

**Town of Bernardston  
Selectboard Meeting Minutes**



**Board Members**

Brian J. Keir

Stanley D. Garland, Chairman

Kenneth R. Bordewieck

***Minutes for the meeting of August 23, 2023***

Meeting held at Bernardston Town Hall  
38 Church St, Bernardston, MA 01337

**Selectboard Members Present:**

Stan Garland  
Ken Bordewieck  
Brian Keir

**Others Present:**

per sign-in sheet

Stan called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

**Warrants**

Ken motioned to approve the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$66,421.82.  
Brian seconded and the motion was approved 3-0.

Ken motioned to approve the Vendor Warrant in the amount of \$124,570.34.  
Brian seconded and the motion was approved 3-0.

**Minutes**

Ken motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 9, 2023. Brian seconded and the motion was approved 3-0.

**Calendar and Announcements**

Stan read the calendar and announcements as presented on the attached agenda.

**Appointment**

**Planning Board**

Christina Slocum-Wysk, Rawn Fulton and Shannon Wissman were present to inform the Selectboard of some projects that the Planning Board discussed at their meeting on Monday August 21, 2023. First, Chris said that the Planning Board would like to approach State Senator Comerford for a \$200,000 earmark to aid in drafting an Economic Development Plan. Additionally, the Planning Board would like to explore the usage of some town-owned land on River Street for use as a "pocket park". Chris also mentioned a potential interest in a land trade with the state which would return Darwin Scott Swamp to the town.

*(continued on next page)*

**New Business**

One Day liquor license – Scarecrow in the Park

The Fire Department expressed interest in operating the beer garden on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup>. Lloyd Grover said that the Kiwanis would be unable to operate the beer garden this year. Ken motioned to approve and grant the permit. Brian seconded and the motion was approved 3-0.

Conservation Commission – Appointment of Agent

The Conservation Commission requested that Savannah Kitchin be appointed as their new Conservation Agent. Ken motioned to appoint Savannah, Brian seconded and the motion was approved 3-0.

Employee time-off request

Ken motioned to approve the request. Brian seconded and the motion was approved 3-0.

Baseball/Softball infields at Pratt Field

Recreation Commission Chair Jenn Stennes proposed moving the dugouts from the baseball diamond at Pratt Field over to the diamond that is currently being used as the softball field. After conferring with Highway Superintendent Brian Miner, the Town Coordinator proposed removing the grass from the baseball infield and making that a softball field. The reason is that there hasn't been any interest in youth baseball since before the pandemic. The Selectboard agreed by consensus to move forward with the modification to the baseball field and leave the dugouts where they are.

Letter to Cannabis Control Commission

A letter was drafted (included in these minutes) to the Cannabis Control Commission asking for changes in their proposed Draft Regulations which would adversely affect the town. Stan and Brian read the letter and the Board signed it.

**Other Business**

Ken motioned to approve the annual contract with the Solid Waste District to perform third-party inspection of the Transfer Station. Brian seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Ken then motioned to accept and approve the annual contract for the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste day. Brian seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Ken motioned to re-appoint Jen Reynolds as the FRTA Rep for FY24. Brian seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. After a brief discussion, Brian motioned to appoint Ken as the new alternate to the FRCOG Council, replacing Joel Cole. Stan seconded and that motion passed 2-0.

*(continued on next page)*

Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
August 23, 2023  
(continued)

The draft Credit Card usage policy, as submitted by Town Counsel, was reviewed by the Treasurer and Town Coordinator. Both recommended Selectboard approval of the document. Ken motion to accept and sign, Brian seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

The Purchase and Sale agreement for the properties at 197 Northfield Road and 0 Merrifield Road was finalized and presented for Selectboard approval. Ken motioned to approve and sign the document. Brian seconded and the motion was approved and the document was signed by Selectboard members. The Board briefly discussed the possibility of purchasing new chairs for the Senior Center, but wanted more information.

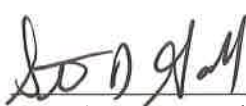
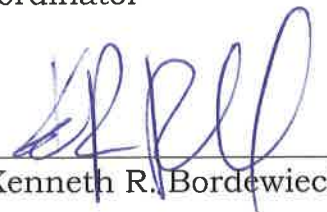
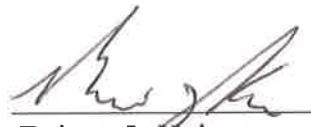
**Town Coordinator Report**

The Town Coordinator reported that Attorney Jay Talerman of Mead, Talerman & Costa was in contact and he wanted to let us know that he is working on the issue of school budgeting and whether capital expenses are required to be included or if they can continue to be voted separately. Next, he reminded viewers that school would be back in session on August 31<sup>st</sup>. He added that Blythe Robinson of Capital Strategic has been working on a grant application with Chief Palmeri for body cameras. He also reported that the cost of recycling increased, month over month, for August. The town will pay \$68.83 per ton, plus hauling fees for the month of August. Last, he reported that with the new fuel system online, the average cost per gallon of regular gasoline was \$3.13 per gallon and the average cost per gallon of diesel fuel was \$3.04 per gallon, both far below local pump prices.

Stan closed by asking Brian to comment on a potential pavilion for the now vacant lot at 12 Church Street. Stan suggested getting volunteers for a committee to decide what would be best on the lot, keeping in mind the importance of remembering Bud Foster.

With no further business to be discussed, Ken motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:14pm. Brian seconded and the meeting adjourned.

Attest: Louis Bordeaux, Town Coordinator

 \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman  \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_  
Stanley D. Garland                      Kenneth R. Bordewieck                      Brian J. Keir

**Town of Bernardston**  
**Selectboard Meeting Agenda**  
Wednesday, August 23, 2023  
6:00PM



Bernardston Town Hall, 38 Church Street, Bernardston MA

**Board Members**

Brian J. Keir

Stanley D. Garland, Chairman

Kenneth R. Bordewieck

**Call to Order – 6:00pm**

**Warrants**

- Payroll and Vendor; weeks ending August 19, 2023

**Meeting Minutes**

- Regular Meeting of August 9, 2023

**Calendar & Announcements**

- Board of Assessors; Thursday August 24, 2023 @ 3:15pm; Assessors Office, Town Hall

**Appointment**

- Planning Board

**New Business**

- One Day liquor license - Scarecrow in the Park
- Conservation Commission - appointment of agent
- Employee time-off request
- Baseball/Softball infields at Pratt Field
- Letter to Cannabis Control Commission

**Old Business**

**Town Coordinator Report**

**Other Business Unknown at time of posting**

**Adjourn**

ARPA (SLFRF) Allocations

Date	Proposed Allocation	Amount Received	Amt. of Request	Amount: Actual	Balance
7/1/2021	SLFRF Tranche 1	\$ 312,357.64		\$ 312,357.64	\$ 312,357.64
7/1/2022	SLFRF Tranche 2; first portion	\$ 109,378.64		\$ 109,378.64	\$ 421,736.28
9/29/2022	SLFRF Tranche 2; second portion	\$ 202,978.99		\$ 202,978.99	\$ 624,715.27
2/22/2022	Jablonski-DeVriese Architects			\$ (21,835.42)	\$ 602,879.85
3/18/2022	Jablonski-DeVriese Architects			\$ (24,072.40)	\$ 578,807.45
4/25/2022	Jablonski-DeVriese Architects			\$ (17,524.04)	\$ 561,283.41
1/26/2022	CARES deficit			\$ (13,721.35)	\$ 547,562.06
6/14/2022	Jablonski-DeVriese Architects			\$ (25,961.20)	\$ 521,600.86
3/20/2023	Danny Haselton, Inc (Sr. Ctr door)			\$ (1,300.00)	\$ 520,300.86
6/15/2023	Patriot Properties assessors software			\$ (7,500.00)	\$ 512,800.86
6/25/2023	Sugarloaf Gardens (vets monument)			\$ (381.54)	\$ 512,419.32
6/26/2023	Hamshaw Lumber (vets monument)			\$ (27.54)	\$ 512,391.78
6/18/2023	Tree Warden (library project)			\$ (573.47)	\$ 511,818.31
6/18/2023	Tree Warden (library project payroll)			\$ (509.39)	\$ 511,308.92
1/3/2023	Jamrog - move highway heater			\$ (2,344.95)	\$ 508,963.97
6/14/2023	Jamrog - mini splits BES classrooms/office			\$ (35,895.00)	\$ 473,068.97
6/14/2023	Jamrog - mini splits BES cafeteria			\$ (27,565.00)	\$ 445,503.97
6/26/2023	Palmeri Electric - BES mini-splits			\$ (3,562.74)	\$ 441,941.23
6/30/2023	United Construction & Forestry (chipper)			\$ (66,900.00)	\$ 375,041.23
7/24/23	Vadar Accounting software			\$ (26,663.00)	\$ 348,378.23
8/7/23	Builders Installed Products (library)			\$ (3,575.00)	\$ 344,803.23
8/7/23	Hamshaw Lumber (highway room)			\$ (648.57)	\$ 344,154.66
8/21/23	Gardner Outlet Furniture			\$ (2,579.96)	\$ 341,574.70
8/21/23	Hamshaw Lumber			\$ (95.98)	\$ 341,478.72
8/21/23	Hale Custom Signs			\$ (1,525.14)	\$ 339,953.58
8/21/23	Daniel L. Werner, PLS			\$ (2,200.00)	\$ 337,753.58
8/21/23	Snow & Sons			\$ (3,043.97)	\$ 334,709.61
6/3/2023	Comerford Earmark overage			\$ (32.11)	\$ 334,677.50
				<b>Current Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 334,709.61</b>
	<b>Previous Commitments</b>			<b>Current Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 334,709.61</b>
12/28/2022	Town share of USDA repeater grant		\$ (60,882.57)		\$ 273,827.04
1/1/2023	Keene Monument		\$ (5,005.00)		\$ 268,822.04
1/26/2023	broadband line extension		\$ (60,000.00)		\$ 208,822.04
2/1/2023	Sr Ctr: town share of new stove		\$ (5,000.00)		\$ 203,822.04
5/3/2023	Library landscaping		\$ (10,500.00)		\$ 193,322.04
5/3/2023	Accounting: FY23 closeout		\$ (18,420.00)		\$ 174,902.04
6/7/2023	Town Hall drop box		\$ (2,500.00)		\$ 172,402.04
8/23/23	Office Assistant position		\$ (27,000.00)		\$ 145,402.04
				<b>Projected Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 145,402.04</b>
	<b>Rebates on mini-splits</b>				
	BES Classrooms		\$ 19,175.00		
	BES Cafeteria/Kitchen		\$ 14,225.00		
	Cushman Library		\$ 14,350.00		
		<b>Rebates:</b>	<b>\$ 47,750.00</b>	<b>(not added into Projected Balance)</b>	
Changes:	Gardner Furniture (highway garage)	Daniel Werner (Town Hall survey)			
	Hamshaw Lumber (highway garage)	Snow & Sons (landscaping all)			
	Hale Custom Signs (BES)				



# BERNARDSTON SELECTBOARD - MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

**BERNARDSTON**  
AUG 23 2023  
**SELECTBOARD**

**Meeting Date:**

AUG 23 2023

**Meeting Time:**

6:00  
AM/PM

**Name**

**Address**

**Phone / Email**

Rayne Fuller  
Alma Wissman  
Christina Stocumbyk

46 Fox Hill  
4 Fox Hill  
15 West Rd

413 775 3550

Swissman24@gmail.com