Mr. Boling called the BOS meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Stating the meeting was being recorded by Studio 1623 (Cape Ann TV) for later broadcast and by Ms. Hunter for accuracy in minutes. He asked if anyone was recording the minutes to let him know and requested attendees silence their cell phones.

Mr. Boling asked if there was public comment on items not on the agenda.

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

1) Public Hearing – National Grid Request to Install Pole on Pine Street

Ms. Jaques moved to open the Public Hearing regarding National Grid’s request to install a pole on Pine Street approximately 128 feet from the Hamilton Town Line; Ms. Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cardarelli stated National Grid is requesting approval to install a pole and anchor at the end of Pine Street to support a line extension for a solar project for the Town of Hamilton. Mr. Boling asked if there was any sidewalk or road work as part of the project. Ms. Cardarelli stated there would be no sidewalk or road work. Mr. Boling asked if there were any additional questions; there were no additional questions.

Ms. Jaques moved to close the Public Hearing regarding National Grid’s request to install a pole on Pine Street approximately 128 feet from the Hamilton Town Line; Ms. Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Driscoll moved to approve National Grid’s request to install a pole on Pine Street; Ms. Jaques seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
2) Public Hearing – Request for Entertainment License

Mr. Bodmer-Turner moved to open the Public Hearing regarding a request for an entertainment license from 7 Central Hospitality Group LLC, dba Antique Table; Ms. Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Boling indicated 7 Central Hospitality Group LLC, needed to sort out permitting details and requested the Board continue the hearing until the Group is ready.

Ms. Driscoll moved to continue to October 7 at 6:40PM the Public Hearing regarding a request for an entertainment license from 7 Central Hospitality Group LLC, dba Antique Table; Ms. Jaques seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3) Public Hearing – Request for Public Tree Removal: 48 and 54 Beach Street, 4 North Street, North Street Parking Lot/Opposite #7 Norwood Avenue

Ms. Jaques moved to open the Public Hearing on request for tree removal; Mr. Bodmer-Turner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Henderson requested approval to remove the following trees: 54 Beach Street, 12” Norway Maple in severe decline, 48 Beach Street, 10” Sugar Maple in severe decline, 4 North Street, 8” Maple, full of ants at base/total sawdust and North Street parking lot opposite 7 Norwood Avenue, there are two trees flanking either side of entrance into the parking lot, 14” Norway Maple and a 15” Norway Maple.

Mr. Henderson stated all the trees have been posted. Four of the trees are in severe decline although the tree at 4 North Street looks good it has hard wood rot and is full of carpenter ants. Mr. Henderson stated it is beyond its life span and there is a bad cavity through the tree. This tree could be declared hazardous due to the cavity.

Mr. Boling stated he had a conversation with Ms. Mittermaier, Friends of the Trees and anticipates receiving an in-depth 2020 Report from the Friends. Mrs. Mittermaier stated the Friends would plant new trees if the Board decided to remove the trees under consideration.

Ms. Mittermaier asked specifically about the trees at the North Street parking lot. Her concern is one tree could be trimmed and saved while she understands the other tree is dead. Mr. Henderson stated the second tree is almost as bad as the first tree, but it could be trimmed and would likely have five years of life remaining. Mr. Boling stated he would like to delay taking down the second tree until there is a strategy for replacing the trees from the Friends.

Ms. Jaques asked if the replanted trees would be maintained and if a pruning program will be implemented. Mr. Boling stated the pruning and maintenance program for Town trees would be part of the budget discussion for the upcoming fiscal year.
Regarding the tree on Beach Street, Mr. Henderson would like to see the tree replaced with a more salt tolerant species of tree. He went on to state Norway Maples and Sugar Maples are trees prone to disease from a soil born fungus.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner asked if there is anything that could be done to save the tree in question. Mr. Henderson replied the tree should not have been planted on Beach Street. In the 1950’s through 1980’s the Town planted several Norway Maples. The tree in question was likely injured by a plow.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated the tree on North Street looks nice but when he was closer to the tree, he saw signs of problems with the bark and it is full of ants. He asked if there was anything that could be done to protect injured trees. Mr. Henderson stated if injuries are caught early there are methods of trimming and resolving problems to save trees.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner thanked Mr. Henderson for his information; it has helped him to fully understand the issue. In the few months he has served on the Board there have been several tree hearings. Mr. Bodmer-Turner is concerned about the maintenance and care of trees and would like to avoid discussions about losing more trees.

Mr. Boling asked if there were questions from residents.

Carley Cook, 1 Masconomo Street – Ms. Cook asked if the tree on North Street is on private property? Mr. Boling replied it is a public tree if it is five feet from the right-of-way; that can be either the sidewalk or the street if there is no sidewalk.

Lisa Bonneville, 23 Woodholm Road – Ms. Bonneville thought it might be a good idea to remove both trees from the North Street parking lot giving the replacement trees five years to grow. Mr. Boling replied the reason he made the comment was based on a request from the Friends of the Trees. Given the request and the Friends support of the removal of the other trees he did not believe the request was unreasonable. He also restated the Friends will be providing the Town with a comprehensive plan for 2020 tree replacement.

Carley Cook, 1 Masconomo Street – Asked what the process is for putting in place a maintenance plan for trees. Mr. Boling stated the plan will be part of the budget discussions with DPW. Budget discussion will take place over the next few months.

Ms. Cook also asked about another tree on Beach Street which looks to be in decline. Mr. Henderson stated he knows which tree she is referring to and there are problems with the tree. He stated these trees have tremendous strength, no evidence of carpenter ants but he is watching the tree.

Ms. Jaques moved to close the Public Hearing on tree removal; Ms. Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Jaques and Ms. Driscoll agreed with Mr. Boling and Ms. Mittermaier to keep the 15” Norway Maple at the North Street parking lot. Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated replacement trees should be more salt tolerant.
Ms. Jaques moved to approve the removal of trees at 48 and 54 Beach Street, 4 North Street and the 14” Norway Maple in extreme decline at the North Street Parking Lot/Opposite #7 Norwood Avenue; Mr. Bodmer-Turner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4) Fire Department Updates and Discussion Fire Truck Fleet

Background: Hydrant mains in many areas are more than 75 years old. Many older pipes have a natural build-up of sediment and even the largest pipes have build-up.

Hydrant System Overview: There are 37 miles of mains, 365 hydrants and gallons per minute flow rates are: 6” – 800 GMP, 8” – 1,600 GMP, 10” – 3,000 GMP and 12” – 4,700 GMP. 23% of mains in Town are 8” mains.

Short comings of System: 8” main should deliver 1,600 GPM with 2” – 3” build up reduces GPM risking damage to hydrant system and apparatus pump.

Immediate Steps the Fire Department has taken: Post January fire review was conducted, training on large capacity delivery, mutual aid – Essex Tanker, Pump operator training scheduled for 9/21/19 and advanced water delivery 10/19/19. (Pump operator is key person fighting the fire as this firefighter reads all the gauges and is able to identify challenges at the fire site.)

Mr. Bodmer-Turner asked about the capacity of the Essex Tanker at 2,300 to 2,500 gallons and how that is helpful. Chief Beardsley responded our current capacity gives us 2 minutes of good firefighting capacity. The larger tanker gives some 15 minutes of firefighting capacity. But even more importantly, by bringing in tanker trucks you develop a system of water shuttle, fill and drop off into water bags to work the fire more effectively.

Dangers: Long driveways longer than 1,000 feet present difficult and challenging access. Private “yard hydrant” systems are questionable at best. The fire department does not carry a half mile of hose. Yard hydrants create unstable resources they are not maintained and there is no specific information about the yard hydrants.

Ms. Driscoll asked how many “yard hydrants” there are in Town. Chief Beardsley replied DPW has that information.

Driveway Example: Driveway 800 feet long with distance to nearest hydrant 200 feet – Engine 1 – 1,200 feet. A house at a distance like this is in serious jeopardy.

Dangers Uncovered by January Fire: Hydrant system short comings: old system with crust, reduced gallons per minute GMP, dead end mains increase problems. Long access driveways – best water system in the world is not going to help if you need thousands of feet of hose. Current Apparatus – cannot make up the difference. Engine 1 – 750 gallons and Ladder 1 – 300 gallons.

Ms. Jaques asked with Engines 1 and 2 what fires are those engines good for fighting. Both are capable of moving 1,500 gallons of water a minute which is what is needed –
if the department goes in and there is water available, we’re covered. However, a larger fire requires more capacity and we do not have that immediately available.

**Routine Structure Fire Needs:** 1 Room/contents needs 90 GPM. A well involved structure needs +/- 9,000 gallons total for 1,200 to 2,000 square feet.

**Immediate steps the Fire Department has taken**

- **Re-structuring response** – confirmed at Dispatch: Essex Tanker immediate request, long driveways and active structure fires; start Middleton and Boxford tankers – immediate upgrade on alarm.
- Training – 9/21 FDSS pump operator training, 10/19 and 10/20 rural water supply by MFA.

**Recommendations:** replace Engine 1 with Tanker engine, 1,700-1,900 gallons of water, size only 6” longer than Engine 1 with almost 3 times the water capacity. This would provide 10 minutes of water and give the Department a head start on any fire.

**Rational – replacement engine with tanker** – 1,800 gallons will last 12 minutes, 10-12 minutes is about the time mutual aid will arrive. A large portion of Town has long driveways and there is not enough hose on engine to make the stretch. The cost to purchase a new Tanker Engine is $650K.

Ms. Jaques asked if something like the Tanker Engine recommended would have made a difference on University Lane. Chief Beardsley replied it would have – the proposed Tanker has 4-wheel drive and the fire on University Lane was during a difficult winter storm.

Mr. Boling stated we are not being called on to decide this evening as this will need to go through the budget cycle discussions with the Finance Committee. Additionally, this request is outside of the Town’s replacement schedule for fire vehicles. Tonight’s discussion is an opportunity for the Board to ask the Fire Chief questions prior to getting into deeper conversations with the Finance Committee.

Ms. Driscoll asked how the new piece of equipment positions the Town with replacement of the ladder truck. Chief Beardsley stated the Town will still need a ladder truck as it performs a lot of tasks other than firefighting. It is used for rescues and firefighting. The chimney fire last year was put out and the house saved by using the ladder truck.

Ms. Driscoll asked how many years remained on the current ladder truck. Chief Beardsley replied it is a 2001 and the life is likely 30 years. Ms. Jaques asked how long the proposed Engine 1 would serve the community. Chief Beardsley replied it would also last 30 years. She also asked about information available on the number of homes with long driveways. The Chief stated that information is in the process of being collected.

Mr. Boling asked since the protocols were changed following the January fire has the new protocol been followed? Chief Beardsley replied there was one time when the Essex Tanker should have been dispatched but was not.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner asked about the replacement for Ladder 1 and when that was on the schedule. Mr. Federspiel will need to confirm that schedule. Mr. Bodmer-Turner asked
if this vehicle would be in lieu of Ladder 1. That is the fiscal challenge -- it is not likely to be in lieu of Ladder 1.

5) Sustainability Committee Update

Ms. Alison Anholt-White stated the mission of the Sustainability Committee is to advise the Board on strategies and initiatives aimed at reducing negative environmental impacts of Town activities. The goal is to lighten the ecological footprint of the community and to put in place more sustainable practices.

Ms. Anholt-White indicated recycling is in crisis. Fewer materials are acceptable to recycle. Higher cleanliness standards are now required. Cost of single stream recycling is increasing exponentially as value of materials declines globally. Composting can take some of the load off recycling and trash and concluded better communication with residents is needed. The Committee needs a clear easy way to inform Town residents about recycling rules. Ms. Anholt stated information on the Town web site is not accessible enough.

The Sustainability Committee asked, is curbside recycling unsustainable? Waste Management recycling contract ends in 2021. We need to work on future planning; recycling will need to be reimagined in view of the decline of global markets. The Committee would like to partner with the BOS, Town Manager and DPW in upcoming discussions.

In 2019 the Committee actively engaged in community events to promote sustainability. Events included: a movie and waste-free potluck dinner in March (there were 60 residents in attendance). At the event the High School Green Team presented their projects and Middle Schoolers performed a skit to demonstrate what can and cannot be recycled. The Committee created a permanent display showing the information. And Mr. Brousseau of Black Earth spoke to the group about the importance of composting.

In May Beth Porter of Green America spoke about waste reduction. The presentation was held at the Library with 40 residents in attendance. Upcoming events include a talk by Janet Domenitz, Executive Director of MassPRIG and a showing of the movie Bag It at the Community Center on November 1, 2019. Also, on November 1, 2019 the High School Green Team will present their projects and a Sustainability Fair is scheduled for November 2, 2019 with schools and local vendors invited to attend.

Publicity and Media –

- The Committee created and installed a single message sign requesting people not to put plastic in their recycling.
- Designed a handout for compost bins to encourage people to get their neighbors to compost.
- Started a Facebook page and group.
- Published several articles in the Cricket.
- Toured WM MRF in Billerica and the Wheelabrator incinerator in North Andover with DPW staff.
- Toured the Rockport Transfer Station.
The Committee is working on guidelines and incentives to use less in the first place. There is no “away” -- everything ends up somewhere else. At the end of the presentation the Committee requested assistance with a budget to support their efforts on behalf of the community.

Mr. Boling asked Mr. Federspiel to update the Board in respect to the status of the Town’s contract with WM regarding recycling and the requirements for the Town. Mr. Federspiel stated the contract with WM is up in 2021, however, WM has pushed the Town to reopen the current contract in order to charge the Town a penalty for contaminated recycling (which has become a significant problem for WM).

WM proposed the Town pay $115 a ton for contaminated recycling; we are currently paying $68 a ton for trash. The contract with the incinerator company in North Andover is up in July 2020. There is a proposed 22% increase per ton for what the company burns for the Town.

Mr. Boling asked for clarification on contaminated recycling. Mr. Federspiel discussed the “blended value” formula with WM. In the past the Town had received some revenue from recycling but with the changes in the costs of recycling the formula in no longer working in the Town’s favor and there are additional costs for recycling. The cost for recycling is now equal to or exceeding the cost of trash removal.

Mr. Boling applauded the work of the Committee on increasing awareness of the impact of trash on the community. The immediate impact on the Town is the less we put into trash the better it will be for taxpayers. The most significant impact is composting because water weight in food waste is heavy.

Mr. Boling encourages the Committee to work on getting more residents to compost and to avoid contaminated recycling. The Committee agreed and stated they were working on it. The Board is in the process of hiring someone to help with communication and that person will be a resource for the Committee.

Ms. Jaques stated if residents realize the savings from composting is more than $30K a year neighbors will likely encourage neighbors to compost. Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated it is important to bring this issue into the public eye. He encouraged the Committee to continue working with the schools.

6) Consent Agenda

- BOS Minutes – June 10, 2019, August 19, 2019 and September 3, 2019
- Reserve Fund Transfer Request
- Longevity Bench Requests – Trail Head on Pleasant Street and 22 Woodholm Road

Ms. Jaques was concerned about the plant removal for the Longevity Bench at Pleasant Street and wondered if there was any way to save or replant the shrub. Mr. Federspiel stated the bench needed to be a specific distance from the wetlands. Ms. Jaques stated her concern was a question not an objection.
Mr. Bodmer-Turner had a question regarding the HR shared services discussion with Hamilton and Rockport in the September 3, 2019 meeting minutes. The September 3, 2019 minutes will be held for clarification.

*Mr. Bodmer-Turner moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of the September 3, 2019 minutes; Ms. Jaques seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

7) **Correspondence**

- Letter from MMA re: Legislative Breakfast
- Letter from Resident re: Proposed Visitor Center/Harbor Master Office
- Letter from Business Owner re: Opposition to Intersection Improvements

8) **Town Administrator’s Report**

- **Study Committees:** The group studying a possible location for a Harbormaster office-maritime facility at Reed or Masconomo is meeting this week.

- The **speed limit group** met last week, and they will have recommendations for the Board on amending various road speed limits. Mr. Bodmer-Turner, attended the meeting and there was discussion regarding the 15 MPH speed limit in the center core of the Town. The 15 MPH signs are gone and replaced with 20 MPH signs and asked if there was a reason for that. Mr. Federspiel stated when the Board voted the 20 MPH limit DPW may have believed the 20 MPH was in place of the 15 MPH limit. Mr. Bodmer-Turner believes the State approved the 15 MPH speed limit and it should remain in place. Mr. Federspiel agreed, and the signs will be replaced.

- **Chief searches:** Meeting with Interim Police Chief is taking place this week if Board members have questions please forward. There will be a note in the *Cricket* looking for volunteers to serve on the Fire Chief Search committee.

- **Glass dog fence** has been installed and inspected by the Animal Control Officer. She will follow up to make sure the dogs are not digging under the fence.

- **Supervisor Training:** will take place tomorrow for all supervisors. The Town is reviewing best practices for supervisors and rolling out a simplified performance review processes to be used. The HR consultant is putting on the training.

- **Mill Street:** the recent traffic study indicated most vehicles are traveling in the 20 MPH range. Residents are still concerned about speeders. DPW is installing more warning signs and will be lining the road which may help slow down the traffic.

- **Staffing:** Mr. Federspiel is meeting with a resident on Tuesday who is interested in the communication position. Job description for the position is being fine-tuned.
Fall decisions: Mr. Boling has asked for a list of major decisions needed this fall with a timeline to help keep tabs on what the priorities are. Decision list will be ready next week.

9) Other matters, as may not have been reasonably anticipated by the Chair. (Discussion Only)

There were no additional matters to come before the Board this evening.

10) Executive Session – Per M.G.L. CH. 30A Sec. 21 (A)(6) Possible Real Estate Transaction

Ms. Jaques moved to go into Executive Session and not return to open session; Mr. Bodmer-Turner seconded the motion. The Board’s voice vote: Mr. Boling, yes, Ms. Jaques, yes, Mr. Bodmer-Tuner, yes and Ms. Driscoll, yes.

Meeting Documents:

- Town Administrator’s Report
- Consent Agenda Items as Listed
- Correspondence Items as Listed
- National Grid Request for Public Hearing
- 7 Central Hospitality LLC, DBA Antique Table Application for Entertainment License
- Town Arborist’s Request for Public Hearing re: Tree Removal
- Fire Department Power Point Presentation re: Updates and Fire Truck Fleet
- Sustainability Committee Power Point Presentation

Upcoming BOS Meetings

- October 7, 2019
- October 21, 2019