

MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 09/25/2024


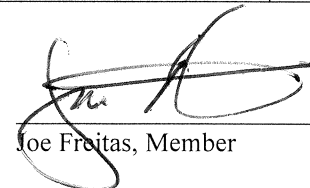
SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Tabitha K. McCrohan, Chairwoman, Jennifer Vincent, Clerk, Joe Freitas, Member

TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Convened at 6:03 p.m. in the Council on Aging Room	
Personnel Board	Board to review and accept the resignation of Gene K. Flint from the Berkley Soil Conservation Board. The Board voted to accept; Chairwoman McCrohan abstained from the vote due to a conflict.	Freitas to motion to accept, Vincent 2 nd ; voted.
New Business (taken out of order)	Board to discuss potential selection process for the Berkley Fire Chief position. Chairwoman McCrohan discussed several approaches, further noting that the Personnel Bylaw allows for an exemption for promotion. The potential of wasted funds for an external search as well as the flood of letters of support for Deputy Chief Perry were points to consider. Chairwoman McCrohan proposed potential assessment for the future Deputy Chief. As a result of discussion, the Board voted to promote Deputy Chief Jason Perry as the permanent Fire Chief for the Town of Berkley.	Vincent to motion to promote, McCrohan 2 nd ; voted.
Soil Board	Board to reopen discussion on the applicability of the Soil Conservation Board Bylaw to 116/118 South Main Street. Chairwoman McCrohan noted the purpose of the discussion. The Board discussed the normal steps taken and customary practices associated with Soil Board Permits. Member Freitas questioned possible contour changes to the earth as well as the applicability of chapter land. Lisa Tetreault, Member of the Board of Assessors, spoke on the issue of chapter land and noted that same is not a public record. After further discussion, it was confirmed that the Board has no jurisdiction as a result of the property being chapter land as well as a farm. Member Freitas made a motion for a site visit, to which there was no second and the motion failed on the floor.	Motion made; no 2 nd . Motion failed.
Appointments	Board to appoint George Faria to the Berkley Soil Conservation Board. Mr. Faria noted that he has chosen to retract his interest in a position on the Soil Conservation Board. The Board took no action.	Information Only; No Action Needed.
	Board to appoint Thomas Fernandes to the Berkley Soil Conservation Board. Mr. Fernandes asked for confirmation that his position on the Agricultural Commission would not be in jeopardy; the Board was unable to confirm whether or not there would be a conflict and voted to table pending legal opinion.	Freitas to motion to table, Vincent 2 nd ; voted.
New Business	Board to discuss whether to declare the vehicles and equipment listed in "Vehicles and Items for Auction 2024" as surplus and discuss their preference for disposal. Chairwoman McCrohan directed the Board to review Article 6 of the General Bylaws. The Board voted to place the surplus items on the Warrant for STM.	Freitas to motion to add to warrant, Vincent 2 nd ; voted.
	Board to approve Common Use request of the Berkley Celebrations Committee for December 1, 2024 for the Berkley Lights on Festival. The Board voted to approve; Clerk Vincent abstained from the vote due to a conflict.	Freitas to motion to approve, McCrohan 2 nd ; voted.
	Board to discuss potential warrant article for the establishment of a special revenue fund to reserve cable franchise fees and cable related revenues. The Board voted to add to the Warrant for STM.	Vincent to motion to add to warrant, Freitas 2 nd ; voted.
	Board to discuss potential warrant article to rescind the vote on Article 9 of the November 13, 2023 Special Town Meeting which established an opioid stabilization fund and, in its place, establish a special revenue fund. The Board voted to add to the Warrant for STM.	Freitas to motion to add to warrant, Vincent 2 nd ; voted.

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	Board to review the request of the Somerset-Berkley Foundation regarding signage on the Berkley Common for the Somerset-Berkley Education Funds 5k. The Board voted to post 3 signs on the Common.	Vincent to motion to post, Freitas 2 nd ; voted.
Old Business	Board to review and sign contract and proposal for a water system extension evaluation from Tighe and Bond. The Board voted to add this as a standing item on future Agendas.	McCrohan to motion to add, Vincent 2 nd ; voted.
Meeting Mail	Board to review notice of Bristol County Tax Assessment. The Board voted to file.	Freitas to motion to file, Vincent 2 nd ; voted.
Meeting Minutes	Board to review and accept the meeting minutes of Wednesday, September 11, 2024. Board to review and accept the meeting minutes of Monday, September 16, 2024. The Board voted to collectively accept.	Vincent to motion to accept, Freitas 2 nd ; voted.
Town Administrator Report	The Town Administrator updated the Board regarding the South Coast Rail Quarterly Briefing and noted he would bring questions of the Board back to Ms. Fox for follow up. The Town Administrator discussed Community Compact Efficiency and Regionalization as well as a TMLP Pad Mounted Cabinet.	
Executive Session and Adjournment	Board to enter into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the Board and Town and the Chair so declares. The Board voted to enter into Executive Session and not return to Open Session with notice of the next Board Meeting to be held October 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.	Vincent to motion to enter, Freitas 2 nd ; voted.


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