

**Town of Bernardston  
Selectboard Meeting Minutes**



**Board Members**

Brian J. Keir

Stanley D. Garland, Chairman

Kenneth R. Bordewieck

***Minutes for the meeting of January 11, 2024***

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

**Selectboard Members Present:**

Stan Garland  
Ken Bordewieck  
Brian Keir

**Others Present:**

Per attached sign in sheet

Stan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**First order** of business was a discussion on how the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board can work together better. There is a concern about some of the Zoning Board of Appeals members expressing an interest in leaving. The ZBA and Planning Board Chairs disagree on the workflow and application process for special permits. Chairman Garland recognizes that we need to clarify our process for our residents and asked Alex Fiory to speak and share his experience over the past six months on trying to obtain a permit for his Food Truck. Alex expressed his frustration with the cycle of getting “shot-down” when trying to find out what he needed to do to get a permit for his Food Truck operation. Last season, Alex stated that the Building Inspector told him to get the permits from the Board of Health and the Fire Department. This conflicts with the Planning Board Chair's interpretation of the Zoning Bylaws. She understands the bylaws to read that Alex requires a Special Permit and Site Plan review to stand-up his Food Truck business. Brian Keir emphasized to Alex that the Town Zoning Bylaws were approved by the Attorney General and voted upon by the residents of Bernardston. Brian Keir told Alex to go back to the Building Inspector and ask for next steps in writing. Alex discussed his other effort of filing a petition to change the definition of “restaurant” in the Zoning Bylaws. Alex’s petition was approved at the last Annual Town Meeting and the public hearing is scheduled for February 12, 2024. Stan summarized the process to make sure that everyone had the same understanding of next steps. Stan also issued an apology to Alex and his family for the unfortunate failure in communication that prolonged the confusion surrounding the application process.

*(Continued on next page)*

**Second order of business:** The FRCOG has again received District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) funding from the MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) to help municipalities. Since 2006, DLTA funding has allowed the FRCOG to assist our member municipalities on projects that promote regionalization of services and local and regional planning. The funding also supports the Community Compact Best Practices program. The Selectboard needs to know what projects the Department Heads, Boards, Committees and Commissions are interested in pursuing. Attached is a form that contains a list of potential projects no later than Wednesday, January 23rd. The Selectboard will compile one list on behalf of the Town at the Wednesday, January 24th Regular Meeting.

**Third order of business.** The Planning Board Chair spoke to making the Open Space Recreation Plan (OSRP) one of the three potential projects to make the DLTA funding list. Funding would allow the Planning Board and the FRCOG to finish the OSRP plan. A completed OSRP plan will open opportunities for more grant funded recreation plans for the Town. Chris also added about asking for DLTA funding in support of a Housing Plan. A Housing Plan would help the Town gain a better understanding about where we could develop housing and what properties may be good for housing under Chapter 61.

**Fourth order of business.** Ken made a motion to allow usage of Pratt Field over the Memorial Day weekend (May 24 thru 37, 2024) for the Annual Gas Engine Show, United Church. Brian added that coordination will be made with Brian Minor to walk the grounds after the show, etc. Also, Bob Allen has permission to level the ground and add grass seed after the show and also use donated gravel for the entrance and exit driveways before the show. Brian seconded the motion and it was approved, 3-0.

With no further business to be discussed, Ken motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:31pm. Stan seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Attested by: Karen Kelly, Town Administrator

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

**Town of Bernardston**  
**Selectboard Special Meeting Agenda**  
Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM



Bernardston Town Hall, 38 Church Street, Bernardston MA

**Board Members**

Brian J. Keir

Stanley D. Garland, Chairman

Kenneth R. Bordewieck

**Agenda**

**Call to Order**

- Joint meeting with the Selectboard, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board
- Planning Board - OSRP funding with FRCOG to complete the plan in 2024 and apply for a grant through One Stop for Growth for a Housing Production Plan.

**Other Business Unknown at time of posting**

**Adjourn**

*This meeting was posted on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at 2:47 pm*  
*The agenda was updated on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 4:35 pm*



**BERNARDSTON SELECTBOARD - MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET**

Meeting Date: 1/11/2024

Meeting Time: 6:00 AM/PM

| Name                   | Address          | Phone / Email |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Christina Spacum-Wyck  | 15 West Rd       | 413-834-1085  |
| Alex Forey             | 180 Fox Hill Rd  | 413-824-7968  |
| Liesel Nygard-Becardor | Same             | 978-894-5823  |
| John Lop-ic            | Same             | Same          |
| DAn Devere             | 56 Church Street |               |
| Shannon Wissna         | 4 Fox Hill Rd    | 834-0304      |
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