



# TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Board of Selectmen  
Town Hall  
242 Union Street  
Rockland, Massachusetts 02370

*Chairman:*  
Michael P. O’Loughlin

*Selectmen:*  
Tiffanie Needham  
Donna Shortall  
Lori Childs  
John J. Ellard, Jr.

*Telephone:* 781-871-1874

BOS Open Session Minutes of  
June 6, 2023

Board of Selectmen’s Meeting  
H. Bernard Monahan Memorial Room  
Town Hall, 242 Union Street, Rockland

TOWN CLERK, ROCKLAND  
JUN 21 23 AM 10:17

In attendance: Chairman Michael O’Loughlin, Members Tiffanie Needham, Lori Childs, Donna Shortall, John Ellard, Town Administrator Doug Lapp, and Assistant Town Administrator Jennifer Constable.

## 1. Pledge of Allegiance

## 2. Community Announcements-

- Rockland Day – Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 – 9:30 Fireworks
- Juneteenth Monday 6/19 – Federal Holiday

3. Minutes of 5/16/23- Ms. Childs asked Ms. Shortall why she abstained from the Tax Title Counsel vote at the last meeting. Ms. Shortall stated she worked in the Treasurer’s office for 8 years and had past dealings with the outgoing Tax Title Attorney. During that time, she was not aware of any issues and, while she did not want to vote against a new attorney, she could not offer full support.

MOTION to approve Minutes of 5/16/23, by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ellard. Unanimous approval

## 4. New Business

- One Day Liquor License Request- Advanced Green Insulation, 403 VFW Drive, 6/17/23

MOTION to approve One-Day Liquor Licenses for Advanced Green Insulation, by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Childs. Unanimous approval.

- One Day Liquor License Request- Open Air Market - Article Fifteen, 6/10/23

MOTION to approve One-Day Liquor Licenses for Article Fifteen, by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Childs. Unanimous approval.

- Council on Aging Board Appointment – Ruth Assetta

MOTION to approve Ruth Assetta to the Council on Aging Board, by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Shortall. Unanimous approval.

-Annual Appointments – Land Use Counsel Galvin & Galvin PC, Bob Galvin and General & Labor Counsel Clifford & Kenny, LLP, John Clifford, Jaime Kenny, Christopher Kenny, and Caitlin Morey - Mr. Lapp recommended to continue to use both firms, who have done an excellent job for the town. Attorney Galvin gave a brief history of his firm’s role working for Rockland and provided an update of completed and pending issues. The Board commented and thanked Attorney Galvin. Mr. Lapp recommended the Board appoint counsel as “open-ended” rather than annual as in previous years. Mr. O’Loughlin will circle back to the term length for counsel after Clifford & Kenny.

MOTION to appoint Land Use Counsel Galvin & Galvin, PC, by Ms. Shortall, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Needham. Unanimous approval.

Attorney Clifford & Attorney Kenny provided a Power Pont presentation with the basic functions of their firm and how they work with Rockland. The Board commented throughout the presentation. Mr. O'Loughlin suggested if Mr. Ellard wants to pursue other firms, he does the research and provide feedback he would want to present to the Board.

MOTION to appoint General & Labor Counsel Clifford & Kenny, LLP, by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Shortall. 4-1 (Ellard).

MOTION to appoint Town Counsel(s) with no term limits, contingent on Town Charter, by Mr. O'Loughlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Childs. 4-1 (Ellard).

Mr. Lapp reminded the Board and public that the attorneys work for us and follow town directions.

-Consumer Protection Information Regarding Homeowner Oil Spills-Joseph Polsinello – tabled until a future date

-Presentation & Adoption of Financial Policies-Mr. Lapp said financial policies are not required by law but are strongly encouraged, following “Best Practices” guides. He recognized the team: Treasurer Allison Sullivan, Accountant Scott Curtis, Collector Judy Hartigan, Assessor Rachael Carlisle, and Asst. Town Administrator Jen Constable. The Board reviewed, discussed, and suggested changes.

MOTION to adopt the Financial Policy Manuel, removing the “Revenue Turnover” section, by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ellard. Unanimous approval.

-Plymouth County Advisory Board Appointment

MOTION to appoint Lori Childs to the Plymouth County Advisory Board, by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ellard. Unanimous approval.

-Board of Selectmen Liaisons-Mr. O'Loughlin followed up with the BOS Liaisons as discussed at the last meeting and announced the assignments for each Member.

<b><u>Michael P. O'Loughlin</u></b>	<b><u>Tiffanie Needham</u></b>	<b><u>Donna Shortall</u></b>
Fire Department	Council on Aging	Town Hall- Elected Officials
Police Department	Library	Water Commission
Veterans	Recreation Department	
	School Department	

<b><u>Lori Child</u></b>	<b><u>John Ellard</u></b>
Board of Health	Assessors
Highway Department	Sewer Commission
Park Commission	40B Developments

-Other New Business Not Reasonably Anticipated – none

5. Old Business

- MBTA Letter of Support – Commuter Rail Safety Concerns-Mr. Lapp spoke with the Abington Town Manager who asked that we do not send a letter of support at this time. They will be meeting with the MBTA first.

-Other Old Business Not Reasonably Anticipated – none

6. Town Administrator’s Report & Correspondence

- Updated the Board of the status of Opioid funds received; in the process of looking at potential uses
- Highway Superintendent Dave Taylor secured a \$150,000 GIS Grant for sewer & water- thank you to Dave
- Charter Amendment change “Board of Selectmen” to “Select Board” has been sent to State legislature
- Attended Rockland Elementary School Memorial Day event – great time
- Compliance of the MBTA Law- Ms. Constable secured a technical assistance grant to continue Rockland’s path forward
- Last week, Ms. Constable & I attended the Mass Management Association Conference

7. Selectmen’s Comments

- Mr. Ellard -Thank you to Veterans Agent Tim White on the Memorial Day Observance
- Congratulations Class of 2023
- Rent Control Board and Finance Committee need members; urged residents to volunteer

- Ms. Childs-Railroad crossings are dangerous; recent loss of a Whitman resident.
- Congratulations to the graduates of Rockland High, Charter School & SS Vo-Tech
- Thank you to all the organizers of both Memorial Day events

Ms. Shortall-Congratulations to 2023 graduates

- Happy our Town Counsels attended tonight's meeting; great way to keep the public informed
- Hope everyone had a nice Memorial Day

Ms. Needham-Enjoyed the Elementary School Memorial Day Observation

- Congratulations to the 2023 graduates
- Attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Artists Food & Artist Event – great night, creative energy

Mr. O'Loughlin-Congratulations to all graduates

MOTION to adjourn by Ms. Needham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Childs. Roll Call Vote



Minutes by Susan Ide, Executive Assistant

Open Session Minutes approved by the BOS on 6/20/23