

IN SUDBURY SELECT BOARD
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

7:00 PM

(Meeting can be viewed at www.sudburytv.org)

ZOOM Meeting

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting called to order by Chair Janie Dretler at 7:00 PM.

Chair Dretler recognized the remote presence of Board Members Lisa Kouchakdjian, Radha Gargeya, Dan Carty, Charles Russo and Janie Dretler.

Roll Call was taken: Gargeya-present, Kouchakdjian-present, Carty-present, Russo-present, Dretler-present

Opening Remarks by Chair

- Extended her Condolences regarding the passing of 8-year-old Sudbury resident, Sudbury schools are sharing resources
- Announced that the Memorial Garden Committee will be commemorating that 25th Anniversary of 9/11 on Friday; she thanked the Memorial Garden Committee for their efforts

Reports from Town Manager

- Echoes comments about Mason's passing
- Announced two months into the new fiscal year (FY27) and beginning work on FY28
- Budget Working Group has been meeting for the last couple of months and met last night Over coming months will be working with the Budget Working Group regarding revenues and expenditures

Reports from Select Board

Vice-Chair Gargeya

- Echoed his condolences to family, friends and the Sudbury community regarding the passing of Mason

Board Member Kouchakdjian

- Extended her thoughts and sympathy to Mason's family and friends
- Announced the loss of a 1 yr old child's passing due to fatal Nepal flooding whose grandmother resides in Acton, MA
- Attended MAGIC Meeting today, topic concerned drinking water infrastructure
- Reminded that she and Vice-Chair Gargeya are hosting Select Board Office Hours on Wednesday 9/9 at 12PM, via zoom.
- Wished all a good school year

Board Member Carty

- Expressed sympathy regarding the loss of young Mason
- Mentioned that local traffic increasing with opening of school; recommended that drivers be patient and alert

Board Member Russo

- Addressed the heartbreaking event regarding the passing of 8-year-old Mason; recognized that the community is grieving with family and friends
- Extended well wishes to students tomorrow on the first day of school; recommended that drivers be patient
- Cautioned that bikers be watchful and respectful on the Rail Trail
- 45 minutes remaining to vote on the primary election
- Announced the Sudbury Pan Mass Challenge scheduled for 9/20/26

Public Comments

Resident Manish Sharma, 77 Colonial Drive, extended his sympathies to family of Mason. Wished students well on the first day of school.

B.Consent Calendar

Board Members agreed to discuss the two Consent Calendar items later in the meeting.

C. Miscellaneous

1.Appoint Christopher Thompson of 115 Moore Road, to the Sudbury Housing Trust to serve the balance of a two-year term which began on June 1, 2026 and expires on May 31, 2028

Present: Chris Thompson

Mr. Thompson provided detail regarding his background in the affordable housing construction field, primarily focusing on apartments and townhouse-type housing. He added that he had been a member of Habitat for Housing on the South Shore and helped with the completion of a considerable number of housing units. He also confirmed that he was on the Whitman, MA Finance Committee and later served on the Select Board of that Town.

Board Members agreed that Mr. Thompson had a valuable amount of related experience and would contribute much to the Sudbury Housing Trust. The Board thanked Mr. Thompson for his willingness to become a member of the Sudbury Housing Trust. Board Member Carty asked if there were any more applicants and asked when the position was advertised.

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned to appoint Chris Thompson of 115 Moore Road, to the Sudbury Housing Trust to serve the balance of a two-year term which began on June 1, 2026 and expires on May 31, 2028. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To appoint Chris Thompson of 115 Moore Road, to the Sudbury Housing Trust to serve the balance of a two-year term which began on June 1, 2026 and expires on May 31, 2028

A.Public Hearing

As the Local Licensing Authority, vote on whether to approve the transfer of a Restaurant License for the Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages, under G.L Ch. 138, s. 12, from Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, Stephanie DC Corp., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road, to Ronny S. Bitencourt, Owner, and Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, BR Foods Sudbury Inc., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road. The licensed premises consist of approximately 2,090 square feet, including an approximately 812 square foot dining area with seating accommodations for up to 47 patrons. The premises also include a designated take-out area, restrooms, storage space, and an open kitchen for food preparation.

Present: Debora Finger

At 7:30 PM, Vice-Chair Gargeya opened the Public Hearing as the Local Licensing Authority, vote on whether to approve the transfer of a Restaurant License for the Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages, under G.L Ch. 138, s. 12, from Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, Stephanie DC Corp., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road, to Ronny S. Bitencourt, Owner, and Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, BR Foods Sudbury Inc., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road. The licensed premises consist of approximately 2,090 square feet, including an approximately 812 square foot dining area with seating accommodations for up to 47 patrons. The premises also include a designated take-out area, restrooms, storage space, and an open kitchen for food preparation. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To open the Public Hearing for Rossini's Pizzeria

Ms. Finger stated that she and her family reside in Acton, MA and her husband Ronny Bitencourt is a partner at Rossini's. She confirmed that she is a Special Education Assistant and also manages the Restaurant with her husband and the License for Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages will be transferred to her name.

Ms. Finger stressed the importance of bringing the restaurant back as a family business and a family eatery.

Town Manager Sheehan stated that there are no outstanding issues with other Town departments.

Board Members agreed that the Restaurant is a great asset to the Town.

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned to close the Public Hearing for Rosini's Pizzeria. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To close the Public Hearing for Rossini's Pizzeria

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned as the Local Licensing Authority, vote on whether to approve the transfer of a Restaurant License for the Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages, under G.L Ch. 138, s. 12, from Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, Stephanie DC Corp., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road, to Ronny S. Bitencourt, Owner, and Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, BR Foods Sudbury Inc., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road. The licensed premises consist of approximately 2,090 square feet, including an approximately 812 square foot dining area with seating accommodations for up to 47 patrons. The premises also include a designated take-out area, restrooms, storage space, and an open kitchen for food preparation. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To approve the transfer of a Restaurant License for the Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages, under G.L Ch. 138, s. 12, from Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, Stephanie DC Corp., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road, to Ronny S. Bitencourt, Owner, and Everaldo Mendes Rosa, Owner, BR Foods Sudbury Inc., d/b/a Rossini's Pizzeria, 418 Boston Post Road. The licensed premises consist of approximately 2,090 square feet, including an approximately 812 square foot dining area with seating accommodations for up to 47 patrons. The premises also include a designated take-out area, restrooms, storage space, and an open kitchen for food preparation.

Presentation and discussion regarding the creation of Youth Commission

Present: Aiyana Allen, Lucy Immonen

Ms. Immonen and Ms. Allen presented the "Sudbury Youth Committee" PowerPoint and stressed that the purpose of establishing the Commission was to advance youth articles pertinent to the youth of Sudbury. They added that they had a presence/voice at the last Town Meeting and indicated that the goal would be to have the first Youth Commission meeting in February of 2027.

Chair Dretler mentioned that additional work with Staff, Town Counsel, Town Manager and the Town Moderator would be needed before a vote could be taken by the Board. Board Members and Town Manager Sheehan

Ms. Immonen noted an included Appendix which includes related information as well as proposed articles that concern youth.

Vice-Chair Gargeya asked the students if they had met with the Town Moderator to get her input. Ms. Immonen responded that she and Ms. Allen would look forward to meeting with the Town Moderator to discuss possible youth-focused articles.

Board Member Russo stated that the youth voice is important and several environmentally-sponsored articles passed at previous Town Meetings. He recommended that membership on the proposed Youth Commission be restricted to Sudbury students.

Board Member Carty indicated that an advisor for the Youth Commission would be beneficial and asked if the Commission would be recognized as an official Town Commission.

Town Manager Sheehan recommended researching how other similar commissions/committees are formed in local communities. Board Members were in agreement. Ms. Allen stated that she and Ms. Immonen would be happy to work with the Town Manager regarding such research.

Board Member Kouchakdjian stated that she had met with Ms. Allen and Ms. Immonen and was proud to see the great efforts made with the proposed Commission. She stated that she would be happy to serve as the point person for the Youth Commission.

Chair Dretler mentioned that the formation of such Commission was a great idea; all Board Members were in agreement. Chair Dretler confirmed that additional work with Staff, Town Counsel, Town Manager and the Town Moderator would be needed before a vote could be taken by the Board. She opined about having one elder (someone over 18 years old) who is well-versed in municipal government to act as the Commission Advisor. Ms. Immonen and Ms. Allen stated they would be happy to have such an elder/advisor from the Select Board.

Chair Dretler stated that the topic would be included on an upcoming Select Board meeting agenda.

Sudbury 250 Committee: Update from Sudbury 250 Committee on Activities

Vice-Chair Gargeya thanked the Select Board for supporting the 250 Committee over the last two years and listed some of the 250 activities which have taken place, including parades, enactments, fairs, contests, and performances.

Vice-Chair Gargeya indicated that he was honored to serve as the 250 Committee Chair; provided summary of the associated finances including \$25,000 in ARPA funds, additional funding of \$15,000 approved by Town Meeting. He stated that approximately \$12,075.00 would be returned to the Town, minus several commemoration items, including ; such as “The Book of Record of the 250th Committee” which would include pictures associated with each event. Board Member Kouchakdjian suggested trying to sell the book to individuals. Vice-Chair Gargeya stated he would present that suggestion to the 250 Committee.

Vice-Chair Gargeya thanked Town Manager Sheehan, Assistant Town Manager and Finance Director Victor Garofalo, Select Board Staff Leila Frank, James Goudie Murray, Maria Cataloni, IT Director Mark Thompson, DPW, COD, SudburyTV, Representative Gentile, Senator Eldridge, the many

presenters/performers and the community. He noted that the 250 Committee would be meeting one last time.

Board Members provided applause for all the tremendous efforts by Vice-Chair Gargeya and the 250 Committee.

Review and discuss Financial Management Policies

Town Manager Sheehan confirmed the Financial Management Policies had not been reviewed since 2023 and that he and Finance Director Victor Garofalo began review of the Finance Management Policies document and are presenting various modifications to the “Financial Policies Manual” for Select Board consideration and feedback.

Board Members expressed initial related comments and agreed to continue review of the manual over the next several Select Board meetings and approach such review by section.

Sections presented to the Select Board included: Policy, Overall Level of reserves, Long-Term Town Obligations (OPEB), Free Cash, General Fund Operating Budget, Stabilization Funding, Forecasting, Expenditure Guidelines, Revenues and Debt Management.

Board Members presented related questions/comments.

Finance Director Garofalo noted that one of the objectives of the review included elimination of duplicate information.

Chair Dretler stated that after the Board makes recommendations with modifications, the manual would be presented to the Finance Committee.

Item 5, Town Meeting Bylaw discussion, was tabled.

Approve Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2026

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned to approve the 5/19/26 Select Board Minutes, as edited. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To approve the 5/19/26 Select Board Minutes, as edited

June 30, 2026

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned to approve the 6/30/26 Select Board Minutes, as edited. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To approve the 6/30/26 Select Board Minutes, as edited

8. Upcoming items

- Continue Financial Management Policies discussion
- Youth Commission discussion
- DEI Membership
- Update from Energy and Sustainability Committee
- Update on capital projects
- 250th Committee topic – for presentation later in September

For Future Agenda:

- Charter Review discussion – KP Law
- CPA Sidewalk Legislative change – 11/15/26 meeting
- Legal Opinion regarding Board/Commission Policies

Consent Calendar Item (Continued)

1. Summer 2026 Select Board Newsletter Articles Approval

Chair Dretler expressed concern about the Select Board Newsletter article “Sidewalks – Essential Investment in Sudbury’s Future,” and how the sidewalk topic might be viewed by the public in consideration of the DPW Director’s plan incentives.

Board Member Russo stated that the intent of his article was to advance related discussion by Staff, including DPW. Chair Dretler commented that the Select Board did not have substantive discussion about the topic to date and how it might affect Town Meeting article inclusion.

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned to approve Consent Calendar Item #1 – Summer 2026 Select Board Newsletter Article. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To approve Consent Calendar Item #1 – Summer 2026 Select Board Newsletter Articles

2. Release attorney-client privileged communications between Town Counsel and the Town

Board Member Carty asked when the two communications between Town Counsel and the Town would be available to the public. Town Manager Sheehan responded that the documents would be released and on the Town website tomorrow.

Board Member Carty inquired about the origin of the second attorney-client privileged communication. Town Manager Sheehan responded that he requested such opinion from Town Counsel.

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned to approve Consent Calendar Item #2 to release attorney-client privileged communications between Town Counsel and the Town, dated 8/11/26 and 8/25/26. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To approve Consent Calendar Item #2 to release attorney-client privileged communications between Town Counsel and the Town, dated August 11, 2026 and August 25, 2026

D. Executive Session

1. Vote to close Open Session and enter Executive Session: pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to release previously approved executive session meeting minutes “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (Purpose 7)

- 12/13/2016
- 01/12/2017
- 04/05/2017
- 05/10/2017
- 11/28/2017
- 03/21/2019
- 11/04/2020

2. Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to review and approve executive session meeting minutes “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (Purpose 7)

June 30, 2026 •

Adjourn

Vice-Chair Gargeya motioned to close Open Session and enter Executive Session: pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to release previously approved executive session meeting minutes “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (Purpose 7) 12/13/2016, 01/12/2017, 04/05/2017, 05/10/2017, 11/28/2017, 03/21/2019, 11/04/2020 and Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to review and approve Executive session meeting minutes “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (Purpose 7) June 30, 2026; and not return to open session. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: to close Open Session and enter Executive Session: pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to release previously approved executive session meeting minutes “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (Purpose 7) 12/13/2016, 01/12/2017, 04/05/2017, 05/10/2017, 11/28/2017, 03/21/2019, 11/04/2020 and Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to review and approve Executive session meeting minutes “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (Purpose 7) June 30, 2026; and not return to open session

Select Board Open Session adjourned at 10:18 PM

