



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
TOWN HALL  
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Edward J. Giroux, *Chairman*  
Andrew N. Deslaurier, *Vice Chairman*  
Kimberly J. Conway, *Secretary*  
Michael S. Rosa, *Member*  
Daniel L. Burns, *Member*

**MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 3, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, June 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conway Hearing Room. Present were Selectman Edward Giroux, Chairman, Selectman Andrew Deslaurier, Vice Chairman, Selectman Kimberly Conway, Secretary, Selectman Michael Rosa, Member, Selectman Daniel Burns, Member, Town Manager John Curran, and Assistant Town Manager Cathleen O'Dea.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Open Microphone**

No one was present for Open Microphone

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Selectman Conway stated that all announcements may be viewed on the Town of Billerica Website, Selectmen's Page.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Green Communities; presentation of check, street signs and Green Communities Certificate**

Mr. Neal Duffy, New England Regional Coordinator for the Green Communities Division of the Mass Department of Energy Resources came to the podium for this item. Mr. Duffy presented to the Town a Certificate memorializing the Town's designation as a Green Community, Green Community Street signs to be displayed throughout Town, and a check in the amount of \$225,098.00 which will be put towards the LED street light program for the Town.

*America's Yankee Doodle Town*

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Mr. Duffy congratulated the Town on its designation and stated he looked forward to continue working with the Town in the future.

Mr. Curran thanked Mr. Duffy for his assistance in streamlining the process for the Town's designation

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**7:10 P.M. National Grid/Verizon Billerica Avenue, Plan #24160406- National Grid to relocate 37 poles on Billerica Avenue to 18" from roadway edge per town request. Only 30 pole relocations on attached drawing are moving more than 36" and therefore require a new town permit. (Continued from May 20, 2019)**

Representatives from National Grid came to the podium.

Mr. Curran suggested having any neighbors who may be in the audience come to the podium and the petitioners can show them where the poles will be relocated in relation to their individual properties.

Selectman Rosa suggested moving on to the Town Manager's Report while abutter questions were being addressed outside of the Hearing Room.

Mr. Curran suggested tabling the item until questions had been answered and then take it off the table to continue.

Selectman Rosa, seconded by Selectman Burns, made a motion to table the National Grid Verizon Public Hearing, Plan #24160406 until abutter questions had been satisfied.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 – Opposed

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Residents and representatives from National Grid returned to the Hearing Room.

Chairman Giroux asked if all issues and concerns from residents had been addressed.

It was noted that all concerns has been addressed.

Selectman Rosa, seconded by Selectman Burns, made a motion to remove the National Grid Verizon Public Hearing from the Table.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 - Opposed

Selectman Rosa asked that based on the meeting with residents, is there any changes that need to be made to these plans.

The representative from National Grid stated no.

Selectman Rosa asked about moving the poles to be ADA compliant.

Mr. Curran stated that these plans have been vetted by Engineering and had asked that poles be moved to be ADA compliant.

The Engineer from National Grid addressed Selectman Rosa's concerns on this matter.

Selectman Rosa asked how the pole by the Fire Hydrants will be addressed.

Selectman Rosa asked that when the motion is made to include that all of the poles are marked with the Fire Hydrants as they currently are in town with the yellow band metal diamond on all pole that relocated and are stamped correctly.

Selectman Deslaurier asked if that was already a town standard.

Mr. Curran stated yes.

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Selectman Conway thanked National Grid for meeting with the residents to address their questions.

Selectman Rosa stated it is very important to identify poles in relation to Fire Hydrants accurately.

Chairman Giroux asked if anyone from the public wished to speak

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to close the public hearing.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 – Opposed

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion that the Board of Selectmen approve National Grid Verizon , Plan # 24160406 to relocate 37 poles on Billerica Avenue to 18” from roadway edge per town request.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 – Opposed

**7:15 P.M. National Grid Plan 24160406-UG-Billerica Avenue-National Grid is to Install 2-5” conduits and one manhole from existing pole 25 to existing pole 31.  
(Continued from May 20, 2019)**

Selectman Giroux asked if there were any residents present for this item.

Selectman Rosa asked about the site walk requested by the DPW.

The Engineer from National Grid stated they had done the site walk for the poles with DPW. At that time they were informed about the conduits.

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Selectman Rosa stated that site walk was for the poles. They should have done one for the conduit, get DPW comments, incorporate them into the plans and then come back before the Board.

Selectman Deslaurier asked if this was part of the project from the previous public hearing.

The Engineer stated it was connected to the poles. It was part of the initial walk thru. They needed to submit two petitions, one for the underground and one for overhead.

Selectman Deslaurier stated that in his opinion the site walk was already accomplished.

Selectman Rosa stated he recommends holding off on this item because the site walk was separate and distinct from the other site walk by the dates of the documents provided by the DPW.

Selectman Conway stated she recommends that the Board approve this tonight contingent upon the site walk being completed.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to close the public hearing.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa made a motion that the Board of Selectman approve National Grid, Plan #241660406-UG to install 2- 5” conduits and one manhole from existing pole 25 to existing pole 31, contingent upon a site walk.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

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### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Town Manager's Report**

**-Fiscal Efficiency**

**-Professional Recognition**

Town Manager John Curran highlighted items on his Town Manager's Report including Comcast Ascertainment Hearing, Chapter 90 Pavement Program, Return on Investment (Water Meters), Neighborhood Meetings, Community Outreach Meeting, Recreation Department Summer Kick Off, Waste Management, Recycling Audit, and Town Manager's Evaluation.

In regards to the Community Outreach Meetings, Selectman Deslaurier asked how the selected applicants were chosen as opposed to other establishments that applied.

Mr. Curran explained it originally began with an RFP to get establishments to apply. Five establishments applied. Mr. Curran further explained that a level of conditions were established that needed to be met; i.e., P&S in hand on property, had to have a supplier, had to have background and experience in the industry in order to be considered for an interview. It was narrowed down to 3 applicants, and there was a meeting with those 3 applicants with appropriate Department Heads. The next step is the Community Outreach meeting.

In relation to the item on Chapter 90 monies, Selectman Conway reiterated what was in the Town Manager's Report. She asked Mr. Curran if he foresees the State doing anything to help improve the roads in Town.

Mr. Curran stated he is not aware of a push to increase Chapter 90 funds significantly. Unless there is a transportation bill which includes infrastructure, he does not anticipate any increase in funding. He further stated this might be a good question for our legislators when they appear before the Board at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Selectman Conway encouraged residents to come out to the Community Outreach meeting. She stated this is the public's opportunity and ask questions.

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Selectman Conway stated there is a significant interest in this Town to recycle properly. She encouraged the continuing education of residents in town to recycle properly. Selectman Conway thanked the Town Manager for his efforts in this regard.

In regards to the Comcast item, Selectman Rosa asked expanding the senior discount.

Mr. Curran stated that will be a subject for negotiations to increase the discount. Mr. Curran stated that presently the discount is for SD services and they would like more than that. It was incorporated in the RFP.

Selectman Rosa stated that the Town should be seeing more Chapter 90 money because the Town has done two large road acceptances, and that Chapter 90 money is the calculation of miles of accepted roads.

Mr. Curran stated he will find out when the Town will see that increase.

Selectman Rosa asked about the return on investment relative to water meters. If we assumed a 4 year return when we went to Town Meeting with no data, how can we not have more information with six months of data.

Mr. Curran explained that consumption went down due to a wet year versus a dry year the year before. Even though consumption went down it is hard to quantify how much of that volume was new volume. Because of the new meters, the actual commitment was not lower than the previous year. Part of that is associated with rates and part maybe captured rates. It would be hard to identify with just six months. You need a trend, and in a couple of years we will be able to see that trend.

Selectman Rosa stated he will be pushing for the Board to make a change in the billing schedule so that the consumption is coordinated with the billing.

Selectman Rosa stated he is glad to see that the Town is re-instituting the inspection of recycling bins and the grant to educate residents. Selectman Rosa asked what the 28.4% contamination is based on. He would like to see how it is quantified.

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Mr. Curran stated he would need to sit down with Director Alkhatib to see how detailed the information is from Waste Management.

Chairman Giroux commented on the Ascertainment Process. He stated he is looking forward to see what the increase in Chapter 90 monies is based on the roads accepted. Chairman Giroux asked Mr. Curran who is running the Community Outreach meeting.

Mr. Curran stated that the Police Chief will serve as a moderator. In response to Chairman Giroux's question on posting the meeting relative to the Open Meeting Laws, Mr. Curran stated it is posted and advertised.

Selectman Giroux stated he is also interested in how the 28.4% contamination is quantified.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**David Neilson, dba Coastal Vineyards, 61 Pardon Hill Road, South Dartmouth, MA 02748, Re: Sale of Wine at Farmer's Market on Mondays, from Monday June 24, 2019 To Monday, October 7, 2019 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Mr. David Neilson from Coastal Vineyards came to the podium for this item.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion that the Board of Selectmen approve a License for David Neilson, d/b/a Coastal Vineyards, 61 Pardon Hill Road, South Dartmouth, MA for the sale of wine at Farmer's Market on Mondays, from Monday, June 24, 2019 to Monday October 7, 2019 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 - Opposed



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**To Authorize the Town Manager to file Applications and Execute Agreements for grant or loan assistance relative to Article 27 of the 2019 Spring Town Meeting Wastewater Treatment and Pump Station Improvements**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa motioned whereas, Town of Billerica after thorough investigation, has determined that the work activity consisting of: WWTF & Pump Station Upgrades is both in the public interest and necessary to protect the public health, and that to undertake this activity, it is necessary to apply for assistance; and whereas, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection the (MassDEP) and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust,( the "Trust") of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C of the General Laws of the Commonwealth,(Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C) are authorized to make Loans to municipalities for the purpose of funding, planning and construction activities relative to Water Pollution Abatement Projects; and whereas the Applicant has examined the provisions of the Act, Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C and believes it to be in the public interest to file a loan application. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Selectmen as follows: that the Town Manger is hereby authorized on behalf of the Applicant to file applications and execute agreement for grant and/or loan assistance as well as furnishing such information, data and documents pertaining to the applicant for a grant(s) and/or loan(s) as may be required, and otherwise to act as the authorized representative of the Applicant in connection with this application. That the purpose of said loan(s), if awarded, shall be to fund construction activities. That if said award is made the Applicant agrees to pay those costs which constitute the required applicant's share of the project cost.

It was voted:

Selectman Burns-Aye  
Selectman Deslaurier-Aye  
Selectman Rosa – Aye  
Selectman Conway – Aye  
Selectman Giroux - Aye

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**To Authorize the Town Manager to file Applications and Execute Agreements for grant or loan assistance relative to Article 28 2019 Spring Town Meeting Water Treatment Improvements.**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa motioned whereas, Town of Billerica after thorough investigation, has determined that the work activity consisting of Water Treatment Plans Upgrades is both in the public interest and necessary to protect the public health, and that to undertake this activity, it is necessary to apply for assistance; and whereas, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection the (MassDEP) and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust,( the "Trust") of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C of the General Laws of the Commonwealth,(Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C) are authorized to make Loans to municipalities for the purpose of funding, planning and construction activities relative to Drinking Water Protection Projects; and whereas the Applicant has examined the provisions of the Act, Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C and believes it to be in the public interest to file a loan application. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Selectmen as follows: that the Town Manager is hereby authorized on behalf of the Applicant to file applications and execute agreement for grant(s) and/or loan assistance as well as furnishing such information, data and documents pertaining to the applicant for a grant(s) and/or loan(s) as may be required, and otherwise to act as the authorized representative of the Applicant in connection with this application. That the purpose of said loan(s), if awarded, shall be to fund construction activities. That if said award is made the Applicant agrees to pay those costs which constitute the required applicant's share of the project cost.

It was voted:

Selectman Burns-Aye  
Selectman Deslaurier-Aye  
Selectman Rosa – Aye  
Selectman Conway – Aye  
Selectman Giroux - Aye

**Refer to Traffic Management Committee Signs for Truck Restrictions on Bridge+ Street  
"No Trucks between 9:00 p.m.-6:00 a.m.; and "No Engine Breaking"**

Mr. Thomas Nadeau came to the podium for this item.

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Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, voted to refer to the Traffic Management Committee signs for a truck restriction for commercial trucks on Bridge Street from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and also investigate "No Engine Breaking" in the entirety of the Town it can be applied to.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 - Opposed

**Appointments Board of Selectmen**

**Board of Appeals**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Sal D’Ampolo to the Board of Appeals as a regular member.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Ralph McKenna as an alternate member of the Board of Appeals.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

**Arts Council**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Angela LoGuidice as a member of the Arts Council.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Benjamin Perry as a member of the Arts Council

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It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

**Cabot Land Use Committee**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Josh Huffines as a member of the Cabot Land Use Committee

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Donna Fitzgerald as a member of the Cabot Land Use Committee.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

**Commission on Disability**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Maria Martin as a member of the Commission on Disability

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Raymond Ellis as a member of the Commission on Disability.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

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### **Community Preservation**

Ms. Mary Leach and Mr. Chris Mason came forward for interviews for the Community Preservation Committee. Both candidates delivered opening comments and answered questions from Board members.

#### **Ms. Mary Leach**

Ms. Leach came to the podium. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to appear before them for reappointment.

Ms. Leach stated she is a Town Meeting representative from Precinct 3, a member of the Historical Commission, and the present Selectmen's appointee to the Community Preservation Committee.

Ms. Leach stated she is a Communications Specialist with over 30 years of experience. She presently is the Senior Manager of Corporate Communications for Winchester Hospital and Lahey Hospital Medical Center.

Ms. Leach stated she is an active volunteer. She attends many events in town and writes articles and takes photos, many of which appear in the Lowell Sun and Minute Man and on occasion picked up by local television networks.

Ms. Leach referenced the Chronicle TV show's visit to Billerica at Ms. Leach's request. Chronicle visited everywhere she asked to showcase Billerica. She referenced photos she took at the Dog Park and the Pride Parade which were posted today.

Ms. Leach stated she is a volunteer and does not get paid for any of it, and in that regard; she has had the opportunity to meet a lot of great people in town.

Ms. Leach stated she is asked and provides volunteer services for organizations in town such the Library, COA, Historical Society, Farmer's Market, Colonial Minutemen, Clean Up Green Up.

Ms. Leach stated she became interested in the CPC when met a group of people collecting signatures. Ms. Leach further stated she became involved with the group and began

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championing their cause. She assisted with the development strategy and getting information out to the voters. Ms. Leach stated she has done the Ethics and CPC training. She also continues to educate herself on the matter.

Ms. Leach expressed her enthusiasm and is looking forward to future projects that will come before the Committee.

Ms. Leach assured the Board that she goes to every meeting and will continue to give the time necessary to ensure continued meaningful investments that make a difference.

Selectman Deslaurier thanked Ms. Leach for reapplying and thanked her for all her efforts on behalf of the Town.

Ms. Leach was asked by Selectman Deslaurier what a successful affordable housing project in town that the CPA could support in context with projects that have already been approved.

Ms. Leach responded there have been none as of yet. She stated there is a certain pool of money that is allocated and spent on affordable housing. There is an Affordable Housing Trust in Town. With that trust getting off the ground there will be more opportunities to get meaningful affordable housing projects; i.e., more active partners involved, and more funding from grants. Ms. Leach stated she thinks the town will see some great projects.

Selectman Conway thanked Ms. Leach for re-applying. She also thanked Ms. Leach for her involvement and commitment to the Town.

Selectman Conway asked about the amount of consulting with legal on the CPC. She asked Ms. Leach how she prepares for CPC.

Ms. Leach responded she does reading and speaks with other committee members. Whenever members want to confer with Town Counsel, they vote on it; and the vote is always unanimous. Ms. Leach stated that if you want to build trust and transparency when setting up a program, and you feel you need counsel, it is worth the investment. If you build do the work early on and build a knowledge base, you won't need as much later on.

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Selectman Rosa thanked Ms. Leach. He stated that she did a great job for Billerica. Selectman Rosa further stated Ms. Leach being at so many events in town makes her an asset on the CPC because it will give her insight to some of the potential projects that would come before the Committee.

Selectman Burns thanked Ms. Leach for all the work and effort she puts in around town. Selectman Burns stated that Ms. Leach assisted with the formative stages of the CPA such as the policies and procedures and some important projects have moved forward. Selectman Burns stated that he appreciates Ms. Leach's enthusiasm and wished her the best moving forward.

Chairman Giroux asked Ms. Leach that should there be a disagreement with Town Counsel how is it resolved.

Ms. Leach stated that would be a good question for the Committee as it was really not up to her. She further stated there have been no disagreements thus far.

### **Mr. Chris Mason**

Mr. Mason came to the podium and thanked the Board for the opportunity to appear before them.

Mr. Mason stated that he makes himself known to as many Committees as possible.

Mr. Mason stated that as of tomorrow evening, he will be an alumnus of the Billerica School system. He stated he stresses his age as "fresh blood" to the town. He feels that more people his age should get involved with local politics.

Mr. Mason stated he is a Town Meeting representative from Precinct 2. He was chosen by his precinct to represent them on the Rules Committee.

Mr. Mason stated that his interest in the CPC is specifically historical. He stated that many people his age say they want to leave. Mr. Mason further stated he wishes to remain in Billerica.

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This September Mr. Mason will enter Salem State University as a Freshman. He will continue to live in Billerica and he would like to give back to the town, which is why he ran for Town Meeting. This past May he served on the Screening Committee for the Assistant Principal position for the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades at the High School. In that capacity, along with the Committee he reviewed 82 applications, which were whittled down to 28 and presented 3 finalists to the Superintendent. Mr. Mason feels this experience would make him an asset on the CPC because the committee would have to review applications.

Mr. Mason commented that people his age cannot live in this town due to the affordability of housing. His hope is that when and if housing projects come before them, that it can be discussed.

Mr. Mason addressed the legal counsel question that was asked earlier. He stated he would consult with people before or during the meeting to make sure they are within the bounds of the legal system.

Mr. Mason concluded his remarks by saying he didn't want to sit on the sidelines and he felt that the CPC would be his "home".

Selectman Deslaurier asked Mr. Mason how he would be able to set serving on the CPC as a priority while maintaining his collegiate career.

Mr. Mason stated he understood Selectman Deslaurier's concerns, and stated he would put his duties on the CPC on an equal footing while pursuing his education because the Town would be putting their trust in him to do so.

Selectman Burns congratulated Mr. Mason on his upcoming High School graduation. He asked Mr. Mason his thoughts on affordable housing and how he would use CPA monies for that purpose.

Mr. Mason replied that it would depend on applicants coming through the process. Mr. Mason also referenced a project of that type near his home that had a detrimental effect on neighbors living in the area. He would vote "no" on projects that would do that.



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Selectman Burns asked Mr. Mason what kind of projects would he support and also what he would like to see brought forward relative to open space.

Mr. Mason referenced Manning Park. He stated he would like to see more parks devoted to green space. He stated this is a beautiful town and would like to see its beauty preserved.

Selectman Conway congratulated Mr. Mason for his involvement with the Town. She asked him how he would acclimate to being on the CPC that on things he might not know today.

Mr. Mason stated that he knew several members presently serving on the Committee which will make it easier for him to get used to the Committee.

Selectman Rosa thanked Mr. Mason for applying and congratulated him on his upcoming graduation.

Selectman Rosa stated that he agrees with Mr. Mason preserving history in town and he appreciates that.

Selectman Rosa expressed concerns about Mr. Mason spreading himself too thin with everything he has going on; and advised against it.

Selectman Rosa also expressed a concern with Mr. Mason's experience level, especially with this Committee. Selectman Rosa referenced the project Mr. Mason had spoken about on Boston Road. Selectman Rosa stated that project was done through a 40B which is different.

Selectman Rosa stated there is a lot to be said for experience.

Selectman Rosa encouraged Mr. Mason to stay involved. He also encouraged him to attend CPC meetings even if he is not appointed this evening. It will be a good opportunity to observe and learn the process. Selectman Rosa further stated that being involved with a number of committees can be helpful.

Mr. Mason thanked Mr. Rosa for his comments.

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Chairman Giroux also thanked Mr. Mason for applying and extended congratulations on his graduation.

Selectman Giroux did express concern on the time commitment for Mr. Mason as an incoming freshman. Chairman Giroux stated that he had faith that Mr. Mason would do the best he could if he were appointed.

Chairman Giroux asked Mr. Mason that in regards to historical aspects of the town is there any project he would like to see happen.

Mr. Mason mentioned the Asa Pollard House, and the LGBT flag to stay up permanently. That is history. The LGBT event that just occurred is history.

Selectman Giroux asked what types of projects Mr. Mason would like to see funded through CPC funds.

Mr. Mason stated he would like to see the preservation of historic buildings such as this building, the Town Hall, formerly the Howe High School should it ever become vacant. Mr. Mason stated Billerica holds a lot of personal history for him.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Mary Leach as a member of the Community Preservation Committee.

It was voted:

2 – In Favor  
3 – Opposed (Selectmen Conway,  
Deslaurier, and Giroux)

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Chris Mason to the Community Preservation Committee.

It was voted:

3 – In Favor  
2 – Opposed (Selectmen Burns and  
Rosa)

**Conservation Commission**

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Mr. Andrew Boisvert, came forward to be interviewed for the Conservation Commission. He delivered opening comments and answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Boisvert withdrew his name from consideration.

In light of his interest in Conservation, Selectman Rosa encouraged Mr. Boisvert to attend Conservation meetings. Selectman Rosa thanked Mr. Boisvert for applying and getting involved.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Diane DePaso as a member of the Conservation Commission.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Jeff Connell as a member of the Conservation Commission.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

Diane DePaso came to the podium and thanked Board members for re-appointing her to the Commission. She stated it has been her honor to serve on the Commission.

**Council on Aging**

The appointments for the Council on Aging were deferred until the Meeting of June 17, 2019.

**Ditson Re-Use Committee**

Chairman Giroux stated this was pulled from the Agenda because the Committee has fulfilled its obligation.

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**Historic Districts Commission**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Mary McBride as a member of the Historic Districts Commission.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

**Historical Commission**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Andrew Boisvert as a member of the Historical Commission.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

**Housing Trust**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Catherine Shubin as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust in the capacity of a Real Estate Agency.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

**Scholarship Foundation Committee**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Michael Rosa, as a member of the Scholarship Foundation Committee.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed



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Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Joseph Fiumara, as a member of the Traffic Management Committee from North Billerica.

It was voted:

5 – in Favor

0 – Opposed

Mr. John Gagliardi came to the podium and delivered opening remarks and answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Kenneth Glasser came to the podium and withdrew his name from consideration.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint John Gagliardi as a member of the Traffic Management Committee from the Center.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 – Opposed

**Board of Selectmen Appointment Bonded Constable – Guy Gill**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to appoint Guy Gill as a Bonded Constable for the Town of Billerica.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 - Opposed

**SuAsCo Watershed Council; re; permission to place four (4) signs on the Town Common the week of June 17, 2019 to advertise the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Riverfest. Events to be held June 21-June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Mr. Trek Reef came to the podium for this item.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion that the Board of Selectmen grant permission for the SuAsCo Watershed Council to place four (4) signs on the Town

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Common the week of June 17, 2019 to advertise the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Riverfest. The events to be held on June 21-June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 - Opposed

**FY2020 Water Sewer Rates**

Mr. Doug Gardner, Water and Sewer Rate Consultant, for the Town of Billerica, came to the podium and reviewed the water and sewer rates for FY2020.

Mr. Gardner stated that the water sewer rates are working as they should. The driving rate is the Wastewater sites. There is no major debt coming in FY20. Mr. Gardner stated this could be handled in two ways; i.e.; no increases, but you would be looking at a larger rate when debt when the \$20,000,000.00 comes on next year, or raise it a little in the off year. That would help offset a significant major increase.

Mr. Gardner stated they are looking for a 3% increase in water rates and a 7.5% increase to waste water rates.

Mr. Gardner reviewed current and future projects. He stated he has compared Billerica rates to neighboring communities and Billerica is on the lower end of spectrum.

Mr. Gardner commented on the installation of the new water meters and stated it would be necessary to have a full year of data in order to do an analysis.

Selectman Burns commented on the Enterprise funds and how much free cash and retained earnings over the last several years. From 2014 to 2017 the average is 9.77 million growth for Free Cash. Selectman Burns has concerns that we are overburdening residents and wonders why we should not forego rate increases this year based on the fact that there has been so much money left over from the last couple of years in excess of \$2,000,000 2 years in a row.

Mr. Gardner stated the Free Cash is a high number but there are a significant amount of projects coming that can be paid from that as opposed to bonding them.

**MEETING MINUTES**

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In response to Selectmen Burns' comments, Mr. Curran stated that free cash is generally spent to the penny except for this year because of the funding of contracts. He stated these were policies voted on by the Board. A lot of debt is taken on when there are projects of this caliber taken on.

Selectman Conway stated that she felt it was important to keep on the same track. She encouraged people to stick to the plan and to keep planning ahead so residents are not hit with large increases all at once and to get done what needs to get done.

Selectman Deslaurier stated he has voted for these increases during his tenure on the Board. He will continue to endorse this plan to keep moving Billerica forward and getting it where it should be.

Selectman Rosa stated he agrees with using cash as opposed to borrowing; but there needs to be a balance. In clarification of comments made on the expedited sewer plan and the High School, Selectman Rosa stated it was done in conjunction with the Town Manager and the financial team to expedite sewer, but to also ensure that the new High School did not cost residents anymore that \$200.00; to keep it at a minimum. Town funds were used for that purpose. It was programmed into debt stabilization, and programmed out for 20 years. It was done thoughtfully and responsibly.

Selectman Rosa stated he has concerns about raising money when it is not needed. He commented on the categories on out of town users. It appeared those rates had gone up less than in town. Selectman Rosa stated the out of town should not be taking advantage of the subsidization of the Billerica taxpayers.

Selectman Rosa asked if the out of town was using the same meters in town was using.

Mr. Curran stated for individual homes, yes.

Selectman Rosa clarified with Mr. Curran that the commercial users for Billerica residents and businesses are using the same meters as out of town.



**MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 20, 2019**

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Selectman Rosa stated there is a strong possibility that revenue will be realized through the new meters. Selectman Rosa further stated he cannot support an increase at this point with so many variables sitting out there.

Selectman Conway stated that the same folks not wanting to raise sewer rates are the same ones who encouraged Town Meeting not to force people to tie into sewer. Selectman Conway encouraged Board members to stick with the plan, to trust the Town Manager, who is known throughout the state for his financial acumen.

Selectman Rosa stated he advocates for installing sewer and having people tie into it. He further stated there were no provisions made for residents who had a fully functioning Title V inspected septic system.

Selectman Burns stated that 95% of the town who has access to sewer is connected to it. There were no provisions for the people who had spent a great deal of money for their septic system because the Town took so long to expedite the sewer program. Selectman Burns further stated that we need to be cognizant of the burden on the residents. You do not always have to go to the maximum.

Mr. Curran responded to the comments on the expedited sewer program. He stated that the Board of Selectman and Town Meeting voted to move forward with the expedited sewer program at a cost of \$260,000,000. He pointed out the chart which shows the increases over the last five years. The rates have been consistent over the years so that residents can plan ahead. This is the way it was presented. The Board approved the plan as well as Town Meeting.

Chairman Giroux reiterated Selectman Conway's comments on the Town Manager's fiscal expertise. He further stated this was the best way to do this in smaller increments instead of a significant increase. It is not responsible. He further stated he will be supporting this plan.

Selectman Rosa clarified that the water rates with the new meters will hopefully nullify the increase.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Deslaurier, made a motion that the Board of Selectmen set the Town's water rates per the recommendation per Exhibit 1 for in town and out of town.

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It was voted: 3 – In Favor  
2 – Opposed (Selectmen Burns and Rosa)

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Deslaurier, made a motion that the Board of Selectmen set the Town's sewer rates per the recommendation per Exhibit 1a for in town and out of town and number of bedrooms.

It was voted: 3 – In Favor  
2 – Opposed (Selectmen Burns and Rosa)

**Approval of Statement of Claim for 29 Andover Road**

Mr. Curran stated that this is essentially a bill for tearing down and removal of the debris from Rome Capobianco's home which was destroyed by Fire.

It was deemed a safety hazard. If the bill is not paid within 30 days, there will be a lien placed against the property. It was recommended by Town Counsel to issue a bill before a lien is placed on the property.

Selectman Rosa asked that if in the event the bill is not paid, could a payment plan be set up.

Mr. Curran stated that the Town has already paid the bill. If there is a lien placed, it will be treated like any other lien.

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to approve the Town Manager making a Statement of Claim for 29 Andover Road.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor  
0 – Opposed

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Selectman Conway, seconded by Selectman Rosa, made a motion to adjourn.

It was voted:

5 – In Favor

0 - Opposed

Chairman Giroux adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

**June 17, 2019, July 15, 2019 and August 19, 2019**

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sue Aker", is written over a solid black horizontal line.

**Sue Aker, Recording Secretary**