

# MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 05/02/2024

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Tabitha K. McCrohan, Chairwoman, Joe Freitas, Member

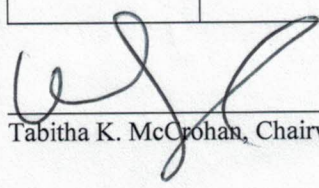
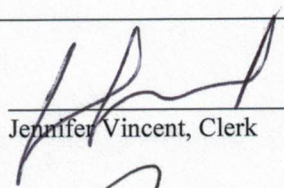
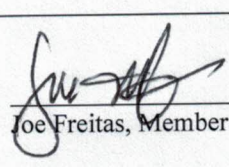
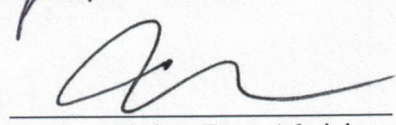
TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Convened at 6:00 p.m. in the Moitoza -Petty Hearing Room	
New Business (take out of order)	Board to recognize George Moitoza for sixty years of service to the Town.	Information Only; No Action Needed
	Board to recognize various employees' milestones of 20 or more years of service.	Information Only; No Action Needed
	Board to discuss Fiscal Year 2025 budget with Melissa Ryan. Ms. Ryan explained her concern with reduction in staffing due to budget issues and to request no further budgetary cuts.	
	Board to discuss citizen petition from Ridge Street and Shore Road which will be on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Chairwoman McCrohan explained the process to accept the road. Melissa Ryan, superintendent of Berkley schools, expressed concerns about safety and struggles with bus companies if the roads are not accepted. The town administrator noted about the timeline for plans to be submitted to the planning board before town meeting.	Information Only; No Action Needed
	Board to review, approve, and sign final Annual Town Meeting Warrant; review of matter; votes may be taken. The warrant was read.	Freitas motion to accept, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
	Board to discuss Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District draft of the Town of Berkley's Priority Development Areas.	Freitas motion to table, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
	Board to review, approve, and sign Massachusetts Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems General Permit – Year 5 Annual Report. The town administrator noted that the report was satisfactory and following steps.	Freitas motion to approve, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
	Board to review and potentially approve General Agreement with Combined Insurance Company of America regarding the offering of voluntary supplemental insurance policies to Town employees. Jennifer Johnson came forward to ask to be allowed to present supplemental policies to the employees of the town.	Freitas motion to allow, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
	Board to review and discuss the potential expansion of the Berkley Board of Selectmen in the future. The town administrator said it can be done through a special act or through a town meeting vote. Member, Mr. Freitas, requested more information regarding the timeline and process.	Information Only; No Action Needed
Old Business (taken out of order)	Board to review and possibly approve License Agreement for 60R Anthony Street to the Berkley Athletic Association, Inc. Chairwoman McCrohan suggested the BAA to be invited to the next meeting.	Freitas motion to table, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
	Board to discuss potential future action of the Soil Conservation Board regarding the property at 766 Berkley St. Chairwoman McCrohan explains her conversation with Mr. Petty regarding the planting of trees and removal of soil. The Town Administrator found a previous soil permit from the previous owners. Wetland information was provided from the Conservation Commission. The town administrator is requested to send a letter to homeowner.	Freitas motion to mail letter, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
Finance Committee Update	Michelle Hamilton, finance committee chairwoman, gives updates regarding their most recent meeting. A new budget has not been finalized, but it is approaching completion. She is concerned with taking funds from stabilization but is working on plans to come to a solution. She also has concerns about funding candidates' night in the future. The town administrator noted that there are different options for the budgets regarding how the stabilization fund is utilized and to what extent.	Information Only; No Action Needed



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Personnel Board	Board to review and possibly recommend Myles Cantia as part-time camera operator. Arlene Medeiros and the candidate could not be present. The candidate's cover letter and resume are reviewed.	Freitas motion to recommend, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.  Freitas motion to hire, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
Meeting Mail	Board to review Somerset Berkley Regional School District FY2025 budget approval and yearly assessment. The amounts are read aloud and will be available for review.  Board to review SRPEDD Regional Pedestrian Plan Flyer; review of matter; votes may be taken. The town administrator noted that it is available on the town's website.	McCrohan motion to file, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.  Freitas motion to table, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
Town Administrator Report	The stormwater is estimated to cost \$35,000-36,000. Future budgeting efforts need to be started to not be reliant on ARPA. Monday, May 27 <sup>th</sup> is the town's Memorial Day celebration. The debt exclusion session is upcoming on May 7 <sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Berkley Middle School, and the town administrator recommends that residents attend. There is an upcoming Community Project Funding Opportunity; however, there are limitations due to the community match that is required. Finally, the town has received funds from Berkley Botanicals.	Information Only; No Action Needed
Public Input	A representative from the Taunton Gazette questioned when the warrant will be available. The town administrator explained the timeline. The representative also asked about the ballot question for the debt exclusion.	Information Only; No Action Needed
Adjournment	The Board voted to adjourn. The next meeting will be May 15, 2024.	Freitas motion to approve, McCrohan 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.

  
Tabitha K. McCrohan, Chairwoman  
Jennifer Vincent, Clerk  
Joe Freitas, Member  
Matthew Chabot, Town Administrator