



## **Select Board Meeting Minutes**

Monday, January 26, 2026, at 6:30 PM

Virtual Meeting Broadcast on Comcast Channel 22 and Verizon Channel 45

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### **I. Call to Order – 6:30 P.M.**

I. Chair Alex Vispoli called the virtual meeting of January 26, 2026, to order at 6:30 PM. Members in attendance: Vice Chair Ellen Townson, Clerk Melissa Danisch, Laura Gregory and Kevin Coffey.

Others in attendance: Town Manager Andrew Flanagan, Deputy Town Manager Mike Lindstrom, Deputy Town Manager and Town Clerk Austin Simko, and Town Counsel Doug Heim.

### **II. Opening Ceremonies**

#### Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed, followed by Melissa Danisch leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Vispoli noted passing of resident Charlie Kendrick last week, who was instrumental in framing out the Historic Mill District.

### **III. Town Manager Report**

Mr. Flanagan noted he would be brief but gave an update on the winter storm, thanking the work of the DPW crews who have been dealing with the storm for the past 30 hours. Andover Public Schools will be closed tomorrow as sidewalks and public lots need to be cleared. The power outage last night on National Grid lines was restored within 2 hours and will be repaired today. Town Offices will be open tomorrow. Mr. Vispoli also thanked the DPW and said roads looked great.

### **IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports**

Mr. Simko noted the deadline to submit nomination papers to be on the Town ballot is Tuesday February 3, 2026.

Ms. Townson reported that several board members and many staff attended the recent MMA conference. It was great and she brought back handouts to share. She reiterated praise for the hard work of Public Safety and DPW and asked that residents clear fire hydrants and storm drains.

Ms. Danisch encouraged those who may be interested in serving the town as an elected official to consider the open seat on the Punchard Free School Trust. The trustees make decisions regarding funds donated 170+ years ago for the benefit of Andover High School scholarships and program grants.

Mr. Vispoli said there was a great showing at the recent MMA conference and there was a good Andover turnout. Mr. Vispoli said he voted on behalf of the town for a resolution to ensure sufficient state aid as well as an amendment for additional support for Vocational Schools in the State. This Saturday the first “Coffee with Select Board” will take place at the Robb Center with special guest, Town Manager Flanagan.

### **V. Public Comment**

None

**VI. Public Hearings**

**A. National Grid - Dascomb Road**

Board to review and consider voting to approve an application from National Grid requesting permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith.

Mr. Vazz Fang, 1101 Turnpike Street, speaking on behalf of National Grid, said they are seeking two midspan poles to be installed as an upgrade of the system for improved reliability in the Town of Andover.

Mr. Simko said DPW has reviewed the application and Ms. Townson asked about location of poles near a perennial stream and setback from the road. Mr. Simko said engineers did not review these criteria. The proposed poles will be the same distance from the street as existing poles.

Ms. Danisch moved to approve the application by National Grid requesting permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked, "Chandler Road, Andover, Massachusetts." Ms. Townson seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0.

**B. Alcoholic Beverages License - Nak Rich Infinity LLC**

Board to review and consider voting to approve the application of Nak Rich Infinity LLC, DBA Khao San Restaurant, for an On-Premises Wine and Malt Beverages Pouring License at 36 Park Street, Andover, MA, with Chonticha Surarat of 25 Fellsview Terrace, Melrose, MA as the proposed designated manager.

Mr. Simko introduced the applicant, Chonticha Surarat, and her counsel, Patrick McKeon, and noted the property under consideration is located on the premises formerly occupied by Indulge India which did not have a liquor license. Mr. Simko said there are two licenses remaining for the Town, and if this one is issued, there will be one left.

Attorney McKeon said the Khao Thai Indian restaurant holds the lease and all licenses from the town except from a liquor license and are ready to operate. Ms. Surarat said she has one restaurant in Somerville, although this would be the first with a liquor license. Mr. Vispoli asked about staff and training and ensuring against underage drinking, which Ms. Surarat assured him was understood.

There were no questions from the Board or public.

Ms. Danisch moved to approve the application of Nak Rich Infinity LLC, DBA Khao San Restaurant , for an On-Premises Wine and Malt beverages Pouring License at 36 Park Street, Andover, Ma, with

Chonticha Surarat of 25 Fellsvie Terrace, Melrose, MA as the proposed designated manager; subject to the condition that all requirements of the Town are met prior to issuance. Ms. Townson seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Danisch asked Mr. Simko if anything had been received Free Christian Church of Andover in response to the application. Mr. Simko said no. Ms. Danisch moved that the application of Nak Rich Infinity, LLC, DBA Khao San Restaurant, for an On-Premises Wine and Malt Beverages Pouring License at 36 Park Street, Andover MA, is not detrimental to the educational and spiritual activities of the Free Christian Church of Andover, at 31 Elm Street, Andover. Ms. Townson seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0.

**VII. Regular Business**

**A. Alcoholic Beverages License - Event on Town Owned Property**

Board to discuss and consider voting to approve an application from Oak & Iron Brewing Co., located at 18 Red Spring Road, Andover, for a Wine and Malt One-Day Liquor License for use on Town property for “Winterfest” at Poms Pond on February 1, 2026.

Mr. Simko said this event took place last year, and Mr. Lindstrom listed the activities noting there will also be a P.A. Curling Exhibition this year.

Oak & Iron owner Jim Cass gave a brief presentation to the Board asking for a one-day liquor license for beer and wine. One slide showed the fenced area with food and non- alcoholic beverages, and a fire pit, another showed the beer tent with hot dogs/snacks, game area and fire pits. Mr. Cass also outlined the Security Plan for crowd control, controlling access to alcohol, and Key Operational Details.

There were no questions from the Board or Public.

Ms. Danisch moved that the Board approve the application from Oak & Iron Brewing Co., 18 Red Spring Road, Andover, Ma, for a Wine and Malt One-Day License Policy & Application for Outdoor Events on Town-Owned Property,” where the event will be “Winterfest” on February 1, 2026, and will be located at Pops Pond, 147 Abbot Street, and where the manager of the liquor license will be Jim Cass; provided that all conditions of the Town are met prior to issuance. Mr. Coffey seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0.

**VIII. Consent Agenda**

A. Appointments by the Town Manager

Board to vote that the following appointments by the Town Manager be approved.

Board/Commission	Name	Position	Start Date	Term Expires
Cultural Council	Felipe Machado	Member	01/27/2026	06/30/2028
Cultural Council	Tianisha Torres	Member	01/27/2026	06/30/2028
Open Space Task Force	Robert Dalton	Member	01/27/2026	06/30/2028

Ms. Townson moved to approve the appointments the Town Manager as listed in the consent agenda. Ms. Danisch seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0.

**IX. Approval of Minutes**

A. Board to approve minutes from the following meetings:

1. December 3, 2025, Tri-Board

Mr. Coffey moved to approve the meeting minutes from the December 3, 2025, Tri-Board meeting.

Ms. Townson seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0.

**X. Select Board Meetings**

A. Board to approve the following meeting dates:

1. April 6, 2026
2. April 28, 2026 – Before Annual Town Meeting
3. May 4, 2026

4. May 18, 2026
5. June 1, 2026
6. June 15, 2026
7. June 29, 2026

Mr. Vispoli asked whether a meeting date other than April 6, 2026, could be considered and Mr. Flanagan asked whether members would be available if the March 7 date was changed to March 14th. The April 6<sup>th</sup> and possible March 14<sup>th</sup> dates to be determined.

Mr. Coffey moved to approve the Select Board Meeting dates as printed on the agenda, with the exception of April 6, 2026. Ms. Danisch seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0.

## **XI. Adjourn**

Mr. Coffey moved to adjourn, and Ms. Townson seconded.

Roll call vote	Yes	No	Abstain
Kevin Coffey	x		
Melissa Danisch	x		
Laura Gregory	x		
Ellen Townson	x		
Alex Vispoli	x		

The motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.