



**Wednesday, November 16, 2022
Select Board Meeting Agenda**

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Select Board was held at 6:00p.m. in the Hadley Council on Aging, 46 Middle Street and as a hybrid meeting via Zoom for the Town of Hadley.

Present were: Jane Nevinsmith, Chair; Joyce Chunglo, Clerk; Amy Parsons, Member; Randy Izer, Member; Molly Keegan, Member.

Jane Nevinsmith and Molly Keegan were both remote for this meeting.
Joyce Chunglo acted as the Chair for this meeting.

Also present were Carolyn Brennan, Town Administrator; State Senator Joanne Comerford; Jennifer James, Select Board Administrative Assistant; Alex LaMarche, Hadley Media Director; Dan Zdonek, Town Assessor; William Dwyer, Planning Board; Linda Sanderson, Town Treasurer; Susan Glowatsky, Town Collector; Mike Kane, Eversource; Mike Mason, Police Chief; Mike Spanknebel, Fire Chief; Jim Boyle, Northwest Auto Sales; and Tracy Dyke-Redmond, Eversource.

**1. Call to Order - 6:00 pm
1.1 Call to order**

The Select Board will convene a hybrid meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hadley Council on Aging—Dining Room at 46 Middle Street, Hadley, MA, 01035 and on Zoom Meeting:861 0817 2694 there and then to act on the following agenda.

The public may access the meeting remotely by using a computer or telephone and follow the instructions below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86108172694?pwd=NWhHcDIyWU5nNXJWVWJPT2hiNjdxQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 0817 2694

Passcode: 281584

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,86108172694#,,,*281584#US

+13126266799,,86108172694#,,,*281584#US (Chicago)

The Chair has asked that it be noted that no party other than Hadley Media and the Select Board office recorded this session.

2. Public Comments

Dan Regish thanked the Select Board for promoting the recent Russell School public forum. He also spoke in favor of redesigning the crosswalk and lighting scheme on Route 9 at Hopkins Academy.

3. Consent Agenda

Warrants	AP2319, AP2318 INS, AP2318V, AP2318S, AP2318
Common Victualler	Homewood Suites
Class II Auto Dealer's	Northwest Auto Sales
Farmer's Market Wine License	Home Fruit Wine
Award of Sewer Pump Station Roof Contract	US Metal Roofing

Motion: To accept the Consent Agenda.

Moved: Parsons

Second: Izer

Roll call vote: Nevinsmith: Aye, Chunglo: Aye, Parsons: Aye, Izer: Aye, Keegan: Aye.

Vote: 5-0

4. New Business

4.1 Hawk Signal Light on Route 9 at Hopkins Academy

State Senator Jo Comerford shared an update relative to conversations she has had with MassDOT following the accident at the subject crosswalk and warning light on Route 9.

Joyce shared that the Town really did not want to have a crosswalk there on Route 9 when upgrades were done by MassDOT a few years prior. A crosswalk with lights and push buttons for pedestrians already exists at the center of Town only several yards away on Route 9. Further, Joyce expressed that she was not in favor of having the subject crosswalk in place at all as well as any future crosswalks which may be included in the plans of the current Route 9 widening/reconstruction project.

Chief Mason expressed his opinion of the traffic lights at the crosswalk as causing confusion for drivers. Since the recent accident, plain-clothes officers have been observing and enforcing traffic laws as well as assisting with the cycling of the traffic lights. On the evening of this meeting, November 16, 5 drivers were stopped on Route 9 by officers patrolling the area for ignoring the lights at the crosswalk.

Chief Mason also explained that eastbound traffic is usually traveling at 35 to 40 miles per hour as it approaches the Hawk light whereas light systems at intersections stop traffic with red lights in 4 directions (rectangular) before the pedestrians are signaled to cross.

The Chief mentioned that Senator Comerford is asking for MassDOT to provide historical data that will reflect how effective the Hawk light scheme may be in the Commonwealth.

The summarized that if the Select Board wanted to eliminate the crosswalk in question, no further action would be needed. If the crosswalk is to be retained and another lighting system is under consideration, data reflective of that system's effectiveness should be reviewed before engaging in installation.

Senator Comerford offered to help schedule a meeting with the new MassDOT Director. She further recommended that the Town set the agenda as well as time and place for such a meeting. The Senator will work with the Town Administrator and the Police Chief to initiate the meeting with MassDOT.

Randy communicated that he would like to learn from MassDOT about the history behind the crosswalk in question and current usage data.

Amy initiated a conversation regarding the posted speed limits along Route 9 approaching the center of Town, especially near or in front of Hopkins Academy.

Additional conversation among the Board members and the Chief centered around replacing the current light system, eliminating the crosswalk altogether, and possibly looking into crosswalks similar along Route 116 through the Mt. Holyoke College campus in South Hadley. Chief Mason made the point that Hadley roads bear 100,000 travelers daily during the school year, which is very unique for a town that has a population of 5000 residents.

In summary, Board members were encouraged to forward their informational needs and concerns to the Town Administrator in advance of scheduling a meeting with the MassDOT Director and Senator Comerford.

4.2 Eversource Solar Project

Tracy Dyke-Redmond and Mike Kane from Eversource provided the Select Board a draft letter of support for their Route 9 solar project.

Motion: To approve the draft letter with a correction stating that NStar will be seeking permitting by the DPU.

Moved: Izer

Second: Parsons

Roll call vote: Nevinsmith: Aye, Chunglo: Aye, Parsons: Aye, Izer: Aye, Keegan: Aye.

Vote: 5-0

4.3 Hadley Snowmobile Club—Usage of Norwottuck Trail Tunnel

The Select Board discussed the Hadley Snowmobile Club's request to update the letter of support to use the Norwottuck Tunnel under Route 9 rather than crossing Route 9 with snowmobiles.

Dan Regish provided the history behind the request. The aforementioned request is in the interest of safety of the 50 or 60 club members. Grooming the trails would also be best for

bikers, hence a dual-purpose effort. Jane suggested that the newly drafted letter of support reflects the dual purpose.

Motion: To approve the draft letter pending the addition of dual-purpose language.

Moved: Parsons

Second: Izer

Roll call vote: Nevinsmith: Aye, Chunglo: Aye, Parsons: Aye, Izer: Aye, Keegan: Aye.

Vote: 5-0

5. Old Business

5.1 Infrastructure Fee

Carolyn Brennan introduced the topic, stating that Town Counsel had reviewed what the recommendation to the Select Board would be.

Susan Glowatsky, Town Collector, walked the Board through the recommendation. On April 6, 2022, The Select Board had clarified that the Infrastructure Fee in place is for operating expenses related to water and sewer, mostly related to work being done during the Route 9 project. The legal review undertaken by Town Counsel yielded an opinion that the Infrastructure Fee adopted within the Town bylaws is not authorized when Mass. General Laws are taken into consideration. Town Counsel has recommended a pricing system that would include the cost of the provision of water and sewer services for the residents including services not otherwise accounted for. Fees already collected have been apportioned already to water and sewer users.

Motion: To accept the MGL 40 Section 39J which allows the Town to initiate a pricing system that would include the cost of the provision of water and sewer services including services not otherwise accounted for.

Moved: Nevinsmith

Second: Izer

Roll call vote: Nevinsmith: Aye, Chunglo: Aye, Parsons: Aye, Izer: Aye, Keegan: Aye.

Vote: 5-0

5.2 Town Code of Conduct

The Select Board discussed the Code of Conduct that was presented at the meeting of November 2nd.

Motion: To approve the Code of Conduct that was presented at the meeting on November 2.

Moved: Keegan

Second: Nevinsmith

Roll call vote: Nevinsmith: Aye, Chunglo: Aye, Parsons: Aye, Izer: Aye, Keegan: Aye.

Vote: 5-0

6. Other Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance

None.

7. Town Administrator Report

Carolyn Brennan mentioned that on November 17 the Senior Center would be hosting a forum of behavioral health professionals that will also be recorded by Hadley Media.

8. Select Board Members Items for Future Discussion

None.

9. Select Board Members Liaison Report

None.

10. Announcements

Joyce Chunglo offers the Select Board's condolences to the families of Nancy Feldman and Ken Parsons. She also announces the food drive and the agnel tree program under way at the public safety complex.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Izer

Second: Parsons

Roll call vote: Nevinsmith: Aye, Chunglo: Aye, Parsons: Aye, Izer: Aye, Keegan: Aye.

Vote: 5-0

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Lore and Jennifer Sanders James