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Submitted by MCD
Date 6/19/17
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TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Regular Selectmen’s Meeting
Tuesday – May 23, 2017

Present: Chairman – Joseph J. Szafarowicz, Clerk – Deborah B. Noble and Member - David M. Singer.
Also present: Student Selectperson – Kylie Chupka. Absent: Vice-Chairman – John P. McGrath, Member – Frederick C. Swensen and Town Administrator – Robin L. Craver.

NOTE: Some matters may have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Szafarowicz called the meeting to order at 6:30pm with the pledge to the flag. He noted that Troop 338 from the Boy Scouts is here. In attendance, Angus, Sawyer, James, Lucas and Aiden. He thanked them for coming to view the democratic process at work.

II. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of Selectmen’s Regular Meeting – May 9, 2017. **Motion by Ms. Noble to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion passes.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum:

- Chairman Szafarowicz read the announcements.
- Ms. Noble stated that when we had our town meeting last week, there were several people that brought to the board’s attention, that they were displeased regarding the medical marijuana in town and recreational marijuana. There was discussion on the votes and how they went in the state. She did some research on this. Since 2008 there have been 3 ballot questions regarding marijuana that passed overwhelmingly. She reviewed the questions and the votes (attached). She just wanted the public to have that information when discussing what goes on with the medical marijuana facility here in Charlton.

IV. Appointments/Resignations:

1. Board of Registrar – Republican. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that attached is a request from the Republican Town Committee asking the Board to re-appoint Joshua Evans to the Board of Registrars. This appointment would be for a three year term and will expire on April 1, 2020. We are waiting for a recommendation from the Democratic Town Committee for one of their appointments which expired on April 1, 2017. Mrs. Craver recommended approving the appointment. **Motion by Mr. Singer to approve the recommendation as suggested, seconded by Ms. Noble.** Chairman Szafarowicz stated that he will be abstaining from this vote as he is the one that made the recommendation as the former chair of the Republican Town Committee. **Vote on motion: motion passes with Chairman Szafarowicz abstaining.**
2. Police Chief Search Committee – Citizen at Large. Chairman Szafarowicz stated as you know, the Board formed the Police Chief Search Committee with the following seats:
Two BOS members David Singer and John McGrath
One Finance Committee Member
One Citizen at Large
Human Resources Director Jessica Lewerenz

Interim Police Chief
Fire Chief
Town Administrator

Daniel Charette
Charles Cloutier
Robin Craver

Attached is a request from Dave Peters who is interested in assisting the town on this committee as the Citizen at Large. **Motion by Mr. Singer to appoint Dave Peters as the Citizen at Large on the committee.** Ms. Noble asked if Mr. Peters is present and the answer was no. **Seconded by Ms. Noble, motion passes.**

V. Scheduled Appointments:

6:35pm – Recognize Cynthia Cooper. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that as the town election was held May 6, 2017, Cynthia Cooper did not seek re-election. We would like to take this time to thank her for her many years of service to the town on the Planning Board as an associate member from 1997 – 2000, Planning Board Member from 2000 – 2010, Central Mass Regional Planning Commission from 2005 – 2010 and the Board of Selectmen from 2014 – 2017. Mrs. Cooper came forward. Chairman Szafarowicz thanked her for all her efforts and presented a certificate from the board as well as her nameplate.

6:40pm – Fire Department – acknowledgement of donations/update on receipts, calls, overtime. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that Chief Cloutier has asked to be placed on the agenda for two reasons:

1. Boombas Towing and Recovery has made two donations to the Fire Department:

- Struts - \$3,500
- Thermal Imager - \$4,500

Chief Cloutier came forward and recognized Captain Barton for his work on this. He said we have a lot of good people in the community that want to help. The Thermal Imager will help see the heat inside a building quicker. When we have a roll over on a vehicle, vehicles are unstable and the struts would hold up the vehicle. They wanted to take this time to thank Boomba's. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that he would like to send a letter of thanks to Boomba's. The board agreed. Captain Barton came forward and explained that at a previous fire, the old thermal imaging camera stopped working and they had to get out of the building for safety. A few days later he was talking to Mike Lundquist (owner of Boomba's) and was telling him what happened. Mr. Lundquist told him to get him the info and he would take care of it. It was fast. As far as the struts, they were using his facility for a rescue training and he was watching us stabilizing the vehicle. They had scheduled a demo on some new struts and Mr. Lundquist went over to the salesman and ordered two sets for the fire department. Mike Lundquist was asked to come forward. Chairman Szafarowicz thanked Mr. Lundquist for his generous donations. The Board thanked him. Mr. Lundquist stated that the reason they donated to the Fire Department is because they work with them all the time. Chief Cloutier also gave the board a run down of where the department is now compared to 2015. The biggest increase in volume is in the ambulance receipts which is up 33%. The call volume has increased 18%. There has been a reduction in overtime. This is all due to the increase in members from the grant. Ms. Noble asked what the projections of savings are going forward? Chief Cloutier thinks it will be around \$200,000. There has been no injured on duty since the additional officers came in. Ms. Noble asked what the turnover has been and Chief Cloutier stated that there hasn't been any turnover.

2. Update on ambulance receipts, call volume and reduction in overtime. Chief Cloutier gave the board a run down of where the department is now compared to 2015. The biggest increase in volume is in the ambulance receipts which is up 33%. The call volume has increased 18%. There has been a reduction in overtime. This is all due to the increase in members from the grant. Ms. Noble asked what the projections of savings are going forward? Chief Cloutier thinks it will be around \$200,000. There has been no injured on duty since the additional officers came in. Ms. Noble asked what the turnover has been and Chief Cloutier stated that there hasn't been any. The

Board thanked them all.

6:45pm – Joanne Savignac – Treasurer/Collector – signing of note paperwork. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that Ms. Savignac – Treasurer/Collector has asked for time on the agenda to update the board on note paperwork and to ask you to sign. This is borrowing for the ambulance and for repairs to the South Charlton Reservoir Dam. Ms. Savignac introduced herself. Last week she took bids on this. The total is \$296,000.00. These were approved at the October 2015 and 2016 town meetings. The winning bid was by Easthampton Savings Bank for 1.24% for one year borrowing. **Motion by Mr. Singer to award the bid to Easthampton Savings Bank for 1.24%, seconded by Ms. Noble, motion passes.** The Board signed the documents.

7:00pm – 508 Beverage, LLC – discussion of special license – violation. Chairman Szafarowicz reminded everyone to be courteous and respectful. He stated that at our last meeting, Mrs. Craver explained that she received complaints that 508 Beverage, LLC has violated the restrictions of their special liquor licenses for Wine and Malt beverages approved for a special event at 215 Brookfield Rd., Charlton MA on both April 22 and May 7, 2017. They have 6 additional special licenses on the following dates:

- May 20, 2017 and May 21, 2017
- June 10, 2017 and June 11, 2017 and
- July 1, 2017 and July 2, 2017

As you know, this request is at a 22-acre outdoor venue, access road around interior of venue with alcohol to be served in two (2) beer gardens with an estimate of 500 people attending each event. The request for the special license was forwarded to the Building Commissioner, Fire Department and Police Department. On recommendation of the Building Commissioner the following restriction was voted by the Board (underlining added):

“...No activity at any of the events listed will allow the use, operation of and/or racing of engine propelled on or off road vehicles such as motor bikes, ATV’s and/or 2 or 4 wheel drive vehicles in a manner not associated with transportation of people to or from the site until the conditions of the Planning Board site plan approval decision letter dated August 12, 2015 are complied with and the Building Inspector/ZEO has issued, at a minimum, a Temporary Certificate of Compliance for the project...” Our office has been informed that two of the special events allowed racing on the track, a clear violation of the license. Also, she has been contacted by the Town of Sturbridge that the operators of 508 are using Ladd Road which is prohibited in their site plan with the Planning Board. You did not address this issue in the special license as the expectation was that they would comply with any Planning Board site plan restrictions. That was an incorrect assumption. Mrs. Craver recommends that the board revisit the license and add a prohibition of use on Ladd Road unless there is an emergency situation. The Town of Sturbridge has had to provide police details for both events. Mr. Jennings was present for the discussion at the meeting. Mrs. Craver was asked to get more information and schedule this for the board’s next meeting. She spoke with Alan Gordon, Town Planner for further information on the use of Ladd Road. He stated that Ladd Road is designated as part of the Planning Board’s site plan approval as EMERGENCY ACCESS only, not to be used for general site traffic. He has also advised that there is still additional mitigation being done for sound. Russell Jennings came forward. He said to briefly describe Ladd Road. It was discussed as an emergency exit but not only that. It is his understanding that there is no language prohibiting them from using that road in their permit with the Town of Charlton. Chairman Szafarowicz asked about the site plan approval. Mr. Jennings said that’s what he’s talking about. He said there is no language in there specifically stating they are not allowed to do that. He further stated that there is language stating that it’s approved as an emergency exit but that doesn’t mean they can’t use it for something else. 508 was asked in their approval of the permitting process if they were planning to use Brookfield Road as their main entrance and they are. They don’t believe there are any laws, rules or regulations in place that would prevent them or any other citizen from using Ladd Road which is a public road. That’s always been their position.

Chairman Szafarowicz stated that another issue that was brought up was the operation of motor vehicles on the track. The conditions in the special license referenced that and that was violated. Mr. Jennings stated that when they met with the board for the license, they did describe what they would be doing. They were not going to do racing. They have not built a motor cross track racing facility yet. They haven't reached that threshold with the town. They haven't completed things necessary yet to have that happen. It's very confusing on what's permitted on an event basis and what their operational permit is seeking. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that no racing is listed in the special licenses issued. He asked Mr. Jennings why that wasn't followed. Mr. Jennings stated that there was just confusion between the two permits. As discussed at the last meeting, they are not looking to do any off highway vehicle operations in the future until they have that permit from the Planning Board. Ms. Noble asked, based on the parameters stated in the special alcoholic beverage license, were there vehicles operated in violation of this permit at the event? Mr. Jennings said yes there was. He stated there was discussion of this at the end of the last meeting and they had said this would definitely not happen again. Ms. Noble asked how are they going to guarantee that? Mr. Jennings stated that they don't have any events scheduled that would involve those activities at this point and time. Ms. Noble asked Mr. Jennings to explain what will be taking place at the rest of the events. Mr. Jennings said one is an outdoor sports event which is running, outdoor games, horseshoes, all non motorized. The next event is a music festival. Chairman Szafarowicz said going back to Ladd Road, from the Planning Board stipulations, it's for emergency access only and the way Mr. Jennings is interpreting it, is a different way. He asked Curtis Meskus, Building Commissioner if he has any insight on this or is this a Planning Board issue. Mr. Meskus stated it's a Planning Board issue. Mr. Jennings stated that they are on the Planning Board's next agenda which is June 7th, at that meeting he said they could discuss that matter with them and the language in the permit. They could send a letter to the board with exactly what it states. Chairman Szafarowicz asked if anyone in the audience wanted to speak on this issue. Amy Stanley from 6 Sidney Circle came forward. She asked if we could have something clarified by Mr. Jennings. He stated that there are no other events scheduled there that involve motorcross or motorized sports, according to his website on July 8th there is sprint cross, August 26 & 27 is the jeep fest and September 30 through October 1st is off road championship. Chairman Szafarowicz reviewed the remaining dates of the licenses with the last one in July. Mr. Jennings stated that the events she is talking about have not been permitted by the Selectmen yet. With those events, they are hoping they are under the operational permit and potentially ask for the special permits from the board. He also stated that these events don't necessarily mean they will be looking for liquor licenses for them. Mrs. Stanley asked is there anything the town does if a license is violated? Chairman Szafarowicz stated yes. This has been discussed. Mr. Singer stated that historically when we have had violations especially with liquor stores, depending on how many times they come before the board affects what the repercussions would be. Mrs. Stanley stated that as an adjacent neighbor to this project, she is disappointed that on a couple of occasions, you had spoken and asked if there was racing, and it was stated clearly that there was no racing. Mr. Singer stated that speaking for himself, he would treat this like he has for others. He doesn't treat anyone different. Chairman Szafarowicz asked if the board wished to send a letter of warning about the violation. Mr. Singer stated that we are minus two members tonight and the Town Administrator had issues to talk about. He asked if we could have all of this on record and have an agenda item on this for the next meeting when all members are here and the Town Administrator and the Planning Board with a representative. Chairman Szafarowicz asked for all to come back to the next meeting. Ms. Noble asked that we get a report from the police department to find out if there were any incidents with the events. In addition if there are any letters from the community. Mrs. Stanley stated that she noticed on the list of conditions, there were two missing which were conditions #14 and #15 that were both addressing noise. She asked if that could be added to the list. Mr. Jennings stated just to note that items #14 and #15 are noted by the planning

board and a notice to proceed was sent to the Building Commissioner that was with all noise regulations conditions. Mr. Meskus confirmed that. Ron Charette from 205 Brookfield Rd came forward. He said it would be extremely helpful to get clarity from the Planning Board. He asked if we could ask the Director of Planning to be very clear and very concise so those of us that are laypeople will understand it. Mr. Singer recommended asking Mr. Gordon to write it to the lowest denominator so we all understand. Mr. Jennings stated that at one point and time all the information was on the town's website. It has all the conditions that were talked about that need to be met to go forward. Mr. Singer would ask to check and see if those are online and if they are current. Bob Brunelle from 261 Brookfield Rd came forward. Mr. Charette brought up the issue of clarity. He would like to know what is the proper venue for raising violations? He said the problem with the public with the Planning Board at this point and time is that after a certain amount of meetings, they shut off public comment so there's no way the public can get up and say we've noticed there have been three violations on such a date, etc. Where do we go to resolve these violations? Mr. Singer asked when they do that, are they asking the same thing again and again or are they asking something new? He asked if they are giving people ample time to talk or are you not allowed to talk. Mr. Brunelle stated that they say the public portion of this is shut off and you can't make any comments. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that we cannot talk for another board but for violations of a liquor license, we have public forums to discuss any disciplinary actions on violations. Concerning those violations, this is the board since we are the authorizing authority. He would recommend they start sending things in writing to the Planning Board, cc the Selectmen, getting a paper record to start that paper trail. Mr. Singer stated that the Planning Board is an elected board and the Selectmen cannot tell them how to run their meetings. He does hope that all boards allow the public to speak. Ms. Noble mentioned that on the town's website is all the Selectmen's email addresses and would recommend the residents send an email to board members with any comments or concerns. Mr. Jennings stated that the Planning Board procedures follow MGL. The videos of those meetings are on line. He said he would be cautious of taking an opinion of how the Planning Board treated people with regards to how they actually did. He would take objection to saying that they didn't give people a fair opportunity to speak on the project because there was quite a lengthy period of discussion for the project. Mr. Jennings stated that this is his opinion. Mr. Singer stated that he wasn't making accusations. He wanted to ask the Planning Board how they run their meetings. What are their guidelines. Mr. Brunelle stated that they have had numerous meetings with Mr. Gordon, Director of the Planning Board. Primarily in asking questions such as when this is going to happen, etc. his comment is that he doesn't do any enforcement. Mr. Meskus does the enforcement. He would like a statement from Mr. Meskus stating at what point and time does he get involved with the enforcement issue and would he accept violations of this. Chairman Szafarowicz stated that he doesn't want to speak for him but he would imagine he would do everything by the book with the rules. Mr. Meskus came forward and said that the issues surrounding this project is covered by three boards. The liquor license is under the Selectmen's jurisdiction for approval, denial or revocation. Building permits are issued by him and are appealed by the Building Appeals board. Once the project is operational, then the conditions of the site plan have been met and those conditions would be enforced by him. The period where we are now is under the supervision of the Planning Board and their consultant engineer who visits the site regularly on the invitation of the applicant to be sure the site is being constructed in accordance with the site plan. During this period a couple of tent permits have been issued for these events. Some containers were constructed without a building permit that the applicant is aware of and is in the process of providing the proper documentation so they can be properly permitted. He said violations need to be written and submitted to his office and have to be specific to the violation. Chairman Szafarowicz asked Mr. Brunelle if that answered his questions and he said it did. David Barnacle who lives on Ladd Road came forward. He said he can't understand Mr. Jennings having confusion about the plan that's approved by the Planning

Board about Ladd Road because it specifically states on the accepted plan, Emergency Exit. The road in reference to their project is Brookfield Road yet the road they are using to access Ladd Road is Bond Sawmill Road. He said there is a document that Mrs. Craver has from the Town of Sturbridge that clearly indicates that Bond Sawmill Road has not been accepted by the Town of Sturbridge as being a connector to Ladd Road. Deb LaPlaca from the Telegram & Gazette stated that the board has a letter from Ms. Stanley and it's in there several pages down. Amy Stanley came forward and asked for the events that just happened, did they receive a permit from Mr. Meskus? Chairman Szafarowicz said that we would check into it. Chairman Szafarowicz thanked everyone for coming out and said this item will be on the Board's next agenda.

VI. New Business:

1. Website renewal – Chairman Szafarowicz stated that attached is the contract renewal for Westwell's Web Works. As you know, Westwell's Web Works maintains the Town of Charlton's website. This contract is due to expire June 30, 2017. They are requesting to renew their contract with the town for a one year term beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 for the purpose of providing web site maintenance services at the current rate of \$250 per month. Mrs. Craver would recommend the board approve the renewal. **Motion by Mr. Singer to approve the contract renewal, seconded by Ms. Noble for Westwell's Webworks, motion passes.**
2. End of Year Budget Transfer requests – Chairman Szafarowicz stated that as you know, the Municipal Modernization Act allows departments to transfer monies from one account to another within their budget with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. Attached are requests from the Public Safety Building Committee, Treasurer/Collector and the Town Clerk. Also attached is a Reserve Fund Transfer from the Fire Department. She would recommend the Board approve the requests. The Finance Committee is meeting tomorrow night and she will ask them to review and approve as well. **Motion by Mr. Singer to approve the requests pending Finance Committee's approval, seconded by Ms. Noble, motion passes.**
3. Special one day liquor license request – Knights of Columbus – Chairman Szafarowicz stated that attached is a request for a special liquor license for all alcohol (non-profit organizations only) sponsored by the Knights of Columbus to be used for a dinner and entertainment – simulated horse racing including the Kentucky Derby, on October 14, 2017 from 4pm – 11pm at St. Joseph's Church Hall. This request has been forwarded and approved by the Building Commissioner, Fire Department and Police Department.
Per the Board's policy, the license if the days requested are approved, should be issued for two additional days for the following reasons:
October 13, 2017 – to allow delivery of alcohol to establishment (no sales allowed)
October 14, 2017 – For sale on the approved date and time as listed
October 15, 2017 – To allow for pick-up of any unused alcohol (no sales allowed)
These dates would be reflected on the license. She would recommend the Board approve the special license as requested. Ms. Noble stated that based on recent events, she is wondering if we can put this off until the full board is here because she doesn't know anything about this event and she would like to know what the history of it is. The Board had no objection to holding it until the next meeting.
4. Selectmen meetings – summer schedule – Chairman Szafarowicz stated with summer coming, members of the board aren't always available for meetings due to vacation schedules. The following are the meetings for June, July and August:
June 6, 2017
June 20, 2017
July 4, 2017 (Town Hall Closed)

July 18, 2017
August 1, 2017
August 15, 2017
August 29, 2017

Mrs. Craver will be on vacation the week of the June 6, 2017 and July 4, 2017. Does the board wish to schedule just one meeting each month and if necessary, we can call a meeting if needed? Chairman Szafarowicz stated we would have the June 6th meeting for the continuation of the 508 discussion. **He would put forth that we meet on June 6th, July 18th and August 15th and call any meeting if necessary. So moved by Mr. Singer, seconded by Ms. Noble, motion passes.**

VII. Old Business:

1. Selectmen appointments to committees. Chairman Szafarowicz stated at our last meeting, we asked for a list of what committees each selectman is on. Attached is that list. We have removed Mrs. Cooper's name from the list. We have been contacted by the Fay Mountain Farm committee who is asking for two active members of the Selectmen that can attend their meetings which are held about once every two months. In the past, Mrs. Cooper often was able to attend the meetings. They have been trying to have meetings but end up without a quorum. This committee is appointed by the Conservation Commission but require two Selectmen. As some of the Board's schedules may have changed, we would ask you to review the list and recommend members that will be able to attend meetings. How does the board wish to proceed? **Ms. Noble said she has been approached by Fay Mountain Farm and she would be honored to be appointed to that committee. So moved by Mr. Singer, seconded by Ms. Noble, motion passes.** Chairman Szafarowicz asked to table the rest of the list until the whole board is present.
2. Police Chief Assessment Center – No information this time.

VIII. Committee Report

IX. BOS Policy Review

X. Student Selectperson Report: Kylie Chupka reviewed her report

XI. Town Administrator Report: Chairman Szafarowicz read Mrs. Craver's report.

XII. Other Business:

Mr. Singer asked to make a request to have something on the next agenda when all selectmen are here. He would like the Selectmen as we have with the Police Chief Search Committee and the Fire Station Building Committee to establish a School Building Committee. He would like the people on the committee to be tasked with providing an analysis to the economic impact to the Town of Charlton should we de-regionalize and go to our own high school and leave Shepherd Hill. What would be the economic impact on the town to build our own school, benefits to staying regionalized, benefits to de-regionalizing. Ms. Noble would like to see the analysis do more than the financial. She would like to look at the quality of education and quality of life for the student body and see what de-regionalization would do to them.

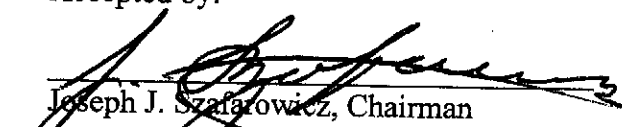
X. Adjourn: **Motion by Ms. Noble to adjourn at 8:05pm, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion passes.**

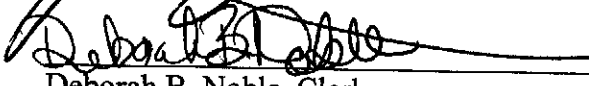
XI. Next Meeting Announcement:

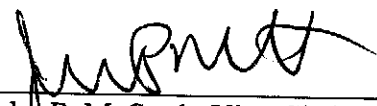
- Next Regular Selectmen's Meeting – June 6, 2017

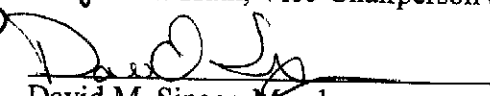
Submitted by:
Mary C. Devlin
Administrative Assistant


Accepted by:


Joseph J. Szafarowicz, Chairman


Deborah B. Noble, Clerk


John P. McGrath, Vice-Chairperson (absent)


David M. Singer, Member


Frederick C. Swensen, Member (absent)

Marijuana Based Ballot Questions in MA: 2008-Present

2008:

The Sensible Marijuana Policy Initiative, also known as Massachusetts Ballot Question 2, was on the November 4, 2008 ballot in Massachusetts as an initiated state statute. Question 2 replaced previous criminal penalties with civil penalties on adults possessing an ounce or less of marijuana. The initiative was approved.

Statewide Voting Record

Yes Votes	1,949,704	65.2%
No Votes	1,038,523	34.8%

Charlton Results

Yes Votes	4,244	65.4%
No Votes	2,151	34.6%

2012:

The Massachusetts Medical Marijuana Initiative, also known as Question 3, was on the November 6, 2012 ballot in the state of Massachusetts as an indirect initiated state statute, where it was approved. The measure legalized the use of medical marijuana in the state. The measure was approved.

Statewide Voting Record

Yes Votes	1,914,747	63.3%
No Votes	1,108,904	36.7%

Charlton Results

Yes Votes	4,035	61.8%
No Votes	2,489	38.2%

2016:

The Massachusetts Marijuana Legalization Initiative, also known as Question 4 was on the November 8, 2016, ballot in Massachusetts as an indirect initiated state statute. It was approved.

Statewide Voting Record

Yes Votes	1,769,328	53.7%
No Votes	1,528,219	46.3%

Charlton Results

Yes Votes	3,762	52%
No Votes	3,466	48%

Official results via: The Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth Elections Division,
<http://electionstats.state.ma.us/>

TOWN OF CHARLTON
OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01507
WWW.TOWNOF CHARLTON.NET

Phone: (508) 248-2206
Fax: (508) 248-2374

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Robin L. Craver, Town Administrator
DATE: May 22, 2017
SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Report – for Selectmen's meeting of 5/23/17

MIA Distribution Credits – We have been notified by MIA, our insurance company that they are issuing an additional participation credit to us in the amount of \$1,480.00 which will be reflected on our renewal. These credits recognize the long term loyalty and commitment of the MIA membership.

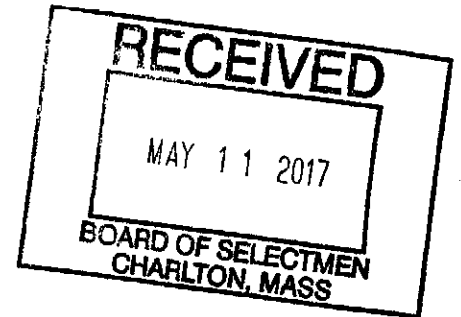
Guerin Dog Hearing - At the Board's last meeting, a hearing was held on a dangerous dog owned by Richard Guerin of 8 S. Sullivan Rd. The Board voted to agree with the recommendation of the Animal Control Officer that the dog be humanely euthanized. Mr. Guerin had 10 days from the date of the letter to file a petition with the court which he has. There is a hearing scheduled for Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 2:30pm in which the Animal Control Officer and Court Officer will be present for. I will update you on the outcome.



One Winthrop Square
Boston, MA 02110
TEL (800) 799-6442
www.emiia.org

May 9, 2017

Ms. Robin Craver
Town Administrator
Town of Charlton
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01507



Dear Robin:

It gives us great pleasure to announce the distribution of participation credits to our members! The members of the MIIA Board of Directors approved an additional participation credit of \$2.8 million bringing the total distribution of additional participation credits since 2009 is \$30 million!

These participation credits are returned to members of the Property & Casualty Group for the current fiscal year. Also, these new participation credits are *in addition* to all other credits and discounts you will receive as part of your renewal pricing for July 1, 2017. Participation credits recognize the long-term loyalty and commitment of the MIIA membership. Below you will see the amount of the new participation credit granted to you by MIIA:

Property & Casualty: \$1,480

MIIA will issue this additional participation credit amount on your renewal invoice for July 1, 2017.

While continuous distribution of these credits is not guaranteed, this latest participation credit is a reflection of the MIIA Board's ongoing practice of reviewing the program's financial position on a quarterly basis.

We at MIIA seek to embrace both the long-term financial health of the MIIA program *and* our members' need for high-quality coverage at the most affordable price. To that end, at each of its meetings, the MIIA Board reviews the pool's financial picture, looking at past and present performance to determine if additional credits can be provided. If sufficient contingency reserves are available, determined after a thorough review with MIIA's actuaries, the Board will release funds through participation credits. For most members, these credits have typically offset all or a significant portion of any increase in premium contributions. In recent years, however, these additional participation credits may not fully cover the workers' compensation rate changes because of the need for higher premiums to cover increasing losses. Nevertheless, the credits provide significant relief that would otherwise be unavailable from other marketplace options.

The bottom line and most important point is that MIIA's costs continue to be well below commercial insurance alternatives, and the announcement of this new \$2.8 million in participation credits enhances MIIA's value to you and the communities of Massachusetts!

We are extremely pleased to be able to offer these cost-saving measures and real-dollar savings. As always, your participation and commitment to MIIA is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,



Rocco Longo
Chairman, MIIA
Manager
Town of Marshfield



Geoffrey Beckwith
President, MIIA
Executive Director, MMA



Stanley J. Corcoran
Executive Vice President, Town
MIIA