

MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 5/4/2022

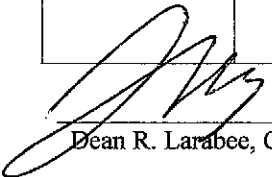
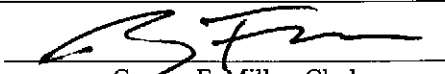
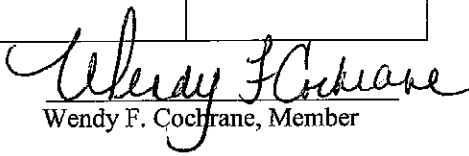
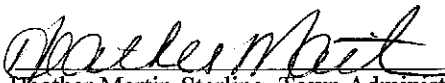
SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: George F. Miller, Chairman, Dean R. Larabee, Clerk/Chairman, Wendy F. Cochrane, Member

TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Convened at 6:01 p.m. in the Moitoza – Pettey Hearing Room	
Minutes to be Approved	1. April 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes; Mr. Larabee abstained from the vote to approve due to not being in attendance on this date. The Board voted to approve the minutes.	Cochrane to motion to approve, Miller 2 nd , voted.
Meeting Mail	Board to review email from Donna Benoit of 16 Pine Street regarding the Town's 300 th Anniversary. Ms. Martin-Sterling stated Ms. Benoit, although early, would like to raise funds for a 300 th Anniversary celebration. Mr. Freitas mentioned they would have to look at the celebrations account to see what they could do, and it could be considered a line item. The Board took it into consideration, and voted to file the email.	Larabee to motion to file, Cochrane 2 nd , voted.
New Business	Board to vote and sign agreement with Covanta Sustainable Solutions LLC. Mr. Miller asked Ms. Martin-Sterling if she had reached out to any other companies for rates. Ms. Martin-Sterling stated most local places are geared toward at-home trash pickup and dumpster deliveries. This company is in Wareham, and according to the Highway Surveyor, it is the closest one and make 3 deliveries a week. The Highway Department would be down a driver if they were to go any further away. It is a 3 year contract. The Board voted to sign and enter into the agreement.	Larabee to motion to sign, Cochrane 2 nd , voted.
	Board to discuss South Coast Rail (SCR) pesticide use. Mr. Miller stated an individual had indicated that allegedly some other towns have banned certain pesticide use. He stated he spoke with Town Counsel on the subject and according to them, local municipalities cannot ban pesticides. They are still reviewing the matter to make sure that is the case. He mentioned there is a meeting tomorrow with Jean Fox and others from the MBTA and he intends to ask her questions on the matter. The Board voted to table this discussion until further discussion.	Larabee to motion to table, Cochrane 2 nd , voted.
Personnel (taken out of order)	Board to accept resignation letter from part-time Animal Control Officer (ACO) Samantha Leroux effective Monday, May 16, 2022. The Board wished her the best, and voted to accept the resignation letter for the aforementioned date.	Larabee to motion to accept, Cochrane 2 nd , voted.
New Business (taken out of order)	Board to discuss possible updates to business certificate form. Building Inspector Joseph Biszko was present to speak on the subject. Mr. Miller stated in the past, the Board had the Building Inspector sign off on the business certificate form because they may have felt there was some abuses going on. Mr. Miller explained he spoke with Town Counsel to see if there was something that could be done to modify it so it's just a business certificate for the purposes of taxes and having a business address for checking accounts without any physical operation at the home residence. Mr. Biszko stated he is working on it, and feels bad that he can't give certificates to people because of the way the zoning reads. He added that he plans on putting something together so it can be sent to the Board and Town Counsel. Mr. Miller stated it could be wrapped up in the next Board of Selectmen meeting.	Information only; no action needed.
Finance Committee Update	Mr. Freitas stated there is no update to the budget as of now, and that he's still waiting for finalizations of contractual obligations. The budget will be presented on the last day of May. He mentioned he looked up archives dated 2005 – 2009, and many of the problems that the Finance Committee and the FAC had at the time are the same problems they are having today. One of the examples he stated include the utilization of free cash, and how it was only used in November during the Special Town Meeting. Another example was the Capital Improvement Committee, and how it was prioritized for available funds. He stated a lack of volunteers as the reason it hasn't been fixed.	Information only; no action needed.

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	Mr. Miller stated the Board will not hold the Executive Session tonight, as they are still dealing with the communications and the clerical side of the budget. It was discussed at the beginning of the meeting by the Board to table the Executive Session scheduled for tonight.	
BOS Reorganization	Board to vote for the reorganization for the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Miller stated his resignation as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. The Board voted to appoint Mr. Larabee to serve as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.	Cochrane to motion to vote Mr. Larabee as Chairman, Miller 2 nd , voted.
Appointments	Appointing Authority to appoint member to the Finance Committee, Joseph Freitas. Mr. Miller stated he is part of the Appointing Authority as moderator. The Board voted to appoint Joseph Freitas as a member of the Finance Committee with a term that expires on June 30, 2024.	Miller to motion to appoint, Larabee 2 nd , voted.
Adjournment	The Board voted to adjourn, with the announcement of the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022.	Miller to motion to adjourn, Cochrane 2 nd , voted.


Dean R. Larabee, Chairman
George F. Miller, Clerk
Wendy F. Cochrane, Member
Heather Martin-Sterling, Town Administrator