

Town of Lunenburg  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
Town Hall, 17 Main Street and via Zoom  
Tuesday, May 12, 2026

**Members Present:** Chair Caesar Nuzzolo, Clerk Renee Emkey, Member Brian Lehtinen, and Member Glenn McLeod

**Members Absent:** Vice-Chair Amanda Moore

**Also Present:** Jennifer Warren-Dyment, Town Manager (virtual)

Public Comment Participants are listed in the minutes

## **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Caesar Nuzzolo called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Nuzzolo informed attendees that the meeting was being recorded and broadcast live and would be uploaded to YouTube after the meeting. He explained that the agenda listed topics that may be discussed, but not all items may be addressed and other items not listed could be brought up as permitted by open meeting law.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Nuzzolo reminded the public of the upcoming Annual Town Election on Saturday, May 16th at TC Passios, and noted that in-person absentee voting was currently available at the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall during the following hours: Wednesday, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM; Thursday, 8:00 AM–1:00 PM and 3:00 PM–6:00 PM; and Friday until noon.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **PUBLIC**

John Bowen Jr, of 162 Highland Street, invited the community to participate in flag staking at veterans' graves on Saturday, May 16th, beginning at North Cemetery at 12:00 PM. He noted a planned interview with Lunenburg Public Access on May 13th and announced a flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day, June 14th, at his property. He subsequently requested Select Board permission to conduct the flag burning ceremony; Chair Nuzzolo indicated he would look into the matter and follow up.

Dave Rodgers, of 82 Highland Street, stated he is pleased the way debates regarding the budget have gone so far. Mr. Rodgers addressed the Board at length regarding the upcoming Annual Town Election and the override question. Mr. Rodgers spoke to the importance of civic participation, stating that the Town has always come through in difficult periods. He cited statistics he found notable, including that the number of senior citizens in Lunenburg is roughly equal to the number of students in the school system, and that the town food bank serves approximately one thousand people per month. Mr. Rodgers expressed concern about student literacy challenges and the financial hardship seniors are facing. He referenced an article in the May 8th issue of the Lunenburg Ledger and stated he learned a lot this budget season. Mr. Rodgers, while acknowledging concerns on both sides, stated that he would not be supporting the override. He emphasized that all residents should vote and make their own informed decision.

Ana Lockwood, of 91 Main Street, raised concerns regarding the alleged improper use of the town seal in pro-override campaign materials. She also presented a fiscal analysis suggesting that budget allocation decisions including capital project funding, a Finance Committee reserve contribution above policy levels, and costs associated with hiring an Assistant Town Manager had prohibited the schools from receiving level-service funding. She asked the Select Board to place the topic of affordability on a future agenda for public discussion, referencing a video of the Town Manager and the lack of a public response from the Town Manager and Select Board on the video.

John Bowen Sr, of 162 Highland Street, echoed concerns about affordability and referenced a complaint he filed with Ethics regarding the School Superintendent's use of the school's messaging system that Mr. Bowen found inappropriate. Mr. Bowen also spoke about a matter with the School Committee in regards to a student government election appeal involving his son stating the administration had altered election rules mid-process and denied his son's due process.

## **BOARD**

Chair Nuzzolo gave his reflections on this budget season stating line items are real costs that affect real people and are not abstract numbers. He stated that he would be voting yes for Tier 2, citing the importance of fully funding schools, first responders, and community programs. He encouraged all residents to participate in the election regardless of their position.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

### **Peddler Application for Wayne Andrews of Intelligent Solar for Door-to-Door Solar Sales**

Wayne Andrews attended via Zoom seeking approval of a peddler's license to conduct door-to-door solar sales on behalf of Intelligent Solar, a company that has been in operation since 2018 out of Lunenburg. Mr. Andrews confirmed his state license application were still pending but all other paperwork has been submitted.

Clerk Renee Emkey had concerns about the hours of operation listed on the application as seven days a week, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. The Board and Mr. Andrews agreed to change soliciting hours to Monday through Saturday 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

**Chair Nuzzolo moved to approve the peddler application for Wayne Andrews of Intelligent Solar with hours of Monday through Saturday 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm contingent upon state peddler license approval. Seconded by Clerk Emkey. Call for the vote: Four-aye. The motion passed (4-0-0)**

## **APPOINTMENTS, RATIFICATIONS, AND RESIGNATIONS**

### **Ratification of the Town Manager's Appointment of Kimberly Murphy as Police Executive Assistant effective March 18, 2026**

Town Manager Jennifer Warren-Dyment spoke on the appointment of Kimberly Murphy as Police Executive Assistant, effective May 18, 2026, pending ratification. Ms. Murphy brings three years of experience in the same role with the Town of Littleton and nearly 14 years of prior law enforcement experience with the Towns of Spencer and Harvard. The Town Manager also requested Board's approval of a Step 6 salary.

**Clerk Emkey motioned to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Kimberly Murphy as Police Executive Assistant effective March 18, 2026 at a Step 6. Seconded by Member Brian Lehtinen. Call for**

**the vote: Four-aye. The motion passed (4-0-0)**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Review and Vote on Proclamation for Brendon Stokes Regarding His Achievement of Earning Eagle Scout**

The Board reviewed the proclamation and extended congratulations. Town Manager Warren-Dymont noted that the Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony was anticipated for the end of May.

### **2. Review and Vote on Proclamation for Girl Scout Caylen St. George on Her Achievement of Earning the Silver Award**

The Board reviewed the proclamation. Town Manager Warren-Dymont stated the Silver Award ceremony is scheduled for June 18th in Worcester, and that the proclamation must be delivered by June 11th.

**Clerk Emkey motioned to approve and sign proclamations for Brendan Stokes and Caylen St. George. Seconded by Member Brian Lehtinen. Call for the vote: Four-aye. The motion passed (4-0-0)**

### **3. Assignment of Police Officer and/or Constable for the May 16, 2026 Annual Town Election**

Chair Nuzzolo explained that the Town Constable, Michael Ray Jeffreys, had requested to serve as Constable for the Annual Town Election. Historically, the election had a Police Officer present for the detail. Pursuant to the Votes Act of 2022, the Select Board is required to vote to assign either a police officer or a constable to serve at the Annual Town Election, in the past the Board has not voted on this matter.

The Board discussed the options. Select Board Member Glenn McLeod and Town Manager Warren-Dymont confirmed that historically a police officer had covered this detail. Select Board Member Brian Lehtinen indicated he would support either option and noted that use of the constable would be a cost savings. Clerk Emkey raised concerns about the Town's elected constable, noting that he had publicly and vocally expressed his position on the budget and override including using strong language while in his constable uniform, and regardless of any intent, his presence at the polling site could create a perception of political influence. The Chair echoed this concern, drawing a comparison to the Town Moderator or Town Clerk who are also elected and expected to maintain neutral in the eye of the public. Member Lehtinen revised his position after hearing comments from the Board. The Board consensus was to assign a police officer to detail the Town Election.

**Clerk Emkey motioned to approve a Police Officer to serve at the Town Election on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Member Brian Lehtinen. Call for the vote: Four-aye. The motion passed (4-0-0)**

### **4. Review and Vote on Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Letter of Advocacy to Senator John Cronin**

Chair Nuzzolo read the letter in full, which urged Senator Cronin to retain the Foundation Budget Review Commission language through conference committee, increase Special Education Circuit Breaker funding (line item 7061-0012) to achieve 90% reimbursement, and increase Section 3 local aid distributions to at least \$175 per pupil for minimum aid districts. The letter also expressed appreciation for the proposed \$53 million increase to Unrestricted General Government Aid. Chair Nuzzolo explained that the Foundation Budget Review Commission was included in the Senate budget but not the House budget. The Commission was established to review the Chapter 70 formula and address inequities faced by minimum aid districts and is at risk of being dropped during the conference committee process. Representative Scarsdale had requested the letter to advocate for its preservation. Member Lehtinen suggested the letter be copied to the School Committee and Finance

Committee, which the Board agreed to. A minor typographical correction was also identified. The letter will be reprinted and signed.

**Clerk Emkey motioned to approve the FY27 budget letter of advocacy to Senator John Cronin. Seconded by Member Brian Lehtinen. Call for the vote: Four-aye. The motion passed (4-0-0)**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Vote to Sell or Hold 250 and 356 Hollis Road**

Town Manager Warren-Dyment confirmed that all boards except the Board of Assessors had reviewed the information on both lots and had voted in favor of selling the properties. The Board of Assessors is scheduled to discuss the matter the following evening. The Board agreed to proceed with a contingent vote to sell both tax title properties, with the understanding that if the Board of Assessors reached a different decision, the item could be brought back for further consideration.

**Clerk Emkey motioned to sell 250 and 356 Hollis Road contingent on the results of the Board of Assessors meeting. Only if the Board of Assessors come to a different decision it will be further discussed by the Select Board. Seconded by Member Brian Lehtinen. Call for the vote: Four-aye. The motion passed (4-0-0)**

## **MINUTES\*/WARRANTS/ACTION ITEMS**

The Town Manager submitted open session minutes from October 1st, 2025 for approval, corresponding with an executive session set of minutes. No issues were raised with the minutes.

**Clerk Emkey motioned to approve the open session minutes for October 1, 2025. Seconded by Member Brian Lehtinen. Call for the vote: Four-aye. The motion passed (4-0-0)**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Member McLeod reported on the Planning Board meeting of May 11th, noting that the Land Use Director Stephen Wallace highlighted targeted bylaws he is planning on working on this summer and fall, including senior housing, inclusionary housing, and cluster housing, intended for the following year's Town Meeting. He summarized several public hearings and actions: the ANR for 0 Reservoir Road was endorsed, 30 Summer Street was continued, Stormwater Permits were approved for 222 West Townsend Road and 60 Cross Road, a Site Plan Review was approved for 149 Summer Street, and public hearings for 10 Parmenter Road/Root Street and 860 New Townsend Road were continued to the next meeting. The sale of 250 and 356 Hollis Road was also discussed. He noted the EDC met the same evening with no major updates, and that an upcoming ribbon cutting ceremony for Ruby Donuts was planned. He noted Open Space was meeting the following evening, Library Board of Trustees on the 21st, and MPO on the 20th.

Member Lehtinen reported on the School Committee meeting of May 6th, noting the Committee heard the student government election appeal and expected a written opinion early the following week. He summarized a financial update on tighter budgeting controls, authorization of a grant application, a facilities update, a waived second reading of a policy packet covering cash handling, student data privacy, medications, and advertising, and a request for a future policy on voluntary field trip scholarships. He also reported on the Board of Assessors meeting of April 22nd, which focused on the kickoff of a Department of Revenue directed neighborhood review and GIS work, including bringing in a consultant for a 12–18 month neighborhood re-

delineation with lakefront properties identified as highest priority.

Chair Caesar Nuzzolo attended the Council on Aging meeting that morning, where the new Outreach Coordinator was introduced. He noted the meeting was brief, as it was followed by the dedication ceremony for the new Lincoln Pavilion, which was well attended. He acknowledged the attendance of Representative Scarsdale and Town Manager Warren-Dymont, the latter of whom was on vacation but traveled to Lunenburg for the event. He noted no committee reports of his own beyond a Bylaw Review Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS SCHEDULE**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT\*\***

**PUBLIC** None.

**TOWN MANAGER** None.

**BOARD** None.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Chair Nuzzolo motioned to enter into Executive Session and not re-enter Open Session after exiting Executive Session pursuant to M G.L. c.30A, § 21(a)(7) “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g)- Burden Request for Executive Session Minutes. Seconded by Clerk Emkey. Roll Call Vote: Member McLeod-aye. Member Lehtinen-aye. Clerk Emkey-aye. Chair Nuzzolo-aye.**

**The Board did not return to open session and the meeting adjourned at the conclusion of Executive Session at 8:32 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Richard,  
Executive Assistant to the Select Board and Town Manager

These Minutes were reviewed and approved by the Select Board on June 16, 2026.