

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021**

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Chairwoman Manupelli called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. via remote participation. Participating members were Ms. Gonzalez, Mr. Wallner, Mr. Stuto, Mr. O'Leary, and Town Administrator, Michael Gilleberto.

**#1. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUBSECTION 2 - STRATEGY SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH NON-UNION PERSONNEL OR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH NONUNION PERSONNEL. SUCH DISCUSSIONS IN OPEN SESSION WILL HAVE A DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON THE TOWN, AND FURTHER THAT THE SELECT BOARD WILL RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR REGULAR SESSION

MOTION BY:	MR. STUTO	
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 (UNANIMOUS)

**#2**

Routine.

**CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION**

Members recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**#3 PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. O'Leary wanted to send out his condolences for the loss of United States General Colin Powell and the recent passing of Mrs. Rosalie Senior who was a former member of the then Board of Selectmen and past Chairperson from 1992-1995 for the Town of North Reading. He acknowledged her many years of tireless servitude.

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**#4. PROCLAMATION: VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES APPRECIATION MONTH AND VETERANS DAY**

Ms. Gonzalez and Veteran's Director Sue Magner were both pleased to put together the Proclamation. Ms. Magner wanted to let everyone know about the ceremony on the common on Veterans Day (will be moved to Batchelder School if inclement weather) and also inform about a Veterans dinner that will be held on November 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 6:30 at the Tewksbury County Club and tickets are available. After the Motion was read and voted on Ms. Gonzalez read the Proclamation.

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO PROCLAIM NOVEMBER, 2021 AS VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES APPRECIATION MONTH IN NORTH READING, TO PROCLAIM NOVEMBER 11, 2021 AS VETERANS DAY IN NORTH READING, AND TO READ THE ATTACHED PROCLAMATION.

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

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

**#5. VOTE TO ACCEPT THE 2020 RE-PRECINCING PLAN FOR THE TOWN OF NORTH READING**

Town Clerk, Barbara Stats expressed her condolence as well for Mrs. Rosalie Senior. She then presented the culmination of the decennial census of 2020. This process takes place every 10 years and after the tabulations are received it comes down to the local community accepting the figures and to adjust the precinct boundaries. These figures help establish the population for the county, federal programs funds distribution and the precinct map. The town increased by 662 residents from ten years ago. This year the increase was able to be absorbed within the existing precinct boundaries and the town does not have to shift any boundaries. After the Motion was voted on Ms. Stats reminded the Board they need to sign the reprecinting plan letter in her presence by the end of the week.

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO ACCEPT AS PRESENTED BY THE TOWN CLERK, THE 2020 RE-PRECINTING PLAN FOR THE TOWN OF NORTH READING, MA INCLUDING THE APPROVED MAP, PRECINT BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS AND BLOCK LISTINGS.

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

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

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

Due to Public Hearing scheduled start time the Chair chose to address #7 Appointments.

**# 7. APPOINTMENTS- FACILITIES MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL TO THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE FOR THE TERMS AND POSITIONS STATED BELOW:

WARREN PEARCE (CPC) THROUGH MAY 3, 2022

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

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

**PROCESS SERVING CONSTABLE**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO NOT TAKE ANY ACTION ON SAID CONSTABLE APPLICATION.

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

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

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A letter will be sent via email and USPS on October 19, 2021 to inform the applicant.

**#6. PUBLIC HEARING: DOS LOBOS, LLC d.b.a. HOPOTHECARY ALE'S BREWERY AND KITCHEN-303 MAIN STREET-ALTERATION OF PREMESIS**

Chair Manupelli recused herself due to a family member having been employed by Dos Lobos, LLC. She turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Mrs. Gonzalez. Vice Chair Gonzalez read the Public Hearing notice. In attendance was restaurant Manager Jim Dietz and his Attorney John Connelly. Attorney Connelly informed the Select Board that the plan for the Alteration of Premises is to add a 3 season porch. A diagram was provided with the application and they do not expect anything within the interior to change.

Local resident Anthony Caridio, 3 Brooks Rd, asked about the use of loud speakers and bands.

Mr. Dietz answered they plan to operate under the same noise restriction as they did before. There would be mostly day entertainment and they will also have the capability to control the outdoor speaker. They have never had any complaints in the past and do not intend to in the future. The operating hours may be until 9:30 on weekdays and possibly 10:30 or 11:00 on weekends. Times are not established yet but they will conform to their current license. They hope to open before Thanksgiving.

Mr. O'Leary said they have been a very good neighbor in the past and wished them luck in the future.

Mrs. Gonzalez asked if they would have heaters or be open in winter.

Mr. Dietz answered not this year.

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE AN ALTERATION OF PREMESIS FOR COMMON VICTUALLER/ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR DOS LOBOS, LLC d.b.a. HOPOTHECARY ALE'S BREWERY AND KITCHEN-303 MAIN STREET SUBJECT TO ALL REGULATORY DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS.

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

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

VOTE: 4-0 (1 RECUSED)

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**#8. INVESTMENT POLICY STATMENT - FIRST READING**

Mr. Gilleberto wanted to say that the Trustees of Trust Funds have worked very hard with regularly reporting the status of the trust funds over the past 6 or 7 years. He acknowledged the work of Mr. Dallas Coffman, Ms. Jean Osborn, Ms. Sarah Allen McGoldrick, Ms. Maryanne MacKay, Town Treasurer and Ms. Elizabeth Rourke, Finance Director for all their hard work. Ms. Rourke made a pre-presentation. She reiterate how incredibly helpful the Trustees of Trust funds committee has been over the years and is pleased that this policy has come to fruition. Ms. MacKay wanted to thank the Trustees of Trust funds committee for getting them to where they are today. The presentation was turned over to Mr. Coffman to summarize the important points of the first reading of the conservative investment policy.

Mr. Stuto was in agreement with the policy as he read in it full and he was pleased to see the money have the potential to grow and remarked it a change was overdue.

Mr. Wallner asked about how much money the policy investment would be.

Mr. Coffman replied that it would be limited funds excluding the DPW funds and it's about a 1 million dollar portfolio.

Chair Manupelli, Mr. O'Leary and Mrs. Gonzalez added they too appreciate all the effort of the committee.

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE POLICY OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS POLICY AND TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE ENTIRE POLICY.

MOTION BY:	MR. STUTO
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 (UNANIMOUS)

**#9. REVIEW LIST OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT TO BE ADVERTISED.**

Mr. Gilleberto informed the Select Board where to find the list of Appointments to be advertised later in the month of October can be found on page 126 of their Select Board packet and also reminded that he added the Select Board policy 3.2 for their review. The expiring appointees have been notified and asked for their intentions and the Board will be kept informed of their wishes. There were no concerns expressed.

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**#10. LEGAL BILLS**

**KP LAW**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE LEGAL BILLS FOR AUGUST, 2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,245.38 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL	\$ 4,172.88
LABOR	\$ 4,079.50
20 ELM STREET	\$ 2,993.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,245.38

MOTION BY: MR. STUTO  
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 (UNANIMOUS)

**ARBITRATOR**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE A BILL FOR ELIZABETH NEUMEIER, ARBITRATOR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,300.00

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

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
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VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

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**FURMAN GREGORY DEPTULA**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE INVOICE #11417 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,343.30 TO FURMAN GREGORY DEPTULA FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT LITIGATION.

MOTION BY:	MR. STUTO	
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 (UNANIMOUS)

**# 11. MINUTES**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO TABLE THE AUGUST 16, 2021 REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO TABLE THE AUGUST 16, 2021 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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

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VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO TABLE THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2021, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 AND OCTOBER 4, 2021 REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

MOTION BY:	MR. O'LEARY
SECONDED BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ

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

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

**#12 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Gilleberto informed the Select Board that he and the Town Planner intend to apply for state Community Compact grant funding to assist with the financial analysis associated with the wastewater project, and to assist the Town's evaluation of potentially participating in the state "Green Communities" program. Grant awards are generally up to \$35,000.

Chair Manupelli asked to have the RMLD presentation be made accessible to the town via the town news section of the website.

**#13 BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Mr. O'Leary wanted to inform the Select Board the Mr. John Lape is moving out of town and needs to resign from the Conservation Committee. He wished him and his wife well on their next adventure. He then wanted to publicly thank the town who showed up for the October Town Meeting and voted in support of both the Wastewater project and the Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational School building project. The Board of Health received the resignation of Public Health Nurse Ms. Donna Hovey so she can go and complete her doctorate. Ms. Stephanie Connolly is also moving to the Clerks office and he offered his congratulations to her and added that she was quite invaluable especially with her navigation through the pandemic. She will be missed. There have been 41 cases reported in the last two weeks and 46 active cases. North Reading is at 2.68% which is above average for our geographical area. There are two more scheduled flu clinics. He made comments on the contract negotiations with the Fire Department that have been ongoing and that they are not operating without a contract due to popular belief. There has been false implications that the Select Board is not negotiating but they have been for the last 18 months. They are still working on these negotiations.

Chair Manupelli asked what the statistics were for North Reading student's vaccinations.



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Mr. O'Leary answered 12-15 yr. olds are 73% for 1 shot and 68% fully vaccinated. As for the 16-19 yr. olds 68% for 1 shot and 70% fully vaccinated. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade is part of middle/high school numbers so it will be awhile to get to the 80% to be unmasked in school.

Mr. Stuto thanked the town who voted in support the Wastewater project. He said it takes a lot of foresight and understanding for that to happen and if the town can come back with a plan that makes sense and a reasonable way to pay for the work the project will have a lot of legs under it. Secondly, he wanted to congratulate the Batchelder School for ranking 11<sup>th</sup> in the state in the U.S. News report that was just released. It was based on proficiency in academics. It is very impressive even being in the middle of Covid.

Mrs. Gonzalez said that the Recycling Committee is still working on a Pay as you Go program with the DPW. The Veterans Events committee is busy with Veterans Day coming up. The Veterans dinner will be held on November 11 from 4:30 to 6:30 at the Tewksbury County Club. Limited tickets are available. Send email to [nrvets@northreadingma.gov](mailto:nrvets@northreadingma.gov) for more info. The Community Impact Team is doing a DEA National Take Back drive on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. You can drive through and drop off old prescriptions or drugs needing to be disposed of. This will be from 9-1:00 p.m. at the O'Leary Center. Alternately, anyone can drop off anytime at the NRPD. She also mentioned she needs to change the date of the Strategic Planning Meeting due to personal conflict.

The Select Board members discussed and the date for strategic planning has been changed to November 15, 2021 at 6:30.

Mr. Wallner reminded of the Age Friendly event on October 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 in the DLL in the NRMHS. This is the cumulating of the UMASS study that 1400 people participated in and was submitted to AARP. He asked that the Select Board please try to attend.

Chair Manupelli asked to have the Age Friendly event info added to the town news page on the town website.

Chair Manupelli then thanked all the community members that attended and helped out at the October Town Meeting. She also said it was very special for Barbara Stats and was pleased how Mrs. Stats was recognized for her years of service at her last Town Meeting night. She is sorry to see her go. She also brought up the topic of the collaborative work with the CPC that has been tabled until the June Town Meeting. She asked to consider a policy or joint policy on not just senior housing but affordable housing so that the town can meet the needs of new growth. She would like to put a plan together to proactively keep up with the needs of the Town of North Reading. Lastly she wanted to inform the town of the annual Hornet Haunted Halloween playground event that will be on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Batchelder School, 175 Park Street. It's fun for all ages and there will be food this year. [www.masquers.weebly.com](http://www.masquers.weebly.com)

### **#14 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

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**#15 ADJOURN**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO ADJOURN.

MOTION BY: MR. STUTO

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 (UNANIMOUS)

ADJOURN: 9:12 P.M.

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DATE

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VINCENZO STUTO, CLERK