



Town of Hudson

Select Board

Minutes—September 12, 2022
Hudson Police Station, 911 Municipal Drive
7:00 PM

All non-confidential documents relative to this agenda are available in the Office of the Select Board or click on link below.

<https://www.boarddocs.com/ma/hudsonma/Board.nsf/Public>

1. **Call to Order:**

Present were Mr. Duplisea, Mr. Burks, Ms. Congdon, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Sadowski and Mr. Gregory. Also present were Ms. Santos and Atty. Cipriano.

2. **Minutes to be Approved:**

- a) Public session minutes – August 22, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 3-0-2 to approve the public session minutes of August 22, 2022 as corrected. Ms. Congdon and Mr. Quinn abstained.

- b) Executive session minutes – August 22, 2022 (1 of 2).

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 3-0-2 to approve the executive session minutes (1 of 2) of August 22, 2022 as corrected. Ms. Congdon and Mr. Quinn abstained.

- c) Executive session minutes – August 22, 2022 (2 of 2).

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 3-0-2 to approve the executive session minutes (2 of 2) of August 22, 2022. Ms. Congdon and Mr. Quinn abstained.

- d) Public session minutes – September 7, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 4-0-1 to approve the public session minutes of September 7, 2022. Ms. Congdon abstained.

3. **Meetings and Public Hearings - 7:00 PM:**

- a) Select Board to conduct a public hearing to for a change of License Category of a Wine & Malt Package Store to an All Alcohol Package Store License for NACC, Inc. d/b/a Buscemi's Convenience, Anthony Buscemi, Owner, located at 275 Cox Street.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to approve a change of License Category of a Wine & Malt Package Store to an All Alcohol Package Store License for NACC, Inc. d/b/a Buscemi's Convenience, Anthony Buscemi, Owner, located at 275 Cox Street.

- b) Select Board to consider approval of a Class II (Sale of Used Vehicles) to Hugo Correa d/b/a Central Auto Plus located at 333 Central Street.

One a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to continue the public hearing to September 26, 2022.

4. Licenses:

- a) Select Board to consider issuance of a seven-day entertainment license between the hours of 4:30 PM – 9:30 PM Tuesday – Thursday, 12:00 PM – 10:00 PM Friday and Saturday and 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM on Sundays for Clover Road Brewing Co., located at 312 Main Street.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Board voted 5-0 to issue a seven-day entertainment license between the hours of 4:30 PM – 9:30 PM Tuesday – Thursday, 12:00 PM – 10:00 PM Friday and Saturday and 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM on Sundays for Clover Road Brewing Co., located at 312 Main Street.

5. Personnel:

- a) Select Board to consider approving the appointment of David Woumn as full time Police Officer, effective September 26, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the appointment of David Woumn as full time Police Officer, effective September 26, 2022.

- b) Select Board to consider approving the appointment of Cameron O'Toole as full time Police Officer, effective September 26, 2022.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the appointment of Cameron O'Toole as full time Police Officer, effective September 26, 2022.

- c) Select Board to consider approving the appointment of Kayleigh Meyerson as full time Police Officer, effective September 26, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Burks, seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the appointment of Kayleigh Meyerson as full time Police Officer, effective September 26, 2022.

- d) Select Board to consider approval of the appointment of Brian Smith and Joshua Stone to the Ad-Hoc Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski, seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the appointment of Brian Smith and Joshua Stone to the Ad-Hoc Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.

- e) Select Board to consider appointing David Daigneault to the Historic District Commission as the Historic Society's designee.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint David Daigneault to the Historic District Commission as the Historic Society's designee.

- f) Select Board to note the resignation of Raymond Arsenault as Laborer for the DPW, effective September 2, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski, seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Board voted 5-0 to note the resignation of Raymond Arsenault as Laborer for the DPW, effective September 2, 2022.

- g) Select Board to note the resignation of Jacob Girard as Fleet Mechanic for the DPW, effective September 2, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Board voted 5-0 to note the resignation of Jacob Girard as Fleet Mechanic for the DPW, effective September 2, 2022.

- h) Select Board to note the resignation of Matthew White as Laborer for the DPW, effective September 2, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to note the resignation of Matthew White as Laborer for the DPW, effective September 2, 2022.

- i) Select Board to consider approval of the job description change for the W4 Backflow Tester & Meter Technician.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the job description change for the W4 Backflow Tester & Meter Technician.

- j) Select Board to consider approval of the job description for a full-time General Custodian and Facilities Assistant.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Board voted 5-0 to the job description for a full-time General Custodian and Facilities Assistant. approve

6. Contracts:

- a) Select Board to consider authorizing the Executive Assistant to execute Ambulance Service Agreement Addendum with Patriot Ambulance.

On a motion by Mr. Quinn, seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Board voted 4-0-1 to authorize the Executive Assistant to execute Ambulance Service Agreement Addendum with Patriot Ambulance. Mr. Duplisea abstained.

- b) Select Board to consider approval and authorization to sign a contract with Municipal Tech in the amount of \$12,104.51 for the installation of guardrails on Chestnut Street.

On a motion by Mr. Burks, seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Board voted 5-0 to approve and authorize the signing of a contract with Municipal Tech in the amount of \$12,104.51 for the installation of guardrails on Chestnut Street.

7. General:

- a) Select Board to consider authorizing the Executive Assistant to sign the member proxy forms for the 5-year renewal of the Hudson Business Improvement District.

On a motion by Mr. Burks, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 3-1-1 to authorize the Executive Assistant to sign the member proxy forms for the 5-year renewal of the Hudson Business Improvement District. Mr. Sadowski against and Mr. Quinn abstained.

- b) Select Board to consider accepting the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Municipal Grant from MassDEP in the amount of \$10,000 for the purchase of a mattress collection container.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Board voted 5-0 to the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Municipal Grant from MassDEP in the amount of \$10,000 for the purchase of a mattress collection container. accept

- c) Select Board to meet with Chief Johannes and Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. to discuss renovations to Fire Headquarters and Station #1.

This item will be delayed to the meeting of September 26, 2022.

- d) Select Board to discuss proposed changes to One-Day Liquor License Regulations.

Mr. Duplisea noted that these proposed changes are being brought forward by Mr. Sadowski. The Board, Executive Assistant and his staff are not proposing the changes. Mr. Sadowski explained his request. He stated that he would like to see the regulations be more in keeping with what surrounding towns do and be brought up to date. He is proposing that the fee charged be charged per day not per license and that the fees be \$75 for beer / wine and \$50 for all alcohol with the possibility of waiving the fee for a non-profit. He suggests the paperwork be filled out 15 days prior to the Board's "regularly scheduled" meeting.

Mr. Burks stated that he finds the proposed changes unnecessary. He asked what prompted the changes and what are the benefits. He then asked Mr. Gregory if he or Ms. Santos had noted any issues with the current process or was this prompted by a department head or resident have an issue. Mr. Gregory stated that there have not been any concerns. Mr. Burks thinks that the changes will harm the process and he is therefore not in favor of this and will vote against the changes.

Ms. Congdon noted that there is an establishment in Town that does three 30-day one-day licenses and she cannot justify the increase of over \$6,500.

Mr. Duplisea stated that he is not in favor of the changes. He went on to say that changing Medusa \$75 per day is ridiculous and he will be voting no across the board, other than if the Board wishes to change Board of Selectman to Select Board in the by-law. Mr. Duplisea then questioned Mr. Sadowski's motive as to why he did not want he did not want this information disseminated to anyone before the meeting. Mr. Sadowski did not respond to that particular question he just noted how far do we need to go back for a one-day license.

Ms. Congdon asked the Fire and Police Chief how many times they have had to respond to issues at the beer garden. Both replied never.

Below is a statement read by Keith Sullivan, owner of Medusa Brewing Company.

"Good Evening Select Board, and thank you Mr. Chairman for granting me the opportunity to make a statement in response to Mr. Sadowski's proposal to alter the town's One Day Alcohol Permit process.

The food and beverage community in Hudson just pulled through one of the most-difficult times in history for our industry. No matter where you look in the news, you cannot avoid topics related to how hard the service and related industries have been impacted. Those of us that pulled through are facing regular supply shortages, labor shortages, and cost increases straight across the board in every single category. Labor alone has increased over 20% since before the pandemic, and we are planning for a 50% increase in the cost of aluminum in 2023.

To put it lightly, it has not been easy to run this business over the last few years, and I don't want things getting harder.

Mr. Sadowski:

Right now, we currently pay \$180 for malt and wine one-day permits to open our beer garden each season. For comparison, we pay a few hundred dollars to the Town of Hudson each year to permit our taproom and the new restaurant, Wild Hare. What you are proposing tonight is a cost increase in permitting our beer garden of 3650%. Again, you are proposing a change that would result in a direct increase in cost to permit our beer garden by 3650%. \$180 to \$6750.

It is that fact alone that clearly outlines a desire to inflict some kind of harm on my business, and that you are using this position as a member of Hudson's Select Board to do so.

I can understand one's pursuit of positive change for the town, given the role that you are in; however, sacrificing the well-being of one of the town's businesses is so far removed from common logic that I cannot find any hint of alternative reasoning to convince myself this proposal is not actually meant to be punitive. It just is. It's malicious. There is absolutely no denying that at this point.

I make this statement while recalling your vote of "No" against my new business, Wild Hare, being permitted to serve food with a Common Victualler's license. Your vote was preceded by statements you made to the rest of this board about your disagreement with the State of Massachusetts' abutters laws. You made it clear that you were not in favor of the law that limited abutters to a radius of 500ft in my situation, so you chose to vote no on an item that would allow my business to actually open. Once again, I cannot find any logic in this action apart from using your position to make an example of my business to express your opinion of the legislature that our state has put in place. I've since wondered what the intention was here. Was it just confusion? A mistake? Or was it actually malevolent?

I will not speak for the other business owners in town, but I will say that as an owner of businesses and property in town, I've had enough. Since your election to the board, you've made numerous statements, actions and votes that either defy logic and rational, or clearly show a disdain for small business here in Hudson, especially mine, you also voted down the BID tonight. If you have a problem with me or my businesses, then please state it here and now for the public to hear. Otherwise, I ask you to stop, think, and collaborate with business owners. We want to work together. The direct relationship that current and past members of this board have with the business community is the answer to the question of "what's Hudson's secret sauce?" It's called teamwork. No one is, or should be out to get one another.

You never came to me about this. You never spoke with me about this, and there is no denying you knew how this could specifically impact my business.

If you want to make a difference in the Town, then I encourage you to take a more positive angle. The businesses are not against the Town and the Town should not be proposing items that are clearly against the businesses.”

Thank you,
Keith Sullivan Co-Owner
Medusa Brewing Company

Mr. Sadowski asked Mr. Sullivan to email the statement to him and he will give him a response.

Mr. Quinn recalls that a structure was permitted for that location a few years back and he stated he would like to see that built. He went on to say that he does see some merit to Mr. Sadowski’s proposal however thinks it may be a bit far reaching. He said he will abstain on voting as he would like to look into this further.

Mr. Duplisea called for a motion. Mr. Sadowski made the motion, however there was no second to the motion. The Board took no action.

- e) Select Board to meet with DPW Director Ryder for an update on the Main Street and Houghton Street Bridge Project.

Mr. Ryder explained that work will begin on this project is anticipated to begin on Monday, September 19, 2022. This project is estimated to last 90 days.

- f) Select Board to consider approving the new Stormwater By-laws.

Rich Niles of Woodard & Curran and Mr. Ryder presented the new by-laws to the Board. Mr. Ryder explained that current infrastructure is aging and inadequate. In FY 22 the Town has three culverts that failed; Cox Street, Temi Road and Chestnut Street, this cost the Town approximately \$1.1 million in work. Future costs for administration, enforcement, operations and management and project and equipment for the next three years will be approximately \$1,030,000 annually. The fees that will be collected to fund this will be based on the measure of impervious area on a property. The next steps for this will be a public engagement meeting, town meeting, implementation, regulations and the first bills are set to go out in 2023.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Burks, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the new Stormwater By-Laws.

- g) Select Board to discuss the location of their meetings.

The Board discussed whether to continue to meet at the Police Station or go back to the Town Hall. The reason the Board began meeting at the Police Station due to water damage that had to be repaired in the Select Board hearing room. Mr. Duplisea gave many reasons why this location is far superior to the Town Hall and would prefer to remain at the Police Station. Mr. Quinn and Mr. Sadowski would like the meetings to be held back at the Town Hall. Mr. Burks and Ms. Congdon stated that he would prefer to stay at the police station.

8. Citizens’ Issues:

9. Town Issues:

10. Correspondence to be Noted by Clerk:

On a motion by Mr. Quinn, seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Board voted 5-0 to note the correspondence of its meeting of September 12, 2022.

11. Executive Session:

12. Adjourn:

On a motion by Ms. Congdon, seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn its meeting of September 12, 2022 at 8:50PM.

**Select Board
Correspondence List – September 12, 2022**

1. Email from Devon See.