

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Chairwoman Manupelli called the meeting to order at 7:42 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.

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 AND SUBSECTION 3 – STRATEGY WITH RESPECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (NORTH READING ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF) AND PENDING LITIGATION (OPIOID LITIGATION), AS SUCH DISCUSSIONS IN OPEN SESSION WILL HAVE A DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON THE TOWN.

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

Mr. Wallner was participating virtually and all votes will be roll call votes.
Members recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next order of business JOE'S KWIK MART – CHANGE OF D/B/A

Chair Manupelli recused herself from this matter.

Vice Chair Gonzalez asked who was present from Joe's Kwik Mart.

Attorney Barnosky introduced himself and Evigan Nieves Rivera the proposed new manager. The Change of Manger is to be from Tyler Trendy to Evigan Nieves Rivera. Mr. Rivera was the manager for 3 years and it was changed to Tyler when the business was acquired by Joe's Kwik Mart LLC. Evigan Nieves Rivera has been approved by this Board in the past and by the ABCC. The change of DBA is to make current with the new name of Joe's Kwik Mart instead of Speedway.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Vice Chair Gonzalez asked for any questions.

Mr. Gilleberto said that the NRPD required additional time to complete the background check and there is a report enclosed in the Select Board packet stating the candidate meets the standard.

MADAM VICE CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE A CHANGE OF DBA FOR THE RETAIL PACKAGE
GOODS STORE/WINE AND MALT BEVERAGES LICENSE FOR JOE'S KWIK MARTS MA LLC,
231 MAIN STREET, FROM SPEEDWAY TO JOE'S KWIK MARTS #514 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: 4-1 RECUSED

CHANGE OF MANAGER

MADAM VICE CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE A CHANGE OF MANAGER FOR THE RETAIL
PACKAGE GOODS STORE/WINE AND MALT BEVERAGES LICENSE FOR JOE'S KWIK MARTS
MA LLC D/B/A JOE'S KWIK MART #514, 231 MAIN STREET, FROM TYLER TRENDY TO
EVIGAN NIEVES RIVERA.

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

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

MR. O'LEARY	AYE
MRS. MANUPELLI	RECUSED

VOTE: 4-1 RECUSED

Next order of business **RECOGNIZE EAGLE SCOUTS:**

Chair Manupelli moved on to recognizing two Eagle scouts. Dan and Andrea Mills were present with their son Kyle Mills and John and Michelle Barrett were present with their son Max Barrett. She welcomed them and asked them to step forward and discuss their projects. Max Barrett made shelves for the new food pantry and Kyle Mills made the flag box located at the entrance of the Town Hall. Chair Manupelli did not want the occasion of their achievement to pass by without acknowledging them and their accomplishments. There were photos shown and Certificates of Recognition for both young men were presented. Every member of the Board echoed there Congratulations and praised to Max and Kyle for their significant success and admiral achievement. Mr. Gilleberto also added his own experience of the extreme challenges he faced as a young man when he was working to obtain his Eagle Scout rank. He also added that the many teachings he received during his membership in the Boy Scouts of America program has helped him in the job he has today and told the Eagle Scouts that the sky is the limit for them now. He thanked them for all they have done for the community.

Next order of business **PUBLIC HEARING: FISCAL YEAR 2022 TAX CLASSIFICATION**

Chair Manupelli read the Public Notice.

Mr. Gilleberto said they prepared a slide show presentation with an additional 2 slides at the end that summarizes available exemptions.

Mr. O'Leary stated he has family members who own commercial as well and residential real estate in town and as the Board of Assessors are recommending a single tax rate it will not pose a conflict of interest for him but if a split tax rate was recommended he would need to recused himself. Since they are proposing a single tax rate he will be participating for the record.

Assessor Manager, Deb Carbone presented the slide show. She did inform that the Town had done a complete reclassification on everything on the new system.

Mr. O'Leary questioned that when you give a residential exemption will it primarily shift to the commercial industrial.

Ms. Carbone said no, the residential exemption would take for example 10% and shift it on to the residential class or Class 1 so that would not have a bearing on the commercial industrial. That savings on the lower end homes would shift over to the higher end homes and then the commercial exemption would affect the commercial industrial personal property. It's separate.

Chair Manupelli asked in regards to the median middle range home value that was identified in the presentation of \$559K assessed value and a market value of \$659K if the Select Board were to vote in the residential exemption would it only apply to those homes of that assed value or lower.

Ms. Carbone said lower or higher as it shifts.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Chair Manupelli then furthered explained what Ms. Carbone was saying was the residential exemption would benefit the properties that are assed at \$559K or lower and what that exemption calculates out to be is shifted on to those parcels that are above that \$559K. It does not benefit every resident.

Ms. Carbone answered exactly.

Chair Manupelli asked if the Select Board votes to enact this is it permanent.

Ms. Carbone answered every year the Select Board can remove it. Most small towns don't feel this is a viable option.

Chair Manupelli also asked how many of the 4,298 single family homes are under that market/assed value.

Ms. Carbone said she did not have that number but she ran one for under \$250K and there were 5. Out of the 4,298 (she did not want to guess) but said it was probably a few.

Chair Manupelli asked about the 907 residential condominiums if they would be eligible for the exemption.

Ms. Carbone said most of the condos outside of The Greens who are the only complex that exceeds the \$500k. Pulte is 450, Greenbrier average around \$286K.

Chair Manupelli said that the Pulte would be eligible for the exemption then.

Ms. Carbone answered yes and she returned to the presentation on to Scenario #3 = 20% exemption.

Mr. Stuto asked about if Ms. Carbone had seen a trend in North Reading as he has not seen a single family home built under 7 figures since he moved to town in 2017 and the median keeps going up. If this trend continues there will be tax breaks for people who own pretty expensive homes if the median goes up. He thinks the town should keep this in mind that the more we build with these higher numbers the median is going to keep shifting up and he thinks the middle number will be above 7 in a few years.

Ms. Carbone is projecting it will be above 7 next year. They brought 9 new houses online this year and not one of them were below \$850K most were around \$1 million.

Mr. Stuto then asked what Ms. Carbone anticipates based on some of the projects around town that will come online or be built for a single family for next year in that same price range.

Ms. Carbone said she is anticipating around 11. Ranches are getting torn down and a \$900K home is being built and renovators are adding second floors or adding huge additions. She sends out sales verification forms when someone buys a property for their information gathering to track the market so they know why the taxpayers are paying what they are paying for the property. The number one answer is the school systems second top answer would be low interest rates.

Mr. O'Leary had a question in relation to home sales and how it actually affects the assessed value of a house and if a house is sold how it does then get assessed for the next owner.

Ms. Carbone said they do a reevaluation and she does that annually. She added that they are always a year behind as they need to have 12 months of inventory. They use prior year sales and then they are depicted by location, values through the analysis for styles of homes, age and size. The sales dictate the values they see. The sales are the dictator of the vales and they are a cyclical cycle.

Mr. O'Leary asked if he sold his house for \$650K would he be assessed for \$650K.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Ms. Carbone said he should be within 10% of that.

Chair Manupelli said that in her opinion the residential exemption doesn't seem to make sense unless it's to be borne by non-resident. It does not seem to make sense as the town has 4900 residents and not people who have vacation or second homes in town.

Ms. Carbone returned to the presentation

Mr. Stuto asked what percentage has to be commercial industrial before a split (tax) makes sense.

Ms. Carbone said there is no rule of thumb now. In the late 1980's prior to towns being able to split for 30% (which was the rule of thumb %) certain municipalities that had 22% or 26% with commercial industrial and personal property together then the piece of pie would work to that 30% and a shift was accepted at that time. Since 1988 legislation changed to that as long as your minimum residential factor is below a certain amount you have the right to shift up to 1.5%.

Ms. Carbone returned to the presentation.

Chair Manupelli asked to hold questioning until Ms. Carbone presentation is complete. She told Mr. Stuto that the simple answer the split was not able to happen at this point as the numbers were not there. He then said he just wanted to know when it would be considered and at what number. She said the Select Board needs to be visionaries in that respect as other communities that have smaller percentages their Select Boards consistently shift and increase the burden onto the businesses of the community which are a slim sliver of the tax population (such as Reading) if it get borne by small businesses or businesses will force them to another community.

Ms. Carbone returned to the presentation and concluded.

Chair Manupelli asked for Select Board questions and then opened the Hearing to the public comment. There was none and she closed that portion of the hearing.

Mr. Gilleberto noted that there was a deadline of November 18, 2021 for any written comments via U.S. mail or email and no messages were received.

Chair Manupelli then closed comments and opened for discussion amongst the Select Board.

Mr. Stuto agreed with the recommendations for the single tax rate and not pursue any kind of residential at this time.

Ms. Gonzalez agreed with the recommendations for the single tax rate and not pursue any kind of residential at this time.

Mr. O'Leary thinks its import for the public to understand what the shift means for the average residential property assessed value and the average commercial. The average residential is assessed \$659,180 and average commercial is \$1,219,166.00. They can shift the burden up to 150%. It means a savings of \$988.00 for average residential and increase of \$1,829.00 average commercial industrial. To him they are not there yet and he thinks the recommendation by the Board of Assessors is wise and appreciated.

Mr. Wallner wants to stay the course until the town has other infrastructure that justify a change.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Chair Manupelli thinks it is incredibly harmful to shift the burden onto the limited number of businesses that are in town particularly because people are just now getting back on their feet post Covid. The Town of North Reading wants to continue to attract businesses as that is an EDC goal and she thinks they would not be able to achieve that goal if they implemented a shifting of the burden. She then again used Reading, MA as an example and although they have some very large business at Walker's Brooke Drive the small business suffer the burden and will be eliminated. Small business is a large part of North Reading's identity. She is in full agreement with her colleagues.

MADAME CHAIR, I MOVE TO ESTABLISH A TAX CLASSIFICATION FACTOR OF 1.0 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

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)

MADAME CHAIR, I MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS THAT
THE FY2022 TAX RATE BE SET AT \$15.00 PER \$1,000.00 OF VALUATION.

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)

MADAME CHAIR, I MOVE NOT TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL EXEMPTION.

MOTION BY: MR. STUTO

SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

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

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

MADAME CHAIR, I MOVE TO RECOMMEND THE FY2022 PROPERTY TAX LEVY AT
\$ 57,210,008.40 WHICH IS **\$11,710.60** LESS THAN THE LEVY LIMIT.

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)

MADAME CHAIR, I MOVE NOT TO ESTABLISH A RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION.

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)

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Mr. Gilleberto wanted to recognize that the assessor had prepared a very brief couple of slides for the public to know what exemptions are available to them.

Ms. Carbone went over those slides.

Mr. O'Leary asked what can be done to increase exemptions to the veterans.

Ms. Carbone said the Cola goes over to the other exemptions it does not go over to the Veterans. The Veterans are whatever the legislation has. When there is a change for municipality's to adopt it's a local adoption. It would have to go to Town Meeting. She will look into it to see what's available. She has not seen any changes.

Mr. O'Leary said some municipalities have been able to take advantage of change in legislation which has nearly doubled the Veterans exemption. He thinks if there is an opportunity to do this then they should take advantage of it. He then asked if Ms. Carbone could put together a presentation of the like.

Ms. Carbone said she will get something ready and she went over the rest of the exemptions.

Mr. Stuto asked what is the percentage of the exemption and what do you get if you qualify of 41D.

Ms. Carbone \$750 + COLA.

Mr. Stuto asked when it comes to calculating the income the state and federal government use different equations, do they take into account federal and state pensions and social security as income.

Ms. Carbone answered yes.

Mr. O'Leary asked in relation to 41D and if they have some local action to change those income levels if you look for a single person living in a home income can't exceed \$22K and the average family home tax bill is \$9,887 so the numbers have not been adjusted for inflation. If the opportunity is there then it should be adjusted. As far as the 41A tax deferral, the interest rate that the municipalities must charge is around 4 or 5% which is significant and when people enter into agreements in a community for 10 years and defer 100% of your taxes (\$9,000 in now \$90,000 plus interest over ten years) it is significant. He wants the Select Board to really know their options. Another thing that North Reading does not have but other towns do is the state circuit breaker bill. Seniors they get up to \$1,150 off. It helps offset their real estate bill and Reading, MA matched it. It would help people trying to "age in place".

Ms. Carbone returned to exemption slides.

Mr. O'Leary reiterated how he wants the people in North Reading to be able to "age in place".

Mr. Wallner commented that they spoke on the 41D last year and there is practically no one in town that qualifies for it. It is kind of a benefit with no applicants. No one in town fall into those circumstances. He is the Liaison for the Taxation aid committee and they recognize there are many shortcomings and it would take a commitment of the town but they do not have good data. The Reading, MA Circuit breaker was news to him. He said they need to work on best practices to what other Town have already done to get closer to the mark.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Chair Manupelli thanked Ms. Carbone for the presentation.

Next order of business PUBLIC COMMENT

No one is in attendance wishing to speak in public comment.

**Next order of business VOTE TO RATIFY NORTH READING ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Tabled

Next order of business LEGAL BILLS

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE LEGAL BILLS FOR SEPTEMBER, 2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,375.62 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL	\$6,895.12
LABOR	\$1,332.50
20 ELM STREET	<u>\$1,148.00</u>
TOTAL	\$9,375.62

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)

Next order of business MINUTES

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE JUNE 21, 2021 REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

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 APPROVE THE JUNE 21, 2021 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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)

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 18, 2021 REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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)

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 18, 2021 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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)

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 1, 2021 REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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)

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 1, 2021 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

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

VOTED BY:	MR. STUTO	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

MR. O'LEARY	AYE
MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

Next order of business **REVIEW UPCOMING BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

December 6, 2021 to start at 5:00 p.m., December 20, 2021, January 5, 2021 Strategic Planning Meeting, January 10th and the 24th 2022, February 7th and 28th 2022, March 14th and 28th 2022, April 11th and 25th 2022. A Saturday budget hearing is anticipated for late February or early March. After Town election Board can meet on May 4, 2022.

Mr. Wallner will be out of the county on January 24th.

Next order of business **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Gilleberto reported:

1. A friendly notice for those who may not know: the North Reading Food Pantry has moved to 150 Haverhill Street, next to Union Congregational Church. Donation drop off points are Stop and Shop and the Post Office on Park Street. The Food Pantry informs us that it can no longer pick up donations at the Town Hall.
2. Attached please find an updated listing of projects I've provided, at their request, to Representative Jones and Senator Tarr in anticipation of possible funding opportunities in the coming weeks/months. The list reflects unfunded capital projects, other projects that are in the planning stages, and select operating budget items that have also not been funded. Items that have been added are *italicized*.
3. Recreation Director Lynne Clemens has informed me of her intention to retire effective March 31, 2022. I wish Mrs. Clemens well and thank her for her service.
4. Unfortunately the current round of state Community Compact funding could not accommodate our wastewater financing and Green Communities projects. We will continue to monitor the availability of funding.
5. We have received a favorable renewal of our retiree health insurance plans. Please see the attached summary.
6. The Town Clerk have been contact by Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational school regarding the request for a scheduling a district wide election.

Next order of business **BOARD MEMEBER REPORTS**

Mr. Wallner is working on getting some definitions back to the Select Board on the Age Friendly presentation. The main message to the town is the Age Friendly Initiative is supported by the Select Board and they will do everything they can to put the project into motion for the North Reading Community.

Chair Manupelli thanked Mr. Wallner for attending virtually and his dedication to the town.

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

Mr. O'Leary said the Wasterwater subcommittee continues to meet and provide updates on the project. In relation to the Chlorination Station being built at 303 Main Street that is ahead of schedule and within budget. Wasterwater is conferring with MassDOT to get NR to fit into their schedule. They are all working very hard and he wanted to acknowledge the Administration, Joe Parisi, Mark Clark, John Klipfel and the consultants as they are doing a very good job. It's very aggressive and they want to be able to bring the proposal to the October 2022 Town Meeting.

Hillview is considering applications for use of the Pub. There is one that is potentially able to use the pub and hall. There are significant challenges with the facility itself to get activity in the function hall but he will have an update shortly.

The Board of Health is continuing to monitor the Covid rates and they have been running successful clinics. The rates are up and reminder all to be cautious to keep the virus down. The younger kids are at 27% vaccinations of 5-11 year olds and the numbers are climbing. 68% fully vaccinated in town as a whole. There are 3 cases being reported daily. There has been an uptick in cases. His findings are the unvaccinated are contracting the virus more than vaccinated. He cautioned to be smart while celebrating Thanksgiving.

He added that the Strategic Planning meeting was terrific and thanks his colleagues and the TA. There a two people being recognized for the CIT Good Neighbor award on the day of the meeting. Penny Esposito from the Food Pantry and Shelly Gullotti. Penny is an example of people who just quietly step up put in a significant amount of effort.

The TA, Mr. O'Leary and Boston Post Cane committee had the opportunity to present the Boston Post Cane to Ms. Carmen DiChiara, A wonderful tradition to have back into fruition to give to the oldest citizen in the community. Thanks to the late Gloria Maestro and the team efforts for making this happen.

There was also a drive thru Thanksgiving where 150 + meals were handed out and was very successful. Linda Jones did so much and deserves most of the credit. North Reading Hornets Football will compete in the Super bowl on December 1, 2021 at Gillette. First time since in many years. Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Stuto relayed the same message as Governor Baker to enjoy Thanksgiving and be careful. He wanted to say Happy Thanksgiving to all and safe travels.

Mrs. Gonzalez she received an email from Dan Greenberg from the recycling along with Joe Parisi, DWP director they got a small initiative grant from the DEP in the amount of \$1,250 to use towards waste reduction and recycling from the Baker/Polito administration. She is still working on the pay as your go initiative.

The Veteran's dinner was fantastic and Sue Magner did a wonderful job. All who attended had a great evening. The Tewksbury Country Club donated everything. She also remarked on the Thanksgiving bagged meals as was a great day and the spread was outstanding. The CIT Good Neighbor awards used to be bigger but now it's smaller but she asked if Mr. Gilleberto could touch on it as he was in attendance.

Mr. Gilleberto said that it was well done Amy Luckiewicz, Chief Stats and himself went to the Food Pantry to acknowledge Penny Esposito and presented her with the plaque. There was also a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the Board. It was different but it was nice and they got a picture in front of the sign. He then added that Ms. McNeil's son is their next honoree for the following day. He will be receiving

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

a certificate and plaque as well at the Public Safety building to recognize his effort a year ago assisting an injured person at Ipswich River Park.

Chair Manupelli asked Ms. McNeil if it was her son Eddie receiving the award and it was confirmed.

Mrs. Gonzalez said it is a really nice thing the CIT does in recognizing people in the community who have contributed and to show their appreciation to them. She then wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chair Manupelli said that Eddie (McNeil) was also at the Town Meeting and did community service for them and he is a good community volunteer. She also wanted to recognize Sue Magner because the Veterans dinner was excellent and was pleased with the conversations. She was able to meet and hear the Keynote speaker who is the Secretary for the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services as well as Cheryl Poppy. Her speech was amazing with all the things she is trying to carry forward and make happen for the Veterans.

She also mentioned the celebration for Mrs. DiChiara. The name of the Boston Post came from the newspaper of the same name. Gloria Maestro daughter Paula was in attendance who is also on the Boston Post committee. Angela Mauceri was also instrumental in pulling that all together. It was a great community celebration. Mrs. DiChiara advice was "Family is everything and be kind", she is also a very funny woman. Representative Brad Jones was also there to provide her with a citation on behalf of the legislature.

Chair Manupelli wanted to acknowledge the Senior Baskets and said the members of the Board helped out but there are a whole host of volunteers that show up and make that day happen. It took several hours as they were passing out baskets for Reading, MA seniors and well and North Reading, MA seniors. Senator Tarr and Representative Jones make it a lot more entertaining for all involved. A great group of volunteers.

She also mentioned the Strategic Planning meeting made excellent progress. The Age-friendly study did yield outcomes that as a Board they would include the appointing of a Public Services Director. There is a position in the Charter to oversee the public services departments. The Board feels that will go a long way to help achieve some of the Strategic Planning goals. They also intend that the funding mechanism for that position will come from salary reserve. They did already fund in the budget at Town Meeting a grant writer so they would like to actively recruit that position as well. They will be reconvene that meeting to work on more plans.

Lastly the Chair wanted to add that the North Reading Masquers Club will be putting on a production of Disney's Newsies, tickets are available. If you have not seen a NR Masquers production you should go and see it. It's like a Broadway show and you will want to go back. She said to go to an earlier show so you can catch it again. Tickets are on sale at ticketstage.com show dates are December 3rd and 4th and December 10th and 11th. She saw sneak peak of one of the numbers and it was excellent. She has a son in the show and knows the work put into this production is well worth the community's time to go. She then ended with a Happy, Healthy and Holy Thanksgiving.

Next order of business OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Stuto see Board Member Report

Ms. Gonzalez see Board Member Report

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

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. 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: 10:19 P.M.

11/21/22
DATE



VINCENZO STUTO, CLERK