

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES – August 23, 2021**

7:00 p.m. - Chairman’s Introduction to Remote Meeting

Chairman Perreault stated that this Open Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of June 16, 2021, an Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency and that all members of the Board of Selectmen are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

Chairman Perreault noted that the Order allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. He added that ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. Chairman Perreault noted that this meeting will allow for Public Comment only under the Public Comment portion of the agenda. He indicated the various ways that the public may view or participate in this meeting as listed on the posted agenda.

Meeting Business Ground Rules

Chairman Perreault covered the ground rules for effective and clear conduct of the business. He asked members of the Board to mute their phone or computer when not speaking and to speak clearly and in a way that helps generate accurate meeting minutes. He will go through the items on the agenda. Following presentations, Board members will be offered an opportunity to speak, followed by staff members answering any questions, if necessary. Those responding will be asked to wait until the floor is yielded to them. Members were asked if they wish to respond to the comments of others, to do so through the Chair, taking care to identify themselves.

Any votes taken this evening will be done by roll call to ensure that the records of the vote are clear and accurate to the members attending the meeting remotely.

Chairman Perreault confirmed that the following members and persons anticipated on the agenda were remotely present and could be heard.

Board of Selectmen

Jason Perreault, Chair
Leslie Rutan
T. Scott Rogers
Julianne Hirsh
Kristen Wixted

Others

John Coderre, Town Administrator
Rebecca Meekins, Assistant Town Administrator
William Lyver, Police Chief
David Parenti, Fire Chief
Scott Charpentier, DPW Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 19, 2021 MEETING

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve the July 19, 2021 meeting minutes as amended; Selectman Rogers seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

7:00 p.m. - ALEXIS VALLEJOS, BRILLA COFFEE LLC

To consider an application for a Common Victualler and an Entertainment License as submitted by Brilla Coffee LLC for premises located at 17 West Main Street.

Alexis and OSiris Vallejos were remotely present to request a Common Victualler License for Brilla Coffee for premises located at 17 West Main Street, the former In House Coffee. Mr. Vallejos noted that the business will be the same, just a change in ownership and brand. They are a specialty coffee roaster and have a coffee shop in Holden as well.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve the application for a Common Victualler License as submitted by Brilla Coffee LLC for premises located at 17 West Main Street; Selectman Wixted seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

7:05 p.m. - YOONG TONG THAI RESTAURANT

DBA Name Change for All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License located at 278 Main Street – Yoong Tong Thai Restaurant to La Miette La Mai Thai Bistro.

Kanita Sahasakmontri and Wachira Sittikong from Yoong Tong Family Corporation were remotely present to request a DBA name change for the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant Licenses for premises located at 278 Main Street. They are requesting that the name of the restaurant be changed from Yoong Tong Thai Restaurant to La Miette La Mai Thai Bistro. They are planning to change the name and make some cosmetic changes to the restaurant in an effort to rebrand the business. In addition to the traditional Thai menu, they will also include a Thai and French fusion style menu and will be purchasing fresh ingredients from the local farms. They will also be hosting cooking demonstrations and chef tables.

Selectman Rogers moved the Board vote to approve the application to the change the DBA name for the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License for premises located at 278 Main Street from Yoong Tong Thai Restaurant to La Miette La Mai Thai Bistro; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

7:15 p.m. - KRISTIN BLACK, HEALTH AGENT

Covid-19 Update.

Health Agent Kristin Black was remotely present to provide a brief COVID-19 update. She noted that the number of COVID-19 infections in Northborough has increased over the last month and is currently averaging 1-2 new cases a day. Approximately 40% of COVID-19 cases reported in Massachusetts in the last week are breakthrough cases. She added that at this time, there is no mask mandate in Town. The COVID-19 Task Force is meeting weekly to review state and local

data and provide recommendations. The Medical Advisory Team (MAT) is also meeting weekly to discuss trends in data and provide recommendations to the schools. Grades Pre-K to 8 will open under the previous Mask Policy that requires all students and staff to wear masks. The Regional School Committee will be discussing masking at Algonquin Regional High School.

Ms. Black stated that the vaccination rate in Northborough for all age categories 16 years and older is 95%, while the 2-15 year old category is at 82%. She noted that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) now recommends a third dose (booster shot) of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine for some individuals with compromised immune systems. She added that there are several locations administering COVID-19 vaccines including Wegman's, Walmart, and CVS pharmacies. Many doctor's offices are now administering vaccines as well. She noted that Health Directors from MetroWest Regional Vaccine Collaborative are discussing plans for possible booster shot clinics.

Ms. Black informed the Board that the Health Department is considering options for COVID-19 testing for town employees. She added that the State continues to offer free testing at their Regional Express Sites and results are typically available in less than 24 hours.

7:25 p.m. - WILLIAM LYVER – POLICE CHIEF

- Appointment of Spencer Fuller as Police Officer.
- Appointment of Brian Griffin as Police Lieutenant.

Appointment of Police Officer

Police Chief Lyver introduced Spencer Fuller and requested that he be appointed as a full-time police officer. Mr. Fuller is from Framingham and received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Fitchburg State University with Magna Cum Laude honors. He will be graduating from the Fitchburg State University's Police Academy on September 10, 2021, at which time he will be fully certified to work as a full-time police officer.

Mr. Fuller thanked Chief Lyver and the Board for this opportunity. The Board welcomed Mr. Fuller to Northborough.

Selectman Hirsh moved the Board vote to appoint Spencer Fuller as a full-time police officer effective August 30, 2021 as recommended by the Police Chief; Selectman Rogers seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

Appointment of Police Lieutenant

Police Chief Lyver and Detective Sergeant Brian Griffin were remotely present. Chief Lyver noted that the promotional interviews were held on August 10th with two candidates. The interviews were conducted by an interview panel consisting Chairman Jason Perreault and Police Chiefs from Grafton and Southborough. The interviews were observed by himself and Mr. Coderre.

Following a review of the promotional policy, Chief Lyver recommended the appointment of Detective Sergeant Brian Griffin to the rank of Police Lieutenant. Detective Sergeant Griffin has served in most department/positions, including patrol officer, detective, school resources officer, evidence officer, DARE officer and detective sergeant. He currently serves as president of the Police Association.

Detective Sergeant Griffin thanked Chief Lyver and the Board for this opportunity. The Board congratulated Detective Sergeant Griffin on this well-deserved promotion.

Selectman Wixted moved the Board vote to appoint Detective Sergeant Brian Griffin as Police Lieutenant effective August 24, 2021 as recommended by the Police Chief; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

7:40 p.m. - SCOTT CHARPENTIER, DPW DIRECTOR

Informational Presentation regarding completed Water/Sewer Rate Study.

DPW Director Scott Charpentier informed the Board that Raftelis Financial Consultants was hired to conduct a Water and Sewer Rate Study for FY2022. This rate study is a follow-up to previously performed studies to ensure adequate revenue to support the obligations of the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds in the coming years.

Mr. Charpentier reviewed the major objectives of the study, which included the development of financial plans for the water and sewer enterprise funds to ensure financial sufficiency, meet operation and maintenance costs, ensure sufficient funding for capital renewal and replacement needs, and to improve the financial health of the enterprise funds through adequate reserve fund balances and debt service coverage.

Mr. Charpentier indicated that the rate study recommends a 5% increase to the volumetric water use rate and a \$1 increase to the residential base charge. The need for additional revenue can be attributed to rising operational costs, more water use by residential users and less by industrial users, reduced consumption due to water conservation, implementation of the Town’s Capital Improvement Plan, and a substantial increase in the current year assessment from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA).

Mr. Charpentier added that Northborough is still without a new Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) for sewer treatment with the City of Marlborough. Negotiation of the terms, rates and conditions is now in litigation. He added that the City of Marlborough has issued permanent bonds for their recently completed \$30 million-dollar plant upgrade project and will eventually assess Northborough for its share of the project costs. He indicated that the rate study recommends no increase to the volumetric sewer use rate.

Mr. Charpentier indicated that the Water & Sewer Commission (WSC) will hold a public hearing to take comments and consider the rate study’s recommendations on August 24, 2021 at 5:30pm.

Following the public hearing, the WSC will vote on the recommendations of the rate study. If adopted, the ratepayers will be notified by mail and the rate changes will take effect for the usage starting in October, 2021.

Senior Manager David Fox from Raftelis Financial Consultants was remotely present and commended the Town for conducting rate studies every year and for its continuous planning for the future. As a result, the Town has been able to maintain the Water & Sewer Reserve Fund balances. He added that it's important to maintain a reserve fund balance in the event of unforeseen circumstances, such as COVID-19. The 5% increase to the volumetric water use rate and the \$1 increase to the residential base charge will result in an increase of about \$5.65 per quarter for the typical residential customer. He added that Northborough is keeping up with the national standards, which is incredible given the significant increase by MWRA.

Mr. Charpentier noted that the Town has financial targets for the reserve accounts at approximately 20% of the operating budget. Additional reserves are being maintained for the sewer fund for when the Marlborough litigation case is settled.

Mr. Coderre stressed the importance of planning ahead, adding that the Town was able to manage the substantial increase by MWRA through careful planning of the reserve funds. He is hopeful that as things get back to normal, the trend of more water use by residential users and less by industrial users will reverse. He also stressed how important it is that residents understand that the water & sewer capital improvement projects and operations are funded entirely through fees charged by the Enterprise Funds.

8:08 p.m. - SCOTT CHARPENTIER, DPW DIRECTOR
Bartlett Street Area Traffic Update.

Mr. Coderre announced that tonight's power point presentation and all documents included in the meeting packet are available on the Traffic Page on the Town Website. Mr. Charpentier provided a Bartlett Street area traffic update. He noted that Town Staff has been working diligently to assist the residents of the Bartlett Street neighborhood with their traffic concerns, specifically related to truck traffic serving the adjacent industrial zone. The following is from a memorandum that provides a status update related to mitigation efforts thus far.

Concern: Tractor trailer trucks were parking on Bartlett Street across from the driveway for 200 Bartlett Street.

Response: The Board of Selectmen approved at their January 11, 2021 meeting a no parking zone for both sides of the entire length of Bartlett Street. Granite blocks have been installed. The regulatory signs have been installed and the parking prohibition is being enforced.

Concern: When will Amazon install the permanent entrance sign as well as the directional signs across the street from their driveway?

Response: The permanent sign has been installed at the driveway. There are also directional signs installed at the driveway, across from the driveway, and directional pavement markings are at the driveway exit.

Concern: What is the status of the Amazon traffic mitigation funds and what will they be used for?

Response: Amazon has provided \$80,000 in mitigation funds for the Town of Northborough. Traffic mitigation measures and their status include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) identifies dedicated bicycle lanes as a means of traffic calming between the intersection of Bartlett Street and Cedar Hill Street extending to the Algonquin Regional High School (ARHS), as well as crosswalk safety improvements.
- Solar powered pedestrian activated rapid flashing beacons have been purchased for the ARHS crosswalk and the recreational trail crosswalk near Lyman Street. Installation is scheduled to occur prior to the start of the new school year.
- Additional traffic signs have been installed at the intersection of Bartlett Street and Lyman Street directing traffic to the preferred route to I-495.
- The traffic engineering safety zone speed study for the segment of Bartlett Street in the ARHS area has been completed. The study results show that 85th percentile speed is 40 mph, slightly above the posted speed limit of 35 mph. It recommends a safety speed zone of 20 mph 700-feet in each direction from the ARHS entrance and should be focused on school arrival and departure.

Concern: Can the use of jake brakes be prohibited in Northborough?

Response: The Board of Selectmen proposed a Compression Brake Prohibition Bylaw at the May 1, 2021 Annual Town Meeting, which was passed by the voters. The Town is now awaiting approval of the Bylaw by the Massachusetts Attorney General prior to implementation, which will require the Board of Selectmen to adopt the prohibition along specific roadway segments and for those to be properly posted.

Concern: Can the Town install a safety speed zone around ARHS?

Response: The engineering study supports implementation of a discretionary safety speed zone in the area of ARHS and during the times when vulnerable drivers are at a high concentration. The zone should extend 700-feet north and south of the entrance. While the engineering report recommends the safety speed zone be 90-minutes in duration focused on arrival and departure times, stakeholders, including the School Administration, support an extended afternoon duration. The alternate afternoon timeframe is proposed to be from 2:00 PM until 6:00 PM to capture the highest concentration of afterschool activities. It is important to note that school speed zones are limited by State regulation to the times of arrival and departure.

Concern: What is being done for traffic studies along Bartlett Street?

Response: The Town obtained traffic counts from CMRPC in late June at 8 locations in the Bartlett Street area. The results are summarized as follows:

- Ridge Road meets the minimum 5% truck traffic criteria for consideration of a heavy commercial vehicle exclusion (HCVE). Alternate routes all lie entirely within the Town of Northborough; therefore, staff recommends pursuing a Ridge Road HCVE through MassDOT.
- Maple Street near Johnson Avenue did not meet the 5%-8% truck traffic, therefore a HCVE is not available for this roadway segment. However, the Town will request that MassDOT extend the existing Maple Street HCVE

to the east end of Maple Street as a means to simplify the area due to the fact that all adjacent roadway segments have HCVEs.

In addition to Mr. Charpentier's presentation, Mr. Coderre summarized in more detail the following mitigation actions thus far:

- No parking zone approved by Board of Selectmen for all of Bartlett Street and signage installed with police enforcement ongoing.
- Worked with owners of 330/350 Bartlett Street to add new temporary and permanent signage for Amazon Facility to make entrance more visible to reduce missed turns.
- Additional turn restriction signs were installed at driveways for Amazon, A. Duie Pyle and the new facility at 301 Bartlett Street
- New directional signage installed on Bartlett at Lyman Street and Cedar Hill Road indicating preferred route to I-495.
- Bike lane layout on Bartlett Street is completed, installation is pending while the DPW Director further investigates the options of making it a shared lane (bicyclists and pedestrians) versus just a bike lane.

Mr. Coderre addressed previous comments regarding the perceived lack of enforcement of Planning Board conditions. He indicated that the Town's goal is to work with these companies to ensure compliance of the rules and regulations. Fines and litigation is typically a last step when relationships are broken down or if the company is nonresponsive and unwilling to address the situation. He stated that this is not the case with Amazon who is continuously working with the Town to address the neighborhood concerns. The Board was in receipt of a letter from Amazon dated August 23, 2021, detailing their ongoing efforts to work with the Town to address community concerns. It was noted that in addition to the \$80,000 in mitigation funds already provided to the Town for various pedestrian safety enhancements, Amazon has also agreed to fund a Post-Occupancy Traffic Study designed to assess traffic impacts and propose mitigation strategies for the impacts on local infrastructure. This Post-Occupancy Traffic Study will include a walking audit and crash analysis of the site and surrounding areas most impacted by the development.

Mr. Coderre reviewed a memo from Town Counsel that provided more detail regarding the enforcement and fines for trucks not following the preferred routes. Following a brief review of a criminal fine process versus a non-criminal fine process, he indicated that the Town is still awaiting final approval of the revised bylaw from the Attorney General's Office before the new civil fine structure becomes effective. The AG's Office has 90 days following Town Meeting submission to review and approve, or deny, bylaw amendments. In the meantime, Amazon is going to proceed with the post occupancy traffic study.

Mr. Charpentier spoke about the post occupancy traffic study, indicating that the Town has also engaged CMRPC to prepare an Amazon funded post occupancy traffic study for Bartlett Street in relation to the development of 330/350 Bartlett Street. The work will include analyses of turning movements, speed, volume, and vehicle type, as well as a walking audit, and comparison of current data to the data which was presented during the permitting phase for the property. A mitigation recommendations report will be provided to the Town for consideration.

Following Mr. Charpentier's and Mr. Coderre's presentation, questions and comments were heard from members of the Board surrounding the bike path, the time limit on the safety speed zone and the return to the 35 mph speed limit following the end of the safety zone approaching Route 20.

Chairman Perreault acknowledged receipt of a memo from the Planning Board that inquires how the Planning Board can impose conditions and what confidence can they have that those conditions will be enforced by other town operations and departments. He responded that the matter of trucks turning in the wrong direction is complicated due to the lack of direct observation at the time it is occurring.

8:40 p.m. - SCOTT CHARPENTIER, DPW DIRECTOR

Consideration of Safety Zone at Regional High School Entrance on Bartlett Street. Public comments will be accepted.

Mr. Charpentier reviewed the results of a Safety Zone Speed Study that was conducted by Ron Muller & Associates. The Speed Study was completed along Bartlett Street between Main Street (Route 20) and Lyman Street and included three trial runs by three different engineers, speed data collection and crash history between 2014 and 2018. The Safety Zone Speed Study is available for review on the Town Website Traffic Safety page.

Mr. Charpentier noted that in meetings with the School Administration, it was suggested that the timeframe for the Safety Speed Zone for the afternoon departure include the afternoon sports and programs. The recommendation for the Safety Speed Zone for the morning arrival is between 7:00am-8:30am and the afternoon departure between 2:00pm-6:00pm.

A discussion ensued regarding the time periods for the Safety Speed Zone and whether or not the afternoon departure timeframe should be later to include the performing arts programs. Mr. Charpentier indicated that discussions with the School Administration did include the performing arts programs leaving later than 6:00pm, but it was determined that the highest concentration of students leaving the high school is between 2:00pm-6:00pm. Also discussed was the concern that the Safety Zone Speed Study included crash history between 2014 and 2018, which is before Amazon opened. Lastly, the Board was asked to consider those students that are departing the high school after dark.

Chairman Perreault noted that under this agenda item, public comment will be taken only on the Safety Speed Zone in the vicinity of the entrance to the Algonquin Regional High School. He added that those who wish to speak will be asked to provide their full name and address for the record. Public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per person.

The following residents provided public comment in support of extending the Safety Speed Zone past 6:00pm:

Kerri Martinek of 16 Hemlock Drive
John Wixted of 2 Stirrup Lane
Michael Bernzweig of 4 Jenkins Drive
Lisa Maselli of 13 Maple Street
Jeanine Callaghan of 6 Stirrup Brook Lane
Rachel Armstrong of 10 Hemlock Drive

Mr. Coderre noted that the Board should consider what is a reasonable and enforceable timeframe for the Safety Speed Zone. For example, a 24/7 timeframe would not be considered reasonable. Selectman Rutan noted her support to extend the recommended 6:00pm end time to 9:00pm in order to accommodate students departing from all sports and programs. Mr. Charpentier reminded the Board that the Amazon-funded post-occupancy study will include another speed and crash analysis that will gather more recent data through the Northborough Police Department. He suggested that the Board consider the recommended 6:00pm end time until the results of the safety zone speed study and the post-occupancy study can be compared. If the newest speed and crash data from the post-occupancy study indicates a need to extend the end time beyond 6:00pm, the Board can consider doing so at that time. Selectman Rogers noted that the Board's decision about the timeframe should be based on the actual data reflected in the studies and the advice of the professional engineers. Selectman Wixted noted that the Board has the authority to create safety zones without a traffic engineering study. She thanked Mr. Charpentier for the study presented this evening, but she felt it wasn't necessary. She added that it's hard to quantify the number of students arriving and departing the high school through a data driven study. Selectman Hirsh noted her support to extend the end time to 9:00pm, adding that it is important to understand that the decision made this evening is subject to change based on updated data.

Chief Lyver shared his concern with setting unreasonable enforcement expectations and that he did not believe a 24/7 safety zone was reasonable. He added that signage would have a desirable affect, especially on the truck drivers. He wants everyone in Town to feel as safe as they can on roadways in a way that is reasonable.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to designate the Algonquin Regional High School Entrance on Bartlett Street for approximately 700 feet in both directions as a 20 mph Safety Speed Zone Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00am and 8:30am, and 2:00pm and 9:00pm with the caveat that this be reviewed again in six months at one of the Board's February 2022 meetings; Selectman Hirsh seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

REPORTS

Kristin Wixted

- Noted that the Solar Jazz Festival has been rescheduled to September 19, 2021.
- Noted that a resident on Whitney Street asked if tractor trailers are allowed to go over the railroad bridge near Coolidge Street due to the weight limit? Mr. Charpentier responded that they should not and if they are seen doing so it should be reported directly to the Police Department.
- Thanked those residents who take the time to email and call in.

Julianne Hirsh

- Thanked the Garden Club for all their work over the summer providing flowerbeds throughout town.
- Thanked the Garden Club and Girl Scout Troops 11106 and 64780, along with parents and siblings for the landscaping work they did at the Police Station.

- Following up on Mr. Coderre's announcement that the State revenue outlook is projecting that the State will close out FY2021 with an estimated \$4 billion above budget and that the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) Fiscal Policy Committee is strongly advocating that the State increase the Chapter 90 transportation funds from \$200 million to \$400 million across all communities. She requested that a presentation be added to a future meeting agenda about how decisions will be made on where to spend these funds and the various programs that may be entitled to them. She also requested information on Covid Relief Funds, the Rescue Plan Act and any various programs that the Town may be entitled to.

T. Scott Rogers

- Thanked the Fire Chief for his monthly report and congratulated Morgan Doyle on his graduation from the Fire Academy and Pat McManus on his recent promotion to Fire Captain.
- Questioned if overtime shift coverage is a valuable indicator of additional needs? Chief Parenti responded that it is not necessarily a great marker of the current staffing.
- Participated in the Massachusetts Municipal Association's Leadership Conference where he saw some good examples from other communities regarding how to organize hybrid meetings.
- Noted that the land use Boards have been considering their right of first refusal for Chapter 61A land on Whitney Street in preparation for the matter to be considered at one of the Board Meetings in September.

Leslie Rutan

- Noted that a resident had called Northborough's DPW Department the best in the State in a recent social media post.
- Thanked Town Engineer Fred Litchfield for looking into resident's concerns with not being able to purchase trash bags. The issue was with the shipping and has since been resolved. Noted that if residents are having a difficult time finding trash bags, they can be purchased at Town Hall through the Engineering Office and Town Clerk's Office.
- Thanked the Scout from Boy Scout Troop 101 who replaced two bridges on Stirrup Brook Trail as part of his Eagle Scout project.
- Noted that clothing recycling bins are still located at each of the elementary schools to benefit the PTO's.
- Attended a Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) webinar where different thoughts and ideas were discussed regarding distribution facilities.
- Thanked all who contribute to the Northborough Food Pantry.
- Thanked Chief Parenti and his department for their efforts in helping with the evacuation of approximately 80 residents from the Sudbury Senior Living facility.

Jason Perreault

- Attended a Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) webinar where shared experiences were discussed regarding distribution facilities.
- Participated in the Massachusetts Municipal Association's Leadership Conference regarding how to organize hybrid meetings.
- Congratulated former Fire Captain Jamie Desautels for his recent appointment as Deputy Chief in the Devin's, MA Regional Enterprise Zone.
- Congratulated Dawn Rand on her being selected as this year's Applefest Grand Marshall, adding that Police Chief Ken Hutchins who recently passed away was selected as an Honoree Grand Marshall.

- Noted that the public is invited to attend a Purple Heart Sign Dedication ceremony at the Ellsworth MacAfee Park on August 31st at 11am.

John Coderre

- No report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Public Comment portion of the agenda allows for the public to provide input, comments, questions, or concerns. The Board will not engage or deliberate in any detailed discussion, nor will it take action or make any commitments in real time in response to any public comment. If they are able, present Town staff may respond to any questions that can easily be answered. Those who wish to speak under Public Comment will be admitted to the meeting as an attendee and will be asked to provide their full name and address for the record. Public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per person.

Chairman Perreault noted that he will take public comments first from those that wish to speak to something other than traffic and safety. Following those comments, he will then take public comments relating to traffic and safety.

Laura Ziton of 17 Franklin Circle requested that the Board respond to her letter regarding staff turnover by placing this for discussion on a future meeting agenda. Chairman Perreault responded that staff turnover is due to a number of reasons, including competition from other communities and personal circumstances. He does not anticipate including this as a future agenda item.

Lisa Maselli of 13 Maple Street asked about landscaping around the Police Station and the Vietnam War Memorial? She asked if there are plans for any special pavement markings leading up to the start of the school year. Noted that she is happy to hear that the Town will be pursuing a truck exclusion on the other side of Maple Street along with Ridge Road. Mr. Charpentier explained the need to redo the landscaping around the Police Station and the War Memorials. He noted that in regard to pavement markings, he has no plans to change the process or procedure for crosswalks, adding that there is an industry-wide substantial shortage of the reflective paint for crosswalks, resulting in delays. Lastly, the Maple Street Truck Exclusion will be at the discretion of MassDOT.

Kerri Martinek of 16 Hemlock Drive noted that there seems to be a number of grants available to communities for sidewalks and asked what the Town's plan is for future sidewalks, especially in the downtown area.

Laura Ziton of 17 Franklin Circle again asked that the Board add staffing turnover on a future meeting agenda. It seems high to her over the past 6 years, not just since the pandemic. Mr. Coderre responded that the Town is in the process of conducting a full classification and compensation study.

INTERVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Selectman Rogers moved the Board vote to appoint Mary Crowley to the Board of Library Trustees for a partial 3-year term to expire on April 30, 2024 as recommended by the Interview Subcommittee; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion.

Selectman Wixted noted for the record that there were three applicants for the one opening on the Library Trustees. She agrees that Mary Crowley knows a lot about libraries, but Vikram Verma was also interviewed and she was hoping to see that he would be recommended for appointment since he has been earnestly trying to volunteer on various Boards and Committees. She encouraged Mr. Verma to continue to stay involved and hopes that he will be recommended for appointment to a Board or Committee soon.

The roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

Selectman Rogers moved the Board vote to appoint Jeanine Vitale to the Cultural Council for a 3-year term to expire on August 31, 2024 as recommended by the Interview Subcommittee; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

Selectman Rogers moved the Board vote to appoint Theresa Lee to the Council on Aging for a partial 2-year term to expire on April 30, 2023 as recommended by the Interview Subcommittee; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

Selectman Rogers moved the Board vote to appoint Elizabeth Nasser to the Council on Aging for a partial 3-year term to expire on April 30, 2024 as recommended by the Interview Subcommittee; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

Selectman Rogers moved the Board vote to appoint Amanda Derosier Millette as an alternate member on the Historic District Commission for a partial 3-year term to expire on April 30, 2024 as recommended by the Interview Subcommittee; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

Selectman Rogers moved the Board vote to appoint William Pierce to the Open Space Committee for a partial 3-year term to expire on April 30, 2024 as recommended by the Interview Subcommittee; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion.

Selectman Rutan thanked those residents who have taken the time to apply and volunteer on the various Boards and Committees. Selectman Wixted noted that she was able to watch the videos of the interviews and is impressed with those that got appointed tonight.

The roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

REAPPOINTMENT OF LORI TIRON-PANDIT TO THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

Selectman Hirsh moved the Board vote to reappoint Lori Tiron-Pandit to the Cultural Council for a 3-year term to expire on August 31, 2024; Selectman Rogers seconded the motion; the roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

SET MEETING SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER

Selectman Wixted moved the Board vote to set the meeting schedule for September to December 2021 as follows:

September 13 & 27

October 18

November 8 & 22

December 9 (Financial Trend Monitoring Report Presentation)

December 20

Selectmen Rogers seconded the motion; the roll call was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEEDS

Selectman Wixted moved the Board vote to execute Cemetery Deeds 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125 & 1126; Selectman Rogers seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

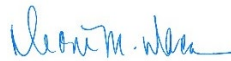
ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Wixted moved the Board vote to adjourn; Selectman Hirsh seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Wixted	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Hirsh	“aye”	Perreault	“aye”
Rogers	“aye”		

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane M. Wackell
Executive Assistant to the
Board of Selectmen

Documents used during meeting:

1. August 23, 2021 Meeting Agenda
2. July 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes
3. Information packet – Common Victualler License
4. Information packet – DBA Name Change
5. Memorandum – Covid-19 Update
6. Memorandum – Police Officer Appointment
7. Memorandum – Police Lieutenant Promotion
8. Information packet – Water/Sewer Rate Study
9. Information packet – Bartlett Street Area Traffic Update
10. Safety Speed Zone Study
11. Interview Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
12. Memorandum – Reappointment to the Cultural Council
13. Memorandum – Meeting Schedule
14. Cemetery Deeds