

**Board of Selectmen Agenda
Municipal Center Resource Room
Tuesday, March 4, 2025
7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Chairman Announcements
4. Citizen's Forum
5. Recognition of Public Safety Personnel
6. Authorize Town Administrator to Sign ACO Intermunicipal Agreement & Discussion with Uxbridge Police Chief Marc Montminy – Possible Votes

7:00PM

7. PUBLIC HEARING

New Liquor License Application / KAM Partners LLC dba EZ Mart Convenience Store – Possible Votes

7:15PM

8. PUBLIC HEARING

Joseph Road / Street Layout & Consideration of Acceptance on Spring ATM Warrant – Possible Votes

7:30PM

9. PUBLIC HEARING

William Drive / Street Layout & Consideration of Acceptance on Spring ATM Warrant – Possible Votes

10. Open Space Committee Alternate Appointment / Dick Skinner – Possible Votes
11. Review & Vote Local Initiative Program Refinancing for a Compass Point Resident
12. Grant Acceptance – Possible Votes
13. Meeting Minutes – Possible Votes

~~14. Discussion Regarding Water/Sewer Commissioner Vacancy – Possible Votes~~

15. Review Warrant Articles – Possible Votes
16. Municipal Light Plant Discussion
17. Goals & Budget Discussion
18. Town Administrator's Report
19. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting

20. 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**
- 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 –Town owned land in Uxbridge 16.5 acres**

21. Adjournment

Douglas Cable is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89543386830>

Meeting ID: 895 4338 6830

PLEASE NOTE: ALL WISHING TO JOIN THIS MEETING WILL NEED AN AUTHENTICATED ZOOM ACCOUNT

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

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

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Chair Tim Bonin, Hal Davis, Ross Smith, Les Stevens, Matt Wojcik Town Administrator, and Lisa Freeman Executive Assistant.

Absent: Vice Chair Mike Fitzpatrick

1. Tim Bonin called the meeting to order at 7pm.
2. (0:15 TS) Pledge of Allegiance
3. (0:40 TS) Chairman Announcements – The Board would like to remember and recognize two individuals in town that have recently passed away. Robert Josey has served the town as a water/sewer commissioner for 40 years, as well as the town plumbing inspector. His funeral mass will be held on March 5th at 10 am at St. Dennis Church. Several town employees spoke about Bob Josey and how he will be missed, they had a moment of silence for him. Another past town employee and resident being memorialized is Michael Cahill a volunteer firefighter for over 40 years and retired Assistant Fire Chief for the Town of Douglas. His funeral will be held on March 7th at 10 am at St. Dennis Church. Some town employees from the fire department spoke about Mike Cahill and how he will be missed.
4. Citizen's Forum- None
5. (15: 00 TS) Recognition of Public Safety Personnel – Janine Chairman thanked the town of Douglas first responders for saving her life, she had a massive heart attack and was in a comma for several weeks. She lives in Northbridge and wanted to thank the town and the first responders for coming from Douglas to help back a few months ago in October. The members to be honored in the fire department for responding to mutual aid in Northbridge are Fire Chief John Furno, Lieutenant Adam Dauplaise, paramedic Matt Tufo, and Firefighter EMT Danica McCallum and they were presented a Lifesaving award by the fire department and the American Heart Association heart saver award for the recognition of saving a life and exceptional courage by the Selectboard.
6. (27:40 TS) Authorize Town Administrator to Sign ACO Intermunicipal Agreement & Discussion with Uxbridge Police Chief Marc Montminy – Possible votes
Douglas Police Chief Nick Miglionico along with Uxbridge Police Chief Marc Montminy, also the chair of the regional animal control committee, Chief Montminy talked about the Blackstone Valley Regional Animal Control and the agreement to bind the six-town in this program. The program first started with Douglas, Uxbridge, and Mendon with a single animal control officer. The ACO was also serving Millville, Hopedale and Blackstone by stipend and this was causing conflict between towns paying him for full-time services. All six towns agreed to form a regional plan and added an additional full-time ACO and two part-time ACO's. They discussed how the agreement and plan works for all the towns and what they provide and what each town's responsibility is, and the vehicles used for the animal control officers. Chief Montminy is present tonight because the intermunicipal agreement is up for its 3-year renewal, and went over the aspects of it including that the town has an option to withdraw from the program within 60 days

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advanced notice, and each town maintains authority and oversight into the enforcement actions in their town. They talked about possible grants they could apply for to help the towns.

(52:20 TS) Motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign an ACO Intermunicipal agreement for 3 years, made by Hal Davis, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

7. (53:05 TS) 7:00 PM Public Hearing: New Liquor License Application / KAM Partners LLC dba EZ Mart Convenience Store – Possible votes

The public hearing was declared open at 7:55pm.

Attorney Douglas Sears, representing the owner of the convenience store at 311 Main Street requesting the new license.

(55:50 TS) Motion to close the public hearing made by Hal Davis, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

(56:05 TS) Motion to approve a new liquor license KAM Partners LLC dba EZ Mart Convenience Store, made by Hal Davis, seconded by Les Stevens. The vote passed unanimously.

8. (56:35 TS) 7:15 PM Public Hearing: Joseph Road /Street Layout & Consideration of Acceptance on Spring ATM Warrant – Possible votes

The public hearing was declared open at 7:58pm.

Matt Benoit, Community Development Director stated the road has been peer reviewed and the response to the peer is very good, and the only remaining item is maintenance to the drainage easement, catch basin cleanouts, grass seeding is needed and sidewalk repairs performed by the developer up to town meeting that have been viewed and confirmed by Matt Benoit and the Highway Superintendent. Matt Benoit stated the project is well done and he has no concerns or issues.

(58:10 TS) Motin to close the public hearing made by Les Stevens, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.

(58:25 TS) Motion to approve the acceptance of Joseph Road for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, made by Les Stevens, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.

9. (59:05 TS) 7:30 Public Hearing: William Drive / Street Layout & Consideration of Acceptance on Spring ATM Warrant – Possible votes

The public hearing was declared open at 8 pm.

Matt Benoit stated that this road has been peer reviewed with some outstanding issues as follows:

- Grass seeding in the right of way and easement
- Stop sign and street sign must be adjusted to adhere to standards
- Repair sediment four bay inlet
- Engineer shall meet with Matt Benoit and the Highway Superintendent to come to the terms of the gravel access road the retention basin.
- Remove the earth material from the leeching basin and keep clean until town meeting
- Maintenance catch basins and roadway sweeping performed
- Maintenance performed on the sediment four bay and fill pond by the developer
- Recommendations for repairing the curbing
- Sidewalks to adhere to ADA compliance with ramps
- Work with owner at 7 William Drive to resolve a potential drainage issue at driveway location Victoria Macomber at 10 William Drive had questions about the center of the road and who is going to take care of it, and the Board stated that it would be the towns responsibility to maintain it once it is accepted as a public way.

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(1:07:25 TS) Motion to close the public hearing made by Hal Davis, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

(1:07:50 TS) Motion to accept Williams Drive for Spring Town Meeting for road acceptance made by Les Stevens, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

10. (1:08:15 TS) Open Space Committee Alternate Appointment / Dick Skinner – Possible votes
(1:09:45 TS) Motion to accept Dick Skinner as the Open Space Committee alternate, made by Hal Davis, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

11. Review & Vote Local Initiative Program Refinancing for Compass Point Resident – Passed Over

12. (1:10:05 TS) Grant Acceptance – Possible votes

MLCGP a Municipal Local Cyber Security grant program for \$2,812.50 (the Commonwealth contribution to the matching requirement) and would need to be tracked separately, the total grant is for \$14,062.50.

(1:16:00 TS) Motion to accept the cyber grant made by Hal Davis, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously

13. (1:16:40 TS) Meeting Minutes: February 4, 2025 - Possible votes

(1:17:55 TS) Motion to approve the February 4, 2025, meeting minutes as written, made by Les Stevens, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

14. Discussion Regarding Water/Sewer Commissioner Vacancy – Possible Votes

15. (1:18:25 TS) Review Warrant Articles – Possible votes

- Adopting Chapter 59 5C ½- tax exemptions for veterans, senior and the blind
- Stormwater bylaw and map, the Planning Board and Conservation Commission voted unanimously to support the bylaw
- Keevan property parking area, Matt Benoit is meeting with Open Space Committee on March 11th
- Accessory Dwelling Unit bylaw amendment but have not heard back from the Attorney General yet.
- Town owned land in Uxbridge (16.5 acres)

(1:33:40 TS) Motion to have the warrant articles (1) adopting 59 5C ½, (2) Stormwater bylaw, and (3) town owned land in Uxbridge to be drafted by Town Counsel made by Les Stevens, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

16. (1:34:30 TS) Municipal Light Plant Discussion

Matt Wojcik has an appointment next Thursday with experts in Mansfield to get some more information on this for the Town of Douglas. TA Wojcik talked briefly about the aspects of the plant and what would be involved.

17. (1:42:50 TS) Goals & Budget Discussion

TA Wojcik talked about the property & casualty being the next big item for the Board to work on and he is asking MIIA to come in to have a conversation and working with them on this. Once he gets the numbers for this, he will bring the budget before the Board. They discussed Norfolk Aggie costs, snow and ice, reserve fund account amount and resolving the health insurance issue. TA Wojcik currently has a 12% increase for health insurance in the budget and the health group

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has agreed to paying the towns that are leaving their surplus amount. They discussed the demolition of the little brown house on Main Street and the possibility of going directly to town meeting to ask for the money to take it down because it has been too long sitting in the current condition.

18. (2:0340 TS) Town Administrator's Report

They discussed the vacant buildings in town that include

- 11 Gleason Court
- 11 Arnold
- Little Brown House
- VFW house

TA Wojcik talked about the animal control officer discussion from earlier and the costs if they didn't have the shared ACO and the significance of the agreement for the town.

19. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting- None

20. (2:10:25 TS) Executive Session

Motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of potential litigation for MSHG, and interest in real property for town owned land in Uxbridge 16.5 acres and to reconvene into open session for the sole purpose of adjournment, made by Ross Smith, seconded by Hal Davis.

TA Wojcik stated that they will not discuss the interest in real property tonight in executive session. Roll call vote – Hal Davis, Ross Smith, Les Stevens, and Tim Bonin all in favor.

21. Adjournment

Mr. Smith made a motion at 9:27pm 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 Smith – aye, Davis – aye, Stevens – aye, Bonin – aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephenie Gosselin
Recording Secretary