

**SELECTBOARD AND BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
MONDAY, August 17, 2020**

Remote Zoom Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Rich Kuklewicz, Chris Boutwell, and Michael Nelson, Town Administrator Steven Ellis, Board of Health Chair Al Cummings, Director of Public Health Daniel Wasiuk, and FCRHRA Director Brian McHugh.

**Link to Zoom Meeting:** <https://vimeo.com/448881787>

**Meeting Being Taped**

**Votes May Be Taken**

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken.

Board of Health Chair opens the meeting, roll call taken.

**Approve Minutes:**

- **Joint Selectboard, Board of Health, and Finance Committee, July 27, 2020**
  - *Nelson makes the motion to approve the Joint Selectboard, Board of Health, and Finance Committee Minutes as corrected via an email from Audley, and with the following addition: "Nelson expresses his enthusiasm in support for this financial policy review and undertaking. He feels it is important to have various financial policies of the Town in one central location." Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
  - *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Joint Selectboard, Board of Health, and Finance Committee as amended. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Cummings - Aye*
- **Joint Selectboard and Board of Health, August 10, 2020**
  - *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Joint Selectboard and Board of Health Minutes of August 10, 2020. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
  - *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Joint Selectboard and Board of Health Minutes of August 10, 2020. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Cummings - Aye*

**Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment**

None

**COVID-19 Updates and Action Items**

**Review of any Updated State Guidance or Orders**

- The travel order now includes Hawaii as a High risk state.
- The number of cumulative cases in Montague remains at 29. The curve has been stagnant.
- Ellis reviews the map of the average daily case rate in Massachusetts by City/Town over the last two weeks.
- Wasiuk and Ellis stress the importance of the public's continued diligence with regard to implementing and enacting preventive measures.

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the Board of Health Meeting. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Cummings - Aye*

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**Passing of Bruce Hunter (not on agenda)**

Kuklewicz announces the passing of Bruce Hunter, our longtime liaison with the FCRHRA. The Board is very appreciative of all he has done and sends condolences to his family.

**Brian McHugh, FC Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority  
Update on Spinner Park Restoration Project**

- According to McHugh, the landscape architect still has the plans from 1983, which shows that there are no electrical lines running through the park or the easement, and that the power to the electrical box comes from the pole on 4th Street. This is not the case. Two years ago when the electrical engineer from Berkshire Design and Eversource reviewed the plans that were put together, Eversource okayed the plans, which never mentioned anything about lines running under the park. Also, when the permit was pulled for the demolition of the electrical box and construction of a new box, that also was submitted to Eversource and there was no mention of the lines running under the park. Thus, McHugh feels like everyone did their due diligence.
- We received a verbal proposal from the electrical engineer under the contract of Berkshire Design, and we received a proposal from Berkshire Design and their civil engineer to re-design the electrical lines.
- The current change order is for \$3,500, but it will not be finalized for about two weeks. It needs to be submitted and reviewed by Eversource.
- The hope is to get substantial completion by November, with some things that will probably need to be finished in the spring.

**Police Advisory Review Group Updates & Recommendations Relative to appointments**

On the 13th Kuklewicz and Ellis met with a group of residents who will offer a consensus opinion relative to potential members. There will be another meeting on the 20th. Kuklewicz will hopefully have a set of recommendations for the Board on Monday.

**Town Administrator's Report**

- **FY21 State Budget News**
  - Ellis shares that we are going to be level funded for FY21. We checked in with contacts at the Department of Revenue as well as the offices of Senator Comerford and Representative Blais, and everyone confirmed that this is a very solid commitment at this point in time.
  - There are other components of our Town budget that received State funding, the largest of which is our Chapter 90 funding.
  - The State will be getting together again in September to begin trying to finalize the budget.
  - Ellis expects we will see a final and comprehensive State budget sometime in mid-to-late October.
  - There is a slightly larger overall budget for Chapter 70, which would benefit our school districts.
- **Turners Falls Power Canal Service Outage, 9/14/2020 to 9/19/20**

The Turners Falls Power Canal's drawdown will occur on Monday, September 14th. It will be drained at approximately 7 AM and will remain so until Saturday, December 19th. Ellis stresses that just because it has been dewatered does not mean that it is a safe place to

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explore and asks that residents please do not attempt to traverse the canal when it is drained down.

- **Hazardous Waste Collection Day, 9/26/20**  
Boutwell reports that there will be a Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, September 26, at GCC in the parking lot; and reviews the information Hazardous Waste registration form. No surveys will be done. The residents will be given appointment times and will do a drive-through collection in which there will be no human contact. Residents can access their website by going under "Your Government," then "Other Local District," then "Franklin County Solid Waste District."
- **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting**
  - **Basketball hoops**  
Both basketball hoops in Unity Park have been taken down due to significant damage to the backboards.
  - **Trinity Health New England**  
Trinity Health New England is closing the Farren Care Center and will be moving the patients over the next three months to the Mount Saint Vincent Care Center in Holyoke.

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn at 7:14 PM. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye*

**Documents and Exhibits:**

- Minutes: Joint Selectboard, Board of Health and Finance Committee: July 27, 2020
- Minutes: Joint Selectboard and Board of Health, August 10, 2020
- Turners Falls Power Canal Service Outage, 9/14/2020 to 9/19/20
- Hazardous Waste Collection Day, 9/26/20