

IN SUDBURY SELECT BOARD  
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2026  
7:00 PM, HYBRID MEETING  
TOWN HALL, LOWER LEVEL  
322 CONCORD ROAD, SUDBURY, MA 01776  
(Meeting can be viewed at [www.sudburytv.org](http://www.sudburytv.org))

Present: Chair Lisa Kouchakdjian, Vice-Chair Janie Dretler, Select Board Member Dan Carty, Select Board Member Charles Russo, Select Board Member Radha Gargeya, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director Victor Garofalo, Town Manager Andrew Sheehan

Chair Kouchakdjian called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call: Dretler-present, Dan-present, Russo-present, Gargeya-present, Kouchakdjian-present

#### **Opening Remarks by Chair**

- Select Board Office Hours scheduled for 2/11/26 at noon with Board Members Carty and Russo
- Tomorrow will be attending the LSRHS Agreement Subcommittee meeting; progress being made
- A second SLRHS Subcommittee meeting to be held on 2/12; Attorney Mark Terry is working on changes to the original agreement
- Attended the MAGIC meeting this morning, topic was Data Common which is planning focused
- Attended the MMA Conference a couple of weeks ago; great event and saw Town Manager Sheehan, Finance Director Victor Garofalo, Planning Director Adam Burney and Board Members Russo and Gargeya
- Attended the WEMO luncheon; Tami Pyfer was the featured speaker who addressed better management when dealing with opposing viewpoints. In recognition of her contribution to WEMO, those members made donation to the Sudbury Food Pantry
- In consideration of school vacation week, the Select Board meeting scheduled for 2/17 has been rescheduled to 2/24

#### **Reports from Town Manager**

- Thanked DPW for management of long-lasting storm last week (18.5" of snow)
- LSRHS is not going forward with the roof project this year
- Last week the Town Operating Budget and Capital Budget was issued, as well as the 15-year Capital Plan, which was amended from what was presented in 10/25. These documents are available for viewing on the Town website
- FinCom met with SPS last night regarding the FY27 Budget; FinCom will meet with LSRHS next week and a joint meeting with the Select Board, FinCom, CIAC and staff is scheduled for 2/23/26

- Budget work in ongoing year-round; he thanked Finance Director Victor Garofalo for his skill and financial insight and department head for their efforts with budget preparation

### **Select Board Reports**

#### Vice-Chair Dretler

- Thanked Town Manager Sheehan and Town Staff for cleanup efforts after the recent snow storm
- Reminded all of the Open Space Plan virtual forum on Feb 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM
- Acknowledged the great 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event with canon firing activities

#### Board Member Carty

- Thanked DPW for great cleanup after the significant snow storm last week
- Kudos to friends in Maynard for fun signs sponsored by Town government

#### Board Member Gargeya

- He attended the MMA Conference; he offered a successful amendment to the MMA Fiscal Resolution to support for 1. Increasing capacity in existing vocational technical school districts, and 2. Providing financial assistance to municipalities that wish to join a vocational technical school district. He accepted a friendly amendment that changed the word “towns” to “municipalities” in the resolution. attended the fiscal resolution and vocational education sessions and provided related language, amending reference from “word” to “municipalities” in the Resolution presented; he read the resolution aloud to Board Members and provided detail regarding other MMA sessions that he attended
- Attended the Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the American Heritage Museum where memorial candles were lighted by and an Interfaith group
- Attended the Eagle Scout presentation on Sunday, which also dealt with leadership roles
- Provided detail regarding the Sudbury 250<sup>th</sup> presentation on Henry Knox and the Noble Artillery Train on February 1, 2026, which was followed by cannon firing
- Announced Sudbury 250<sup>th</sup> event at Wayside Inn on 2/15/26 at 4:00 pm

#### Board Member Russo

- Extended Kudos to DPW during the storm
- Attended the MMA Conference, which was most informative and enjoyable
- Attended the recent Eagle Scout Ceremony, which was great

### **Public Comment**

Resident Len Simon, 40 Meadowbrook Circle, thanked Town Manager Sheehan for putting the Sewataro Resident Swim Program on tonight’s Select Board Meeting agenda. He added that the swim program was not successful for the Town, and that he is looking forward to a Sewataro resident subcommittee.

Mr. Simon thanked Bob McNamara of Sudbury Lumber Co. for moving the sculpture to the Barn on Morse Road in Sudbury.

**Consent calendar**

**1. Review and vote designating Pelham Island Road, Landham Road, and Woodside Road as the U.S. Bicycle Route 1 through Sudbury.**

**2. Approve Determination and Consent Pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct Governing Members of the Massachusetts Bar relative to KP Law's review of proposed revisions to the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School Agreement.**

**3. Vote to accept the grant awarded by Emerson Hospital in the amount of \$3,000 to support Sudbury Social Workers**

**4. Vote to accept the donation of \$4,500 for the purpose of hiring a landscape designer to assist with the design and approvals required to install a gifted bench to the Town at the Heritage Park.**

**5. Receive report on grants received by the Sustainability Coordinator**

Board Members agreed to discuss Consent Calendar items 1, 2 and 4 later in the meeting.

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to approve Consent Calendar items 3 and 5, as presented in the Select Board packet. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To approve Consent Calendar items 3 and 5, as presented in the Select Board packet

**6. Discussion and possible vote to endorse a resolution in support of Massachusetts 'Paint Stewardship Legislation' bills H.886 and S.647**

Present: Eric Simms, Sudbury Sustainability Coordinator; Tim Irwin, MA Product Stewardship Council

Mr. Irwin provided detail regarding the Massachusetts 'Paint Stewardship Legislation' bills H.886 and S.647; residents can drop paints at a retailer, without charge to Sudbury residents and is voluntary for retailers. He added that MMA (MA Municipal Association) has been a strong supporter of this Legislation, as well as MA DEP.

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to endorse a resolution in support of Massachusetts 'Paint Stewardship Legislation' bills H.886 and S.647. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To endorse a resolution in support of Massachusetts 'Paint Stewardship Legislation' bills H.886 and S.647

**Consent Calendar (Cont.)**

**1. Review and vote designating Pelham Island Road, Landham Road, and Woodside Road as the U.S. Bicycle Route 1 through Sudbury.**

Town Manager Sheehan noted that Public Safety was still researching the proposal and any decision by the Board could be postponed.

Board Member Russo asked who initiated the request. Town Manager Sheehan acknowledged that a national organization initiated the request on behalf of national bike riders. Board Member Russo stated that the national organization was a non-profit group and the proposal would need MA DOT approval. Town Manager Sheehan stated that the Town would not be receiving associated funding if the program went forward.

Board Member Carty mentioned that Landham Road is a difficult bike route. Board Member Russo asked if a representative could attend a Board meeting. Vice-Chair Dretler confirmed that she wanted to get additional information from Public Safety.

**2. Approve Determination and Consent Pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct Governing Members of the Massachusetts Bar relative to KP Law's review of proposed revisions to the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School Agreement.**

In consideration of other agenda items waiting to be addressed at tonight's meeting, the Board agreed to discuss this item later in the meeting.

**4. Vote to accept the donation of \$4,500 for the purpose of hiring a landscape designer to assist with the design and approvals required to install a gifted bench to the Town at the Heritage Park.**

Town Manager Sheehan explained that the bench would supply an extra seating area overlooking the pond at Heritage Park and those donating the \$4,500 have been working with staff regarding the project. Board Members agreed to continue related discussion later in the meeting.

**7. Joint meeting with the Energy and Sustainability Committee.**

Present: Rami Alwan and Olga Faktorovich Allen, Members of the Energy and Sustainability Committee

Mr. Alwan and Ms. Allen presented summary of current projects:

**Town Solar Projects**

- DPW Solar array was installed
- Flooding outreach/education process will commence
- Farmers Market held last summer went well; additional Farmers Market is scheduled for May, 2026
- Currently working on Town climate change assessment - Ms. Allen indicated the climate assessment would address specific buildings and roadways in town.
- Climate Leader Program to help with grant funding; and provides technical assistance with such grant regarding
- Approved funding for composting at the Sudbury public schools.
- Approved partial grant monies for additional Energy Coordinator
- Exploring installation of health monitors and help to remediate air pollution in various parts of Town; will work with the Health Department on this initiative
- Moving forward with solar arrays at schools and the Police Station
- Improving electrical systems in SPS schools to reduce costs.

- Fairbank Community Center roof being remediated to address leaks and later to get most efficiencies from solar roofing
- Review of three solar projects to be presented at Annual Town Meeting in May

Board Member Carty asked about the solar array at the Town landfill. Mr. Alwan responded that the array at the landfill continues to do well, and output has not worsened with age.

Mr. Gargeya thanked the group for all the hard work done. He inquired about the process involving solar articles. Mr. Alwan stressed that full engagement with Town departments is essential and next week the Energy Committee will be meeting with the Park and Recreation Department in an effort to address their concerns. He added that the Energy Committee will also be working with the SPS School Committee regarding the Curtis Middle School.

Board Member Russo mentioned the timeline regarding articles for Town Meeting. Mr. Alwan responded that in order for the solar articles to have strong support at Annual Town Meeting, the Energy Committee would hope to meet with the Finance Committee regarding further discussion.

Mr. Alwan noted that the Police Station array was a smaller configuration and would cover 54% of energy usage at the Station. He added that a Curtis Middle School solar installation must consider bus access.

#### **8. Vote to accept the FY26 Budget to Actuals memo from Finance Director Victor Garofalo**

Present: Finance Director Victor Garofalo

Mr. Garofalo confirmed that the FY26 Budget and Actual Summary were in line. He mentioned some fluctuations in original calculations and mentioned a snow deficit and Vocational Education. Mr. Garofalo stated that he would be providing another update on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Board Member Gargeya said the Actuals reporting reflected good financial management by Mr. Garofalo. He inquired about LSRHS budget encumbrances and OPEB. Mr. Garofalo provided explanation.

Board Member Carty fully endorsed the update and stressed the significance of improved interest rates. He stated that the related calculations were close to budget and reflected good work done by Mr. Garofalo.

Chair Kouchakdjian thanked Mr. Garofalo for such in-depth reporting/transparency and detail. She inquired about Vocational Education aspects. Related discussion took place.

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to accept the FY26 Budget to Actuals memo from Finance Director Victor Garofalo. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To accept the FY26 Budget to Actuals memo from Finance Director Victor Garofalo

#### **9. Liberty Ledge/Camp Sewataro Subcommittee update and discussion regarding next steps**

Chair Kouchakdjian thanked Vice-Chair Dretler and Board Member Carty for their work on the Liberty Ledge/Camp Sewataro Subcommittee and commented that it was acceptable if Board Members

respectfully disagreed. She stressed that now was the appropriate time to review future options regarding the use of Liberty Ledge.

Board Member Carty stressed the importance of receiving related materials in advance of the scheduled meetings.

Board Member Gargeya commented that the work of the Subcommittee reflected great depth and a good amount of documentation; he recommended review of the primary documents and noted that additional documents could be presented to the Board. Chair Kouchakdjian stated the presented documentation and be used as a great resource.

Board Member Russo recognized that previous Town Meeting vote for camp use at Liberty Ledge passed by 54%. He requested further discussion and stressed that the goal behind the Town's purchase of Liberty Ledge was to save the property for resident use.

Board Member Russo stated that the Select Board meeting packet from April, 2022 was missing from presented documentation. He stressed consideration of potential loss for the camp for some 240 Sudbury families as well as the elimination of Sewataro employment for many Sudbury residents, as well as Town budget implications.

Vice-Chair Dretler confirmed that all related Sewataro financials will be put together for the next Select Board meeting for Board review. Chair Kouchakdjian stated that Board Member Russo could add any related documentation. Board Member Carty stated that he would have additional materials to add as well.

Board Member Gargeya motioned to accept the Subcommittee work as presented and that the Select Board dissolve the Subcommittee and that the two (2) separate reports be presented at the next Select Board meeting with any additions. Chair Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

It was on motion 3-2; Dretler-aye, Gargeya-aye, Carty-no, Russo-no, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To accept the Subcommittee work as presented and that the Select Board dissolve the Subcommittee and that the two (2) separate reports be presented at the next Select Board meeting with any additions

Chair Kouchakdjian stated that she would merge the two document sets into one for presentation at the next Select Board meeting.

#### **10. Discussion of Sewataro Resident Swim Program**

Town Manager Sheehan noted that last years' Resident Swim Program was not as robust as the Town would have liked and that \$13,000 was subtracted from the Town account. Vice-Chair Dretler thanked the Camp and employees for carrying out the will of the Select Board, noting that Camp Sewataro did not continue the swim program last year due to high bacteria count and weather conditions.

Town Manager Sheehan mentioned that if there was desire, the public swimming opportunity could be presented again for less than 20 days in summer 2026.

Kristen Drummy, Camp liaison, said the Camp was willing to do whatever the will of the Board and Town might mean.

Board Member Carty mentioned that he did not want to give up on the program altogether. Board Member Russo suggested that a holiday weekend schedule for residents, might be considered.

Board Member Gargeya asked about the cost for a resident swim schedule weekend at Camp Sewataro. Ms. Drummy responded the cost would likely be \$2,700.00 for that time. Chair Kouchakdjian inquired about a more flexible plan. Town Manager Sheehan mentioned possible swim schedule of 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend and two other weekends for the FY26 season.

Vice-Chair Dretler suggested drafting an amended resident swim agreement section. Board Member Carty agreed with amending the agreement in consideration of Resident Swim schedule for the FY26 season. Town Manager Sheehan stated that he would negotiate this point with Camp Sewataro management.

#### **11. Discussion and possible vote to issue a Request for Proposals for Town Counsel services**

Chair Kouchakdjian detailed that the current service arrangement with KP ends in June, and asked if the Board would want to bid for new services or to continue with KP Law. Town Manager Sheehan stated that the Select Board Office is generally pleased with KP Law and the firm has many specialists within the organization.

Board Member Russo asked if there would be an increase in pricing if they Town was continue with KP Law. Mr. Garofalo stated there is a set retainer which is inclusive and the Town is currently paying \$130,000 yearly for unlimited services. Town Manager Sheehan added that a three-year contract with inflation built in was currently in place and he would expect some increase in FY27.

Board Member Carty asked if going to bid would ensure acceptance by the lowest bidder. Town Manager stated that the Town did not have to accept the lowest bid.

Board discussion took place.

Board Member Dretler motioned to authorize the Town Manager to issue an RP for Town Counsel Services. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To authorize the Town Manager to issue an RP for Town Counsel Services

#### **12. Discussion and possible vote to update Alcohol Rules and Regulations**

Town Manager Sheehan thanked James Goudie for his work on the update, as the document had not been updated since 2013. He noted that the amendment clarifies seasonal licenses which last approximately a year, if the Board desires.

Board Members asked related questions and provided edit.

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to update the Alcohol Rules and Regulations, as edited. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To update the Alcohol Rules and Regulations, as edited

**13. Discuss and vote to approve Board and Committee Handbook**

Chair Kouchakdjian noted that she and Vice-Chair Dretler researched a number of municipalities that have handbooks, and incorporated some of those aspects which are of benefit to communities.

The Board reviewed the introductory pages, Orientation and Training sections and provided related comments.

Chair Kouchakdjian stated that the Board would continue to review the Committee Handbook at the next Select Board meeting.

**14. Discussion of Community Preservation Annual Town Meeting Articles**

Board Member Carty referenced draft CPC Article Listing. He noted that all proposed Articles were approved by CPC, except for the Davis Field article, as presented.

Board Member Carty confirmed that one article was unanimously voted unanimously by CPC, not to be included as an article.

**15. Vote to acknowledge receipt of 2026 Annual Town Meeting articles submitted before January 30, 2026 and to refer all articles to Town Counsel for review and comments as to form; Vote on order of articles, and designate articles for the consent calendar; vote to refer any Zoning Bylaw amendments and street acceptance articles to the Planning Board; and related discussion**

Town Manager Sheehan noted that the first 14 Articles are always in same order, and the Vocational Stabilization Fund is a new article. He explained the termination of several revolving funds.

Town Manager Sheehan presented the Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles, dated May 4, 2026. Board Members changed the order of several articles.

Board Members supported the idea of consolidating of several articles into groups/sections. Members agreed to such consolidations.

Town Manager Sheehan confirmed there was a second Citizen's Petition presented regarding the Housing Authority and that Town Counsel would review that article.

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to acknowledge receipt of 2026 Annual Town Meeting articles submitted before January 30, 2026 and to refer all articles to Town Counsel for review and comments as to form; Vote on order of articles, and designate articles for the consent calendar; vote to refer any Zoning Bylaw amendments and street acceptance articles to the Planning Board; and, related discussion. Board Member Carty seconded the motion

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To acknowledge receipt of 2026 Annual Town Meeting articles submitted before January 30, 2026 and to refer all articles to Town Counsel for review and comments as to form; Vote on order of articles, and designate articles for the consent calendar; vote to refer any Zoning Bylaw amendments and street acceptance articles to the Planning Board; and related discussion.

#### **16. Review and Approve Minutes:**

##### **• November 18, 2025**

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to approve the 11/18/25 Select Board Minutes, as edited. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To approve the 11/18/25 Select Board Minutes, as edited

##### **• December 1, 2025**

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to approve the 12/01/25 Select Board Minutes, as edited. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To approve the 12/01/25 Select Board Minutes, as edited

##### **• December 2, 2025**

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to approve the 12/02/25 Select Board Minutes, as edited. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To approve the 12/02/25 Select Board Minutes, as edited

##### **• December 16, 2025**

Vice-Chair Dretler stated that she submitted related edits to the Town Manager earlier and that set of minutes would be reviewed at the next Select Board meeting.

##### **• January 6, 2026**

Board Members agreed to postpone review of the 1/6/26 minutes to the next Select Board meeting.

#### **17. Upcoming Agenda Items**

- Continue review of Handbook
- Continue Sewataro Subcommittee documentation review

Future Considerations:

- Rte. 20 MA DOT process

- Town Sewer Update
- Project Portfolio on Finance Night
- Combined Facilities Update

**Consent Calendar (Cont.)**

**2. Approve Determination and Consent Pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct Governing Members of the Massachusetts Bar relative to KP Law's review of proposed revisions to the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School Agreement.**

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to approve Determination and Consent Pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct Governing Members of the Massachusetts Bar relative to KP Law's review of proposed revisions to the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School Agreement, contingent on separate counsel review for each town. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To approve Determination and Consent Pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct Governing Members of the Massachusetts Bar relative to KP Law's review of proposed revisions to the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School Agreement, contingent on separate counsel review for each town.

**4. Vote to accept the donation of \$4,500 for the purpose of hiring a landscape designer to assist with the design and approvals required to install a gifted bench to the Town at the Heritage Park.**

Board Members agreed that additional information was needed in order to approve the agenda item.

Chair Kouchakdjian recommended that the applicants attend the next Select Board meeting.

**Adjourn:**

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to close the Select Board open session meeting and vote to enter executive session to review, approve and possibly release executive session meeting minutes. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Gargeya-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye

VOTED: To close the Select Board open session meeting and vote to enter executive session to review, approve and possibly release executive session meeting minutes

There being no further business, the Select Board Open Session ended at 11:43 PM.