



Select Board Minutes
Regular Meeting | 6th Floor Conference Room
Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 5:00 PM

1. (5:00 PM) Open Session

Question of entering into Executive Session for the purposes stated in items two (2), three (3), and four (4), and to reconvene in open session.

Chair Greene declared that the Board shall enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and 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. The board will reconvene in open session.

On motion, it was,

Voted to enter into executive session.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

Absent from roll call: Paul Warren

2. Executive Session - Real Property

- 2a. Executive session, pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(6) ("Purpose 6"), for the purpose of considering the value of real estate at the following properties: 1280 Boylston St, 1290 Boylston St, 1300 Boylston St, and 1330 Boylston St.

3. Executive Session- Real Property

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(6) ("Purpose 6"), for the purpose of considering the value of real estate to potentially be sold by Hellenic College

4. Executive Session- Collective Bargaining

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) ("Purpose 3"), for the purpose of discussing strategy related to collective bargaining with Local 950, International Association of Firefighters (AFL-CIO).

5. (6:00 PM) Announcements/Updates

Chair Greene delivered a statement about recent hate attacks, including the killing of a Brookline resident and MIT professor and 15 people at a Hanukkah celebration in Australia, emphasizing the need to combat anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred.

Chair Greene announced the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on January 19, 2026, at Coolidge Corner Theater. Speakers include: Dr. Noliwe Rooks (Brown University), Reggie Gibson (Massachusetts Poet Laureate) Allison Adair (Brookline Poet Laureate)

John VanScoyoc expressed the board's and community's condolences to the family affected by the Gibbs Street tragedy, highlighting Brookline's supportive nature.

6. Public Comment

1. Lisa Guibond criticized the board's decision and called for Chi Chi Wu's reappointment to the Commission for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Relations (CDEICR).
2. Amy Newell raised concerns about the backgrounds and views of current applicants to the CDEICR.
3. Alicia Hsu spoke on behalf of BAAFN (Brookline Asian American Family Network), supporting Chi Chi Wu and condemning the lack of due process.
4. Katherine Haenschen opposed the appointment of Carey Goldberg to the CDEICR, citing past actions and statements.
5. Chi-Chi Wu delivered a detailed rebuttal, and highlighted systemic issues in Brookline governance. Wu clarified accusations related to social media posts, resulting in disparate treatment, verbal attacks and organized harassment, plus violation of free speech. Wu announced plans to file a civil rights complaint.

7. Miscellaneous

Approval of miscellaneous items, licenses, and contracts.

7a. Question of approving the following meeting minutes:

December 2, 2025

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

Abstained: John VanScoyoc

December 9, 2025

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

7b. Question of approving Contract No. PW/26-32, in the amount of \$148 456.00 with Kyle Zick Landscape Architecture, Inc. for services associated with Cultural Landscape Report for Larz Anderson Park.

Approved - stamped

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

7c. Question of approving Extra Work Orders No. 1-3 for work performed by C. Naughton Corp under Contract No. PW/23-23 (Sewer System Repairs) in the amount of \$63,145.57 for emergency drain and sewer repairs.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7d. Question of approving and executing Contract PW/26- 07 "Sewer System Rehab". with Insituform Technologies in the amount of \$993,890.20

Approved - stamped

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7e. Question of approving and executing Contract PW/26- 08 "Epoxy lining of Sewer Manholes" with National Water Main Cleaning Company in the amount of \$1,124,920.00

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7f. Question of approving PW/26-21 with Apex Companies Inc. for FY26 Transportation and Mobility Engineering Services – Harvard Street in the amount of \$238,900.

Approved - Stamped

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7g. Question of approving an Authorization to Hire request from the Chief of Police:
Administrative/Accounting Assistant (C-8)

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7h. Question of approving an Authorization to Hire request from the Director of Health and Human Services:
Assistant Director of Operations (T-12).

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7i. Question of approving the request from the Chief of Police for the reappointment of Officer Dylan Diersch to the Brookline Police.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7j. Question of approving an appropriation transfer requested by the Chief Information Officer in the amount of \$10,000.00 as follows:

From: Leased equipment \$10,000.00

To: Education/Training \$10,000.00

This request will be forwarded to the Advisory Committee for approval.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7k. Question of approving an appropriation transfer request from the Planning Director in the amount of \$103,153.00 as follows:

From: Salaries \$103,153.00
To: Prof/Tech Services \$103,153.00

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7l. Question of accepting a donation in the amount of \$24,474.19 from the D. Blakely Hoar Trust to support the planting and care of trees and other vegetation in Brookline

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7m. Question of approving agreement amendment for the Brookline Chamber of Commerce ARPA project 22-14 – Restaurant Resiliency Seminar

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7n. Question of approving agreement budget amendment for the Brookline Teen Center ARPA project 23-51 – ARPA Assistance Program

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7o. Question of approving the 2026 Brookline Local Emergency Planning Committee membership

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7p. Question of approving the petition of NStar Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for permission to construct, and a location for underground conduit in High Street, southwesterly from pole 84/18 a distance of approximately 140 feet to private property at #196 High Street; and conduit running northeasterly from pole 84/19 a distance of about 39 feet to private property at #196 High Street.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7q. Question of approving the petition of NStar Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for permission to construct, and a location for underground conduit in St Mary's Street, southerly from manhole 17753 south of Beacon Street a distance of about 57 feet to manhole 8234.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7r. Question of approving the petition of NStar Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for permission to construct, and a location for underground conduit in St Paul Street, southerly thence turning and running easterly from manhole 25590, approximately 81 feet south of Sewall Avenue a distance of about 32 feet to private property at #135 St. Paul Street.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7s. Question of approving the application for an alteration of licensed premises for an All-Alcohol Restaurant License, Barcelona Brookline LLC d/b/a Barcelona Wine Bar at 1700 Beacon St. The alteration of premises is expanding the premises by adding 2,766 sq. ft. (1,399 on the first floor, 732 sq. ft. in the basement; 635 sq. ft. patio) from the abutting space of the building, which include a new service kitchen, dining room and bar. New total indoor square feet equal 5,539 sq. ft. on the first floor and 5,200 sq. ft. in the basement and the outdoor patio of 2,237 sq. ft. Restaurant space on one floor with a basement, total indoor of 10,739 sq. ft. with 196 seats; Outdoor patio with a total of 2,237 sq. ft. with 61 seats.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- 7t. Question of approving the application for a Change of Manager for Gelerman Brothers Inc. d/b/a The Butcherie from Walter Gellerman to Gil Zilberberg at 428 Harvard Street.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

8. **Calendar**

Review and potential vote on Calendar Items.

9. **Police Department Promotions.**

Chief Paster provided an overview of the candidate's qualifications and noted their extensive experience and leadership qualities.

Question of appointing Police Lieutenant Casey Hatchett to the position of Deputy Superintendent.

Question of appointing Police Deputy Superintendent Paul Campbell to the position of Superintendent.

On motion, it was,

Voted to appoint Police Lieutenant Casey Hatchett to the position of Deputy Superintendent.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

Voted to appoint Police Deputy Superintendent Paul Campbell to the position of Superintendent.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

10. **Digital Community Display**

Communications Officer, Christina Metcalf, provided a presentation in response to previous Board inquiries.

The Select Board discussed the future of the town's digital information display system, with Paul Warren expressing skepticism about its effectiveness after seven years and suggesting alternative uses for the space, perhaps a bike rack or a public bench.

Review of the revenue share (2024, \$3,436.00)

Michael Rubenstein noted that the town's costs appear to be high compared to the revenue generated. John VanScoyoc noted that the town is giving up sidewalk space with no strategic analysis of a proven benefit to the town. Member VanScoyoc is not supportive of a larger device in the public way. There was an inquiry about whether residents are actually using this media program.

Officer Metcalf reviewed the RFP process for a new company if desired.

The board designated Michael Rubenstein as the Select Board's representative for the RFP process.

On motion, it was,

Voted to start the process for an RFP and call other communities to learn about their success using the program. Also, to designate Board Member Michael Rubenstein as the Select Board's liaison in the RFP process.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

11. **Boards and Commissions - Interviews**

Commission on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Community Relations

Kara Weiss *Held*

Carey Goldberg

Carey Goldberg clarified some comments made earlier and demonstrated the ease of using language translation applications, noting the expense of a Language Access Coordinator in the Diversity office. Goldberg applied to be on the CDEICR because it needs reimagining. The bylaw needs a review every 5 years, diversity is poor in the diversity commission, and needs to promote welcoming viewpoints, noting that local social media hosts some nasty posts. The commission needs to examine when inclusion becomes exclusion.

Goldberg withdrew the application and will start a local platform, Brookline Thinks, next month.

Masha Kogan

Masha Kogan, shared her experience as an immigrant and her vision for fostering dialogue and reducing tension. Kogan was born in Russia and immigrated in the late 1970s to Brookline, and found a welcoming, open, and inclusive community. Kogan noted having more in common with other children of immigrants and carefully walked the boundary of immigrants vs. non-immigrants, adding the first job of the commission is inclusion and to lead and reduce the tone and the heat.

11b. Police Commissioners Advisory Committee

Susan Cohen *Held*

Isaac Fluhr Chapman *Held*

12. **(7:30 PM) License Renewals - Public Hearing**

Question of renewing the following licenses for 2026:

Town Administrator Chas Carey made the introductions to the annual license renewal hearing. Conditional licenses will have a deadline of January 13, 2026 to submit their full applications.

Licensing Specialist, Rachelle Morson announced this year was the first with new licensing software which caused some delays in application submittals. This is considered a learning curve and next year's process should result in fewer conditional licenses.

- **Common Victualer/Entertainment/2026 Outdoor dining**

Public hearing: No speakers. Approved with 39 conditional applications as noted in the attached packet. (Maruichi – Harvard Street flagged for disciplinary hearing).

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- **Food Vendor**

Public hearing: No speakers. Approved with 10 conditional applications as noted in the attached packet.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- **Alcohol**

Public hearing: No speakers. Approved with 17 conditional applications as noted in the attached packet.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- **Innholder**

Public hearing: No speakers. Approval with conditional approval for Homewood Suites and Hilton Garden Inn.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- **Lodging House**

Public hearing: No speakers. Approved with 7 conditional applications as noted in the attached packet.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- **Secondhand Articles**

Public hearing: No speakers. All approved

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- **Class 1 and Class 2 Motor Vehicles**

Public hearing: No speakers. All approved

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

Administrator Carey introduced the Cannabis Licenses, adding that Comm Ave Canna has requested that the board consider a policy reducing fees and waiving application costs for social equity applicant of cannabis. The annual renewal fee is \$20,000.00, with no medical component, and \$11,000.00 for a medical component. This will be explored at a later date.

12b. Question of renewing the following Marijuana Retail Licenses held by:

- Deeze Dispensary, 1351 Beacon St.

Public hearing: No speakers. All papers were in order.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- Comm Ave Canna, Inc. - 1030 Commonwealth Ave., 2nd Floor.

Public hearing: No speakers.

Approved * Conditional upon completed application.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- New England Treatment Access, LLC. (NETA, 160 Washington St.).

Public hearing: No speakers. All papers were in order.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

- Question of renewing the Medical Marijuana Treatment Center License held by New England Treatment Access, LLC (NETA, 160 Washington Street)

Public hearing: No speakers. All papers were in order.

Approved

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

13. **Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap, Zero Emission Vehicle First Policy**

Presentation, Discussion and Vote on Climate Leader Communities program application Including the Town's Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap and the Fleet Management, Electrification, and Vehicle Replacement Policy.

The Select Board reviewed Brookline's application for the Massachusetts Climate Leader Communities program, which requires meeting six criteria, of which Brookline already meets four. Meeting the remaining two including adopting a zero-emission vehicle policy and developing a municipal decarbonization roadmap.

The fleet electrification policy and the decarbonization roadmap, will enable the town to access \$1.15 million in state grant funding for meeting Brookline's energy- related climate goals.

Sustainability Deputy Director, Shelly Dein, presented the decarbonization roadmap, which analyzes the town's public buildings and shows that Brookline's municipal emissions can be reduced by 97% by 2050

through electrification and energy efficiency improvements. The program also prioritizes the acquisition of zero-emission vehicles over vehicles powered by internal combustion engines that utilize fossil fuels where feasible.

Director Vecchio spoke briefly on the Fleet Management and Vehicle Replacement Policy which addresses fleet use, electrification and replacement. Today, we have 34 fully electric vehicles in our fleet; a significant jump in recent years.

The goal of this Policy is to schedule a systematic replacement of vehicles in order to minimize operating cost, reduce climate impacts, and maximize trade values, safety, reliability, efficiency, and work function. Standardized models are recommended for the purpose of controlling or reducing vehicle maintenance costs. It is the Town's goal to electrify the fleet and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. The Town shall make every effort to convert the fleet to electric while considering function, availability and cost.

On motion it was,

Voted to approve and adopt the Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap, and Fleet Management, Electrification, and Vehicle Replacement Policy.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

14. Boards and Commissions - Appointments/Reappointments

14a. Preservation Commission

Jean Woy

On motion, it was,

Voted to appoint Jean Woy to the Preservation Commission as an Alternate Member, for a term ending on August 31, 2027.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

Building Commission

Jason Bowers

On motion, it was,

Voted to appoint Jason Bowers to the Building Commission for a term ending. August 31, 2026.

Aye: Bernard Greene, John VanScoyoc, Paul Warren, David Pearlman, Michael Rubenstein

Public comment

Regina Frawley, TMM#16 addressed the CDEICR appointment process, adding I have no magic bullet, but I think it's important that you understand in the bigger context that it's very difficult not to be divisive when you have passionate people who are usually drawn to that committee because of that passion.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:50 pm

ATTEST