



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 6, 2025**

Members Present: Chair Jillian Pavidis, Vice Chair John Burrows, Secretary Daniel Darris-O'Connor, Member Michael Rosa, and Member Dina Favreau

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Recording Secretary Dawn McDowell

Call to Order 10:00 AM

Chair Pavidis called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Open Microphone

George Simmolaris of 38 Andover Road – Mr. Simmolaris stated that he applied for the Town Manager position but was not a finalist. He hopes the new Town Manager will drive around and look at each department for efficiency. Our residents are having a hard time paying taxes. We need to look at government from the taxpayers view. We need new growth but apartments will change the look of the town.

Michael Riley of 46 Bedford Street – Mr. Riley stated that he was the Chair of the Town Manager Screening Committee. He thanked all members of the committee members; he thanked MRI and everyone who applied. We had a lot of candidates and we lost a few good ones at the end of the process. We have endless possibilities and we need to work together to move Billerica forward.

Christopher Tribou of 13 Bridle Road – Mr. Tribou thanked the Town Manager Screening Committee and we should be open minded moving forward. The Town Manager should have three qualities, integrity, honesty and long-term vision. The position of Town Manager can't be liked by everyone but they need to lead through the conflicts.

New Business

2. Town Manager Candidate Interviews

Robert Mercier from MRI introduced each candidate.

The Select Board asked several questions of each candidate and the candidates responded. The complete interviews may be watched at <https://www.batvinc.org/vodchannels.html>

2a. Christopher Dillon – 10:00 AM

2b. Michael Maresco – 11:00 AM

The Board took a 30-minute recess at 12:00 PM and returned at 12:30 PM.

2c. Anthony Ansaldi – 12:30 PM

2d. Darrin Tangeman – 1:30 PM

3. Discussion and Possible Vote on Appointment of a Town Manager

Mr. Mercier stated that the Board has interviewed four great candidates. They are here to answer questions.

Secretary Darris-O'Connor asked if we should wait and take more time to review the candidates and vote at our next meeting.

Chair Pavidis stated that she believes that the members of the Screen Committee have done their due diligence as well as our Board members and have researched each candidate. We need to decide and move forward.

Member Rosa agrees with the Chair. The last step was the final interview and we need to decide.



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Mr. Mercier stated that Secretary Darris-O'Connor has a legit question but the Town Manager Screening Committee was made up of (13) thirteen members of residents of your community. They did their homework and represents your community.

Secretary Darris-O'Connor stated that when the School Committee voted for a Superintendent, they voted at a separate meeting. Mr. Mercier stated that you could do that, but you also run the risk of loosing a candidate.

Vice Chair Burrows stated that he wants to vote now.

Mr. Mercier stated that all the candidates are qualified. He would suggest keeping the comments very positive and talk about their strengths.

The first candidate was Mr. Dillon.

Member Favreau stated that overall he did well in the interview but some of his answers were vague but overall he is a good candidate. He has a leg up because he is already doing the job but she would have liked to hear more about economic development.

Vice Chair Burrows stated that Mr. Dillon is doing a great job now. If we chose Mr. Dillon we will not miss a beat. He sees the vision we want with economic development. He is a dedicated person, a good candidate and his top choice.

Secretary Darris-O'Connor stated that Mr. Dillon has the experience with school and the Police and has the progression to move forward in his career

Member Rosa stated that Mr. Dillon interviewed very well, he was able to move Salem, NH to a AAA bond rating, he lowered the tax rates and was not afraid to take on difficult decisions. He worked his way up through the ranks so he has knowledge from the bottom up. He has provided 12 references including representatives from the school, police and financial positions. He is one of his top choices.

Chair Pavidis stated that she echo's the other members comments. Mr. Dillon has integrity and honesty and is well versed with economic development and fiscally responsible and shares our vision.

The second candidate was Mr. Maresco.

Member Favreau stated that she thought he interviewed the best. He has a diverse background and has experience with grants.

Vice Chair Burrows stated that he doesn't think we need to go through each candidate if we can only talk about their positive attributes. That does not provide a full picture.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to authorize Municipal Resources, Inc. to make a conditional offer of employment to Christopher Dillon for the position of Town Manager in Billerica, MA. This offer is conditioned upon the satisfactory background review/investigation conducted by Municipal Resources, Inc. physical exam if required and the successful negotiation of the terms of appointment by the Select Board. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa. After the following discussion, it was voted 4-0-1. Member Favreau abstained from voting.

Secretary Darris-O'Connor stated that he will vote for Mr. Dillon but it is a bad look not to go through the other candidates. It is a terrible look and does not give a fair shot for the other candidates.

Member Favreau stated that she agrees with Secretary Darris-O'Connor and we should discuss all the candidates before making a motion. It looks like we made a decision beforehand.

Member Rosa stated that the previous time we did not have MRI who vetted the candidates and all the candidates are great. The Town Manager Screening Committee and MRI did a great job. They asked us to talk about only positive attributes of all candidates but without the negative it doesn't give a full picture and it would not be an open and frank discussion.



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Vice Chair Burrows stated that people want to know why they didn't get the job. All four were fine candidates. The Town Manager Screening Committee did their due diligence and most of us candidates are applying for other jobs so if we start listing their faults, it could impact them elsewhere.

Member Favreau stated that we should deliberate on all candidates before the vote. It's not proper and not a good look.

Chair Pavidis stated that it truly is not deliberating without the pros and cons of each candidate.

Mr. Mercier stated that you can say which candidates have better strengths than others.

4. Discussion and Possible Vote on the Creation of a Town Manager's Contract Negotiations Sub-Committee

MOTION - Secretary Darris-O'Connor made a motion to create a Town Manager's Contract Negotiations Sub-Committee of two Select Board members appointed by the Chair. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0.

New Business (Quick Items)

5. Approval of (4) 18" x 24" Signs on the Common for the Friends of the Billerica Public Library Annual Book Sale during Yankee Doodle Weekend from September 5th through September 20th – Requested by Teresa Vieira

MOTION - Secretary Darris-O'Connor made a motion to approve the requested signs for the Friends of the Billerica Public Library Annual Book Sale as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0.

Meeting Schedule

September 15, 2025, September 22, 2025 and October 6, 2025

MOTION - Secretary Darris-O'Connor made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of September 6, 2025 at 2:37 PM. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0.

*Respectfully Submitted by Dawn McDowell,
Recording Secretary*

Please note, the entire video of this meeting can be found at: <https://www.batvinc.org/vodchannels.html>



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Exhibits for the Select Board Meeting – September 6, 2025 Regular Meeting

Call to Order 10:00 AM

1. **Open Microphone** – No Exhibits

New Business

2. **Town Manager Candidate Interviews** – Email from M. Riley dated 08/18/25 and Contract with MRI dated 05/22/25
- 2a. **Christopher Dillon – 10:00 AM** – Cover Letter and Resume dated 07/17/25
- 2b. **Michael Maresco – 11:00 AM** – Cover Letter and Resume dated undated
- 2c. **Anthony Ansaldi – 12:30 PM** – Cover Letter and Resume dated 07/19/25
- 2d. **Darrin Tangeman – 1:30 PM** – Cover Letter and Resume dated 07/19/25
3. **Discussion and Possible Vote on Appointment of a Town Manager** – No Exhibits
4. **Discussion and Possible Vote on the Creation of a Town Manager’s Contract Negotiations Sub-Committee** – No Exhibits

New Business (Quick Items)

5. **Approval of (4) 18" x 24" Signs on the Common for the Friends of the Billerica Public Library Annual Book Sale during Yankee Doodle Weekend from September 5th through September 20th – Requested by Teresa Vieira** – Email from T. Vieira dated 09/05/25

Meeting Schedule – No Exhibits

September 15, 2025, September 22, 2025 and October 6, 2025

Approved On: December 15, 2025