

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022**

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Chair Manupelli called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. via in person and remote participation. Participating members were Ms. Gonzalez, Mr. Wallner, Mr. Stuto, Mr. O'Leary and Town Administrator, Michael Gilleberto.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION BY:	MR. WALLNER	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O'LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0

Members recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**First order of business. Public Comment**

Abigail Hurlbut, 1 Greenmeadow Drive, wanted to say that "the Transcripts coverage of the both the Fire Station renovation open house and the intergenerational survey has been superior. I don't know if you saw the article in the Transcript last week and they did a tremendous job"

**Next order of business. Introduce Director of Public Services and Public Health Nurse**

Mr. Gilleberto was pleased to introduce two new members of the team in the Town Hall. He began with Lillian Hartman who was present. She is the new Director of Public Services. The position was established after discussions at a strategic planning meeting and a vote of the Select Board earlier this year. Lillian comes from the City of Lowell where she was the Senior Center Director she also has experience in the Town of Belmont as an Assistant Director in the Senior Center and she also worked in the Norfolk County Board of Commissioners as well in their Human Services Program. She has responsibilities that cover Parks and Recreation, Public Library, Town Clerk, Elder Services, Veterans Services, and Youth Services as well. She will also take the lead rolling out the age friendly initiative. She will also serve as liaison on several board and committees.

Chair Manupelli asked if this was the first time the Town of North Reading has filled that role.

Mr. Gilleberto answered that yes it is. She will work alone side the Finance Director, the DPW Director and the Director of Public Safety.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
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Chair Manupelli said it's great that she (Lillian) made history with the Town of North Reading and as a female. She said welcome and we are happy to have her.

Mr. Gilleberto said her office is at town hall in room 10 by human resources and to stop by and say hello. She is also working closely with the Elder Service position that they are trying to fill and move that process forward too. There has been a lot of progress and hopes to have a new director soon.

Lillian Hartman said thank you for the confidence of being appointment to this position and hopes to serve well. She anticipates it will be a worthwhile change in the structure and supporting those 6 departments and that things look more wonderful a year from today.

Mr. Gilleberto thanked the Finance Director, the DPW Director and the Director of Public Safety for sitting in the extensive interview process to hire Ms. Hartman. He then introduced Pam Merrill the new Public Health Nurse. She is a town resident stepping into the role much like Pam Vath did. She has 39 years of nursing experience. Most recently with Harvard Community Health plan and Harvard Vanguard. She also has experience in administrative work as well as a legal nurse reviewer. They are very excited to have her onboard. The Select Board may know they have struggled on what the future of the position ought to look like. It went from 5 hours to 50 during Covid. They are now at 24 hours a week. It is a good balance for providing a resource for the community for public health programming/nursing as well as the day to day work of Mavin (a Covid-19 Public Health Surveillance) and tracking our cases. We are happy to have her here. Her office is in the town hall near the Board of Health directors office across from DPW.

Chair Manupelli asked Ms. Pam Vath if we were really losing her as it would be strange for her not to be here.

Ms. Vath responded that they have the same name so it will be easy transition as that is her goal. She has only been working with Ms. Merrill over the last few days and it has been a pleasure because she comes with a lot of knowledge and has done a lot of work with Covid already.

Chair Manupelli said they appreciated all the time that Ms. Vath has stayed on especially during a very difficult time.

Mr. O'Leary said obviously they have spent a lot of quality time over zoom over the last 2 ½ years and Ms. Vath has been a tremendous resource in and out of retirement (a couple of times) as they have been trying to fill this position permanently. She has done a tremendous amount of work and put in the hours and time. He does not know how they would have gotten through without her. We owe her a debt of gratitude and appreciation. We hope Pam (Merrill) is successful and we hope Pam (Vath) you get to retire.

Mr. Gilleberto presented Ms. Vath with flowers and a round of applause.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022**

---

**Next order of business.            Recycling and Solid Waste Update**

Joe Parisi presented slideshow on the Upcoming Solid Waste Disposal Program Changes, Pay As You Throw (PAYT) for Overflow Trash and DEP Waste Ban Compliance Modifications.

Chair Manupelli asked where the bags will be sold from.

Joseph Parisi said there is a slide upcoming on this. He completed his presentation.

Mr. O'Leary added a thank you as this was a long time coming to help make people more aware of recycling and more conscious to be fairer as far as the PAYT bags. We are not where we want to be as people only using one barrel but it is a great start. He applauded everyone's efforts.

Mr. Wallner added that the recycling committee just had a meeting and there will be an effort to get this information out to all in several ways including stickers, social media and news before November 1st.

Chair Manupelli thanked Joseph Parisi and asked if the town still does the Hazardous Disposal day in October and if so they need to update the website. Also maybe add a list for the consumer regarding mercury, fluorescents and other HAZ MAT and how to properly dispose. She also added that Abigail Hurlbut brought up the clean composing that a lot of communities are participating in. She is looking forward to seeing this component added.

Joseph Parisi answered that they are looking into developing that as well.

Mr. O'Leary posed an idea about adding a container for Rigid Plastic like they have for metal at the DPW garage. He thinks the community would participate. He also asked when the contract is up with JRM.

Joseph Parisi responded that there are 4 more years and they will honor the JRM contract.

Ms. Gonzalez is happy to see this come to fruition.

Mr. Gilleberto wanted to add that the collection schedule was discussed with Republic and as Joseph Parisi said and we will start seeing their equipment in town. It could be as soon as October we can see their blue and white trucks. They will be looking into potential modification to the collection schedule due to staffing. The discussion is to give them some time to get "their feet under them". The town would be notified ahead of time if any changes need to be made to a multi-day collection. We expect to be going to a five day collection. It will be a challenge to divide the town into five day and five areas. The plan is to not make changes right away and then the town will work with Republic to make the right move.

Deborah Pascale, 170 Elm St.- Said that many people are not recycling bottles and do we think that's increasing our bills by people not really recycling where they can. We make money on the cans and they are just going into the mainstream trash.

Chair Manupelli answered that was a good question she does not know that they have an answer to that although they have studied the tonnage and this dialog has been going on for 4-5 years. They had a man

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
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named Ed McGrath that started on the recycling and now we have Dan Greenberg. We are not in people's house to police them or punish.

Ms. Pascale added that some towns have all the depositable cans to go a school collection bins.

Chair Manupelli said it would be nice but would probably end up in the trash anyway and people would not make an extra trip.

Ms. Pascale had the idea of clear bags so town could monitor what's being thrown away. She continued with info of the excess of cardboard we all have now too.

Chair Manupelli thanked Ms. Pascale for her comments.

**Next order of business.                      Warrant Article Informational Hearing - October 3, 2022 Fall  
Annual Town Meeting**

Chair Manupelli began the information meeting at 7:48 and asked for Mr. Gilleberto to go over and asked for questions after.

Mr. Gilleberto went over the slides.

Chair Manupelli assigned 1-3 to Mr. Wallner.

Mr. Gilleberto continued.

Chair Manupelli assigned 4-6 to Ms. Gonzalez.

Mr. Gilleberto continued.

Chair Manupelli assigned 7-9 to Mr. Stuto.

Mr. Gilleberto continued.

Chair Manupelli assigned 10-12 to Mr. O'Leary.

Mr. Gilleberto continued.

Abigail Hurlbut added that the idea behind the schematic design (Fire Station) is digging deeper into the building and the local process verifying the spatial relationships that support the local operations and support the development of strengthening the existing structural systems. It looks at everything i.e. water, old steel from original building, etc. It also includes a plan and location for a temporary facility. It's a fairly extensive process.

Chair Manupelli assigned 13-14 to herself. She asked for questions and there were none. She then closed the Hearing.

**Next order of business.      Review Wastewater Project Presentation**

5

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022**

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VOTE: 5-0

**Next order of business. Ratify Memorandum of Agreement with North Reading Library Staff Assoc.**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO RATIFY AND SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF NORTH READING AND THE NORTH READING LIBRARY STAFF ASSOCIATION, ATF, MA AFL-CIO FOR THE TERM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024.

MOTION BY: MR. WALLNER

SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0

**Next order of business. Legal Bills**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE LEGAL BILLS FOR AUGUST, 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,131.36 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL	\$ 6,178.60
LABOR	\$ 787.50
20 ELM STREET	<u>\$ 165.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 7,131.36

MOTION BY: MR. WALLNER

SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022**

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MRS. MANUPELLI

AYE

VOTE: 5-0

**(JAMS)**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE LEGAL BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,850.00 FOR JUDICIAL ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION SERVICES, INC. (JAMS) FOR MEDIATION ON THE SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT.

MOTION BY: MR. WALLNER

SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0

**Next order of business. Appointment(s): Zoning Board of Appeals**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO NOMINATE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2024:

MARIA LOCKHART (CURRENT ASSOCIATE)  
REBECCA GRIFFIN  
THOMAS KISELAK  
JOHN VERRENGIA  
BRENDAN RILEY  
NATHANIEL SCHOMP  
WILLIAM BIRKMAIER

MOTION BY: MR. WALLNER

SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	MARIA LOCKHART
	MRS. GONZALEZ	MARIA LOCKHART
	MR. WALLNER	MARIA LOCKHART
	MR. O'LEARY	MARIA LOCKHART
	MRS. MANUPELLI	MARIA LOCKHART

VOTE: 5-0

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
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MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO NOMINATE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FOR AN ASSOCIATE TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2022:

REBECCA GRIFFIN  
THOMAS KISELAK  
JOHN VERRENGIA  
BRENDAN RILEY  
NATHANIEL SCHOMP  
WILLIAM BIRKMAIER  
MICHELLE BODIAN  
PETER BRENNAN  
STEVEN CORREALE

MOTION BY: MR. WALLNER  
SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	MICHELLE BODIAN
	MRS. GONZALEZ	MICHELLE BODIAN
	MR. WALLNER	MICHELLE BODIAN
	MR. O'LEARY	MICHELLE BODIAN
	MRS. MANUPELLI	MICHELLE BODIAN

VOTE: 5-0

**Next order of business. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Gilleberto reported that there has been turnover in the Fire Department for a total for 4 vacancies. They are working to fill the positions and there will be more information to follow.

**Next order of business. BOARD MEMEBER REPORTS**

Mr. O'Leary began with we are all concerned with the devastation down in Florida. He sends his concerns and thoughts to all the federal government who are there helping. A tree fell on Lindor road and the Fire Department and building department responded and he cannot say enough about our public safety personal as they did a fantastic job.

Mr. Wallner said the Public Services Director will help with consolidating the Transportation Committee and will work on getting volunteers. The Commission on Disabilities is working on their website and there are good things happening there.

Ms. Gonzalez said she was unable to attend town day.



**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
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Mr. Stuto said until the sewer project is over he will have no report.

Chair Manupelli said she is excited to see the sewer project moving forward. She expressed her condolences regarding the passing of Ms. Pat Chiango. She was loving and committed to children. Her son-in-law is in our Fire Department and daughter is in the Finance Department. We are keeping the family in our thoughts and prayers. The Apple Festival was great. Her son sang and Rob at NORCAM judged the apple pie contest. A lot of young families attended. There were tours of the Putnam house and was a great day as was Town Day.

Mr. O'Leary said that the tour of the historical buildings was great and well informed. He also mentioned the passing of Bill Colbert who was 90 years young. He was part of the Parks and Rec department and youth basketball. He should be recognized for his years of serve to the Town of North Reading.

**Next order of business.            OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Stuto see Board Member Report  
Ms. Gonzalez see Board Member Report  
Mr. O'Leary see Board Member Report  
Mr. Wallner see Board Member Report  
Chair Manupelli see Board Member Report

**Last order of business.            ADJOURN**

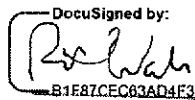
MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO ADJOURN.

MOTION BY:	MR. WALLNER	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O'LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0

ADJOURN: 9:15 P.M.  
1/24/2023

DATE

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RICHARD WALLNER, CLERK