

Selectboard Minutes
February 3, 2026

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

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

Mantegari motioned to approve the payroll, A/P manifest & Consent Agenda. Michaud seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Kleinman stated that at the last Planning Board meeting, members asked for clarification on how to handle the department's legal expenses since that line was removed from their budget and included in the Town's Legal Expense line. After discussion and input from Land Use Administrator, Mark Kennedy, Mantegari made a motion, seconded by Michaud, to allow the Planning Board to seek legal advice for matters that aren't anticipated to exceed \$1,000; any matters expected to exceed that amount should be brought before the Selectboard for their approval. All voted in favor.

Town Administrator Stevens presented an abatement request on behalf of the Town Assessor. The property owner did pay their 1st 2025 tax bill but it did not transfer over during the software conversion. This abatement will simply clear the past due amount from the books. Bedard made a motion to approve the abatement. Michaud seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Paperwork was presented to the Board on behalf of Bob's Heavy Equipment for the renewal of the License to operate and maintain a motor vehicle junkyard, as well as a permit for hauling non-potable water. Artimovich made a motion to allow the Selectboard Chair to sign the documents. Bedard seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

The Board reviewed the draft of the Selectboard's Report for the Town Report. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed to remove part of a sentence regarding the purpose of hiring the CPA. Mantegari made a motion, with a second from Michaud, to approve the Selectboard's Report with the agreed upon edit. Kleinman, Artimovich, Mantegari and Michaud voted in favor; Bedard opposed. Motion carried.

Resident Peter Foster questioned if an Auditor's Report will be included in the Town Report. Stevens read the letter from Plodzik & Sanderson, the auditing firm hired by the Town, that was submitted for inclusion in the Town Report.

Stevens explained to the Board that she is recommending the addition of an authorized signer on the Town's bank accounts. Currently, the Treasurer is the only authorized signer and if he is unavailable there is no one able to sign Town checks. In the absence of a Deputy Treasurer, Stevens is recommending the Selectboard Chair be an authorized signer. Bedard made a motion, seconded by Michaud, to approve Kleinman as the second authorized signer. All voted in favor.

The Selectboard reviewed two petition warrant articles that were submitted. Stevens explained that the Town Clerk has reviewed both to confirm the signers are registered voters and did find a couple on both lists that are not but they still have the required number of signatures.

1. Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town on the second Tuesday of March. (3/5 Majority Vote Required)

As required, the Board will hold a public hearing on 2/17/26.

2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Seven Hundred and Three Dollars (\$225,703) to establish a twenty-four hour Per-Diem Firefighter/EMT position at the Fire Department, Effective April 1, 2026. This position will provide recommended staffing for a three-person engine company in accordance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 710 and OSHA. This position will support improved emergency response capability and public safety for the Town of Brentwood. (Majority Vote Required)

Kleinman noted that the Board needs to take a vote to Recommend or Not Recommend this petition warrant article since it includes an appropriation. Artimovich explained that he initiated this petition as he feels strongly that the Town needs to discuss and vote on this. Mantegari said he is opposed to this due to the impact on the budget. Mantegari voted to Not Recommend this warrant article, Artimovich voted in favor of recommending, Michaud voted not to recommend, Bedard voted to recommend, Kleinman voted not to recommend. The Board will Not Recommend this article by a vote of 3 to 2. Jim Hajjar, Budget Committee Chair and resident, wanted to make sure it is clear to the taxpayers that the dollar amount of this warrant article only represents the cost for 9 months (from April 1st on) and that the true annual cost of this position would be \$301,000.

Kleinman opened up discussion on Old Business and Committee updates:

- Stevens said she has a couple of candidates for the Emergency Management Director position and asked who will be on the interview “team”. Mantegari said he is willing to do that. It was agreed that Mantegari and Stevens will conduct the interviews.
- Mantegari stated that at the last Recreation Commission meeting they voted to change the name to Parks & Recreation. The Commission is looking for a vote to support this by the Selectboard. Mantegari made a motion to approve the change to Parks & Recreation Department. Michaud seconded the motion; all voted in favor.
He also added that the Recreation Director is doing an assessment of fees charged for programs, events, rentals, etc. He found that in the past there were inconsistent discounts given and there will no longer be discounts on rates. He also added that there will be a Brazilian Soccer Camp added this year immediately following the usual soccer camp program. This will be a great opportunity for more revenue.
- Kleinman noted that there was another Planning Board public hearing on the ordinance changes. There is an additional public hearing on Thursday. Conservation meets tomorrow.
- Artimovich asked where elections are being held next month, school or recreation center? Stevens will check with the Town Administrator.
- Michaud said the Police Department picked up their new cruiser last week. He’s been working with the Highway Dept to fix truck #6 and are now outsourcing these repairs. Bedard asked about the work to be done on the new Highway shed. Michaud responded that they have not had an opportunity to work on that.

- Bedard mentioned that the deliberative session for the Cooperative School is tomorrow evening. In addition, the Budget Committee's public hearing will be Thursday evening at the Recreation Center.

At 7:08, Kleinman opened the floor to public comment to which there was none.

Mantegari made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Michaud. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Stevens