

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting of Wednesday, February 18, 2026.
Present were Jeffrey P. Ryan, Chairman, Marcie M. Lee, Vice Chair and Michael A. Perez, Clerk, also present was David L. Gagne, Town Administrator. The meeting convened at 6:15 p.m. in the Eldon F. Moreira Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Town Hall, 65 North Main Street, West Bridgewater, MA 02379.

Also, Present:

Jim Noyes, Planning Board
Marc Bornstein, Planning Board
Gerald Stetson, Planning Board
Sara Connolly, Planning Board Applicant
Hugh Hurley, Planning Board
Kristine Roberts, Library Trustee
Marilyn Mather, COA Director
Karen Badavas, COA Applicant
John Badavas
Ed Sarro, IT Director
Melanie Terrill, Library Director
Wayne Parks, Water Superintendent
Daniela Nilsson, Principal Assessor
Paula Bunker, Board of Assessors
John Cruz, Water Commissioner
Thomas Gay Jr., Town Counsel

Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Chairman Ryan stated that the meeting would be recorded and that some or all parts of the meeting may be used by our local access company to be shown on local access along with internet feeds and clips which may be used separately from the video of the entire meeting. A full recording of the meeting will be posted on the West Bridgewater Community Access Video On Demand website at <https://wb-cam.org/vod/>.

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Ryan stated first on the agenda was a joint meeting with the Planning Board.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to open the public meeting with the Planning Board, Mr. Perez seconded and so voted unanimously.

Mr. Stetson **MOVED** to open the Planning Board meeting, Mr. Noyes seconded and so voted unanimously.

Chairman Ryan explained that the reason for the joint meeting was to fill a recently vacated spot on the Planning Board that would finish out Mr. Kinahan's elected term.

Ms. Connolly introduced herself and expressed her wish to finish Mr. Kinahan's term on the Planning Board.

Ms. Lee **MOVED** to appoint Sara Connolly to complete Tony Kinahan's term on the Planning Board to end April 2027, Mr. Perez seconded and so voted unanimously.

Mr. Stetson **MOVED** to appoint Sara Connolly to complete Tony Kinahan's term on the Planning Board to end April 2027, Mr. Noyes seconded and so voted unanimously.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to close the public meeting with the Planning Board, Ms. Lee seconded and so voted unanimously.

Mr. Hurley **MOVED** to continue the Planning Board meeting to the MacDonald/Brown Meeting Room, Mr. Noyes seconded and so voted unanimously.

Chairman Ryan and the Board expressed their gratitude to Mr. Hurley for his 39 years of service on the Planning Board.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to approve the Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2026 and January 21, 2026, Mr. Perez seconded, hearing no discussion. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to approve.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to accept the Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2026 for review, Ms. Lee seconded, hearing no discussion. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept.

Ms. Lee **MOVED** to appoint Chairman Ryan to the Capital Budget Committee for FY27, Mr. Perez seconded, hearing no discussion. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to ratify Karen Badavas' employment as Office Assistant at the COA, Mr. Perez seconded and so voted unanimously.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to sign the Warrant for the Annual Town Election on April 11, 2026, Ms. Lee seconded, hearing no discussion. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to award the SERSG DPW Services Contracts March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027 as presented, Ms. Lee seconded, hearing no discussion. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept.

Mr. Sarro presented the FY27 Data Processing Budget.

Ms. Terrill presented the FY27 Library Budget.

Mr. Gagne presented the Accountant, Town Counsel, Cable TV Committee, Planning Board, Board of Appeals, Rent Control Board, ADA Compliance Committee and Municipal Building Needs Committee Budgets.

Ms. Bunker and Ms. Nilsson presented the FY27 Assessors Budget.

Mr. Parks reviewed the FY27 Water Department Budget.

Mr. Gagne referenced the retirement of Mr. Parks and the option of combining the Water Department into the DPW proposing a meeting with the Water Commissioners to discuss further.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to accept Gerry Gill's Resignation from the Memorial and Veterans Day/Veterans Legacy Committee, Ms. Lee seconded, Mr. Perez recognized Mr. Gill had been a great member of the Committee and voted unanimously to accept his resignation.

Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to appoint Ann Marie Grinder to the Cultural Council, Ms. Lee seconded, hearing no discussion. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept.

Mr. Gagne informed the Board the annual Rodman for Kids Road Race will take place on May 16, 2026.

Mr. Gagne provided some crash data from the Chief of Police for N. Elm St. and Crescent St. The Board decided to hold a Public Hearing to gain resident feedback in regards to placing stop signs at the intersection.

Mr. Gagne informed the Board of a Mass DOT Grant Awarded for Crescent St. / West St. & Lincoln St. / S. Elm St. Intersection Design Work.

Mr. Gagne informed the Board Housing Authority Member Diane Perry has passed away.

The Board discussed rescheduling the March 4, 2026 meeting to March 11, 2026 due to scheduling conflicts.

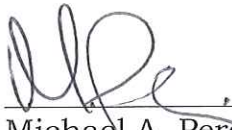
Chairman Ryan **MOVED** to repost the March 4, 2026 meeting to March 11, 2026, Ms. Lee seconded and so voted unanimously.

Chairman Ryan stated he would entertain a motion to enter into Executive Session, not to return to Open Session, to discuss strategy with respect to preparations for negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically, the Town Administrator

Ms. Lee disclosed she will be recusing herself from a portion of Executive Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ryan, yes; Perez, yes; Lee, yes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.



Michael A. Perez, Clerk

Respectfully submitted by Christine Eaton, Executive Assistant.

List of documents included in the February 18, 2026 Meeting Packet:

- *Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2026 and February 4, 2026*
- *Budget Hearings: FY27 Budgets:*
 - *1550 – Data Processing*
 - *6100 – Library*
 - *1410 – Assessors*
 - *4500 – Water Department*
 - *1350 – Accountant*
 - *1510 – Town Counsel*
 - *1560 – Cable TV Committee*
 - *1750 – Planning Board*
 - *1760 – Board of Appeals*
 - *1850 – Rent Control Board*
 - *1920 – ADA Compliance Committee*
 - *1945 – Municipal Building Needs Committee*
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- *Sara Connolly Volunteer Form to the Planning Board*
- *Karen Badavas' Employment Letter as Office Assistant at the COA*
- *Gerry Gill's Resignation Letter from the Memorial and Veterans Day/Veterans Legacy Committee*
- *Ann Marie Grinder Volunteer Form to the Cultural Council*
- *Warrant for Annual Town Election*

- *SERSG DPW Services Contracts March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027*
- *Request to Use Town Hall Parking Lot and Roads – Rodman for Kids – May 16, 2026*
- *Crash Data for N. Elm St. and Crescent St.*
- *Mass DOT Grant Awarded – Crescent St. / West St. & Lincoln St. / S. Elm St. Intersection Design Work*