



**Board of Selectmen Agenda
Municipal Center Resource Room
Tuesday, March 26, 2024
7:00 PM**

- Call to Order
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Chairman Announcements
 - Citizen's Forum
1. Public Hearing / Grille on Main Yearly Entertainment License – Possible Votes
 2. Whitinsville Fish & Game Club, Inc. / Change of Officers – Possible Votes
 3. Blackstone Valley Beagle Club / Change of Officers – Possible Votes
 4. Discussion & Vote on Public Health Officer Position
 5. Review Town Meeting Warrant Articles
 - a. BVT (2) Warrant Articles – Possible Votes
 - b. School Department Funding for Districtwide Facilities Study – Possible Votes
 - c. Citizens Petition – General Bylaw Amendment Article 8 Section 13 Wetland – Possible Votes
 - d. Transfer of Land Ownership Map/Parcel 118-2 Caswell Court – Possible Votes
 - e. Revised Stormwater Bylaw – Possible Votes
 - f. North Street Project Additional Match – Possible Votes
 - g. Town Owned Property in Uxbridge – Possible Votes
 - h. Easement for 75 NW Main Street
 6. Review and Close ATM & STM Warrants – Possible Votes
 7. Town Meeting Discussion with Moderator
 - Article Assignment - Representative/Department – Possible Votes
 8. Meeting Minutes – Possible Votes
 9. Monthly Update of Goals
 10. Town Administrator's Report
 11. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting
 12. Executive Session
 - a. *Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3), To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. **Collective Bargaining – Firefighters Union, Police Union, & Police Chief***
 - b. *Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(6), To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. **Interest in Real Property – 331 Main Street***
 13. Adjournment

Douglas Cable is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88408120979>

Meeting ID: 884 0812 0979

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Meeting ID: 884 0812 0979

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kwf3wEewQ>

For information about the Zoom platform, including how-to videos and forms for requesting a Zoom meeting:

<https://douglas-ma.gov/530/Remote-Meetings>

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024
MEETING MINUTES**

Attendance: Chair Mike Fitzpatrick, Vice Chair Max Postma, Tim Bonin, Ross Smith, Matt Wojcik Town Administrator, and Lisa Freeman Executive Assistant.

Mike Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 7pm.

(0:15 TS) Pledge of Allegiance

(0:45 TS) Chairman Announcements: Annual & Special Town Meeting are coming up on May 6, 2024.

(0:55 TS) Citizen's Forum: NONE

1. (1:05 TS) Public Hearing/Grille on Main Yearly Entertainment License – Possible votes
(1:13 TS) Motion to open the public hearing made by Max Postma, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
The manager of the establishment stated that this request is for karaoke once a month and live music sporadically from 9pm – 12am. They discussed how it would be handled if there were complaints about the noise.
(7:30 TS) Motion to close the public hearing made by Tim Bonin, seconded by Max Postma. The vote passed unanimously.
(7:45 TS) Motion to approve the yearly entertainment license with the opportunity to revisit it in 6 months and the condition that the amplified music be shut off at 11:30 pm made by Tim Bonin, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
2. (9:30 TS) Whitinsville Fish & Game Club, Inc. / Change of Officers – Possible votes
(10:05 TS) Motion to acknowledge and accept the change of officers for the Whitinsville Fish & Game Club, Inc. made by Tim Bonin, seconded by Max Postma. The vote passed unanimously.
3. (10:30 TS) Blackstone Valley Beagle Club / Change of Officers – Possible votes
(11:00 TS) Motion to acknowledge and accept the change of officers for the Blackstone Valley Beagle Club made by Ross Smith, seconded by Max Postma. The vote passed unanimously.
4. (11:15 TS) Discussion & Vote on Public Health Officer Position
The Board was provided with a suggested job description that enhances the role of the town's public nurse Agnieszka Podstawka. She is willing to take on some additional training and responsibility primarily on the food inspection side. The town currently uses a regional group for food inspection with two people assigned to Douglas, one of the inspectors has left the regional group and they are having a difficult time finding a replacement. Ms. Podstawka is willing to step in and fill the gap and remain at her current rate of pay and current hours. TA Wojcik went through the proposed changes to the job description.
(16:40 TS) Motion to accept additions to the job description of the Public Health Officer as presented made by Ross Smith, seconded by Tim Bonin. The vote passed unanimously.
5. (17:40 TS) Review Town Meeting Warrant Articles
 - a. BVT (2) Warrant Articles – Possible votes
TA Wojcik read an email from the superintendent of BVT (Blackstone Valley Tech) which stated that BVT's school committee rescinded its vote to request a new stabilization account and that it will require further study. The stabilization article should be removed from your towns warrant or passed over. Due to requests from the towns they will be amending the

initial bond request with new wording provided in the email that the district complies with strict bond action wording and protects and maximizes MSBA (Mass School Building Authority) eligibility. TA Wojcik's recommendation is that the amended wording for the roof project is the only article that goes in the warrant. The amount they put in the article was up to \$200k, and when researched other towns were done for \$168k.

- b. (23:25 TS) School Department Funding for Districtwide Facilities Study – Possible votes
Ms. Keegan went through what the study will entail and the information she gathered. Ms. Keegan also went through some of the issues with the school buildings for the future and the need for this study to be done.
- c. (42:45 TS) Citizen's Petition – General Bylaw Amendment Article 8 Section 13 Wetland – Possible votes
Lisa Mosczynski 60 Oak Street and Matt Benoit Community Development Director to present to the Board. Ms. Mosczynski stated the main priority of this initiative is to change the current fine of \$200 to \$300 a day per violation, the states cap is \$300 but the town bylaw is capped at \$200. Mr. Benoit stated that the Conservation Commission at their March 21st meeting voted to unanimously support the citizen's petition to amend article 8 section 13 of the Douglas general bylaw. Brandon Faneuf went over some verbiage that needed some changing that will have to be on the floor at the town meeting.
- d. (55:45 TS) Transfer of Land Ownership Map/Parcel 118-2 Caswell Court – Possible votes
Mr. Benoit stated this land was taken by tax title by the BOS but the Open Space Committee is citing the town's 1998 master plan for the acquisition of this land for conservation purposes. It was identified as a critical habitat so they would like to transfer this land into conservation so it is protected in perpetuity. This parcel of land is currently landlocked but there is a potential project coming in so that the town may have an opportunity to gain access to the land.
- e. (57:50 TS) Revised Stormwater Bylaw (Article 16 in the warrant) - Possible votes
Mr. Benoit stated that this is not a revision it is a new article 12 to be added to the general bylaw. The town's MS4 consultant Nick Cristofori went over some of the changes made to the bylaw wording stated that his recommendation is to get the EPA 1 acre bylaw and the accompanying regulations in place now and then look at tackling the smaller projects later by amending the bylaw. Mr. Cristofori discussed why the conservation committee will have to be involved in with this bylaw.
(1:15:00 TS) Motion to accept the amendments on article 16 Stormwater Management bylaw, made by Max Postma, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
- f. (1:15:50 TS) Easement for 75 NW Main Street
This easement would give the town the ability to access and maintain the stormwater pipe that is going underground on this property that has had issues with stormwater.
- g. (1:18:05 TS) North Street Project Additional Match - Possible votes
Bob Minarik stated Stantec approached the town and said they needed an additional \$67k for design and engineering work for the upper North Street project. He went over everything that was added and needs to be done for this extra amount.
- h. (1:21:15 TS) Town Owned Property in Uxbridge - Possible votes
There are two slivers of land located adjacent to the Pyne property in Uxbridge. This request is just preparation to get the town to vote have the BOS dispose of it if necessary.
(1:24:10 TS) Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the BVT articles again so TA Wojcik explained the BVT article more in depth. TA Wojcik stated that after going over it again he feels that Dr. Fitzpatrick's request is open-ended. The BOS wants to get more clarification from BVT on

this article. TA Wojcik's and Ms. Lovett's opinion is that this should only go through as a debt exclusion.

(1:40:25 TS) Motion to include language in the BVT roof project that it is a debt exclusion funding mechanism to be approved at the next BOS meeting made by Tim Bonin, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

6. Review and Close ATM & STM Warrants – Possible votes

The Board is going to wait until the next meeting to close the ATM warrant.

(1:41:30 TS) Motion to close the Special Town Meeting warrant made by Tim Bonin, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

7. (1:42:10 TS) Town Meeting Discussion with Moderator

- Article Assignment – Representative/Department – Possible votes

The Town Moderator is not present at the meeting tonight. TA Wojcik stated that what they learned from the last November meeting is that there needs to be a specific person responsible for each article as the go-to person so the moderator can get the business of the town onto the floor and taken care of. They discussed having a separate meeting with the town moderator to go over the warrants with him, Lisa will reach out him to find out his availability.

8. Meeting Minutes – Possible votes

Passed Over

9. Monthly Update of Goals

10. (1:51:25 TS) Town Administrator's Report

TA Wojcik announced that tomorrow evening at 6 pm in the gym, the staff has prepared a potluck for all the town's volunteers, boards and commission members. All are invited to come by have a meal in appreciation for all their service to the town.

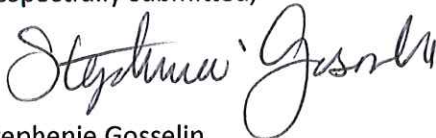
11. (1:53:05 TS) Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting – None

12. (1:53:20 TS) Executive Session

(1:54:05 TS) Motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining for the firefighter's union, police union and police chief, interest in real property for 331 Main Street and for possible litigation and to leave executive session for the sole purpose of adjournment made by Ross Smith, seconded by Tim Bonin. The vote passed unanimously.

13. Adjournment: Mr. Bonin made a motion at 9:27pm to leave executive session and return to regular session for the sole purpose of adjournment, Mr. Smith seconded the motion, all in favor. Roll call vote: Bonin – aye, Smith – aye, Postma - aye, Fitzpatrick – aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephenie Gosselin
Recording Secretary