



TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

SELECTBOARD

Great Barrington Selectboard Meeting via Zoom and in-person at 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA – Order of Agenda for Monday, January 26, 2026 at 5:00PM

Link to webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87435677107> | Dial-in: (929) 205 6099 | Webinar ID: 874 3567 7107

Pursuant to MGL. 7c. 30A sec. 20 (f), after notifying the chair of the public body, any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting of a public body, or may transmit the meeting through any medium. At the beginning of the meeting, the chair shall inform other attendees of any such recordings. Any member of the public wishing to speak at the meeting must receive permission of the chair. The listings of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law

1. CALL TO ORDER SELECTBOARD MEETING

2. CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION (the Selectboard will return to Open Session)

- 2026-015 a. Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)(6) for the following purpose:
To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, regarding Housatonic Water Works if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.
- i. **Anticipated Motion:** Move that the Board meet in executive session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A section 21(a)(6) for the following purpose: To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, regarding Housatonic Water Works, because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board and the Town.
- ii. Roll Call Vote
- 2026-016 b. Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)(3) for the following purpose:
To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body.
- i. **Anticipated Motion:** Move that the Board meet in executive session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)(3) for the following purpose: To discuss strategy with respect to litigation against the Town concerning host community agreements for marijuana establishments, Theory Wellness, Community Growth Partners (Rebelle), and Highminded LLC (Farnsworth), Middlesex Superior Court civil action number 2481CV00693; and D2N2, LLC d/b/a Calyx Berkshire Dispensary, Berkshire Superior Court civil action number 476CV00041, and then return to open session.
- ii. Roll Call Vote
- c. Adjourn Executive Session and return to Open Session

3. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2026-001a a. November 17, 2025 revised
- 2026-017 b. January 12, 2026

6. CONVENE AS SEWER COMMISSIONERS

- 2026-018 a. Review applications for sewer abatement
- b. Adjourn

7. LICENSES AND PERMITS

- 2026-004 a. Application for a New Common Victualler license by Matthew Scott, Optimal Holdings, LLC, D/B/A SoCo Creamery, located at 5 Railroad Street to operate an ice cream shop with 24 seats. Proposed hours of operation are: Tuesday-Sunday, 12pm-9pm **Continued from December 15, 2025**

8. NEW BUSINESS

- 2026-019 a. Request from the Town Manager on behalf of The W.E.B. Du Bois Legacy Committee to install displays on the exterior of Town Hall and other Town buildings
- 2026-020 b. Request from Adam Lifshotz of ABL Productions for temporary exception to noise ordinance to conduct two private fireworks displays, each approximately 2 ½ minutes in length on Saturday, January 31, 2026
- 2026-021 c. Presentation on the proposed adoption of a Residential Tax Exemption from Principal Assessor Emily Shilling
- 2026-022 d. Presentation on the proposed adoption of the Seasonal Community Designation from Assistant Town Manager Chris Rembold
- 2026-023 e. Vote to submit 2026 District Local Technical Application (DLTA) to Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
- 2026-024 f. Update Town Roads and Bridges from Department of Public Works Superintendent Joe Aberdale

9. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME

- a. *Citizen Speak Time is an opportunity for the Selectboard to listen to town residents, property owners, and business owners. Topics of particular concern or importance may be placed on a future agenda for discussion. This time is reserved for town residents, property owners, and business owners only unless otherwise permitted by the chair, and speakers are limited to 3 minutes each*

10. SELECTBOARD'S TIME

11. MEDIA TIME

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

February 9, 2026 | February 23, 2026 | March 2, 2026 | March 23, 2026 | April 13, 2026 | April 27, 2026 |
Annual Town Meeting: Saturday, May 2, 2026 | Town Election: Tuesday, May 12, 2026