

MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 01/08/2024

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

TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Convened at 6:00 p.m. in the Moitoza-Petty Hearing Room	
Personnel Board	Board to discuss the potential creation of a Problem Oriented Policing (POP) Civilian Coordinator. Vincent asked if this was the creation of an official position and job description and Chabot stated yes.	McCrohan motion to recommend; Vincent 2 nd ; voted. McCrohan motion the creation of the POP; Vincent 2 nd ; voted.
Appointments	Board to appoint Tom Fernandes to the Soil Conservation Board.	McCrohan motion to appoint; Vincent 2 nd ; voted.
New Business	<p>Board to explore the potential for a Technical Review Committee. Freitas asked if we are just creating more overreach and feels this isn't necessary. It is up to department heads and Board of Selectmen to make decisions. We are always looking for volunteers to do this and everyone has busy lives and then it becomes a scheduling thing. Freitas said "let this die on the vine." Vincent agreed. We cannot fill positions that we already have there is no sense in creating an additional position.</p> <p>Board to discuss the current status of the properties at 107 and 111 Myricks Streets. Freitas stated that as a 1/3 CEO of this town and our current financial situation and tax rate, asking our tax payers to continue to fund everything that we need in this town while keeping its 'rustic charm' is difficult. We are moving through the process to keep up with the towns. \$600,000 to this town is devastating. Freitas wants people to understand that this affects everyone, the tax payers, public safety, town hall, the fire department, highway department, and he doesn't know where you find \$600,000 revenue. There is going to be difficult decisions in hand and it isn't all about Myricks Warehouses. Freitas is concerned about the terrible decisions they will need to make soon. Choices need to be made in regards to taxes and he wishes there was an opportunity in the future when there is public input that you need to look at the overall gain to the Town of Berkley. Vincent stated we need to start new conversations with our Planning Board and be proactive moving forward. Freitas said he is totally against that until the state changes his right to shelter law, he would not consider a hotel in this community.</p> <p>Donna Malloy at 19 Church Street stated that the house they lived in 20 years ago they had 2 acres of land and her husband built and designed the home. They love their house and neighborhood and when they heard that the town was going to put in an industrial warehouse that was going to destroy their neighborhood, they were upset. They spent a lot of money for legal expense fees to fight and they are glad they did. They pay over 10k a year for taxes, we don't have water, sewer, streetlights, but we have a rural community that is a wonderful place to live and she is glad they defeated the warehouse project. If you're saying the town needs more money, let's look at alternatives.</p> <p>Board to approve model Host Community Agreement between Town of Berkley and Free Market LLC and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the model Host Community Agreement. Freitas wanted to know the difference between the LLC and LMC. Chabot stated that they are two different markets.</p> <p>Board to approve model Host Community Agreement between Town of Berkley and LMC, LLC and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the model Host Community Agreement.</p>	<p>Information Only; No Action Needed</p> <p>Information Only; No Action Needed</p> <p>McCrohan motion to approve; Freitas 2nd; voted.</p> <p>McCrohan motion to approve; Vincent 2nd; voted.</p>

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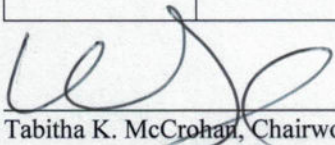
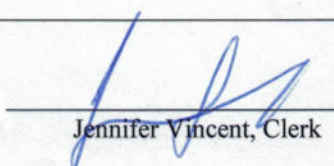
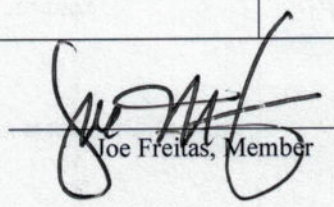
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	<p>Board to take ownership of Pierce's Point Roadway. Freitas said they make decisions based off what is the best for the Town of Berkley in the grand scheme of things. You need to take accountability on the neighborhood and failed HOA and what they people decided at special town meeting. Freitas stated with that being said, how do we make it better for the people living at Pierces Point? Freitas said this is really the only avenue we have. We have talked about this and have had public meetings about this. We decide on a pathway and it is what is best for the Town of Berkley. McCrohan stated that this is just for Pierce's Point this is not about Dillingham. McCrohan asked about the easement interest; Chabot stated that would require the approval of town meeting.</p> <p>Board to host Highway Surveyor Robert Rose regarding the Snow and Ice budget deficit. Robert Rose spoke about constraints with budgets. The town will see the impact with lack of snow plow trucks because there is three less trucks. Rose also said they lost two part-time positions as well from last year due to budget. Another huge impact is the fact that private companies don't want to sign on with towns to help. In the past we had 15+ and this year we have two. McCrohan said it is another area of financial constraint and the public needs to understand. Freitas wanted to know where we are at with deficient spending of the 75K. Rose said they spent 175 so they're at about 104. Freitas said to just think of that moving forward because you could be looking at a 200k just from snow removal. Rob Rose Covanta Sustainable Solutions (Semass) Contract renewal is discussed.</p> <p>Board to approve 2025 License Renewal for Route 24 Auto Recycling Inc.</p> <p>Board to approve 2025 License Renewal for Dunkin Donuts.</p> <p>Board to discuss agreement between Lakeville & Berkley for Lakeville Animal Shelter. Freitas inquired what our cost was last year but Chabot said he might have last years he would have to look. Vincent wanted to know if it was any animal or just one hit in the road. McCrohan said it is an animal who is hit or stray.</p> <p>Board to review and sign Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission 2024 Renewal Certification and 2024 Seasonal Population Increase Estimation Form; review of matter, votes may be taken. McCrohan stated no one failed to renew.</p> <p>Board to host Zak Besse and discuss possible Junior Selectmen role. Besse is a freshman at Somerset Berkley. He said he has always found this type of role because it puts you in with the community. Local politics. Vincent asked if he knew her daughter Isabelle, Besse stated yes. Freitas said this role was discussed a long time ago. Freitas stated he admires him stepping up to the plate. Formal agenda item for next time to have the school come speak on this and generate a plan to make this a reality. Formal appointment card for Besse as well.</p> <p>Board to review letter from the Office of the Town Clerk regarding the Annual Town Elections Calendar. Posted in the Clerks office.</p>	<p>McCrohan motion to accept ownership; Freitas 2nd; voted.</p> <p>McCrohan motion; Freitas 2nd; voted.</p> <p>McCrohan to approve 2025 license renewal; Freitas 2nd; voted.</p> <p>McCrohan to approve 2025 license renewal; Freitas 2nd; voted.</p> <p>McCrohan motion to accept; Freitas 2nd; voted.</p> <p>McCrohan motion to review and sign Vincent 2nd; voted.</p> <p>Information Only; No Action Needed</p> <p>McCrohan motion to post on cable scroll and town website; Vincent 2nd; voted.</p>
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Meeting Mail	Adam Costa email about rate adjustment for (FY26). Chabot said he doesn't have the actuals in front of him right now. McCrohan said he is one of the more cost-effective lawyers around and know us so well.	McCrohan motion to file; Vincent 2 nd , voted.
Meeting Minutes	Board to approve Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2024. Board to approve Executive Session Minutes of November 25, 2024. Board to approve Public Hearing Minutes of November 20, 2024. Board to approve Executive Session Minutes of December 9, 2024. Board to approve Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2024. Board to approve Executive Session Minutes of December 16, 2024. Board to approve Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2024.	Freitas motion to accept all Meeting Minutes; Vincent 2 nd , voted.
Town Administrator Report	Economic Development Plan kickoff meeting will be held January 29, 2025. Community will have a chance to discuss the things they would like to see in the general business districts during community forums.	Information Only; No Action Needed
Executive Session	Board to enter into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.	McCrohan motion to enter into Executive Session, Freitas 2 nd , voted.
Adjournment	The Board voted to enter into Executive Session and not return to open session with the next scheduled meeting being Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.	


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