

# MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 02/14/2024

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Joe Freitas, Chairman, Tabitha K. McCrohan, Clerk

TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Convened at 6:04 p.m. in the Moitoza – Pettey Hearing Room	
New Business	Board to review and possibly approve Common Use Request for the Friends of Berkley COA Free Hot Dog Lunch 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. The Board voted to approve.	McCrohan to motion to approve, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly approve Common Use Request for the Friends of Berkley COA Craft Fair. The Board voted to approve.	McCrohan to motion to approve, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to approve and sign March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election Warrant. The Town Clerk noted that early voted begins on February 24 and the schedule is on the website and posted in Town Hall. The Board voted to approve.	McCrohan to motion to approve, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
New Business (taken out of order)	Board to discuss and vote on Assessor Vacancy for the Annual Town Election ballot. The Board voted to add on Town Ballot.	McCrohan to motion to approve, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
New Business	Board to agree on monetary designations to the selected recipients of non-municipal donation. The Chairman named the 6 chosen recipients and the Board voted on an equal distribution of \$1,666.66 to each designee.	McCrohan to motion to approve, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to discuss Treasurer office space. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly approve recommendation of the Financial Advisory Committee for the application of use of County ARPA funds for the purchase of a police cruiser. The Board voted to approve.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
Appointments (taken out of order)	Board to review and possibly appoint Joe Freitas to the Berkley Common Committee. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly appoint George Miller to the Berkley Common Committee. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly appoint Marc Oliveira to the Berkley Common Committee. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly appoint Robert Rose to the Berkley Common Committee. The Board voted to appoint.	McCrohan to motion to appoint, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted
	Board to review and possibly appoint Scott Fournier to the Berkley Common Committee. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly appoint Susan Ellis to the Berkley Common Committee. The Board voted to appoint.	McCrohan to motion to appoint, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.



# MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 02/14/2024

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Joe Freitas, Chairman, Tabitha K. McCrohan, Clerk

Personnel (taken out of order)	Board to review and possibly appoint Kevin Partridge to the Berkley Common Committee. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and approve Treasurer Clerk job posting. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly hire Joseph Martin to the position of Part-Time Highway Laborer. The Personnel Board voted to recommend to hire. The Board voted to hire.	McCrohan to motion to recommend, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.  McCrohan to motion to hire, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
Meeting Mail	Board to review Notices to Abutters from Town of Berkley Conservation Commission. The Board voted to file.	McCrohan to motion to file, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
Meeting Minutes	Board to review and approve Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2024. The Board voted to approve.	McCrohan to motion to approve, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and approve Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2024. The Board voted to approve.	McCrohan to motion to approve, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
Public Input (taken out of order)	Mr. William Rowbottom of 1 Margaret Road came in to discuss his dissatisfaction with the increase of Transfer Station fees. The Chairman noted that the fees have remained the same for 16 years. Mr. Rowbottom felt that community input should have been a step in the process of raising fees. The Chairman noted that it was on the Agenda, but that no one else came out to discuss. Mr. Rowbottom continued that he doesn't have issues with tax increases if they are earmarked for Police and Fire/Rescue. Clerk McCrohan noted that negotiations for Police have already occurred with increases and that Fire/Rescue is currently in negotiations. The Chairman thanked Mr. Rowbottom for coming out and his input.	Information Only; No Action Needed.
New Business	Board to review and possibly approve Warrant Item regarding debt exclusion. The discussion. The Chairman asserted that this discussion should continue through the upcoming meetings. The completed question was reviewed and approved by both Town Counsel and Bond Counsel The Chairman questioned if the matter needed to be voted on immediately and the Town Administrator confirmed that there was some leeway and a vote could wait. It was asserted that BP is a bill and it must be paid. The Town Administrator emphasized that advocacy is an important part of the process. It was agreed that there should be multiple Informational Sessions held in advance of the upcoming May Election. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.
	Board to review and possibly approve recommendation of the Financial Advisory Committee for the proposal of the ballot question regarding the debt exclusion. The Board voted to table.	McCrohan to motion to table, Freitas 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; voted.



# MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 02/14/2024

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: Joe Freitas, Chairman, Tabitha K. McCrohan, Clerk

Town  
Administrator  
Report

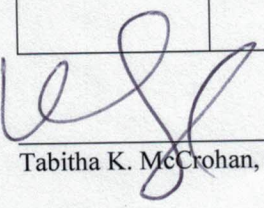
The Town Administrator shared an update after a meeting with the DPW regarding water extension; ultimately, a hydraulic study will be required. He is looking more deeply into the matter and will see what would be required, etc. Stormwater Compliance was discussed; the Town Administrator is waiting on the EPA for next steps and thanked the Highway Department for their willingness to help. The Town Administrator also noted that if there are any expressions of interest, the Community One Stop application is simple and ideas can be discussed. The Town Administrator offered an update regarding FY25 and noted that the Finance Committee was holding a meeting on February 26 and invited all to attend. The Town Administrator advised that he will be attending a workshop prior to submitting a Chapter 70 letter to ensure he's well educated on the matter. Lastly, the Town Administrator asked the Board for permission to post a flyer on the website regarding Library Visioning Sessions and the Board approved.

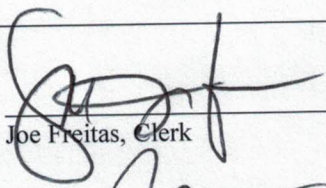
Information Only;  
No Action Needed.

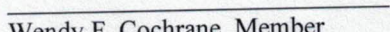
Adjournment

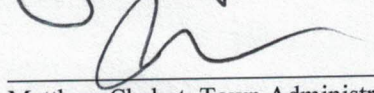
The Board voted to adjourn with the announcement of the next meeting, which will be held on February 28, 2024.

McCrohan to  
motion to adjourn,  
Freitas 2<sup>nd</sup>, voted.

  
Tabitha K. McCrohan, Chair

  
Joe Freitas, Clerk

  
Wendy F. Cochrane, Member

  
Matthew Chabot, Town Administrator