



Select Board Meeting - March 31, 2026 Minutes

at 7:00 PM

Gala Room Foxborough Town Hall 40 South Street

Select Board Members in attendance: Bill Yukna, Stephanie McGowan, Amy LaBrache, Mark Elfman & Debbie Giardino

1. 7:00pm - Citizen's Input

1.01 Citizen's Input

2. 7:05pm - Introduction to the new Town Treasurer/Collector

2.01 Welcome Elizabeth "Ellie" Perez-Baczkowski!

3. 7:10pm - Finance Director Contract

3.01 Vote on the contract for the Finance Director, Marie Almodovar, for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029.

Finance Director contract is a term agreement with the Select Board as the appointing authority and Town Manager overseeing the roles day to day. Marie went through a evaluation process with Bill as the Board point person, evaluation from the Board and Town Manager. \$176K annually for FY2026. Contract once fully executed will be on the Town's website under Human Resources.

**Motion to approve the contract for the Finance Director, Marie Almodovar, for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029.

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

4. 7:15pm - Town Manager Evaluation Tool & Process

4.01 Mike Mullen, Human Resources Director, to review proposed Town Manager's Evaluation Tool & Process.

[360-Degree-Manager-Effectiveness-Performance-Evaluation.docx](#) 

[FY26 Town Manager Evaluation Memo Tool.docx](#) 

Review of the same process as last year. Mike will kick off the process with the following timeline. Department Heads to complete their 360 evaluation by April

15th. Town Manager to complete her self evaluation by April 15th. Starting the April 22nd, the Select Board will have two weeks to complete their evaluation. Process will wrap, given Board and Town Manager schedules on May 26th.

5. 7:25pm - Friendly Match Brazil v. France Debrief

5.01 Chief Michael Grace review of the Friendly Match Brazil v. France.

[Resident Complaint Email.pdf](#) 

Event planning and staffing were seamless and were very well executed. All teams that were deployed. Gate security, management and cueing at a few gates that will be implemented for World Cup went well and we gathered great intel that will be used moving forward. No pyro. No missing children. No arrests. No problem with alcohol. One drone was removed from the air and will be federally charged.

Traffic was a problem. These fans were notified by electronic notification system to come early. Chief Grace did press to come early, do not come without a ticket, do not listen to your GPS and to follow the signs, officers directing traffic found inexperienced drivers not familiar with the area. Fans did not want to park on the opposite side of the stadium.

95 is undersized. We cannot change the infrastructure. We can only change the messaging. People are going to need to work from home on game days, stay off the roads. The 4pm game collided with rush hour traffic. We are not going to be able to fix the traffic, but we can only push the messaging. We have never seen Lakeview Road backed up or used as a cut through. 7K fans we not in the stadium at kickoff. Slow and not familiar.

This was not a true test. We only had 4 trains - only 2 were 3/4 full. A lot of drivers for this game. The World Cup games and the Yankee Bus contract will help mitigate this as we can push these into the bus lot. School buses were running and were warned that they could/would be running late but School Committee did allow for a half day.

Need to have posts manned early to make sure that the rideshare drivers know those roads are closed down. Roll call was at noon and those roads were manned at 12:20pm and people were still on those roads already. It will have to be earlier.

Need to look at the scale of the events that are run at 1 Patriot Place and how they affect the community and the times they run - do we really want them? Need to think about this during the annual renewal season for the Kraft Sports & Entertainment License during the next meeting. What is the number of events that we can handle? What times work? Currently have 24 sold out events for the calendar year right now.

The traffic was bad. No where to put the cars. Every road was busy. Messaging is Route 1 is your way in. Commuters were trying to get home, daycare pick ups, etc.

Community Guide is set to come out to help with situations but if someone is behaving in a bad way (using the restroom in your backyard) call 911 and the officers that are assigned to our Town and not the event itself, will respond.

Community Guide is being built for hard copy and website for situational events.

There is parking on the stadium parking lot. More than 5,000 spots. 5,000 spots on stadium side. There are hospitality tents that have parking on the stadium side as well as non-stadium side parking and all satellite lots.

Messaging is to take public transportation.

The host committee and mobility plan need better messaging.

6. 7:35pm - Congratulations Lt. Adam Byrnes

6.01 On March 18, 2026, Lt. Adam Byrnes graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He was a member of the 297th Session, completed ten weeks of advanced training alongside 255 law enforcement leaders representing 48 states, the District of Columbia, and 23 countries.

During his time at the Academy, Lt. Byrnes concentrated his studies on leadership and management and successfully completed the renowned 6.1 mile Yellow Brick Road obstacle course.

Congratulations Lt. Byrnes! What an accomplishment!

7. 7:45pm - Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article #19

[Annual Town Meeting Warrant 051126 Draft 033126.pdf](#) 

7.01 Advisory Committee Chair, Marlowe Farrar to review Article #19: Bylaw Amendment: Chapter 5, Section 2A.

Marlowe Farrar, Chair of the Advisory Committee. Current bylaw has the committee make up of fifteen people therefore a quorum is eight. Right now, we have ten members with only nine consistent members, so it is hard to meet that quorum. Reducing to eleven would bring the quorum to seven. One word is changing years to terms so you can stay on the committee for three terms which would be nine years before you need to take a year break.

The quorum requirement only came to light during a Town Counsel Boards and Committee training. Which has posed a problem at a few meetings. In the last twenty years, there have not been 15 members of the committee.

Frank, Town Moderator is not in support of this article at this time, just wants more time.

Bill - more comfortable with 2 terms and not three.

Board is good with the language change and two terms.

8. 7:55pm - Town Manager Recommended Budget

8.01 Discuss & Vote on FY27 Budget.

[Final Town Manager Proposed Budget Packet 3.27.26.pdf](#) 

Adjustments to the budget attached. Decrease of \$300,000+

**Motion to approve the proposed Town Manager Budget for FY27.

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

9. 8:05pm - Strategic Plan Update

9.01 Polco surveys: The community-wide Polco survey launched March 27, 2026. A link will be posted on the Town's website.

- Listening sessions will be held on:
 - April 14th at 10:15am at the Community Center
 - April 14th at 3pm at the Boyden Library
 - April 14th at 7pm at the Select Board Meeting
 - April 15th at Noon at the Community Center
 - April 15th at 6pm at the Community Center
- Raftelis will be at the April 14, 2026 Select Board meeting and April 15, 2026 Department Head meeting.

[SP Interview List.pdf](#) 

Need to push on the interview list. We want to grab the younger generation and not have the usual suspects.

10. 8:15pm - Town Manager's Update

10.01 Around Town:

- Train Related Updates
- Annual Town Meeting Warrant Review: Monday April 27, 2026 at noon in the Gala Meeting Room, Town Hall & on Foxborough Cable Access.
- Annual Town Meeting: Monday May 11, 2026 at 7pm at Foxborough High School.
- Stadium Advisory Committee Meeting to review the Kraft Sports & Entertainment License Application on April 6, 2026.
- Phoenix Theatres': Attended the March 25, 2026 press event announcing Phoenix Theatres' new flagship location at Patriot Place, a multimillion-dollar renovation that will bring a modern, 14-screen movie experience to Foxborough this summer. Over the past two weeks, the Town has received at least four complaints related to train activity. Residents on Spring Street and County Street report that trains have been idling directly behind their homes for extended periods, in some cases for days, causing ongoing noise and quality-of-life concerns. I have reached out to the MBTA, Senator Feeney, Representative Chaisson, and the Town of Mansfield to determine whether they have useful contacts or recent experience with similar issues. This was a problem a few years ago and proved very difficult to resolve. Railroads have broad federal rights, and it can be challenging to identify the correct person or agency with authority to address idling and noise issues.

Residents have also renewed interest in the establishment of a Quiet Zone. Resident of County Street and Carl Annon Court have specifically requested that the Town pursue this. Quiet zones are federally regulated areas where trains are no longer required to sound their horns at crossings, but in exchange the Town must install and maintain additional safety measures such as upgraded gates, medians,

and signal systems to offset the loss of the audible warning. While they can significantly improve quality of life for nearby residents and reduce noise complaints, they are typically very expensive, often costing hundreds of thousands of dollars per crossing, and can total several million dollars depending on the number of locations. The process is also complex, requiring coordination with the FRA, the railroad, and state agencies, and can take years to implement. Importantly, the Town assumes responsibility for the safety improvements and ongoing maintenance, and horns can still be used in emergency situations. For these reasons, many communities view quiet zones as a high-cost option that must be carefully weighed against other capital priorities.

10.02 World Cup:

- The Town has been awarded approximately \$5.03 million of the \$7.8 million requested through the FIFA World Cup Grant Program. These funds will support public safety and operational planning efforts related to the 2026 World Cup events in Foxborough.
- Governor's Press Conference: Chief Grace, Chief Kelleher and Town Manager attended on March 25, 2026.
- White House Task Force visit to Foxborough on March 25th & 26th, 2026.
- Working on resource document and website update regarding World Cup.
- Reminder: Short term rentals prohibited by zoning in Foxborough, as is selling parking spaces unless commercial parking lot.

10.03 Human Resources:

Paula Maloney retirement – Treasurer/Collector 16 Years!

Currently Advertised Positions –

- Apprentice Mechanic
- Council on Aging Substitute Van Driver
- Tree & Parks Division Laborer/Driver
- Water Technician I
- Recreation Department Summer Jobs Posted on Town Website with Online Application Deadline of March 27 for new applicants/those seeking new positions (Counselors, Lifeguards, etc.).

10.04 Town Licenses:

- 2026 Foxboro Horseshoe League played from April 13th through August 24th 6:30pm to 9:00pm across from 70 Elm Street.
- Memorial Day Ceremony on the Town Common on May 25, 2026 at Noon after the parade, hosted by Veteran Services.

11. 8:25pm - Select Board Update

11.01 New Business

11.02 Old Business

Vietnam Veterans Pinning this past weekend! Amazing ceremony this past weekend - great job Michelle & Lauren!

12. Action Items

12.01 Use of Public Way Application - Town of Foxborough Veteran Services Department Use of Public Way Application for the Memorial Day Parade on May 25, 2026. Road closure for parade and ceremony 8:30AM to Noon. Parade route: from Church of Emmanuel to proceed right onto Central Street, to South Street & around the Town Common.

**Motion to approve the Town of Foxborough Veteran Services Department Use of Public Way Application for the Memorial Day Parade on May 25, 2026. Road closure for parade and ceremony 8:30AM to Noon. Parade route: from Church of Emmanuel to proceed right onto Central Street, to South Street & around the Town Common.

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

12.02 Change of Hours Application - Better Food Foxboro LLC dba Citizen Crust located at 21 Patriot Place to serve alcohol starting at 10am on Sundays.

**Motion to approve a Change of Hours Application for Better Food Foxboro LLC dba Citizen Crust located at 21 Patriot Place to serve alcohol starting at 10am on Sundays.

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Carried

12.03 Change of Hours Application - One Patriot Place LLC dba Davios Northern Italian Steakhouse located at 1 Patriot Place to serve alcohol starting at 10am on Sundays.

**Motion to approve a Change of Hours Application for One Patriot Place LLC dba Davios Northern Italian Steakhouse located at 1 Patriot Place to serve alcohol starting at 10am on Sundays

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

12.04 Amendment Application - LLH, LLC dba Trader Joes #528 located at 350 Patriot Place Change of Officers/Directors & Change of Ownership Interest Application to reflect Issac Chitica replacing Laurie Meade as she has relinquished her ownership interest in the company.

**Motion to approve LLH, LLC dba Trader Joes #528 located at 350 Patriot Place Change of Officers/Directors & Change of Ownership Interest Application to reflect Issac Chitica replacing Laurie Meade as she has relinquished her ownership interest in the company.

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

12.05 Petition for Pole Attachment - Massachusetts Electric Company dba National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc Petition for Pole Attachment for North Street – Utility Pole #40 – Verizon to construct, attach, and maintain telecommunications

wires and wireless attachments, including fiber optic cable, remote nodes/brackets, and pole top small-cell antenna and pole top extension, electrical meter, radio mounting bracket, power supply, rectifier, diplexers, on the existing utility pole.

[National Grid North Street FIFA Public Hearing Notice 033126 Stamped.pdf](#) 

[DPW Memo - Verizon - North Street.pdf](#) 

****Motion to approve Massachusetts Electric Company dba National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc Petition for Pole Attachment for North Street – Utility Pole #40 – Verizon to construct, attach, and maintain telecommunications wires and wireless attachments, including fiber optic cable, remote nodes/brackets, and pole top small-cell antenna and pole top extension, electrical meter, radio mounting bracket, power supply, rectifier, diplexers, on the existing utility pole.**

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

12.06 Purchase & Sales Agreement - Select Board to execute the purchase & sales agreement for 175 Mechanic Street, Foxborough, MA.

****Motion to execute the purchase & sales agreement for 175 Mechanic Street, Foxborough, MA.**

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

12.07 Award - Select Board to award the disposition of real property located at 76 North High Street pursuant to the RFP process.

****Motion to award the disposition of real property located at 76 North High Street pursuant to the RFP process.**

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

12.08 Minutes - Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2026.

[Select Board Meeting - Mar 17 2026 - Minutes - Html](#) 

****Motion to approve Select Board Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2026.**

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

13. Adjourn

**Motion to adjourn.

Moved by: Amy LaBrache; seconded by: Mark Elfman

Yes: Stephanie McGowan, Bill Yukna, Debbie Giardino, Mark Elfman, and Amy LaBrache

Carried 5-0

In accordance to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20, this meeting was recorded by Foxborough Cable Access and can be viewed on You Tube by searching Foxborough Select Board and the meeting date.