



TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Select Board
Town Hall
242 Union Street
Rockland, Massachusetts 02370

Chair:
Tiffany Needham
Vice Chair:
Lori Childs

Members:
Michael P. O'Loughlin
John J. Ellard, Jr.
Steven G. O'Donnell, Jr.

Telephone: 781-871-1874

Select Board Open Session Minutes of
June 17, 2025

Select Board Meeting
H. Bernard Monahan Memorial Room
Town Hall, 242 Union Street, Rockland

In attendance: Chair Tiffany Needham, Vice Chair Lori Childs, Members Michael O'Loughlin, John Ellard, Steven O'Donnell, Assistant Town Administrator Courtney Bjorgaard, and Town Administrator Doug Lapp.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Community Announcements-

-Rockland Day, June 14 – thank you to the Rockland Day Committee, Parks, Fire, Police & volunteers – great event; Town Offices closed Juneteenth 6/19; Town Hall Summer Schedule closed Fridays 6/27-8/29, closed 7/7; Board/Committee Vacancies: ADA Committee, Capital Planning Committee, Charter Maintenance Committee, Community Preservation Committee, Conservation Commission, Cultural Council, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Memorial Committee, Rent Control Board, Recreation Committee, Taxation Aid Committee, Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternates

3. Minutes-6/3/25

MOTION to approve the minutes of 6/3/25, by Mr. O'Loughlin, 2nd by Ms. Childs. Unanimous approval.

4. New Business

-Awning Permits: Mayflower Tax & Insurance, 327 Union Street and Toxmeup Wellness Spa, 217 Union Street. Town Planner Allyson Quinn recommends approval in support of our local business community.

MOTION to approve the awning permits for Mayflower Tax & Insurance and Toxmeup Wellness Spa by Mr. O'Loughlin, 2nd by Ms. Childs. Unanimous approval.

- Reappointments – Registrar of Voters Peter Dow (3 year term); Historical Commission Douglas Becker (3 year term)

MOTION to approve the reappointments of Peter Dow to the Registrar of Voters and Douglas Becker to the Historical Commission by Mr. O'Loughlin, 2nd by Ms. Childs. Unanimous approval.

-Discussion and potential vote to release of summary of independent investigation pursuant to General Laws, c. 41, Sec. 23B- Town Counsel John Clifford provided the background leading up to the board's decision to go forward with an independent investigation on former Sewer Commissioner Charles Heshion regarding the violation of the Town's discrimination policy. Mr. Clifford recommends adopting the executive findings and releasing the summary to the Town Clerk to be published in the next Town Report. The Board discussed and thanked Attorney Clifford.

MOTION to release of summary of the independent investigation pursuant to General Laws, c. 41, Sec. 23B, by Mr. O'Loughlin, 2nd by Ms. Childs. Unanimous approval

-Other New Business Not Reasonably Anticipated- none

5. Old Business –

-Continuation of Public Hearing pursuant to General Law, c. 138, Sec. 64: Potential modification of 90-day suspension of Innholder's License to sell alcoholic beverages, to wit: 167 Union Street, LLC d/b/a The Banner, William T. Barry, Manager – Attorney Clifford thanked all the Town departments involved that have put in a lot of time & effort monitoring the situation with the Banner to get the premises into compliance & make it safe to open to the public. He said the 90 day suspension the Board previously issued ends on July 1st and, with the Board's next meeting on July 8th, the suspension will remain until July 8th. Mr. Clifford said the Select Board is the appointing authority for the liquor license only; several Town inspectors have outstanding issues to be addressed. Mr. Clifford said the Banner license will

need to come before the Board on July 8th and the Board will vote to approve or not approve the next steps or options. The Board thanked Attorney Clifford for the update.

-Other Old Business Not Reasonably Anticipated- none

6. Select Board Liaison Update(s)-Ms. Childs provided a Board of Health meeting update.

7. Town Administrators Report & Correspondence

-Plymouth County has awarded Rockland an additional \$150,000 on county ARPA funds

8. Select Board Comments

Mr. O'Loughlin-Great job on the additional ARPA funding monies received

-Congratulations to the Rockland Day Committee for a great job

Mr. O'Donnell-Reminded everyone the importance in celebrating Juneteenth on Thursday

-Congratulations & thank you to the Rockland Day Committee for a successful event

-Congratulations to all the students at Rockland Public schools

-Encouraged residents to check out the great Recreation summer programs

-Thank you to the Parent Advisory Committees and the Phelps PAC for raising \$78,000 this year

-Happy 4th of July

-Thomas Paine Common Sense "A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong, gives it a superficial appearance of being right and raises at first a formidable outcry in defense of custom. But the tumult soon subsides. Time makes more converts than reason."

"The cause of America is in a great measure the cause of all mankind. Many circumstances have, and will arise, which are not local, but universal, and through which the principles of all Lovers of Mankind are affected, and in the Event of which, their Affections are interested. The laying of a Country desolate with Fire and Sword, declaring War against the natural rights of all Mankind, and extirpating the Defenders thereof from the Face of the Earth, is the Concern of every Man to whom Nature hath given the Power of feeling; of which Class, regardless of Party Censure, is"

Mr. Ellard-Congratulations to Rockland Day for putting on a great event

-Doug, great job on getting additional ARPA money

Ms. Childs-Rockland Day was fun

-Attended the grand reopening of the Shea Naval Aviation Museum at Union Point; very emotional

Ms. Needham-Commend Rockland Day Committee – amazing & so much hard work

-Wish all Rockland students and teachers a well-deserved great summer break

-Big thank you to Andrew & Laurie Campbell for hosting a group playdate/barbecue for all Phelps Elementary School students & families at Jefferson Field

MOTION to enter into Executive Session the following, not to reconvene, : Per MGL c.30A s.21(a)(6): To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body: parcel ID 78-9-0; Per MGL c.30A s.21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining: Police Superiors Union

by Mr. O'Loughlin, 2nd by Ms. Childs. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous approval.

Minutes by Susan Ide, Executive Assistant

Open Session Minutes approved by the BOS on 7/8/25