

MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 10/09/2025

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Tabitha K. McCrohan, Clerk, Jennifer Vincent, Chair

TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Called to Order at 6:00PM in the Moitoza-Petty Hearing Room	
Personnel:	Board to accept resignation of Rob Cote as SRPEDD Commission representative; review of matter; votes may be taken	Motion to approve: TM motioned; JV second. Motion approved
New Business:	<p>Board to review status of pending legislation in the State Senate relative to the appointment of a combined Treasurer/Collector. Discussion may include review of the existing job posting and description and potential rescission of the prior contingent posting; votes may be taken.</p> <p>During the meeting, Jennifer Vincent provided an update on the Treasurer/Collector position, noting that the necessary legislative processes had progressed to the point where the appointment was headed for the governor's signature. As a result, Tabitha McCrohan motioned to rescind the prior job posting and proposed adopting a new job description for a regular 34-hour per week Treasurer/Collector position. The Board discussed both the content of the new job posting and the salary range, ultimately emphasizing the need for a comprehensive review to ensure the new posting aligns with current requirements and compensation expectations.</p> <p>Board to discuss traffic measures at the intersection of Myricks Street and Church Street; review of matter; votes may be taken</p> <p>The Board discussed ongoing traffic safety concerns at several problematic intersections, including Elm Street and Church Street, in response to a notable number of accidents—26 in the past five years alone. Jennifer Vincent led the review of possible improvements, such as installing flashing or reflective stop signs, and emphasized the need to identify suitable funding sources. The discussion highlighted that most accidents occurred during daylight hours, often due to driver inattention rather than visibility. The Board faced challenges from existing bylaw restrictions that limit certain types of signage, and considered consultation with the planning board to explore solutions. The conversation also reflected collaboration with local police and fire departments, acknowledgment of budget constraints, and a commitment to enhance intersection safety while complying with local regulations.</p> <p>Board to discuss implementation of a local ethics compliance policy requiring completion of State Ethics and Conflict of Interest Law training for appointed officials under the purview of the Board of Selectmen.</p> <p>The Board addressed the need for enhanced ethics and conflict of interest training by proposing a new mandatory policy for all appointed officials, board and committee members, and town employees. Jennifer Vincent and Tabitha McCrohan outlined the importance of complying with Massachusetts State Ethics Commission requirements, including completing training upon appointment and filing certification with the town clerk's office. The policy includes clear consequences for non-compliance, such as potential removal from office for failing to complete the training. The Board emphasized that this</p>	<p>Motion to post: TM motioned; JV second. Motion approved</p> <p>Discussion Only: no action taken</p> <p>Motion to approve: TM moved; JV second. Motion approved</p>

MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 10/09/2025

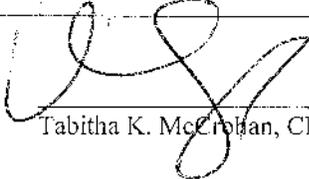
SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Tabitha K. McCrohan, Clerk, Jennifer Vincent, Chair

	<p>initiative would promote higher ethical standards and greater accountability to existing ethics law and unanimously approved the adoption of the policy.</p> <p>Board to review proposed changes to draft overlay district bylaw for the purpose of compliance with the MBTA Communities Law and further to vote to place said bylaw on Town Meeting Warrant; review of matter; votes may be taken.</p> <p>The Board examined various growth and development proposals to address Berkeley's evolving needs, with Jennifer Vincent emphasizing the benefits of encouraging new mixed-use developments and careful, community-supported expansion. The discussion included a review of proposed amendments to the zoning bylaw, the establishment of a residential development overlay district, and strategies for complying with state requirements while retaining local control over development. The Board also recognized the challenges of managing growth, such as potential impacts on school enrollment and municipal resources, and stressed the importance of transparent long-term planning and public engagement. Ultimately, the Board supported the pursuit of controlled, sustainable growth to enhance the town's future while balancing residents' concerns.</p> <p>Board to discuss full list of proposed articles for Special Town Meeting including a line item transfer from appointed to elected salaries; a petition for special legislation to increase membership of the Board of Selectmen from three to five members; a petition for special legislation to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to the "Select Board"; discussion of a potential expansion of the General Business District; a potential easement interest related to 52 Anthony Street; potential ownership authorization for 2 Riverside Drive; a revision to the Table of Use zoning bylaw (third review); a transfer from Perpetual Care to support Cemetery Commission operations; a transfer from the PEG Access and Cable fund to the General Fund; potential revisions to special permit provisions within the Overlay District; any certified citizen's petition(s); and a report of the Fiscal Task Force;</p> <p>Board to review and potentially sign Special Town Meeting Warrant for the date of Saturday, November 15th, 2025; review of matter; votes may be taken.</p> <p>The Board discussed preparations for an upcoming special town meeting, with Jennifer Vincent presenting the schedule and emphasizing the significance of public participation in the warrant article approval process. The Board carefully reviewed each warrant article, including measures for salary adjustments for the town treasurer, amendments to the town's governance structure, and a proposal to expand the Board from three to five members. Jennifer Vincent highlighted the advantages of a larger, more diverse Board, such as broader perspectives and shared power, as well as the need to ensure compensation for those fulfilling essential governance roles. The Board read the entirety of the Special Town Meeting Warrant as it would appear before the public, moved and approved the Warrant.</p> <p>Meeting Mail: Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Fiscal Crisis Sign-On Letter</p> <p>Meeting Minutes:</p> <p>Board to approve Meeting Minutes of September 24th, 2025; review of matter; votes may be taken</p> <p>Board to approve Executive Session Meeting Minutes of September 24th, 2025; review of matter; votes may be taken</p>	<p>Motion to approve: TM moved: JV second. Motion approved</p> <p>Discussion Only: no action taken</p> <p>Motion to approve: TM moved: JV second. Motion approved</p> <p>Motion to approve: TM moved: JV second. Motion approved</p>
--	--	--

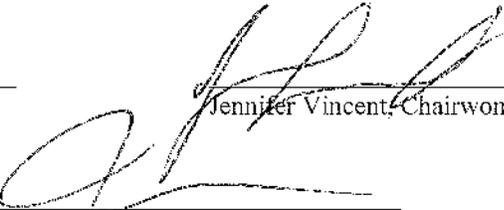
MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 10/09/2025

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Tabitha K. McCrohan, Clerk, Jennifer Vincent, Chair

Town Administrator Report:	<p>Gaga ball pit installation and Common Committee opportunities: TA would like to recognize the outstanding efforts of James Bianchi and Boy Scout Troop 31 and the many friends and community members that came together to install the Gaga ball pit in the town common. The committee currently has available seats, and its next major project will be the planned relocation of the playground for both Community School in spring 2026. This upcoming move will require careful coordination, significant planning, and the support of many volunteers to accomplish within a tight timeframe.</p> <p>Updates regarding Quiet Zone designation in relation to MBTA South Coast Rail Project The town recently received draft safety plans developed from a September crossing diagnostic, which provide an important framework for establishing a quiet zone near the rail crossing. While a precise cost estimate is still pending, department heads have already reviewed the plans and offered input. Feedback from the Federal Railroad Administration indicated that some local signage was incorrect, prompting outreach for assistance with replacements or upgrades. Among suggested interim safety improvements were advanced warning and possibly flashing signs at key crossings, particularly on Padelford Street where traffic congestion is common when the arms are down. Both the police and fire chiefs supported these measures, emphasizing a need to address traffic buildup and safety at problematic bends and crossings.</p> <p>Despite exploring some immediate improvements, the town faces complex challenges in fully implementing a quiet zone. The anticipated cost for necessary security measures will far exceed basic signage or minor upgrades, requiring substantial investment in things like trenching and electrical work. Additionally, collaboration across multiple municipalities is not currently a viable option, as other towns in the region have numerous crossings and seem unlikely to pursue quiet zones simultaneously. As a result, Berkeley must wait for further feedback from the Federal Railroad Administration before finalizing its approach and identifying viable funding sources.</p>	Discussion Only: no action taken
Executive Session:	<p>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 a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; review of matter; votes may be taken.</p> <p>Board entered into Executive Session at 6:41pm not to return to open session.</p> <p>Next scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 6:00 PM</p>	Motion to enter executive session: Roll Call: Vincent, aye; McCrohan, aye



Tabitha K. McCrohan, Clerk



Jennifer Vincent, Chairwoman



Matthew Chabot, Town Administrator