig, Attorney from KP Law, and John Maher from Charter to discuss the Town's points of interests. Mr. Hewig will continue to negotiate with Mr. Maher on the suggested terms and the Committee is scheduled to meet again on May 15th.
6. **Annual Town Meeting / FY2024 Budget:** The Spring Annual Town Meeting was completed in full this past Tuesday, May 2nd. All articles related to the FY2023 Budget, Housekeeping, and the FY2024 Budget were passed by the voters.