



Town Council Meeting  
December 5, 2019



**A** quorum being duly present, Chair Paul Hebert called the December 5, 2019, Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the James H. Crocker, Jr. Hearing Room of Town Hall, 367 Main St., Hyannis, MA.

An announcement was made by Chair Hebert regarding the meeting being televised live and questioning if anyone was actively taping the session to please make their presence known. This session is recorded and broadcast on Channel 18.

**PRESENT:** Britt Beedenbender, David Bogan, Kristine Clark, Jennifer Cullum, Debra Dagwan, Jessica Rapp Grassetti, Paul Hebert, Matthew Levesque, Paul Neary, Paula Schnepf, Tracey Shaughnessy, Gordon Starr, Eric Steinhilber

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Hebert; Councilor Rapp Grassetti followed with a moment of silence for the family of Agnes Murray.

**2019 Barnstable Silver Bullets Midgets Super Bowl Champions:** Councilor Levesque recognized the Silver Bullets; he honored the founders of the Silver Bullets and presented each of the champions and their coaches with a certificate.

**Recognition of Robert Schulte Big Brother/Big Sister:** Councilor Hebert and Councilor Beedenbender recognized Centerville resident Robert Schulte for receiving the 2109 Massachusetts Big Brother of the Year Award. Congratulations to Mr. Schulte, thank you from of the Town of Barnstable.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Tina Carey three members of the historic district resigned yesterday; due to conflicts of interest with the Business Improvement District (BID). Listen to the public we come here to effect changes.

Jane LaCasse read a letter from a Marstons Mills resident regarding the revitalization of the village. Throughout the project, the town residents were informed of every change to the streets, everyone was professional and patient during the upgrade.

Gerald Madigan is in opposition of a tractor supply outfit building a location in the vicinity of Bears's Way and Pitcher's Way. The immediate area currently has many pedestrians, and in the warmer months more to come with children on the bike path and tractor trailers; this is a safety issue.

Bo Chu politely asked not to sing, read from a burger king hat "no one is happy all the

time, and that's okay feeling your way is just as important as ordering your way. Burger King supports the work of Mental Health America.”

Joanne Uckman of Centerville Concerned Citizens spoke about the dangers of 5G technologies, the exposure of 5G technologies and the S2012 Act (Exhibit A) a bill before the Federal Communications Commission.

Bill Covell stated we need to get 5 G technology; otherwise we are going backwards.

Margeaux Webber asked to use Mother's Park for the pump station not 310 Main Street. 310 Main Street is immediately adjacent to the Centerville Historic Museum.

Bill Robbins advocating for Mother's Park and put the house at 310 Main Street back on the market.

Chuck Tuttle the eminent domain taking of 310 Main Street purchased by the Town of Barnstable for a pump station; terribly dangerous precedent. We have received the town's commitment to pursue Article 97 to use part of Mother's Park for the pump station; we will look forward to the 310 Main Street coming back in the tax paying roles.

Roey Covell asked that the town use the land at Mother's Park for the proposed pump station and to resell 310 Main Street.

Judy Quinn agrees with the previous speakers regarding the use of Mother's Park.

Brian Covell came before the Council with many other people concerning the short notice regarding the vote for 310 Main Street. After many of them spoke to the Council, they feel that their voices did not matter.

Bill Covell do we have a real estate division in this town; we have no one to do that, to look at the properties in the Town of Barnstable. Why don't we have a real estate division?

Karen Quinn the treatment plant on West Main Street when was that built, has it ever been used; how much did it cost to build it, how much has the taxpayer been charged for this building? Is 310 Main Street going to sit there for ten years? Everyone can remember that doors were knocked on for Mother's Park.

Joe Butera disappointed that the Town purchased the land at 310 Main Street, hope you pursue Mother's Park for the pump station. There are four other houses on the street that are up for sale. Please consider this proposal for Mother's Park; it is in our best interests.

Joyce Frederick, five houses down from 310 Main Street, bought the house six years ago, realizing this neighborhood was a good investment for me. We do not have Mc Mansions on Main Street, it is a safe neighborhood, please put the pump station in Mother's Park.

Wendy Crocker Peacock came here to advocate for the pump station at Mother's Park, and not to tear down the house at 310 Main Street.

Ralph Baird agrees with all the previous speakers, now that the house is acquired, like to ask you to continue to work with us. We are concerned, worried about what will happen to 310 Main Street, keep the lines of communication open.

John Finn about the 15,000 solar panels going up in Marstons Mills, that area in Wakeby Road has had so many things happen to it. Land abutters are going to see a sea of solar panels; their property is going to tank. Put these things in airports, to put it in a residential area is wrong.

Close public comment

**COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The way this (310 Main Street) came about and how it was communicated was wrong; we can do a better job going forward; fully focused on Mother's Park, pursuing Article 97 has already begun. Has to have a super majority of the legislature; We will need broad public support on Mother's Park; promise you, we are all in agreement, we are not interested in owning that property. We will respond to the West Main Street pump station; we will continue to communicate with all of you. We appreciate the good comments about the village of Marstons Mills, we are here to make the best of all possibilities; we heard you; we are working on better communications; we support Mother's Park; we have an opportunity to put new people on the Hyannis Main Street Waterfront Historic District (HHDC). The process was flawed, process is paramount, as long as there is doubt, and we are going to work on process. Historic Committee, people need to work together, hoping the committee will resolve the issues and work together. Not easy, we need people with different backgrounds to make the committees work. The issue with the tractor company, we are concerned about the traffic in that area. We have to look at that closely. Thank you for sharing about what it means to be out of the cold and people who have mental health issues. Can we put the pump station in the back of the property, thank you for the input, we all live here, we have to work together and trust one another that we are working for the best for our community.

Close

**TOWN MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS:** (Exhibit B)

In response to Mothers Park as a potential site for a pump station; has received many calls/emails/texts continue to engage to this level; the last time we discussed a pump station we had citizen's come out and tell us that it is not the place to site a pump station. We are putting in gravity sewers which require a low point in the roadway, which is why 310 was chosen. Mother's Park was bequeathed to the town in 1927; we have to review the terms of the bequest and as a "park" the property falls within the protection of Article 97. This is a long process; we have already started the process. Please stay involved and engaged, until you send a bill, not a lot of people come out to have a conversation. Not looking to accumulate properties, we can't sell the property until the Town Council approves it. The intent was never to tear down the house. About the West Main Street Pump Station, the whole system drained down to the South Street Station, this was too much, we began a design, put a pump station by the west end, then just south of Lincoln Road; at that point we got a grant from the state to subsidize that project, to run the waste water right back up to the plant; no taxpayer monies, this was from a reserve of the hotel motel taxes; ties into our wastewater treatment plant.

Updated Budget Action Calendar; Fees were approved on December 2

Residential tax rate

Well rehabilitation at the Mary Dunn #4 well site

Solid Waste Master Plan for public comment

Natural Resources have rescued 67 Turtles

State Bond Bill for the improvement to the Armory

Cotuit Elementary School shall revert back to the custody of the town  
Town of Barnstable Shellfish changes

**Councilor questions and comments:**

Thank you for the clarification regarding 310 Main Street, you can view this information on the website; thank you for clarifying the West Main Street Pump Station; thank you for fostering the turtles, be aware of the wildlife; other towns recycling at the Rochester facility; [do you mean the Covanta facility, we look at the marketplace regarding recycling, it is our solid waste disposal that is another challenge;] it appears that other towns that have successfully found a home for their recycled goods [if we know there is no market for recycled goods, we would have to police that; would you like a summary from Director Santos] Yes. Disappointed about the Cotuit School, perhaps the Collaborative will be looking at a new home at the Cotuit School [first priority, we need to know the condition of the building first, what costs will be incurred to update the building and the grounds] Marstons Mills School that has been shuttered for a very long time; what about the removal of the portable units [Director Santos, in the next couple of months, removal of the hazardous materials, then hoping to demo this spring] Armory is a historical asset of the town, hoping in the new year we will get the funds; can we make sure the press knows how to get this information from the online [Ells - Lynne Poyant sends this out electronically every Friday] Cape Cod and Islands Selectmen's association meeting; we have to work regionally regarding solid waste.

**ACT ON MINUTES:**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2019 as written.

**VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUS**

**COMMUNICATIONS- from elected officials, boards, committees, staff commission reports, correspondence and announcements:**

Centerville Stroll  
Hunting season has started  
Workshops around the state for grant money for historic buildings  
Marstons Mills Village Stroll  
Difficult time for some people, check in on our neighbors  
Christmas in Cotuit  
Hyannis Main Street Stroll and Harbor Boat Parade  
Rolling Red Rally in Hyannis last week  
Osterville Village Stroll  
Dog parade

**Announcement regarding Item 2020-029:**

Councilor Beedenbender has been informed in writing by Attorney Michael Ford that the proponent developer of a ground-mounted solar project that is the subject of Council Item 2020-029 has requested withdrawal of the proposed Zoning Amendment from consideration. Councilor Beedenbender withdrew her sponsorship of this Item before the Council.

Short break

<b>2020-060 APPROPRIATION ORDER OF \$730,000 FOR THE WATER ENTERPRISE FUND FISCAL YEAR 2020 OPERATING BUDGET INTRO: 11/21/19, 12/05/19</b>
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Dan Santos, Director of Public Works gave the rationale

Open public comment,

Bo Chu a trillion is tenth to the minus twelfth, not tenth to the minus ninth

Close public comment

**Councilor questions and comments:**

How much is being expended for water now? [About a million dollars a year] what are the other towns doing? [A number of towns have been effected, some of them have excess wells, so they can turn some off, but it is concerning, it is going to become more of a problem] have the water purveyor meetings been going well, this is a town wide problem [yes, our last meeting we talked about the need for disposal sites, because we are limited; everyone is understanding the issue, hope to start talking about sharing infrastructure]

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was

**ORDERED:** That the sum of **\$730,000** be appropriated for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2020 Water Enterprise Fund operating expense budget; and that this sum be added to the sum of **\$6,955,015** appropriated under council order 2019-177 resulting in a total revised Fiscal Year 2020 operating budget of **\$7,685,015**, and that to fund this appropriation that the sum of **\$730,000** be transferred from the Water Enterprise Fund reserves.

**VOTE: PASSES 13 YES**

<b>2020-061 ALLOCATION OF TAX LEVY FISCAL YEAR 2020 – RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION INTRO: 11/21/19, 12/05/19</b>
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Mark Milne, Director of Finance gave the rationale

Open public hearing seeing no one close public hearing

**Councilor comments and questions:**

Does the Board of Assessors ever weigh in on this issue [they did the initial year (2006) after that the Town Council makes the decision (original decision was no)] value of the exemption diminishes as the property goes up, what's the rationale for the 20% exemption, [at that time a significant increase in residential property values; all the additional taxes were being driven up by the buying of second homes; so some of that shifted to the second home buyers.] Does this affect the commercial sector [no]

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was

**RESOLVED,** that the Town Council hereby votes to adopt a Residential Exemption of 20 percent for Fiscal Year 2020.

**VOTE: PASSES 13 YES**

<b>2020-062 ALLOCATION OF TAX LEVY FISCAL YEAR 2020 – TAX FACTOR INTRO: 11/21/19, 12/05/19</b>
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Mark Milne, Director of Finance gave the rationale.

Open public hearing seeing no one close public hearing

**Councilor questions and comments:**

To clarify can you tell us what a yes vote is [a yes vote will keep us at a factor of one, and we will not split the tax rate]

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED**, that the Town Council hereby votes to classify the Town of Barnstable under the Classification Act at a Factor of 1 (one) for the Fiscal Year 2020.  
**VOTE: PASSES 13 YES**

**2020-063 ORDER TO APPROVE TERM OF CONTRACT CHANGE FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUATION UPDATE SERVICES IN THE TOWN OF BARNSTABLE MASSACHUSETTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 THROUGH 2024 INTRO: 11/21/19, 12/05/19**

Mark Milne, Director of Finance gave the rationale

**Councilor questions and comments:**

Is this year one? We revalue every five years, and will have a savings with this contract.  
[Yes]

**ORDERED**, that the Town Council hereby supports the acceptance of a term of contract change under the MGL 30B, Uniform Procurement Act, Section 12, paragraph(b), which would allow Real Estate Research Consultants, Inc., 1538 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA contract to be extended from three (3) years to five (5) years.

**VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUS**

**2020-064 ORDER TO APPROVE TERM OF CONTRACT CHANGE FOR REAL PROPERTY VALUATION UPDATE SERVICES IN THE TOWN OF BARNSTABLE MASSACHUSETTS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021 THROUGH 2024 INTRO: 11/21/19, 12/05/19**

Mark Milne Director of Finance gave the rationale

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was **ORDERED**, that the Town Council hereby supports the acceptance of a term of contract change under the MGL 30B, Uniform Procurement Act, Section 12, paragraph(b), which would allow the Vision Government Solutions, Inc., 1 Cabot Rd., Suite 100 Hudson, MA 01749 contract to be extended from three (3) years to five (5) years.

**VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUS**

**2020-066 ACCEPTANCE OF FISCAL YEAR 2020 CULTURAL DISTRICT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL'S CULTURAL DISTRICT GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE BARNSTABLE VILLAGE CULTURAL DISTRICT INTRO: 12/05/19**

Paul Wackrow, Planning and Development gave the rationale

**Councilor questions and comments:**

Here is the gain to be eligible for these grants, I support accepting the grant.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED**: That the Town Council does hereby accept a Fiscal Year 2020 grant in the amount of **\$5,000** from the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Cultural District Grant Program for the purpose of funding the design, permitting, printing and installation of informational signs which showcase the historical and cultural resources within the Barnstable Village Cultural District and that the Town Manager is authorized to contract for and expend the grant funds for the purpose stated herein.

**VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUS**

**2020-067 ACCEPTANCE OF FISCAL YEAR 2020 CULTURAL DISTRICT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,000 FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL'S CULTURAL DISTRICT GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE HYANNIS HYARTS CULTURAL DISTRICT INTRO: 12/05/19**

Paul Wackrow, Planning and Development gave the rationale

**Councilor questions and comments:**

Who wrote the grants? [Melissa Chartrand, Arts and Cultural Coordinator]

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council does hereby accept a grant in the amount of \$6,000 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Cultural District Grant Program for the purpose of supporting improvements to the visual identity of the Hyannis HyArts Cultural District with consistent, repetitive branding in print, radio and sign material, and supporting the "Fair Saturday" event at the Harbor Overlook artist shanties and that the Town Manager is authorized to contract for and expend the grant funds for the purpose stated herein.

**VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUS**

**Election of President and Vice President:**

**Election of Officers:**

Councilors, I wish to open the Election of officers for the Barnstable Town Council for the year 2020.

Do the candidates wish to make a statement at this time?

Councilor Rapp Grassetti respectfully withdrew her name for consideration for the position of President and supports Councilor Hebert.

**Councilor Hebert:**

The President is the Chair to help make good productive meetings;  
Spoke of his many accomplishments, his education and his work on the Council;  
Listening to the public and fellow Councilors and to vote accordingly;  
We are friends and colleagues; each of us brings talents and gifts to this council.  
We need to work together; to accomplish the tasks; to encourage our committees.  
To engage the public; all for the betterment of our town; we use our time efficiently  
We need to see reports from the committees;  
I want to serve and support you, and to gain public confidence;  
Whoever is chosen, we all win

**Councilor Cullum:**

Elected in 2013, in Precinct 13;  
Worked with the youth of the Town; Helped with the formation of the YMCA Achievers Program; helped fund this program by soliciting funds from leaders in the community;  
Worked with the Youth Commission a high school group that has arranged drug prevention seminars, teen homelessness, and domestic violence;  
Worked on the Problem Properties ordinance;  
Everyone brings something to the table; always welcomed all voices at the table;  
We will have many tough policy decisions to make as we go forward;

Improve the communication from this Council to our neighborhoods and constituents; We need one communications director to disseminate the truth; access to higher education should be a top priority; we could and should be educational center for the Cape; would help to provide a year round population in Barnstable; Cross referencing properties, systems should talk to each other; market rate housing, new growth dollars, we need to redevelopment responsibly; decentralize services; need to work with sober homes; I never abstain.  
We all have something to offer, and look forward to working with all

Councilor Beedenbender in support of Jen Cullum:

- Need strong and decisive leader
- Generous and supportive Councilor and a mentor; helpful and forthcoming
- Understands community engagement; communicating with constituents; importance of zoning; works tirelessly towards a solution.
- She had proven leadership qualities
- Brings all voices to the table

Councilor Levesque in support of Paul Hebert:

- Paul reached out to me when I became a Councilor
- Humble, kind and willing to learn
- We should listen twice as much as we speak
- Quick to listen, always gives thoughtful consideration
- A compassionate Councilor

Voting will begin for the President of the Barnstable Town Council. When I call your name please state the name of the candidate for whom you wish to cast your vote.

Beedenbender – Cullum

Bogan - Hebert

Clark - Hebert

Cullum – Cullum

Dagwan – Hebert

Rapp Grassetti – Hebert

Hebert – Hebert

Levesque – Hebert

Neary – Cullum

Schnepp – Hebert

Shaughnessy – Cullum

Starr – Cullum

Steinhilber - Hebert

Election for the office of Vice-President:

Councilor Levesque after much consideration withdrew his name from the position of Vice President and supports Councilor Rapp Grassetti.

**Councilor Rapp Grassetti:**

I will accept the nomination for Council Vice President. Having been asked by citizens and Councilors to take the role of Vice President, prepared to serve and to ensure the public is afforded open and fair representation

### **Councilor Beedenbender**

My precinct has had major challenges; we have difficult decisions coming up; will serve both the Council and the residents. Have kept the lines of communication open with my constituents, we need to share the work of the committees, and create public information officer for the town; am passionate about housing, this is a priority; we need opportunities for more year round jobs; our environment is a number one priority; reducing plastics/pesticides, promoting greening of our town; we need to work with our local social service agencies to end homelessness; do not abstain, take a position.

Councilor Cullum for Councilor Beedenbender:

Incredibly intelligent, experienced in nonprofit housing

Voted for the pump station

Works to keep the beaches clean

Always posting positive changes in the town

Always there for the hard discussions

Councilor Dagwan for Councilor Beedenbender

Admire both candidates, enjoyed working with Councilor Rapp Grassetti; the Council has always had hard tough issues to face; had support from Councilors and the staff; after having been given the opportunity to be in a leadership position, everyone should have that opportunity; putting my support behind Councilor Beedenbender.

When I call your name please state the name of the candidate for whom you wish to cast your vote.

Beedenbender – Beedenbender

Bogan - Rapp Grassetti

Clark - Rapp Grassetti

Cullum – Beedenbender

Dagwan – Beedenbender

Rapp Grassetti – Rapp Grassetti

Hebert – Rapp Grassetti

Levesque – Rapp Grassetti

Neary – Rapp Grassetti

Schnepp – Beedenbender

Shaughnessy – Beedenbender

Starr – Beedenbender

Steinhilber - Rapp Grassetti

The President for 2020 is: Paul Hebert

The Vice-President for 2020 is: Jessica Rapp Grassetti

I declare the Election of officers for the Barnstable Town Council for the year 2020 closed. President Hebert closed the meeting with these thoughts; the leaders are not the bosses, we are here to work together; the President is not a forceful person, the position is to lead the group, I will give you all the support. My job is to magnify your efforts to make sure your programs get accepted and move forward. My hope is that we can move forward together.

### **VOTE: ADJOURNMENT:**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was

**VOTED TO ADJOURN:**

**Adjourned at 10:25PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M Quirk  
Town Clerk/Town of Barnstable

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: December 19, 2019

**EXHIBITS:**

- A. Bill S.2012
- B. Town Manager Communications