

Selectboard Minutes
September 2, 2025

Present: Paul Kleinman, Chair
Letty Bedard
Andy Artimovich
Jim Michaud

At 6:00pm, Kleinman called the meeting to order.

Artimovich motioned to approve the manifest. Michaud seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Artimovich motioned to approve the consent agenda, striking A and D, the remainder consisted of the non-public minutes of August 19th, building permits and the recreation manifest. Seconded by Michaud. All in favor, motion carried.

Wayne Robinson, Road Agent, presented the road salt contract. Bedard motioned to approve signing the contract for 3,000 tons. Seconded by Artimovich. All in favor, motion carried.

Daphne Woss, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, was present to discuss the purchase of a new voting machine. Woss is seeking \$6,000 from the board for the purchase by November 1st. This will be discussed at the next meeting.'

Woss also presented a property issue regarding 60 and 62 Middle Road. Mark Kennedy, Land Use Administrator, read a letter written by the town assessor, Adrienne Summers to the board. The letter was in favor of renumbering 62 Middle Road to 60A Middle Road. Bedard motioned to accept the assessor's recommendation to renumber the property 60 and 60A Middle Road. Seconded by Artimovich. All in favor, motion carried.

Kleinman announced that Andrew Gray, Recreation Director, tendered his resignation, effective September 11th.

Julie Stevens was present with an update on finances. Stevens would like to move forward with paying bills online. Stevens let the board know that Colby has put in approximately 30 hours and will not exceed 40 hours. The board accepts Stevens' recommendation to have Colby go as far as he can within his 40 hours. The MS-1 extension was completed by the assessor, Adrienne Summers. Stevens started a discussion regarding selectboard members having DRA access. Stevens stated the town needs a deputy treasurer and/or someone to sign checks in Ambrose's absence. Artimovich motioned, seconded by Michaud to allow Stevens to be the secondary check signer. All were in favor, motion carried.

Stevens and the board discussed her involvement in the budget process. Woss had questions regarding who department heads should submit their budgets to. They will be submitted to Stevens. Kennedy had questions regarding a joint selectboard/budget committee meeting. Liz Faria, South Road, had comments regarding the budget process.

The board discussed the selectboard vacancy. RSA 669:63 "indicates the vacancies in the board of selectmen shall be filled by appointment made by the remaining selectmen". The board will accept letters of intent/statements of interest from any interested parties, they must be a registered voter in the town of Brentwood. Liz Faria, South Road, had comments regarding interested former members.

The board discussed committee assignments. Michaud will fill in for the recreation committee. Artimovich will fill in for school board.

The KRT extension was tabled until the next meeting.

There was a discussion regarding the potential COLA policy. The language of the policy and the cap were discussed.

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Artimovich motioned to accept the following COLA policy: While recognizing that the present board may not bind future selectboards and that there is an existing tax cap of 4%, it remains the intent of this selectboard to adjust for annual cost of living the wage of town employees by the rate of the federal social security COLA. Additionally, in the event that budgetary circumstances do not permit a COLA increase, the selectboard reserves the right to not provide an annual COLA increase as it deems necessary. Seconded by Bedard. Mark Kennedy, Prescott Road had comments relating to the cap. Melissa Litchfield, Eleanor's Way, had comments regarding COLAs. Bedard had comments that COLAs are often tied to unions and collective bargaining. Artimovich supports not having a policy. Liz Faria, South Road, had comments regarding the enforceability of the policy and had questions regarding position postings. Janice Wiers, Library Director, had comments regarding the COLA policy. Jim Hajjar, Mohawk Lane, had comments regarding COLA policy. Artimovich withdrew his previous motion. Artimovich motions to table. Michaud seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

At 7:36pm Kleinman opened public comment.

Liz Faria, South Road, had comments regarding the process of hiring town employees.

Doug Finan, Gove Road, asked about a COOP electric update.

At 7:42pm Kleinman closed public comment.

Committee updates were provided.

Brett Ramsdell, South Road commented that the deadline to contact KRT is September 5th.

At 7:48pm Michaud motioned to go into nonpublic for hiring and personnel. This motion was seconded by Artimovich. Michaud – aye; Artimovich – aye; Bedard – aye; Kleinman – aye. All were in favor, motion carried.

At 8:24pm Kleinman motioned to come out of nonpublic. Seconded by Artimovich. Michaud – aye; Artimovich – aye; Bedard – aye; Kleinman – aye. All were in favor, motion carried.

Artimovich motioned to seal the nonpublic minutes. Seconded by Michaud. All in favor, motion carried.

At 8:25pm Artimovich motioned to adjourn, seconded by Michaud. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jillian Benedix