



# Select Board

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## Select Board Meeting Minutes December 4, 2023

**Quorum present:** Select Board Members; Kathleen Keresey, Chair, Andrew Krouss, Andrew Potter, and Town Administrator Marie Ryan.

Kathleen opened the meeting at 6 PM.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy Potter, to approve the minutes from November 13, 2023.

All were in favor, minutes approved.

### **Citizen Speak:**

Michael Bolognino spoke to the Board to update them on the progress of the Dog Park Advisory Committee. He stated that the Stanton Foundation Grant will only be available this year and the deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup> to submit an application. This grant could provide \$250,000 in funds to help create our Town dog park. The Town would need to commit to providing 10% (\$25,000) towards the project. Michael has been in contact with the Community Preservation Committee who are supporting the process to give that amount to the project if approved at Town Meeting.

Kathleen suggested that the Dog Park Advisory Committee get everything in order and come back to the Board for approval. The Board thanked him for all their hard work on this project.

Truc Nguyen asked the Board to consider how neighbors may be impacted by noise when approving the Annual Entertainment Licenses. Her concerns were in regard to a once a year fundraising event that takes place at TurnPark with amplification until 10:00 PM.

### **Tax Classification Hearing-** Harald Schmeid, Assessing Consultant

Harald explained to the Board that this public hearing is for the Board to decide and vote on whether or not to continue with one tax rate in the Town. He suggested to the Board that voting to adapt one tax rate would benefit West Stockbridge the most. There are not enough commercial properties to tax in West Stockbridge to make a difference for the residents. He stated that he estimates that the tax rate will decrease this year from \$10.31 per thousand

down to \$9.58 per thousand.

Andy Potter made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, that the West Stockbridge Select Board votes in accordance with M.G.L., Ch. 40, Sec. 56, as amended, the percentage of local tax levy which will be borne by each class of real and personal property, relative to setting the Fiscal Year 2024 tax rates and set the Residential Factor at 1.0, with a corresponding CIP shift of 1.0, pending approval of the town's annual tax recap by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

All were in favor, motion passed.

**Approval of Renewal of Annual Licenses:**

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy Potter, to approve the following Liquor Licenses:

Truc Orient Express	All Alcohol – Restaurant
Public Market	All Alcohol – Package Store
Queensboro Wine & Spirits	All Alcohol – Package Store
AMICI	All Alcohol – Restaurant
Heirloom Lodge	All Alcohol – Hotel/ Innkeeper
The Foundry	All Alcohol – General on Premises

All were in favor, motion passes.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to approve the following Entertainment Licenses:

TurnPark Art Space	Annual Entertainment
AMICI	Annual Entertainment
The Foundry	Annual Entertainment
The Foundry	Annual Sunday Entertainment

Andy Potter made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to amend the Annual Entertainment License for TurnPark to change the time frame to 5 PM – 9 PM for amplified music and until 10 PM for all non-amplification.

All were in favor, motion passes.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy Potter, to approve the following Auto Class II & III and Taxi Licenses:

Troy's Garage	Auto Class II & III License
William Kie	Auto Class II & III
William Kie	Taxi

All were in favor, motion passes.

**Select Board Speak:**

Andy Krouss encouraged residents to continue to fill out the survey on the website in regard Broadband. The more information the State has the better the State will be able to assist us for

improved and faster services. If anyone has any questions or concerns, they can contact our Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Representative Robert Ireland at (413) 442-1521 x28.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy Potter, to adjourn to Executive Session and not to return to open session:

“Anticipated executive session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3), to conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and the Chair so declares. (Housatonic Water Company)

Roll Call Vote:

Andy Krouss	Yes
Andy Potter	Yes
Kathleen	Yes

The Board adjourned open session and entered into Executive Session at 6:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marie y. Ryan*

Marie Y. Ryan  
Town Administrator