



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
TOWN HOUSE-26 EVERGREEN ST. ROOM 200 & VIA ZOOM
September 23, 2025

6:02 p.m. – CALL TO ORDER – ROOM 200

Chairman Eric Crone called to order the meeting with a roll call vote of the Board of Selectmen at 6:02 p.m.—selectmen in attendance: Kimberley Emberg, Melissa Bateman, Donald Alcombright (virtual) and Carl Pike

The Chair called for a roll call vote.

Staff Present: Keith Hickey, Town Administrator and Patricia Tucker, Assistant to Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. This meeting is being recorded. Anyone who intends to make an audio or video recording of this meeting should notify us at this time.
2. Financial Assistance Applications are available on the town's website or by calling the Selectmen's Office.
3. There are several Boards and Commissions with vacancies. To see a complete list of the openings, please visit our website at kingstonma.gov. If you are interested in serving, please contact the Selectmen's Office at 781 585-0501.
4. Please check our website for any additional events or notices www.kingstonma.gov
 - o Fall Town Meeting – October 28, 2025 at Kingston Intermediate School
5. Due to a recent resignation from the Kingston School Committee, the Kingston School Committee and Board of Selectmen are seeking candidates interested in filling the open seat until the next town election in the Spring of 2026.
Interested candidates must submit a letter of consideration and qualifications no later than September 25th at 4:00 PM. Please submit your information by mail to:
Town of Kingston
Board of Selectmen
26 Evergreen Street
Kingston, MA 02364
or by email to PTucker@KingstonMA.gov
All candidates will be interviewed at a joint Kingston School Committee/Board of Selectmen Meeting on Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30pm.
6. Open Space Committee did a clean-up at the Hall Property out behind Opachinski Field this past weekend. Also noted there is an open seat on the committee as well.
7. Tonight is Keith Hickey's last night here with Kingston; Mr. Crone thanked Mr. Hickey for all his hard work.
8. Mr. Hickey said the Town is in good hands with George Samia as the interim.

OPEN FORUM:

Will Cushman of 273 Main Street thanked Keith Hickey for his dedicated service to the Town of Kingston.

Jonathan Clarke of Lantern Lane was in attendance to discuss their private road, Mr. Crone stated they will discuss when they go over the agenda item on Post Court.

APPOINTMENTS:

Recognition of Police Personnel – Sergeant Michael LaNatra

Mr. Crone handed the floor to Chief Brian Holmes, who introduced Sergeant LaNatra and talked about the process of canine. Chief Brian Holmes recognized Sergeant LaNatra with a Letter of Merit recognizing his efforts and commitment to the Kingston Police Department for his years of partnership with his working police canine Vili, until Vili's recent retirement from active duty with the Kingston Police Department.

Request by Residents to Continue Winter Maintenance on Post Court

Mr. Crone discussed that as the Board is aware, letters to property owners on unaccepted streets were recently sent informing them of the improvements that need to be made to meet the criteria approved by the Selectmen over a year ago for winter maintenance to continue. The residents of Post Court were informed that the existing fence on the south side of Post Court is too close to road inhibiting equipment from properly removing snow. The fence is owned by a property owner that lives on the corner of Main Street and Post Court. That owner does not use Post Court to enter or exit their property and therefore does not have a direct benefit from the Town plowing Post Court.

Mr. Hickey discussed that on Post Court there is a fence owned by a Main Street resident. The owner of the fence was in attendance and agreed to accept any liability if the fence is damaged during plowing.

After discussion with the Board and residents, that if the property owner of 103 Main Street, Chris Johnson is willing to accept sign that the Town is not liable for any damage the Town will continue winter maintenance on Post Court

Mr. Crone mentioned this is not a safety issue on vehicles or staff, the road is fine it is just the fence.

Motion by Mr. Pike, seconded by Ms. Bateman and a 5-0-0 vote, by roll call vote

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen authorize the continuing plowing of Post Court with the provision we receive a document making any liability concerning the fence not a problem for the Town.

Mr. Hickey discussed the challenges on Lantern Lane, as it relates to rocks in the road layout. Mr. Hickey discussed if the resident accepts that possible foot of his grass may be damaged due to a plow that is something that can be worked out. It was discussed having the residents provide snow markers and removing the large rocks prior to a snowstorm.

Jonathan Clarke of 2 Lantern, who discussed that the Town has plowed the road for many years has no issues to date, the residents have always clearly staked the road and has no issues continuing that.

Interim Town Administrator and Streets, Trees and Parks Interim Superintendent of Streets to discuss the issues and resolutions, and the Board discussed that a vote of this will be at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Appointment of Assistant Conservation Agent

Mr. Crone discussed that upon completion of employment search and interviews, the Town Administrator is recommending Georgianna Minenna to fill the Assistant Conservation Agent.

Motion by Ms. Bateman, seconded by Mr. Pike and a 5-0-0 vote, by roll call

VOTE: I move to appoint Georgianna Minenna to the position of Assistant Conservation Agent, a Grade 4, Step 4, nonexempt position within KTEU Labor with the Conservation Department with an anticipated start date of November 3, 2025, contingent with the terms in the offer letter.

Appointment of Teen and Emerging Technology Librarian

Mr. Crone discussed that upon completion of an employment search and interviews, the Library Director is recommending Parker Yarasitis to fill the Teen and Emerging Technology Librarian position.

Motion by Mr. Pike, seconded by Ms. Bateman and a 5-0-0 vote, by roll call vote,

VOTE: I move to appoint Parker Yarasitis to the position of Teen and Emerging Technology Librarian, a Schedule D-7 exempt position within Wage and Personnel with an anticipated start date of October 6, 2025, contingent with the terms in the offer letter.

Appointment of Pauline Dodd as Regular Member of Council on Aging Advisory Board

Pauline Dodd has submitted a letter of interest to serve as a regular member of the Council on Aging Advisory Board. The Advisory Board voted unanimously to support Ms. Dodd's appointment.

Motion by Ms. Bateman, seconded by Ms. Emberg and a 5-0-0 vote, by roll call vote,

VOTE: I move to appoint Pauline Dodd as a regular member of the Council on Aging Advisory Board to a term ending June 30, 2027.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Close Special Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Hickey discussed that the Town Meeting warrant needs to be closed this evening. After reviewing the proposed warrant, the Board should vote to close the warrant if they are satisfied with the articles included.

Mr. Hickey discussed briefly the articles that are on the draft warrant that is in the meeting packet.

Mr. Pike discussed had questions, but Mr. Hickey discussed that at a future meeting the departments requesting these articles will be prepared to discuss and answer questions.

Ms. Emberg discussed adding the article for the Finance Committee bylaw regarding the number of members on the committee as the Finance Committee discussed this at one point.

Motion by Ms. Emberg, seconded by Ms. Bateman and a 5-0-0 vote, by roll call vote

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen close the October 28, 2025, Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Consideration of Forming a Veterans District with the Town of Duxbury

Mr. Hickey discussed how this discussion came to light, included in the Board materials is the Intermunicipal Agreement between the Towns of Kingston and Duxbury for the Board's consideration. The agreement would create a district that Veterans Agent Sara Lansing would oversee, providing veterans support for both communities.

A part-time administrative position would need to be created to assist the Veterans Agent. The estimated cost for this 19.5 hour per week position is estimated at \$29,406 annually. The position is less than part time and would not be eligible for health insurance. Duxbury and Kingston would equally share the salary and benefit costs equally. Both communities would continue to independently budget for the benefits supporting veterans. The Veterans Agent position would need to be reviewed for an anticipated reclassification due to the additional responsibilities. In the budget and cost allocation spreadsheet, position reflects an annual salary of \$95,000, consistent with the Veteran Agent salaries of communities with a similar number of veterans. Establishing a District and the sharing of staff would provide a net reduction in Kingston's Veterans Budget of \$78,000, based on the estimated costs reflected in the spreadsheet included in the agreement.

Mr. Hickey discussed the next steps is that if the Town of Kingston Board approves the Veterans District tonight, the Town of Duxbury will vote on establishing the district at their meeting next week. The agreement would then be sent to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services for their consideration and approval.

The anticipated start date of the district is December 1st, dependent on approval of the Executive Office of Veterans Affairs.

Motion by Mr. Pike, seconded by Ms. Bateman and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen Consideration of Forming a Veterans District with the Town of Duxbury

Update on the Status of Establishing a Department of Public Works – This item will be an ongoing agenda item for any updates
No Update – Mr. Crone will be working with Water and Sewer Commissions and staff.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Hickey thanked the Board and the staff in the Town of Kingston.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS:

Mr. Pike thanked Mr. Hickey, and it was his pleasure working with him.

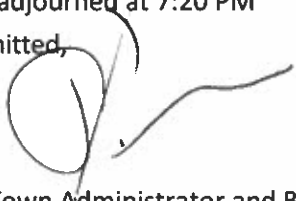
Ms. Emberg asked if someone could take her place at The Plymouth County Advisory Board meeting on October 23rd.

Ms. Bateman and Mr. Alcombright thanked Mr. Hickey for his time here in Kingston.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, seconded by Mr. Pike and a 5-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Tucker

Assistant to the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen

Documents used at the meeting:

Agenda

Agenda Addendum

Police Recognition

Winter Maintenance Requests

Appointment backup

Draft Special Town Meeting Warrant

Veterans District Backup