

Town of Nahant, MA
Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 24, 2019 7:00 PM

Richard J. Lombard, Chairman
Francis J. Barile, Vice Chairman
Joshua A. Antrim, Recording Secretary
Antonio Barletta, Town Administrator

Attendance: Richard J. Lombard, Joshua A. Antrim, Antonio Barletta (TA) and Dan Skrip (Town Council)

1. Meeting Opening 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance- Led by Chairman, Richard J. Lombard

a. Opening Comments-

Mr. Antrim-

- i. One of the recommendations from FinCom at last year's warrant was that FinCom and Board of Selectmen (BoS) do a better job at coordinating throughout the year; as a follow up the FinCom and BoS will be meeting in August.
- ii. We have a few new businesses opening in Town. Interested in coordinating a ribbon cutting ceremony. Josh will touch base with Tony regarding this event.
- iii. With regards to Northeastern University/ ENF and MEPA letters; a letter went out on behalf of the Town yesterday, requesting an EIR (Environmental Impact Report).
- iv. Number of Nahanters that visited the State House to listen to a hearing; excellent display of civic participation, great to witness.

Mr. Lombard-Thanked Jen McCarthy for a wonderful fireworks display and for all of her hard work leading up to the 4th of July.

Jen McCarthy- Thanked everyone for donating. Thanked DPW, Police and Fire Departments for giving up their day to make sure the Townspeople are safe and that the show goes off without a hitch.

Mr. Lombard- Thanked the Department of Public Works, Police and Fire Dept. Suggested to TA to write thank you letters to those depts.

- b. Mr. Lombard made a motion to Approve Meeting Minutes from 12.11.18 & 5.23.19
Seconded by Mr. Antrim
Unanimous vote in favor
- c. Mr. Antrim made a motion to Approve Amended Minutes from 4.28.16: Minute Mark 37:07-47:36
Seconded by Mr. Lombard
Unanimous vote in favor

2. Citizen's Forum

Mr. Lombard- Going to try and keep everyone at two minutes to speak. Want to make sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Jennifer McCarthy 19 Range Road-

- i. Tonight's agenda lists; c. To Approve the Town Administrator's Recommended Change of FY20 Trash Rate and the Elderly Exemption. She is unaware of the changes and is asking for the Board to postpone a vote for tonight.

(TA will speak about this agenda out of order in order to eliminate any confusion)

TA- Prior to 2012 the Town had a trash rate that was per household and then an added amount per resident. There was also a discount provided for homes with elderly residents and that was also dependent on how many people were in the home. \$89 discount for one elderly and then \$29 for two. In roughly 2013 the Town decided to change the trash rate to a flat fee for every household in the Town. For roughly the last five years its been roughly \$345 per household, but the elderly exemption was never changed to a flat rate. The recommendation is to change the elderly discount from a dollar amount to a percentage amount. Recommending a 30% discount. 30% is a higher discount than they are currently receiving.

- ii. Meeting minutes aren't listing everyone who is speaking. Meeting minutes need to reflect more information showing that this Town is strongly against their expansion. Also additional minutes need to be posted on the Town website.

Margaret Hinrichs 31 Wharf Street – Requesting that Selectmen ask Northeastern University for a copy of last Wednesday’s Conservation Commission meeting and post it on the Town website.

TA- We received the copy today and are in the process of getting the meeting posted on our Town website.

Debbie Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road – asked if the Town did meet the deadline to submit a letter and if the letter is available for her to review.

TA- yes, we met the deadline and the letter is posted on our Town website.

Alice Court 7 Valley Road-

- i. I have met with Brendan Ward. He informed her that one person did resign from the FinCom. They spoke about how important the volunteers are to our Town.
- ii. Concerned about an open forum and the purpose of that forum/who can speak.
- iii. Susan Solomon and she have been trying to get an accounting of what Northeastern has actually contributed to the Town since its involvement (1960s). Still working on collecting this data. Asked the Board to share their insight if they have any definite numbers.

Mr. Antrim- On Northeastern’s website, they claim \$150,000/year in contribution to Nahant.

Debbie Vanderslice- a reporter from NBC contacted her about 10 days ago informing her through the Freedom of Information Act; in terms of cash, since 2014, the Town has received \$25,000/year from Northeastern.

TA in response to Alice Court- the way he understands it, we received \$25,000/year that from Northeastern University that goes to the school as well as two half scholarships per year that Nahant residents that are attending Northeastern University full-time.

Shannon Bianchi 14 Harborview Road- I have a question whether or not they are still paying for Storm water management permit (MS4 permit).

Mr. Lombard read out loud a letter in response to Citizen’s Forum

2. New Business

- a. Mr. Lombard made a motion Approve Nahant Garden Club Holiday House Tour Decorating of Ellingwood Chapel December 7, 2019 from 11am-3pm
Mr. Antrim seconded
Garden Club member explained the event and her excitement towards this fundraiser.
Unanimous vote in favor
- b. Vote to Accept/Reject Offer: 34 Bayview Ave:
Mr. Antrim made a motion; I move that this Board of Selectmen accept Beth Kelley's offer to purchase the approximately 235 sq ft of land in front of 34 Bay View Avenue made available for disposition on May 23, 2019, with the following restriction: no new structure shall be built on the subject parcel adding to the structures (retaining wall, stairs) that are currently there and which will be described specifically in the deed.
Seconded by Richie
Unanimous vote in favor
- c. Mr. Lombard made a motion; To Approve the Town Administrator's Recommended Change of FY20 Trash Rate and the Elderly Exemption
Seconded by Mr. Antrim

TA When the tax bills go out in the fall; residents have until April 1st to apply with the Assessor's Office for Chapter 41D Status.

- Unanimous vote in favor
- d. Mr. Antrim made a motion; I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to Approve Nahant Police Officer Appointment- Matthew R. Morneau
Seconded by Mr. Lombard
Unanimous vote in favor
- e. Mr. Antrim made a motion; I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to Approve Nahant Police Reserve Officer Appointment- Marc Holey
Seconded by Mr. Lombard
Unanimous vote in favor

3. **Town Administrator Report**

- a. Rights of Way Status Update: We are sending follow up letters to residents asking again to connect with them regarding rights of ways that they are encroaching.
 - i. We are sending a letter to 250 Wilson Road- it is listed for sale. This letter will go to the realtor of this property to make them aware of this encroaching issue.

Mr. Antrim asked TA if there is a good map for all of these rights of ways

TA I believe we have a copy in the Selectmen's office and we can work on getting it on our Town website.

Mr. Antrim would like to reinvigorate the perambulation under the Open Space Committee.

Dan Skrip- our rights aren't lost. You can't take easement from Town property.

Jeff Thomas 16 Little Nahant Road – discussion with the Board with regards to restricting 18 wheelers in Town.

- b. Harbormaster Boat: Is in service and in Town. Thank you to everyone that was involved with this process. This is a great success story.
- c. State Budget was signed by Governor; we received both earmarks that we requested through Senator Crighton and Rep. Capano- \$35,000 for public access and \$15,000 for a beach patrol vehicle. Funds may not be released until January 2020. Thank you state delegation for your strong advocacy.

Mr. Antrim- will any of those funds cover our Town website?

TA- I have to double check the language on the earmark.

TA Over the weekend (which was extremely hot), we worked with Swampscott to have some cooling stations: Swampscott Public Library and Senior Center-thank you. Nahant Police, Fire and Harbormaster worked really hard this past weekend as well. Thank you for all of your great work. Please bear with the Harbormaster and Police as they try to continue to make the wharf a safe area.

Peter Rogal 391 Nahant Road- In regards to the Wharf and safety, maybe at the cove of 40 steps you add a buoy line so that boats can't get too close and potentially injure the people swimming.

4. **Ongoing Business**

5. **Closing Announcements**

1. **Adjourn:**

Mr. Lombard made a motion to adjourn

Mr. Antrim seconded

Unanimous vote in favor

Meeting adjourned 8:20pm

Meeting Minutes prepared by Bobbie-Jo Blair, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen on the _____ day of _____ 2019.

Board of Selectmen