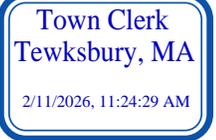




SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
TOWN HALL
1009 MAIN STREET
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS 01876



MARK KRATMAN, CHAIR
ERIC RYDER, VICE CHAIR
RICH RUSSO, JR., CLERK
JAMES F. MACKEY, III, MEMBER
PATRICK HOLLAND, MEMBER

TEL (978)-640-4300
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January 6, 2026 – Meeting Minutes
Tewksbury Town Hall
1009 Main Street

Present: Mr. Mark Kratman, Chair; Mr. Eric Ryder, Vice-Chair; Mr. James F. Mackey, III, Board Member; Mr. Patrick Holland, Board Member, and Mr. Rich Russo, Clerk

Also Present: Mr. John Curran, Town Manager.

Chair Kratman opened the regular meeting of the Select Board at 7:00 p.m.

SCHEDULED ITEMS: (PUBLIC HEARINGS)

1. National Grid Jointly Owned Pole Petition: Lincoln Road #31229903
(To be continued)

MOTION: Board Member Mackey made a motion to continue the National Grid Jointly Owned Pole Petition located on Lincoln Road - #31229903, date-specific, to the January 27, 2026, Select Board meeting. Board Member Holland seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

2. National Grid Jointly Owned Pole Petition: French Street #31218961

Mr. Dave Boucher of National Grid was present on behalf of the request. He said the request was to install a new device at a new pole location on the street to improve reliability across the system. He further stated that the proposed pole location would be between existing poles 21 and 22, near the corner of French Street and Dairy Farm Way, and it would be named 21-50.

Chair Kratman asked whether any Board members had questions or comments.

Vice-Chair Ryder commented that the directions per Kevin Hardiman, Director of Public Works, had to be followed.

Chair Kratman asked if there were members of the public who had questions or comments. There were none.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Ryder made a motion to close the public hearing. Board Member Russo seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Ryder made a motion to approve the request for the pole petition located on French Street, with the requirements that Mr. Hardiman requested. Board Member Mackey seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

RESIDENTS

Ms. Dawn Sheehan, 100B Starr Avenue, addressed the Board and said the proposed lithium battery storage site was not going to go before every Board in Tewksbury. She said she felt that either the public had been misled or something had changed dramatically.

Ms. Sheehan presented a page from the Emergency Response Guidebook, which is what the firefighters used. She said one of the biggest concerns with lithium-ion batteries was the release of hydrogen fluoride, which was toxic to humans. She raised additional safety concerns and emphasized the importance of all Tewksbury Boards providing input.

Mr. Jerry Corbin, 82 Emerald Court, addressed the Board and stated that he felt the entire review process was strange and probably new to the town. Mr. Corbin said people had been able to comment on the proposal, and 97% opposed it.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Set Date for May Annual and Special Meeting

Mr. Curran recommended scheduling the Annual Town Meeting for Monday, May 4, 2026, at 7:30 p.m., at the Tewksbury Memorial High School, and the Special Town Meeting for Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., at the Tewksbury Memorial High School.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Ryder made a motion to approve the recommended dates for the Annual Town Meeting for Monday, May 4, 2026, at 7:30 p.m., at the Tewksbury Memorial High School, and the Special Town Meeting for Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., at the Tewksbury Memorial High School. Board Member Russo seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

2. Opening and Closing Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants

Mr. Curran recommended that the Warrant for the Annual and the Special Town meetings Articles be opened on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, and closed on Friday, February 13, 2026, at 12:30 p.m.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Ryder made a motion to approve the Warrant for the Annual and the Special Town meetings Articles be opened on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, and closed on Friday, February 13, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. Board Member Mackey seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

3. Letter from Tony McIntosh, Superintendent/Director, Shawsheen Valley Technical High School

Mr. Curran stated that he received a letter from Mr. McIntosh on December 22, 2025, requesting that an Article be placed on the Warrant for funding for a feasibility study, which would request specifically

\$405,650 to be appropriated by the town to fund the town’s portion of the feasibility study based on the formula for the Regional School District.

MOTION: Chair Kratman made a motion to have the superintendent of Shawsheen Valley Technical High School attend a Select Board meeting to explain the need for the feasibility study. Vice-Chair Ryder seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

4. Approval of Donation to the Police Department

Mr. Curran stated that the town had received a \$2,500 donation from James Boudreau, who was the owner of Jim Boudreau’s Automotive Service, for the police department, with the intention of funding the “Shop with a Cop” holiday event.

MOTION: Board Member Holland made a motion to accept the donation of \$2,500 from Mr. James Boudreau, with the Select Board’s sincere gratitude. Board Member Mackey seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

5. Approval of Donation to the Police Department

Mr. Curran stated that the town had received a \$2,500 donation from Mr. Mark Rocher of American Gutter Cleaning & Installations for the police department, with the intention of funding the “Shop with a Cop” holiday event.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Ryder made a motion to accept the donation of \$2,500 from American Gutter Cleaning & Installations, with the Select Board’s sincere gratitude. Board Member Russo seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

6. Approval of Donation to the Senior Center

Mr. Curran commented that the town received a donation of \$50.00 from David and Patricia Cressmen to the Senior Center for the Men’s Stretch & Strengthen Class, as well as for the Tuesday Veterans Coffee Social.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Ryder made a motion to accept the donation of \$50.00 from David and Patricia Cressmen, with the Select Board’s sincere gratitude. Board Member Russo seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Curran informed the Select Board on the following matters:

- He received an email from a resident commending the Building Department for their efforts and hard work.
- There was a battery fire in Warwick, NY, on December 19, 2025, and he was keeping track of the incidents. He said the fire was localized within a single

battery container, and there were no signs that the fire spread to adjacent containers. He said there were no injuries, deaths, air-quality, or water quality issues caused by the incident.

- He said the town had hired a consultant, Paul Hayes, to help with the Host Community Agreement regarding the battery storage facility.
- The YMCA would offer a week-long recreational camp during February and April vacation weeks for children ages 5 through 13 at the Tewksbury Recreation Center.
- Working on putting together the budget books for 2027.
- People were now able to register for the replacement of “Code Red” with “Regroup” as the new mass notification system in the event the town needed to send out any emergency notifications.

TOWN COUNSEL INVOICE:

- November 16, 2025, through November 30, 2025

MOTION: Board Member Russo made a motion to approve Town Counsel’s invoice in the amount of \$2,422.50 for the period from November 16, 2025, through November 30, 2025. Board Member Mackey seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

MINUTES

There were no minutes to review.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Board Member Russo

- There were no reports to share.

Board Member Mackey

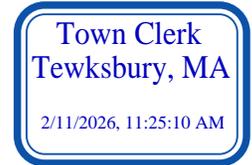
- There were no reports to share.

Board Member Ryder

- There were no reports to share.

Board Member Holland

- Extended his sincere condolences to the Anderson Family as Keith Anderson had passed away the prior week.



Chair Kratman

- There were no reports to share.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At approximately 7:40 p.m., Board Member Russo made a motion to adjourn. Board Member Holland seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Approved by the Select Board on February 10, 2026

Documents Presented/Discussed

- National Grid Joint Owned Pole Petition: Lincoln Road - #31229903 (Continued until January 27, 2026, meeting.
- National Grid Joint Owned Pole Petition: French Street - #3121861
- Set dates for the May Annual and Special Town Meeting
- Opening and Closing Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants
- Letter from Tony McIntosh, Superintendent/Director of Shawsheen Valley Technical High School
- Donations to the Tewksbury Police Department
- Donation to the Tewksbury Senior Center
- Town Manager Report
- Town Counsel Invoice: November 16th through November, 30th, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Gedziun
Recording Secretary

Next Select Board Meeting: January 27, 2026