

Selectboard Minutes
December 2, 2025

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

At 6:00 Kleinman called the Public meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence in remembrance of Dick Chamberlain, Brentwood's long time Town Moderator.

Mantegari motioned to approve the manifest. Michaud seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Mantegari motioned to approve the consent agenda including a proposed amendment to the 11/18/25 minutes. Seconded by Michaud. All in favor; motion carried.

Chief Murch was in to discuss a number of Police Department issues:

1. Regarding his Recertification, he notified the Board that he has completed a number of the required trainings. He will be going in front of the Police Standards & Training Council on 12/12. He expects he will be required to participate the Law Package which consists of 4-5 training days at the academy and begins in January. He will get a copy of his Form E to the Town Administrator. Murch will check to see if he's required to bring a representative of the Hiring Authority to his 12/12 Council meeting.
2. Chief Murch informed the Board that he and Chief Wallace of Epping PD have restored the Mutual Aid agreement between the two towns. He also met with the Commander and Asst Commander of State Police Troop A and they assured him the department has their support and assistance if needed. Same with Rockingham County Sheriff's Dept.
3. Murch discussed staffing needs. The 4 part-time officers were asked to work weekends. They all chose not to continue working for Brentwood as they could not commit to those days. The department currently has the following on staff: Chief Murch, 2 Sergeants, 3 full-time officers and Admin staff. Some shifts have been supplemented with Sheriff Dept staff but he hopes not to need them after next week. He is looking for 3 full-time officers.
4. Chief Murch reviewed the Police Department budget for 2026 with the Board. He is not looking to replace the part-time officers. He is not budgeting for a new cruiser in 2026. There will be no canine related expenses next year. He would like to hire a Lieutenant as one of the 3 full time positions. Mantegari made a motion, seconded by Michaud, to approve the budget in the amount of \$1,215,756 which represents a 9.34% decrease from 2025. All voted in favor. Murch did comment that he needs to do a salary study of similar size towns.

At 6:50pm, Mantegari made a motion to go into Nonpublic for personnel reasons. Michaud seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

At 7:05pm, Michaud made a motion, seconded by Mantegari, to seal the minutes of the nonpublic meeting. All voted in favor.

The following budgets were re-opened to account for the change to a 2.8% performance-based increase to replace the 3% FICA place holder:

- Mantegari made a motion to re-open the Town Clerk and Tax Collector budgets. Mantegari seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Mantegari made a motion; seconded by Artimovich, to approve the amended Town Clerk budget in the amount of \$97,429.83 which includes the 2.8% performance-based increase, moving money from salaries line to an overtime line and a shift coverage line, and a correction to FICA. All voted in favor. A motion was made by Mantegari to approve the Tax Collector budget in the amount of \$98,478.83 with the same changes as noted in the Town Clerk Budget. Artimovich seconded the motion; all voted in favor.
- Following a motion by Mantegari and second by Artimovich, all voted in favor of re-opening the Planning Board budget. Mantegari made a motion with a second by Kleinman, to approve of the amended Planning Board budget in the amount of \$119,446. All voted in favor.
- A motion was made by Mantegari and seconded by Michaud to re-open the Highway Budget. All voted in favor. Mantegari made a motion to approve the amended Highway Budget in the amount of \$474,981. Artimovich seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Mantegari made a motion, seconded by Michaud, to re-open the Snow & Ice Budget. All voted in favor. Mantegari made a motion to approve the amended budget in the amount of \$97,800. Michaud seconded the motion; all voted in favor.
- Mantegari made a motion, seconded by Artimovich, to re-open the Cemetery Budget. All voted in favor. After a motion by Mantegari and second by Artimovich, all voted in favor of approving the amended Cemetery budget in the amount of \$13,522.
- A motion was made by Mantegari and seconded by Artimovich to re-open the Welfare budget. All voted in favor. Mantegari made a motion, with a second by Artimovich, to approve the amended Welfare budget in the amount of \$21,118. All voted in favor.

Rob Wofchuck of the Conservation Commission was in to discuss the Anna Boudreau contract that was tabled last week. Kleinman proposed the following change: In #4 at the top of p. 3, it should say as follows: The fee for services including expenses for any specific project pertaining to conservation property rendered under the Scope of Work shall not exceed \$6,750 (75 hours). The total fee for services under this Agreement shall not exceed \$9,500, without prior written approval of the Commission. Wofchuck agreed that is an acceptable amendment. Mantegari made a motion to approve the contract with the revisions recommended by Kleinman. Kleinman seconded the motion. Kleinman, Artimovich, Mantegari & Michaud voted in favor; Bedard abstained.

The Lease for the Grange building between the Town and Historical Society, with requested revisions, was presented to the Board for signing. No vote necessary as it was approved at last week's meeting with revisions.

The Board reviewed Building ordinances to determine which ones they would like to be included in the Zoning Ordinance changes that will come before the voters in 2026. Kleinman made a motion to include 900.002.001 & 900.005.001.003. Michaud seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Michaud made a motion, seconded by Mantegari, to approve the Town Administrator's employment agreement. All voted in favor. Mantegari made a motion to approve the Building Inspector's employment

agreement. Michaud seconded the motion. Kleinman, Artimovich, Michaud & Mantegari voted in favor; Bedard opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mantegari and seconded by Michaud to approve a Cease & Desist at the property identified as Map/Lot #208.030.000. All voted in favor.

The Board members shared Committee updates.

At 7:40pm Kleinman opened public comment.

- Doug Finan, Brentwood Planning Board, updated the Selectboard on the suggestion that was made to update the ordinance regarding culverts. He said that he and Bruce Stevens will be looking into it but at this point it is too late to include in this year's proposed ordinance changes.
- Betsy Ibbitson of Scrabble Road was in with several comments/questions.
- Laura Hajjar, acting Welfare Director, was in to request that the Board approve the appointment of Pam McElroy as an alternate to the Regional Association. Mantegari made a motion to approve the appointment to expire 6/30/26, seconded by Michaud. All voted in favor.
- Jim Michaud, resident at Route 125, wanted to make a comment regarding the situation that took place today when a resident stopped at the scene of an accident involving the Brentwood ambulance and preceded to berate the ambulance crew about the Fire Department's budget. He said this behavior is disgusting and there is no excuse for it. Michaud continued that we need to do better and respect one another.

At 8:08pm, Mantegari made a motion to go into Nonpublic per RSA 9a-A:3II(a) & (d). Mantegari seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

At 8:25pm, Mantegari made a motion to come out of nonpublic and seal the minutes. Michaud seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Stevens