The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00pm by Acting Chairman Hogan with Selectman Grattan, Selectman Hogan, Selectman Runyan and Selectman Zenkin present and Selectman Patuto absent.

Selectman Hogan held a moment of reflection in honor of our service men and women.

Citizen’s Time:

Burlington resident, Ernie Zabolotny, came before the Board to publicly acknowledge the Town Clerk’s office for the planning and execution of election night. He also said that for over a year there have been two light fixtures at the high school field with exposed wires. Selectman Hogan recommended he contact the School Department.

Gregory Smith, 36 College Road, said he informed State Representative Ken Gordon about his flooding concerns on his street and drainage issues throughout the Town. He also said that there are vehicles speeding on College Road. Selectman Hogan asked Town Administrator John Petrin (T.A. Petrin) to check with the Chief of Police and see when the last time there was a police presence on his street.

Burlington resident Ben Dada said he wants the BOS to ensure that their mission statement is upheld. Another concern is the lights on the Mall Road, he said, have not been working for six months. Selectman Hogan said they will put this on as an agenda item. Mr. Dada also said the Planning Board needs to take more serious issue to pedestrian walkways. Selectman Hogan recommended he contact the Planning Department. Mr. Dada asked what happened to the bus that was used from the cinema to the mall. Selectman Hogan asked Assistant Town Administrator Tom Hickey (A.T.A. Hickey) to look into this issue.

252 Discussion: Discussion with State Representative Kenneth Gordon

Representative Ken Gordon came before the Board to introduce himself to the citizens of the Town.

253 Public Hearing: Vote/Tax Classification

A public hearing was held the Vote/Tax Classification. Town Accountant Paul Sagarino, Jr., Assessor Jim Doherty and Treasurer/Tax Collector Brian Curtin were present. There was no one opposed to the public hearing. Jim Doherty provided a number of options. Selectman Zenkin and Grattan said they were concerned about the increase on the commercial side and it would be more acceptable to go with a slightly higher rate for the residential. Town Accountant Paul Sagarino, Jr. said all of the options put us in the acceptable range of a 4% levy. Brian Curtin said he is concerned about the senior population in Town and some have difficulty paying their taxes; he does not see that with the commercial properties. He recommends Option B and believes it is best for the residents. Selectman Runyan said he agrees with Brian Curtin.

Motion: Selectman Zenkin moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Selectman Grattan and approved. (4-0-0)

Motion: Selectman Zenkin moved to select Option A with an individual rate of $19.01, a residential rate of $11.85 and a CIP rate of $31.70. Seconded by Selectman Grattan and approved. (3-1-0 with Selectman Runyan voting against.)

254 Approval: Sewer Allocation/Francis Rosario Way & 86 Francis Wyman Road

Paul Marchiodonda was present representing Martin Montello.

Motion: Selectman Zenkin moved to accept the Sewer Allocation/Francis Rosario Way & 86 Francis Wyman Road for $11,137.50. Seconded by Selectman Runyan and unanimously voted. (4-0-0)
255 Approval: Street Opening/81 Locust Street

Sohpia Karampekios came before the Board requesting a street opening to convert from oil to gas. T.A. Petrin read aloud the conditions.
Motion: Selectman Zenkin moved to approve the Street Opening/81 Locust Street subject to the conditions. Seconded by Selectman Runyan and unanimously voted. (4-0-0)

256 Discussion: Restaurant Licenses

Selectman Hogan said there was a meeting recently with members of the Planning Board, Selectmen and T.A. Petrin about whether to increase the number of all alcohol licenses for restaurants. T.A. Petrin said that over the last couple of years there has been a trend of larger corporations buying out smaller ones to get their licenses. The result of the discussion was to request an additional 10 licenses. Selectman Zenkin said he is concerned about increasing 10 licenses to the community. He feels more comfortable designating 4 licenses for the Mall. He feels that adding 10 to the community will increase traffic. Selectman Runyan and Grattan had the same concerns. T.A. Petrin said it is within the control of the Board to release licenses.

257 Subcommittee Reports:

Selectman Grattan said the Technology Committee is wrapping up their findings and recommendations. On Monday we are meeting about bow hunting at the landlocked forest. Attending will be bow hunters, users of the landlocked forest, and abutters. He said they will need to take a position on it before turkey hunting season.

Selectman Zenkin said the 9th grade Scholarship Committee wine tasting last Saturday raised $5,400. He congratulated the cheering team; they are going to Disney.

Selectman Runyan acknowledged Selectman Hogan for the Veterans’ Day ceremony on the Town Common. He said there was an exceptional effort by the Town Clerk’s Office; voter turnout was in excess of 85%. He also acknowledged his colleagues for distinguishing the fire at the Marriott Hotel. The Sewer force main is complete.

258 Town Administrator’s Report:

T.A. Petrin attended the Veterans’ Day ceremony and commended many for their participation. The poll workers did a great job. He would like to challenge residents to come close to 85% during local elections. The Town received a $1,000,000 in Massworks Grant for infrastructure and improvement. He commended Tom Hayes, John Sanchez and Kristen Kassner and staffs for that achievement.

259 Assistant Town Administrator’s Report:

The Town Accountant and Human Resources are in the process of expanding their staff.

260 Chairman’s Report:

Acting Chairman Hogan thanked the volunteers, scouts, scout leaders and parents for helping with the Veterans’ Day ceremony. The firefighters finished a two day driver course. The firefighters on call the day of the Marriott fire did a great job; access is difficult. He thanked the Town Clerk and staff for their efforts on Election Day.
Old/New Business

Selectman Zenkin said at the last meeting they voted to level fund the health insurance plans. He is concerned it may change further down the road. When he was chair he asked for separate audits on the plans and he wants to make sure that continues for the next change in rates.

Selectman Zenkin moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Runyan and unanimously voted. (4-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Nichols

Recording Secretary