

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

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Chairman Announcements
4. Citizen's Forum
5. **PUBLIC HEARING** (Votes possible):
FY 2025 Tax Classification Hearing
6. Annual license renewals – (Votes possible)
Various classes of businesses including alcohol, wine & malt, victualling, used car sales
7. Request by Town Administrator: authorization to execute contract for weights and measures services – (Votes possible)
8. Discussion – Finalization of ARPA fund allocations (No votes)
9. Meeting Minutes – (Votes possible)
10. Discussion and possible votes – Selectmen meeting schedule for December 2024
11. Town Administrator's Report
12. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting
13. 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.*
Potential Litigation – MSHG (Votes possible)
 - 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 – Riedell Road (Votes possible)**
14. Adjournment

Douglas Cable is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Chair Tim Bonin, Vice Chair Mike Fitzpatrick, Hal Davis, Ross Smith, Les Stevens, Matt Wojcik Town Administrator

1. Tim Bonin called the meeting to order at 7pm.
2. (0:10 TS) Pledge of Allegiance
3. (0:45 TS) Chairman Announcements - The Board recognized the Douglas girls' varsity soccer team with their state championship trophy and presented the girls with certificates.
4. (8:45 TS) Citizen's Forum: NONE
5. (8:50 TS) FY2025 Tax Classification Public Hearing, in accordance with Chapter 369 of the Acts of 1982 for the purpose of receiving public input into the determination of the tax rate for each class of property for the Fiscal Year 2025.
(8:55 TS) Motion to open the public hearing made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.
Chris Pupka the Town Principal Assessor gave an overview of the revaluation and classification process and explained how they come up with values for the town and how that works into a tax rate, and to set a residential tax factor. Mr. Pupka went through the taxable value of properties (LA4), average/median value change for single family homes, historical taxable value, and levy limits. Last year's tax rate was 13.52 and this years anticipated tax rate is 13.17. Mr. Pupka showed a pie chart of the FY2025 and FY2024 value distribution, and the excess levy capacity (\$15,842) and new growth (\$2,214,829).
(36:40 TS) Motion to close the public hearing, made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.
(37:00 TS) Motion to accept or adopt the residential tax factor of one creating a single tax rate for fiscal year 2025 estimated to be \$13.17 per thousand, made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
6. (38:10 TS) Annual License Renewals – various classes of business including alcohol, wine & malt, victualling, used cars sales- Possible votes
(39:15 TS) Motion to approve the renewal of the liquor license for Family Convenience Center made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.
(39:40 TS) Motion to approve the renewal of a common vic license for Family Convenience Center made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.
(40:00 TS) Motion to approve the renewal of the liquor license for Gregory's made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
(40:15 TS) Motion to approve the renewal of the common vic license for Gregory's made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
The Board discussed the transfer of ownership of ZMart and their renewal of licenses.
7. (41:50 TS) Request by Town Administrator: authorization to execute contract for weights and measures services – Possible votes

(44:40 TS) Motion to authorize the Town Administrator to execute a contract for weights and measure services, made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Les Steven. The vote passed unanimously.

8. (45:00 TS) Discussion – Finalization of ARPA fund allocations (No vote) Jeanne Lovett Finance Director went through the report and talked about the amounts for the telephone and the professional services for the ARPA consultant and design services for public buildings. Matt Wojcik went through the projects and where they are at in progression and how much is needed to finish out some projects and what still needs to go out to bid and his opinion for what projects to close out.
9. Meeting Minutes – Possible Votes None
10. (54:10 TS) Discussion and possible votes – Selectmen meeting schedule for December 2024
(56:20 TS) Motion to rearrange the December meetings schedule to December 10th at 7 pm and December 26th at 5 pm, made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.
11. (58:50 TS) Town Administrator's Report
Matt Wojcik updated on a couple people key employees being on leave and the other employees stepping up to help out when needed. He discussed the thoughts and possibilities of a municipal light department and what the path is to pursue that option for the town. Mr. Wojcik talked about the resident cannabis grower at 120 Gilboa Street and that they were looking for a renewal of their CCC licenses to manufacture and cultivate and announce a public meeting for the residents to voice any grievances on December 13th from 3-5 pm.
12. (1:15:20 TS) Open session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

There was a discussion about putting Whitin Heights on the agenda to do the follow up discussed at a previous meeting and a damage waiver for the wintertime.

13. (1:16:50 TS) Executive Session
Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of potential litigation MSHG and interest in real property for Riedell Road and reconvene into upon session for the sole purpose of adjournment made by Ross Smith, seconded by Mike Fitzpatrick. Roll call vote – Les Stevens, Mike Fitzpatrick, Tim Bonin, Hal Davis, Ross Smith all in favor.
14. Adjournment
Mr. Smith made a motion at 9:42pm to leave executive session and return to regular session for the sole purpose of adjournment, Mr. Stevens seconded the motion, all in favor. Roll call vote Stevens – aye, Davis – aye, Smith – aye, Fitzpatrick – aye, Bonin – aye.

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephenie Gosselin
Recording Secretary