



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
TOWN HOUSE-26 EVERGREEN ST.
ZOOM
AUGUST 12, 2026

4:00 p.m. – CALL TO ORDER – Via Zoom

Ms. Emborg called to order the meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 4:00 p.m.—Selectmen in attendance: Kimberley Emborg, Carl Pike, Missy Bateman, Sheila Vaughn and Joseph Cunningham.

Staff Present: Scott Lambiase, Town Administrator and Patricia Tucker, Assistant to Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen.

The Board began with a roll call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. This meeting is being recorded by the Local Seen. 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.
4. Please check our website for any additional events or notices www.kingstonma.gov
5. Complete Water ban in effect until further notice.
6. Wonderful National Night Out Event this year. Ms. Ember thanked everyone involved in planning.

APPOINTMENTS:

Request from Town Clerk to Approve and Post Warrant for State Primary – The Town Clerk is seeking the Board's approval to post the State primary Election Warrant.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen authorize the Town Clerk to post the September 1, 2026, State Primary Election Warrant.

Request for Road Closure on September 19, 2026 for a Wedding on West Ave

Police, Fire and Highway Department have all been reviewed and their conditions are within the suggested motion.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen approve the request to close West Avenue during the hours of 3pm-11pm with the following conditions:

- Contact the Police Department for a Police Detail
- Pick up the barricades from the Highway Department on Friday the 18th
- Ensure that emergency vehicles must have access at all times
- Notify all abutting neighbors of the road closure

The applicant was online and thanked the board.

Request of the Police Chief to Advertise and Appoint on behalf of the Board a full-time Clinician to backfill a vacancy due to a resignation

Chief Holmes stated that they are filling the position due to a resignation, noted that remains funded by the DMH JDP grant.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen authorize Police Chief Holmes to advertise and appoint a full-time clinician on behalf of the board.

Request of the Police Chief for Authorization to appoint on behalf of the Board per-diem clinicians on a temporary basis

Police Chief Holmes is requesting and will provide backup.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen authorize Police Chief Holmes to appoint per diem clinicians whenever there are less than 2 full-time clinicians in the office on a temporary basis.

Approval of One-Day Liquor Licenses –Forty Second Brew Co.

The office received a few one-day liquor requests. All requests were reviewed by the Police and Fire Chiefs, and all requirements have been met unless noted in the motion.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen approve the request for a one-day liquor licenses for Gears and Beers event for Forty Second Brew Co for Friday, August 28th from 5-8pm and Saturday September 26th from 11-2pm at Jones River Storage, 26 Wapping Road contingent on receipt of liquor liability certificate.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen approve the request for a one-day liquor license for the Kingston 300th Old Home Day for Forty Second Brew Co for Saturday, 19, 2026 with a rain date of September 26th from 4-8pm contingent on receipt of liquor liability certificate.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Board of Selectmen Comments:

Ms. Vaughn was looking for an update on the watermain break on Ocean Hill Drive, there was no update from the Water Department.

Ms. Bateman noted that the next Music Night is at Gray's Beach on Tuesday, August 18th.

Town Administrator Report

Mr. Lambiase provided the following update:

Water Department Update

Following the official resignation of Water Superintendent Chris Veracka, the Water Commissioners appointed Matt Darsch to serve as Interim Water Superintendent. Matt previously served as Kingston's Water Superintendent before retiring in 2022. He brings extensive knowledge of the Town's water system and organization and will serve in the interim role while a suitable permanent candidate is identified.

In light of recent cyberattacks targeting water districts, I have also contacted Matt to determine whether the Water

Department and Water Commissioners have implemented, or are considering, any additional measures to protect the Town's water infrastructure.

Wastewater Department Update

The Wastewater Department is currently experiencing staff shortages. Temporary staffing assistance may be necessary to ensure that the Town's wastewater systems continue to operate safely and without interruption. I will continue to monitor the situation and keep the Board informed of any significant developments.

Verizon Cable License Renewal

I met with Attorney Solomon regarding the renewal of the Town's cable license with Verizon.

The terms discussed appear favorable and beneficial to the Town.

I will be working with Elizabeth Shanahan-Jewett, Executive Director and Head of Production at The Local Seen, to identify any cable media infrastructure improvements that should be incorporated into the agreement.

Elizabeth and Attorney Solomon will attend the Board's September 8 meeting to provide a brief overview and summary of the proposed agreement. They will return on September 22 for the required public hearing and the Board's consideration of final approval.

Personnel and Recruitment Update

The Town continues to recruit for several vacant positions, including a Facilities laborer, a Highway Department laborer, and an administrative clerk for the Building Department. We are working to expand our recruitment efforts beyond the Town's website and social media to reach a broader pool of qualified candidates.

Procurement and Contracting Update

We are finalizing several procurement matters, with advertisements and other actions anticipated to begin next week. These include the Fire Station roof project, wastewater sludge removal services, legal services, and awards for house doctor engineering services. I will continue to update the Board as these procurements advance.

Board of Selectmen Comments:

The board discussed recruiting options for hiring.

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

VOTE: I move to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Tucker

Assistant to the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen

Documents used at the meeting:

Agenda

Agenda Addendum

One Day Liquor Requests