

**Board of Selectmen Agenda  
Municipal Center Resource Room  
Tuesday, April 1, 2025  
7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Chairman Announcements ~ Boston Post Cane Announcement
4. Citizen's Forum

**7:00PM**

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

Pole Petition #31073101 Riedell Road/Main Street – Possible Votes

6. Joint Meeting with W/S Commission for Discussion & Vote Regarding M.G.L. 268A § 19b  
(Conduct of Public Officials and Employees – Municipal Employees, Relatives or Associates;  
Financial Interest in Particular Matter)
7. Open ATM Warrant for Water/Sewer Article – Possible Votes
8. Grant Acceptances – Possible Votes
  - a. Green Communities DOER Grant
  - b. Community Planning Grant Program (Master Plan)
9. Close ATM Warrant – Possible Votes
10. Review, Approve & Sign ATM & STM Warrants – Possible Votes
11. Meeting Minutes – Possible Votes
12. Property & Casualty Discussion
13. BOS Operating Policies & Procedures Discussion
14. Budget Discussion
15. Municipal Light Plant Discussion
16. Town Administrator's Report
17. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting
18. 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**
19. Adjournment

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025  
MEETING MINUTES

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

1. Tim Bonin called the meeting to order at 7pm.
2. (0:10 TS) Pledge of Allegiance
3. Chairman Announcements - None
4. (1:10 TS) Citizen's Forum- None
5. (1:15 TS) Pole Petition #31073101 Reidell Road/Main Street – Possible votes  
(1:25 TS) Motion to open the public hearing made by Ross Smith, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.  
This is for National Grid to install one JO pole on Riedell Road and relocate 5 JO poles on Main Street and eliminate the existing pole in the intersection per request of the town. Mike Fraser from National Grid joined the table to answer any questions.  
(1:10 TS) Motion to close the public hearing made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.  
(3:25 TS) Motion to approve the installation of one JO pole on Riedell Road and relocate 5 JO poles on Main Street, made by Ross Smith, seconded by Mike Fitzpatrick. The vote passed unanimously.
6. (3:45 TS) Joint Meeting with W/S Commission for Discussion & Vote Regarding M.G.L. 268a § 19b (Conduct of Public Officials and Employees – Municipal Employees, Relatives or Associates; Financial Interest in Particular Matter)  
TA Wojcik explained why this was put on the agenda and that an opinion received by Town Counsel before the meeting was that it would not be in the appointing authorities best interest to give clearance to the employee because he is also an employee of Pyne Sand and Stone. The recommendation to Mr. Lahousse was to recuse himself from the proceeding period and not be involved in the discussion.  
(6:10 TS) Colin Haire called the Water/Sewer Commission meeting to order at 7:07pm, present is Colin Haire and Kyle Lahousse. On advice of town counsel, Kyle Lahousse chose to recuse himself from any further discussion and left the Resource Room.
7. (6:55 TS) Open ATM Warrant for Water/Sewer Article – Possible votes  
(9:30 TS) Motion to open the Annual Town Meeting warrant made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Les Stevens. The vote passed unanimously.  
Commissioner Colin Haire spoke about the storage tank project and the Mass Works grant. TA Wojcik explained why the town was denied the grant last year, and talked about how the town needs to move forward to be accepted for the grant this time.  
(24:40 TS) Motion to place the W/S Department North Street elevated water storage tank project article onto the Annual Town meeting warrant made by Hal Davis, seconded by Mike Fitzpatrick,



and that the town will vote to transfer the sum of \$250k, made by Hal Davis, seconded by Mike Fitzpatrick. The vote passed unanimously.

17. (27:45 TS) Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting.

Discussion regarding ATM road acceptance articles 16, 17, and 18. Building Commissioner Ken Frasier explained the details of the two existing articles on the warrant for road acceptance for William Drive and Whitin Heights. Mr. Frasier and Highway Superintendent Adam Furno went out to review the three roads on the warrant. Mr. Frasier stated the William Drive is not ready for acceptance, there are multiple issues including a boundary problem that goes through the middle of the road and the property owner will not release his boundaries to the developer until the drainage issues are resolved.

(29:55 TS) Motion to adjourn the water/sewer commissioners meeting at 7:30 made by Kyle Lahousse, seconded by Colin Haire. The vote passed unanimously.

Mr. Frasier stated that for the Whitin Heights Development there are still multiple items not completed, and went through the items. He stated that Joseph Road seems to be in good condition and completed, aside from some minor cracking all the items required are completed and the developer is going to have the cracks sealed. Ken Frasier's recommendation is Joseph Road is the only road acceptable at this time to be placed on the warrant, and William Drive and Whitin Heights are not ready for acceptance at town meeting.

(33:00 TS) Motion to remove William Drive and Whitin Heights from the warrant, made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.

The board discussed a possible change to how they decide to put road acceptances on the warrant, and a way to make sure the road is ready for acceptance with major items are taken care of prior to putting them on the warrant.

9. (39:15 TS) Close ATM Warrant – Possible votes

(39:20 TS) Motion to close the ATM Warrant made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

8. (39:45 TS) Grant Acceptance – Possible votes

a. Green Communities DOER Grant – Green communities is going to fund and LED lighting upgrade fixture replacement at the Douglas Middle School giving the town \$100k.

b. Community Planning Grant Program (Master Plan) – The town received \$115k from the Community Planning Grant Program to support the Master Plan Committee and its efforts.

(41:05 TS) Motion to accept the Green Communities DOER grant and the Community Planning Grant program for the Master Plan, made by Les Stevens, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.

10. (41:30 TS) Review, Approve & Sign ATM & STM Warrants – Possible votes

Jeanne Lovett the Finance Director talked about the Special Town Meeting and what the articles include and the amounts. Ms. Lovett stated that there have been no changes to the Annual Town Meeting warrant aside from a discussion about article 2 that the board decided to put forward and article 20 that has new language. They discussed the stormwater bylaw article, and Les Stevens talked about the map that will be shown at town meeting.

(52:10 TS) Motion to approve and sign the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting warrants as presented, made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

TA Wojcik gave an update on the town health insurance and the resolution of the claim's payments and the reimbursement of what the town is owed by the health group.

(58:10 TS) Amendment to the motion to include the change of the heading for the budget presentation from TA proposed to Board of Selectmen recommended, made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

14. (58:50 TS) Budget Discussion

TA Wojcik discussed his last minute changes managing the accounting entries for debt and the budget remains balanced. He also went over the items that he removed and reduced from the budget.

11. (1:08:40 TS) Meeting Minutes – Possible votes

(1:09:30 TS) Motion to approve the March 4, 2025, meeting minutes, made by Hal Davis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Les Stevens. Mike Fitzpatrick abstained, and all other members in favor.

(1:10:15 TS) Motion to approve the March 18, 2025, meeting minutes as written, made by Les Stevens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Fitzpatrick. The vote passed unanimously.

12. (1:10:35 TS) Property & Casualty Discussion

The board will receive the proposals from MIIA and the competitor on April 11, 2025. TA Wojcik discussed what he would like the members to focus on when they are reviewing the proposal packets, and explained how MIIA operates and talked about the other competitor.

15. (1:30:55 TS) Municipal Light Plant Discussion

Bob Minarik gave an update on the Pyne property. They have almost regained site control and once that is complete the town has made it clear that the data center is their preferred project as opposed to the warehouse. They had a lengthy discussion about warehouses and how they are not a good option, and that the Pyne site is prime site for a data center. Mr. Minarik stated that he and Matt Wojcik are still working on the Municipal Light project, and it is in progress.

13. (1:49:30 TS) BOS Operating Policies & Procedures Discussion

The board members will take policies and procedures home to review and discuss at a later date.

16. (1:57:55 TS) Town Administrator's Report

TA Wojcik has posted the position of Community Development Director, and he talked about what sort of candidate he is looking for.

Adam Furno's correspondence regarding the corner of Reidell Road and Main Street is to make that a very narrow T intersection and Stantec is currently working on the design.

TA Wojcik talked about correspondence circulated from the Hopedale selectman regarding BVT, and how the town are going to position themselves in the future. He is not interested in conversation unless they talk about truly taking action and vote on it.

18. (2:09:20 TS) Executive Session

Motion to enter into executive session for potential litigation with MSHG and reconvene into open session for the sole purpose of adjournment, made by Ross Smith, seconded by Les Stevens. Roll call vote – Ross Smith, Les Stevens, Hal Davis, Mike Fitzpatrick, and Tim Bonin all in favor.

**APPROVED**  
**May 6, 2025**

19. Adjournment

Mr. Fitzpatrick made a motion at 9:35pm 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, Stevens – aye, Davis – aye, Fitzpatrick – aye, Bonin – aye.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephenie Gosselin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Stephenie Gosselin  
Recording Secretary