

MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 07/22/2026

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Tabitha McCrohan-Chair, Jennifer Vincent-Clerk (via Zoom)

TOPIC		ACTION
Call To Order	Board of Selectmen - Called to Order at 5:00 PM in the Moitoza-Petty Hearing Room	
	Tabitha McCrohan as Board of Selectmen Chairperson states that Jennifer Vincent is present via Zoom which fulfills the quorum criteria and all votes will be Roll Call Vote. Agenda is taken out of order	
Personnel:	Board to interview Michael Crisafulli for the position of Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer; review of matter. During his interview, Michael Crisafulli described his 32 years of experience as a building inspector in multiple towns, with a background in civil engineering, carpentry, and masonry. He explained that when codes are unclear, he starts with the building code book, consults state inspectors and peer building inspectors, then makes and documents a fair, well-reasoned decision while working toward resolution with applicants. On consistency and fairness, he acknowledged that past decisions can set precedents but emphasized applying the rules clearly, being open to alternative compliant solutions, and treating everyone impartially. As a leader, he would identify staff strengths and weaknesses, support them with training and hands-on help, and encourage growth. On ethics, he stated he would recuse himself and bring in another inspector if a personal or professional relationship created a conflict. He also outlined how he clearly explains complex code and zoning issues using code excerpts, highlights, and visual aids, and walked through his thorough process for reviewing complex commercial/municipal projects—from verifying complete applications and stamped plans, to checking zoning, setbacks, ownership, and detailed code compliance, often using checklists and involving other inspectors and design professionals. He closed with an example where he successfully urged a zoning board to reconsider a proposal that would have amounted to spot zoning, demonstrating caution, thoroughness, and deference to proper zoning principles. Board to interview John Santos for the position of Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer; review of matter. In his interview, John Santos explained that he has been a building commissioner for about 15 years, while also maintaining his own contracting business, which he says helps him understand that “time is money” and prioritize timely inspections. When codes are unclear he relies on the code book and consults multiple state inspectors to reach a fair, consistent interpretation that doesn’t unduly delay projects. He emphasized treating everyone the same—from the most influential resident to the least, saying personal status or position does not affect his decisions, and that decisions can always be appealed to the BBRS, citing a school project in the Swansca Mall where his denial was overturned. In supervising inspectors, he described a no-nonsense, efficiency-focused style, expecting inspections to be done promptly and keeping projects moving. For conflicts of interest, he said he typically brings in a neighboring or state inspector and lets them take the lead while he observes. On complex commercial or mixed-use projects, he highlighted the role of design professionals and controlled construction, noting that engineers often have authority that can supersede his, and that he manages this by frequent, unannounced site visits at various times to stay aware of what’s happening and keep contractors “on their toes.” He did not identify any past decision he would now handle differently.	

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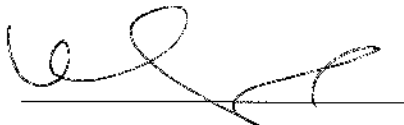
SELECTIONMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Tabitha McCrohan-Chair, Jennifer Vincent-Clerk (via Zoom)

	Board to consider authorizing the Town Administrator to enter into negotiations with the preferred candidate for the position of Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer; discussion and possible vote. Ms. Vincent discussed the two candidates, agreeing that both were strong and experienced, and noting that they appreciated John Santos's current service as assistant. However, they felt Michael Crisafulli stood out slightly more, particularly because of his length and depth of experience as a building commissioner and his perceived fit for a full-time building commissioner/inspector role given current town needs and vacancies. Ms. McCrohan stated she believed Michael was a better fit of what we're looking for right now, and Ms. Vincent agreed, emphasizing the value of his long experience for a strained town hall. Ms. McCrohan then made a motion to authorize Matthew Chabot as town administrator to enter into negotiations with Michael Crisafulli for the building/zoning enforcement officer position. Ms. Vincent seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote	Motion to authorize: TMcCrohan motioned JV Vincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent – Aye Motion approved
Appointments:	Board to accept the resignation of Robert Longton from the Berkley Cemetery Commission. Robert Longton submitted an immediate resignation from his elected position on the Cemetery Commission, effective 7/9/26 at 11 a.m., after about five years of service. In his letter, he emphasized that serving on the Commission had been "dedicated and fulfilling," expressed strong gratitude to the residents who supported him, and formally asked that his resignation be accepted; the board then voted to accept it.	Motion to accept: TMcCrohan motioned JV Vincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent – Aye Motion approved
	Board to accept the resignation of Robert Longton from the Berkley Board of Selectmen; review of matter. Robert Longton resigned immediately from his elected position as selectman, stating that since taking office on May 29, 2026, there had been an increasing and intolerable level of bullying, intimidation, and harassment directed at himself, his family, friends, and supporters. Mr. Longton framed his resignation as necessary to protect the safety and well-being of those around him, thanked the residents who supported him during his brief tenure, and the board formally voted to accept his resignation.	Motion to accept: TMcCrohan motioned JV Vincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent – Aye Motion approved
	Board to accept the resignation of Kevin Pavao from the Berkley Cemetery Commission; review of matter. Kevin Pavao submitted an immediate resignation from his elected position on the Cemetery Commission, stating that after careful consideration he had decided to step down effective immediately. His letter was formal and neutral in tone: he asked that the resignation be entered into the town's official records and processed according to state law, town charter, and local bylaws, thanked residents for the privilege of serving and for their trust, expressed appreciation for his fellow board members and town officials, and wished the town and Cemetery Board continued success. The board then voted to accept his resignation.	Motion to accept: TMcCrohan motioned JV Vincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent – Aye Motion approved
	Board to appoint Lorraine Moniz to the Berkley Cemetery Commission; review of matter. Lorraine Moniz was appointed to the Berkeley Cemetery Commission for a term ending June 30, 2029, to fill a vacancy created by recent resignations. Ms. McCrohan explained that Lorraine is the Outreach Coordinator for the Council on Aging, spends many hours in Town Hall (often beyond her paid time), and has already developed an interest in the Cemetery Commission and had even considered running for the seat. Because she is physically present in Town Hall, she can promptly respond to funeral home calls, plot sales, and resident inquiries, making her a strong logistical fit. Ms. Vincent agreed that having someone based in Town Hall would be helpful.	Motion to appoint: TMcCrohan motioned JV Vincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent – Aye Motion approved

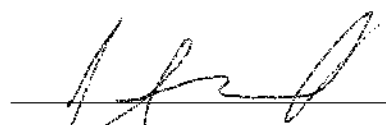
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Meeting Mail:	A motion was made to table all Meeting Mail agenda items to next Board of Selectmen meeting Bristol-Plymouth Student letters. RE: Regulatory Compliance --- Mystery Junk Yard	Motion to table: TMcCrohan motioned JVincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent - Aye Motion approved
Meeting Minutes:	Board to review and approve meeting minutes of June 23rd, 2026 and July 8th, 2026; review of matter; votes may be taken.	Motion to accept: TMcCrohan motioned JVincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent - Aye Motion approved
Town Administrator Report:	A motion was made to table Town Administrator Report items to next Board of Selectmen meeting Berkley Middle School - Common Sidewalk Project E-Permitting updates June/July Town Newsletter	Motion to table: TMcCrohan motioned JVincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent - Aye Motion approved
Public Input:	During public input, Mark Horsfall addressed Tabitha McCrohan and Jen Vincent, using Robert Longton's resignation to raise broader concerns about harassment, integrity in local politics, and the recent election. He urged the board and town to learn from the episode and confront what he labeled a toxic political culture and "propaganda" during the spring election. He asked Tabitha how to "fix" the situation; she emphasized support for free, fair elections but criticized misinformation used during the campaign. Both stressed their goal is to serve and solve problems, not harm or dominate other boards. Mr. Horsfall also briefly asked Mr. Chabot whether any reimbursement was received for recount costs after Longton's resignation; the answer was no.	Discussion Only
Adjournment:	Meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm *Next Scheduled Meeting is Wednesday, August 5th, 2026 at 10:30 AM.*	Motion to adjourn: TMcCrohan motioned JVincent second Roll Call Vote: McCrohan – Aye Vincent - Aye Motion approved



Tabitha McCrohan, Chairwoman



Jennifer Vincent, Clerk



Matthew Chabot, Town Administrator