

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS  
City Clerk's Office  
October 23, 2014

I hereby notify that at twelve noon today the following items of business have been filed with this office and will be acted upon at the meeting in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, Tuesday evening October 28, 2014 at seven-thirty o'clock according to Section 8, Rules and Orders of the City Council.

Marilyn Gomeau  
City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
October 28, 2014

Roll Call  
Moment of silent prayer  
The Pledge  
Approval of the minutes of *October 14<sup>th</sup>*.

- 11,382-1** An Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams entitled "Administration" by adding a new section Article XXXV entitled Right to Farm, which was referred to the City Solicitor and postpone at the meeting of October 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 11,420** Mayor's communication #56 regarding the Bike Path.
- 11,421** Mayor's communication #57 regarding the Hoosic River Revival Project.
- 11,422** Mayor's communication #58 regarding a sewer connection.
- 11,422** An Order granting permission to Dennis Bernardi, 37 North Houghton Street, Clarksburg to make connection to the North Adams Sewer System.
- 11,423** Communication submitted by Councilor Merrigan regarding the 2030 Vision Plan.

CORRESPONDENCE  
LICENSE

OPEN FORUM  
COUNCILLOR'S & MAYOR'S CONCERNS



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
Richard J. Alcombright

October 28, 2014

#56

To: North Adams City Council  
Re: Bike Path Update

Dear Honorable Members:

In the continuance of the many good things happening in and around the City, Lauren Gaherty from Berkshire Regional Planning (BRPC) and Mackenzie Greer our City Planner will be at this meeting to give all an update on the progress of the Berkshire Bike Trail through the City as it comes from the West. This presentation will precede a community meeting on October 29th.

The City's Office of Community Development has been working with BRPC to further advance the Berkshire (Ashuwillticook) Bike Trail through the City of North Adams. Progress has been made in the past year as they now bring a project update to the Council and the broader community:

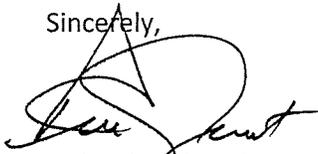
- The *North Adams Vision 2030* clearly outlined the community's desire for a dedicated bicycle and pedestrian path in the City. Multiple surveys about recreation preferences have highlighted bicycle and walking paths as a high priority.
- The Town of Williamstown and the City of North Adams, in partnership with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) and the Berkshire Bike Path Council have received a second grant from the National Scenic Byway Program to continue work on a bicycle and walking trail that will connect the downtown areas of the two communities.
- The trail from Williamstown to the City center is about 5.5 miles and has been envisioned as recreational as well as to be used as a transportation method.
- For the last year, City staff and residents have been working with the BRPC to review possible routes last proposed in 2010. Due to resident concerns some routes were removed as options, and others have been explored.
- At present, the draft route picks up at the Williamstown boarder at the Spruces, travels south into the airport and runs west along an offset from the taxiway. The path exits the airport onto Barbour Street, travels along Greylock School and the Alcombright Athletic Complex. It then crosses the Hoosic River and follows the meander of the river near the Greylock Apartments neighborhood, exiting toward Sacco Bridge on Route 2. The path then crosses Route 2 toward Avon and Alton Street. A railroad crossing (underpass) will be needed in this area; the path will then advance toward downtown through the former Sprague and fairgrounds property along an existing service road. The path will likely cross Brown Street near the bridge, following River Street. Discussions are advancing with MASS MoCA and MassDOT about how the museum

campus can be incorporated and a safe route designated through the downtown when the museum is not open. Ultimately, the path will travel south into Heritage State Park.

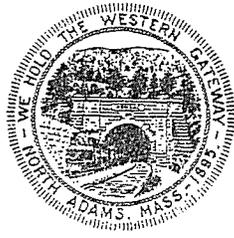
- The southern legs of the route are being reviewed separately. The funding available at present is directly tied to the Mohawk Scenic Byway and is only available for the stretch in its vicinity.
- Once this draft route gains consensus from the neighborhoods (primarily along Barbour Street and Greylock) it will move into an engineering phase. It's important to realize that there may be route modifications during the engineering work.
- The bike path will be a facility owned and operated by the City of North Adams. We anticipate forming a "Friends of the North Adams Bike Path" organization to assist with its ongoing maintenance and operations.

As you can see, a great deal has been done and there is still much to do. This presentation is intended to inform the Council and the public and to address the questions and/or concerns that may arise. I am certain you will find this to be a very interesting presentation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Alcombright", written over a large, stylized, circular scribble.

Richard L. Alcombright  
Mayor



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
Richard J. Alcombright

October 28, 2014

#57

To: North Adams City Council  
Re: Hoosic River Revival Project

Dear Honorable Members:

As you may know, the Hoosac River Revival (HRR) was able to secure some \$8 million dollars through the Environmental Bond Bill as the catalyst to fund the long term vision of flood control in the City.

In that light, Judy Grinnell of the HRR will be at the meeting to update Council on a pilot project in the south branch of the river that is currently in discussion and in the very early stages of development. With this communication you will receive via email, a conceptual drawing as well as an Economic Impact Study done by Professor Stephen Sheppard.

I trust you will find this presentation interesting and informative.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Alcombright  
Mayor



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
Richard J. Alcombright

October 28, 2014

#58

The Honorable City Council  
North Adams, Massachusetts

Re: Sewer Connections - Clarksburg

Honorable Members:

A request has been made by Dennis Bernardi of Map 209, Lot 37 North Houghton Street, Clarksburg, seeking permission to hook into the North Adams sewer system.

All the appropriate safeguards and prerequisites are encompassed in the accompanying orders including language that absolves the City from any ongoing maintenance responsibilities. It should be noted that the Hoosac Water Quality District must give final approval.

I would respectfully recommend adoption of the accompanying order.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Alcombright  
Mayor



# City of North Adams

In City Council

...October 28, 2014.....

Ordered:

That permission is hereby granted Dennis Bernardi of Map 209, Lot 37 North Houghton Street, Clarksburg, Massachusetts, to make connection to the North Adams sewer system.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED: That the installation is subject to approval by the City of North Adams and that the installation shall not be completed until approval is given by the Superintendent of Public Services.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED: That this permission is granted with the express understanding that the City of North Adams will not be responsible for any inconvenience caused by low water pressure, stoppage of water supply or any other blockage or any other reason and that the service shall be in conformity with the amended agreement for sewer and water installations on file in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of North Adams.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED: That the said Dennis Bernardi shall assume the expense of this installation and shall be responsible for all maintenance thereon and damage therefrom.



Town of  
**CLARKSBURG**

111 RIVER ROAD CLARKSBURG, MA 01247

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October 15, 2014

TOWN OFFICES (413) 663-7940

The Honorable Mayor  
Richard Alcombright  
10 Main St  
North Adams, MA 01247

Subject: Sewer Connection – Dennis Bernardi Map 209 Lot 37 North Houghton St Clarksburg, MA 01247

Dear Mayor Alcombright:

I am writing to request that the City of North Adams allow an additional sewer hookup for Dennis Bernardi for a lot identified and located on Clarksburg Assessors Map 209, Lot 37 North Houghton St in Clarksburg.

Mr. Bernardi is proposing new home construction on a 0.68acre site. His property can be found on Clarksburg Town Map 209 Lot 37. Mr. Bernardi has requested a hookup to the Municipal Sewerage collection system, as his property is bisected by the Hunterfield Stream.

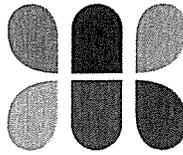
The Town of Clarksburg is in agreement that this would be the best possible solution and would be in compliance with the sewer regulations of the Town.

If there are any questions, concerns or any other information is needed please do not hesitate to contact me at 663-8250. No permits will be issued nor work will be started until we receive notice from the City of North Adams that the connections are approved and all connection fees have been paid in full.

Sincerely,

Carl W. McKinney  
Clarksburg Town Administrator

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HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL  
OF GOVERNMENTS

October 21, 2014

City Council  
City of North Adams  
10 Main Street  
North Adams, MA 01247

Dear Councilors,

Welcome to Hampshire Power.

Thank you for choosing Hampshire Power to serve your Community Choice Aggregation. We are pleased to be partnering with you to provide your citizens with predictability, consistency, and savings for their energy budget.

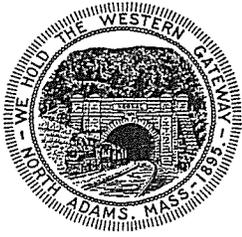
Hampshire Power is the only non-profit, Massachusetts based electricity supplier. We strive to keep your energy dollars in the local economy by reinvesting proceeds into programs and services that save taxpayer dollars, enhance sustainable energy practices, and contribute to our shared prosperity.

Should you have any questions, suggestions or simply wish to learn more about the Hampshire Council of Governments and our mission, programs and services please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Todd D. Ford, Executive Director  
Hampshire Council of Governments





# Office of the City Council

## City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109  
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247  
(413) 662-3015

October 28, 2014

Dear Fellow Councilors,

In a recent conversation with City Planner Mackenzie Greer, it came to my attention that the City Council has not expressed a formal opinion on the Vision 2030 Comprehensive Plan. While we are not legally required to do so in order for the City to move forward with the plan, I am given to understand by Ms. Greer that is customary and would be appreciated by the Office of Community Development.

On the Vision 2030 section of the City's website, the text indicates the following:

"On May 12, 2014, the North Adams Planning Board adopted the *North Adams Vision 2030*, the City's first comprehensive plan in over forty years. The City Council will be asked to endorse the plan later this summer."

I would recommend that vote on endorsing the plan at our October 28th, 2014 meeting. If it is the Council's pleasure to refer this to committee, I am open to that as well, though I am initially suggesting voting on 10/28/14 because we have had time in the last year to become familiar with the Comprehensive Plan.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kate Hanley Merrigan  
City Councilor