



Board of Selectmen Agenda
Municipal Center Resource Room
Tuesday, June 17, 2025
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Chairman Announcements
4. Citizen's Forum
5. Douglas Common Preservation Society Gazebo Discussion – Possible Votes
6. Fire Department CEMP & Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
7. Master Plan Committee Update
8. Municipal Light Plant Discussion
9. Animal Regulation Discussion
10. Town Owned Vacant Properties Discussion – Possible Votes
11. Wallum Lake Park / Wallum Lake Road Discussion – Possible Votes
12. Blackstone Valley Selectmen Workshop Discussion – Possible Votes
13. BOS Meeting Time Change Discussion – Possible Votes
14. Final Review of Annual Appointments – Possible Votes
15. Meeting Minutes – Possible Votes
16. Blackstone Valley Opioid Taskforce IMA – Possible Votes
17. Town Administrator's Report
18. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting
19. 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 & Shore Road*
20. Adjournment

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APPROVED
July 15, 2025

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

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

Absent: Vice Chair Tim Bonin

1. Les Stevens called the meeting to order at 7pm.
2. (0:10 TS) Pledge of Allegiance
3. Chairman Announcement – None
4. Citizen's Forum – None
5. (0:40 TS) Douglas Common Preservation Society gazebo discussion- Possible Votes
Lynn Paresky, president of the society and Bonnie Lepage member of the society joined the discussion to talk about the two projects for the gazebo at the common that include structural repairs and painting. They received bids back and they are requesting approval for the quote of \$3,750 for the repairs and \$2,100 for painting. There was discussion about prevailing wage and what is needed from the vendors.
(12:20 TS) Motion to approve the project as presented to the board for Selectmen, made by Hal Davis, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
6. (15:20 TS) Fire Department CEMP (Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan) & Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Deputy Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director Kelly Manning gave an update on these two plans that are in the works. Deputy Chief Manning stated that the board should see a draft version of the plan around the middle of August so that they can review and make comments.
7. (21:25 TS) Master Plan Committee Update
Rich Preston gave an update and overview of the process the committee has been undertaking. They have completed the vision statement, and the Master Plan should be completed for submission to both the Selectmen and Planning Board by June 2026. Bob Minarik updated the board on where they are at with the grants.
16. (27:20 TS) Blackstone Valley Opioid Taskforce IMA- Possible votes
Chief Marc Montminy gave an overview of the program, what they are asking of the town, and the grants they are receiving. He is requesting the Select Board's approval for the intermunicipal agreement, and it does not cost taxpayers anything. Chief Montminy went over how the program would work for the towns and the involvement of the communities.
(46:50 TS) Motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the IMA with the Blackstone Valley Opioid Taskforce, made by Hal Davis, seconded by Mike Fitzpatrick. The vote passed unanimously.

8. (48:20 TS) Municipal Light Plant Discussion
TA Wojcik gave a brief update and that this is continuing to be researched and information gathered.
9. (51:40 TS) Animal Regulation Discussion
Mr. Fitzpatrick is looking to find an answer to whether this should be a regulation or a bylaw. The difference between the two were discussed and the board tried to answer a couple questions and concerns from residents in attendance.
10. (1:05:45 TS) Town Owned Vacant Properties Discussion- Possible votes
The board discussed the properties including the brown house specifically being on the capital list for funding to be demolished and what is priority on the capital list. The board and TA Wojcik discussed briefly the properties on the list for town owned and the status and priority.
11. (1:20:25 TS) Wallum Lake Park/Wallum Lake Road Discussion- Possible votes
Mr. Stevens put this on the agenda to discuss how the board feels about sending a letter to DCR asking them to clean up the trash along the roadway. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that DCR might have taken care of it since last looked at; Mr. Stevens will look and revisit the discussion if needed.
12. (1:21:55 TS) Blackstone Valley Selectmen Workshop Discussion- Possible votes
Mr. Stevens had a discussion with a selectman in Millbury, and they are interested in hosting a workshop for Select Boards from each town to have discussions and brainstorming sessions their towns and goals.
13. (1:24:30 TS) BOS Meeting Time Change Discussion- Possible votes
The board agreed to keep the meeting time at 7pm.
14. (1:27:20 TS) Final Review of Annual Appointments- Possible votes
(1:28:15 TS) Motion to approve the annual Board of Selectmen appointments as presented made by Mike Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ross Smith. The vote passed unanimously.
15. Meeting Minutes – Possible Votes – Passed Over
17. (1:28:50 TS) Town Administrator's Report
TA Wojcik updated the board that there are possibly 4 Land Use Firms interested in applying including the incumbent. TA Wojcik discussed some conversations with the potential firms and prepared the board for the cost of the legal counsel services.
Shared municipal agreements were discussed and the issue and concerns of the state mandate for electric vehicles that have been put on hold for another year.
TA Wojcik gave an update regarding the Depot St. project and schedule. He also discussed the town's health insurance group status surplus, and how the town is going to proceed with taking what is owed to us. The budget was briefly discussed, and the new school business manager and the productive conversations regarding the future of the schools.

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

19. (1:53:00 TS) Executive Session

(1:53:05 TS) Motion to enter executive session for the potential litigation of MSHG and Shore Road and reconvene into regular session for the sole purpose of adjournment made by Ross Smith, seconded by Hal Davis. The vote passed unanimously.

20. Adjournment

Mr. Smith made a motion at 9:17pm to leave executive session and return to regular session for the sole purpose of adjournment, Mr. Fitzpatrick seconded the motion, all in favor. Roll call vote Fitzpatrick – aye, Smith – aye, Davis – aye, Stevens – aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephenie Gosselin
Recording Secretary