

**Regular Session Minutes – Bedford, MA Select Board Meeting  
Hybrid Participation Meeting (Zoom and Select Board Meeting Room)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roMyBS891X8>  
August 7, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Chair Bopha Malone, Clerk Shawn Hanegan, Paul Mortenson Margot Fleischman, Emily Mitchell (remote)  
Margot Fleischman-Excused

**ALSO PRESENT:** Colleen Doyle, Kerri Rufo, Town Manager’s Office; Tony Fields, Planning Board; Dan Bostwick, Renu Bostwick, Energy and Sustainability Committee; Mike Rosenberg, *The Bedford Citizen*; Robin Steele, Recreation Commission; Tony Fields, Planning Board; Rick Reed, Bernard Lynch, Community Paradigm; Barbara Purchia, Carol Kelly, Brian Covel, Rheanna Lanoie, Rebecca Pomerantz, Mike David, Christina Rabinowitz, Joanne Bissetta, Karen Wilson, Erin Dorr, Kira Arnott

Chair Bopha Malone called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

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**23- 118 Public Comment**

None

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**23-119 Announcement of Town Manager (*This item was taken out of order*)  
Bernard Lynch-Community Paradigm**

Bernard Lynch gave an overview of how they provided guidance with the Town Managers Screening Committee in the search for applicants for the Town Manager Position.

The two finalists that were chosen from the Town Manager Screening Committee are Matt Hanson, current Town Administrator/Town Manager with the Town of Tyngsborough since April 2017. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Finalist is Greg Johnson, Town Administrator with the Town of Maynard since July 2018

The two finalists will meet with the Select Board on August 14, 2023 to be interviewed.

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**23-120 Appointment of Interim Fire Chief-Paul Sheehan (*This item was taken out of order*)**

Interim Town Manager Colleen Doyle announced that an Interim Fire Chief has been selected to take over following Chief Grunes' retirement. Chief Sheehan, a seasoned professional with over 33 years of experience in the Fire service, will assume his duties on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, and officially become Chief on Wednesday, August 16, 2023. Chief Sheehan, a former Assistant Fire Chief from the Cambridge Fire Department, brings valuable expertise and enthusiasm to the role, having worked on various projects, including with an ALS department and building renovations. Chief Grunes' last day in office will be Tuesday, August 15, 2023. Additionally, plans for finding a permanent Chief are underway, with the intention of issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an assessment center, aiming for its release shortly.

The Select Board thanked Chief Grunes for his years of service to the Town of Bedford

**Mr. Mortenson move that the Select Board confirm the appointment of the Interim Fire Chief chosen by the Interim Town Manger. Mr. Hanegen seconded. Ms. Mitchell-Aye, Paul Mortenson-Aye, Shawn Hanegen-Aye**  
**The motion passed 4-0-0.**

*Materials: Final Contract - Sheehan Interim FC, Paul Sheehan CL, Paul Sheehan Resume*

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### **23-121 Specialized Energy Code-Potential Warrant Article**

Dan Bostwick with the Energy and Sustainability Committee expresses gratitude to the Select Board for including an article in the November 2023 Special Town Meeting warrant to adopt the Specialized Energy Code. He gave a PowerPoint presentation. The code pertains to new construction, encourages all-electric buildings, defines Net Zero criteria consistent with MA 2050 zero emission goals, and outlines requirements for different building types and sizes, emphasizing energy efficiency, electric conversion, and solar panels. The trend in Bedford's residential construction favors larger homes, with a majority surpassing 4000 sq ft, and highlights are provided for commercial and multi-family construction. Data presented supports the cost-effectiveness of all-electric homes over mixed fuel homes, with heat pumps contributing to savings, and research underscores the lower net present costs of all-electric homes across various cities.

Mr. Hanegan asked if the current development at South Road meet the standard if the code was in place. He feels if it did that it would be a good selling point.

Ms. Mitchell thanked Mr. Bostwick for the presentation and feels that they will have more questions in the future as they learn more about specialized code.

*Materials: ESC Specialized Energy Code, Residential Compiled Case Studies, nrmi\_economics\_electrifying\_buildings\_residential\_new\_construction*

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### **23-222 Consent Agenda**

1. One-Day Special License—Tapped Beer Truck – 8/24/23 & 8/31/23

**Mr. Mortenson moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Mitchell seconded.**  
**The motion passed 4-0-0.**

*Materials: 2 (two) One Day Alcohol Licenses Application-Tapped Beer Truck August 24<sup>th</sup> & August 31, 2023*

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### **23-123 Town Manager's Report**

1. Paving Update from DPW:

Ms. Doyle informed the Select Board that the town is set to commence a new phase of paving and roadway-related work over the next two weeks, aiming for completion before the school year starts. Activities include continuing the fog seal program, construction at the North Road/Chelmsford intersection, and installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon crosswalk on North Road. The most impactful project involves grinding and paving South Road from Railroad Avenue to south of Hartwell Road, with closures for through traffic but access for emergency vehicles and locals.

Temporary delays are expected, and detours will be in place, possibly increasing travel time. Detailed notifications will be provided through various channels. The new traffic signal at North and Chelmsford is anticipated to be operational this fall, concluding the project this year. Residents are encouraged to subscribe to the Town's website for updates.

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**Adjournment**

**Mr. Mortenson moved to adjourn. Ms. Mitchell seconded.  
The motion passed 4-0-0.**

**The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted by Kerri Rufo**

**Approved at the August 28, 2023 Select Board meeting**