



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Town Manager Christopher Dillon and Recording Secretary Dawn McDowell

Call to Order 6:00 PM

Chair Pavidis called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chair Pavidis stated since Secretary Darris-O'Connor is remote, a roll call attendance will be done and all votes will be taken by roll call.

On a roll call attendance: Secretary Darris-O'Connor was present, Member Rosa was present, Vice Chair Burrows was present, Member Favreau was present and Chair Pavidis was present.

1. Open Microphone

Grace Tucci of 7 Carson Street – Ms. Tucci congratulated Mr. Dillon. She asked the Select Board to attend the Charlie Kirk vigil on September 23rd. Listening is just as important and it's not always about politics.

Billy Reed of 16 River Street – Mr. Reed congratulated Mr. Dillon. It's not easy to pick someone.

Chair Pavidis congratulated Mr. Dillon and we are lucky to have you here.

Member Rosa agreed, it's been a long road and excited to have Mr. Dillon here.

Announcements

2. Vacancies on Boards and Committees

Vice Chair Burrows read the vacancies on Boards and Committees.

Member Favreau stated that there are now two vacancies for the 250th committee, so those should be added.

3. All other announcements may be viewed on the Town of Billerica website

Proclamation and Public Recognition

4. September 11th

Vice Chair Burrows read the September 11th proclamation.

Member Rosa stated that even though the day has passed, it's still an important event to remember and recognize all of the those that have lost their lives.

Public Hearings

5. Public Hearing – National Grid and Verizon #31162558 – National Grid to install (1) JO Pole (Pole #87-50) on Andover Road beginning at a point ~300' southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Andover Road and Salem Road, Billerica, MA

MOTION - Member Rosa made a motion to open the public hearing for National Grid #31162558 at 6:09 PM. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Burrows and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

Bryan Sathler of National Grid appeared for the public hearing. Mr. Sathler stated that this application is for a new pole.



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Member Rosa asked if any abutters have reached out. Mr. Sathler replied no. Member Rosa asked if you have read the DPW comments and know that you need to reach out to them directly to mark the water and sewer. Mr. Sathler replied yes.

There were no questions from abutters in person or via Zoom.

MOTION - Member Rosa made a motion to close the public hearing for National Grid public hearing #31162558 at 6:10 PM. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Burrows and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to approve the National Grid pole petition for #31162558 as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

6. Public Hearing – Change of Stock Interest on an Existing §12 Restaurant On-Premises Wine and Malt License for Sichuan Cooking, Inc. d/b/a Sichuan Gourmet at the premises located at 502 (aka 498) Boston Road, Billerica, MA

MOTION - Member Rosa made a motion to open the public hearing for Change of Stock Interest for Sichuan Gourmet at 6:11 PM. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Burrows and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

Attorney Meihei Hu appeared for the change of stock interest. This application is to transfer 40% of the stock from Jenny Yu to 4 other family members. There will be no change in operations.

There were no questions from abutters in person or via Zoom.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to close the public hearing for Sichuan Gourmet at 6:13 PM. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to approve the change of stock interest for Sichuan Gourmet located at 502 Boston Road as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

7. Public Hearing – New On-Premises All-Alcohol Beverages §12 Restaurant, Common Victualler's License, and Weekly and Sunday Entertainment Licenses for Wicked Good Wings, Inc. dba Wicked Wings at the premises located at 816 Boston Road, Billerica, MA

MOTION - Member Rosa made a motion to open the public hearing for a new on premises all alcohol beverages §12 Restaurant, Common Victualler's License, and Weekly and Sunday Entertainment Licenses for Wicked Good Wings, Inc. dba Wicked Wings at the premises located at 816 Boston Road, Billerica, MA at 6:14 PM. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Burrows and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

Andrew Froio and Brian Schofield appeared for the new all alcohol licenses. Mr. Froio stated that we are expanding Wicked Wings from just take out to include a dining room and bar. There will be 50 seats and this is an extension of our business.



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Member Rosa stated that he sees that you have read the rules and regulations. We take the alcohol licenses very seriously including serving minors and overserving.

Secretary Darris-O'Connor wished them the best of luck.

There were no questions from abutters in person or via Zoom.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to close the public hearing for Wicked Wings at 6:15 PM. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to approve the new On-Premises All-Alcohol Beverages §12 Restaurant, Common Victualler's License, and Weekly and Sunday Entertainment Licenses for Wicked Good Wings, Inc. dba Wicked Wings at the premises located at 816 Boston Road, Billerica, MA subject to the ZBA Special conditions 1-7. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to approve the Weekly and Sunday Entertainment Licenses for Wicked Good Wings, Inc. dba Wicked Wings at the premises located at 816 Boston Road, Billerica, MA. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to approve the Common Victualler's License for Wicked Good Wings, Inc. dba Wicked Wings at the premises located at 816 Boston Road, Billerica, MA subject to the ZBA Special conditions 1-7. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

Interviews

8. Town Counsel Interviews: - Harrington Heep

Irvia Fried and Brian Bertrand from Harrington Heep appeared for the interview for Town Counsel. Attorney Fried stated that she would be the lead Town Counsel for Billerica. She has over 10 years experience as Town Counsel and is a partner in the firm. Attorney Bertrand would be the back up for Billerica. He has over 5 years experience as Town Counsel and was previously an Assistant Attorney General. Harrington Heep was opened in the early 1980s and have always been a municipal law firm. We have thirteen attorneys. Most are generalists but have special specialties so there is no need for separate counsel. Our response time on emails is the same day. The firm is committed to local governments and have both sides.

Member Rosa stated that he appreciates the single point of contact. Billerica is a big town in area and legal requirements and asked if Harrington Heep has the bandwidth to provide the level or service needed. Attorney Fried stated that we just brought in another attorney and we have the capacity to handle Billerica. Member Rosa stated that the fee schedule is \$275 for attorneys and \$125 for paralegals. How many paralegals do you have on staff. Attorney Fried stated that we have one trained paralegal and one support staff but most work is done by the attorneys. Attorney Bertrand stated that if it is needed, we would consider hiring another attorney. We have that flexibility. Member Rosa asked if your firm does title work. Attorney Fried replied yes, she does most of it. We also work with town staff and they usually provide us with a lot of the information that is needed. Member Rosa asked if they are willing to work with a retainer. Attorney Fried stated that we would look at negotiating a retainer and they would like a review in 6 month. We would document the items that are part of the retainer and if the work is outside of the retainer then the Town would have to agree to it ahead of time. We know the budget restraints that the town has. They like to have weekly meetings with the Town Manager and try to get ahead of problems.



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Secretary Darris-O'Connor asked if Harrington Heep have zoning experts. Attorney Fried stated that yes, she is part of the zoning team and one of partners, Chris Heep is lead of zoning litigation. Secretary Darris-O'Connor asked if there are any employees at Harrington Heep that could be controversial. Attorney Fried replied no. Secretary Darris-O'Connor asked if Harrington Heep has the ability to staff Town Meeting. Attorney Fried replied yes

Vice Chair Burrows asked how do you ensure compliance with law. Attorney Fried stated that if we give a legal opinion, it is not based on politics; if it is a legal question, you will get a legal answer. We try to keep our communities ahead of any legislation. Vice Chair Burrows stated that the Town Manager should be the point of contact. Attorney Bertrand stated that any work done by paralegals will be overseen by an attorney. The law is not always clear so we try to be clear.

Member Favreau thanked you for applying. Would you like us to vote tonight even though your competitor is not present tonight? Attorney Fried stated that would be great but it would only be right to wait until all applicants are interviewed. Attorney Bertrand stated that he agreed, all firms who applied should be interviewed before a decision is made. Member Favreau asked them to explain their transition process. Attorney Fried stated that they would meet with the Town Manager and get updated on all projects, litigation etc. Then they would meet with department heads, Chair of the Select Board and sit down with your current Town Counsel. After discussion, it maybe determined that some of the ongoing litigation stay with Brooks and DeRensis. Member Favreau asked if you have experience with Appellate Tax law. Attorney Fried stated that one of our partners, Donna Brewer is currently doing tax appellate work for Billerica. Member Favreau asked if you would provide guidance with OML and transparency and compliance. Attorney Fried replied yes, that is part of her expertise. She would provide training to the Town Manager, Select Board, Town Clerk, etc. They provide two free trainings a year on OML, ethics and transparency. This would be in person training. Member Favreau asked what the best practice and procedures around compliance and transparency is. Attorney Fried stated that they have worked with the Town Clerk in other communities to develop a public records request checklist.

Mr. Dillon asked for more information on the transition procedure. Attorney Fried stated that for example, if there is a procurement question, they would bring in an expert but she would be there to initiate the contact with the Town, but then once relationship is set, they would directly contact them.

Chair Pavidis asked why are you interested in Billerica. Attorney Fried stated that there are some big transitions and projects. We enjoy interesting clients. Attorney Bertrand stated that he lives in Billerica so he would love to see how Billerica can grow.

New Business (Quick Items)

Appointments

9. Open Space and Recreation Committee – Justin Damon

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to appoint Justin Damon to the Open Space and Recreation Committee. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

Presentation

Committee Reports

Old Business

New Business



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Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting Schedule

September 22, 2025 and October 6, 2025

MOTION - Vice Chair Burrows made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of September 15, 2025 at 6:50 PM. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0-0. On a roll call vote: Secretary Darris-O'Connor voted Aye, Member Rosa voted Aye, Vice Chair Burrows voted Aye, Member Favreau voted Aye and Chair Pavidis voted Aye.

*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 15, 2025

Call to order 6:00 PM

1. **Open Microphone – No Exhibits**

Announcements

2. **Vacancies on Boards and Committees – Vacancy List dated 09/08/25**
3. **All other announcements may be viewed on the Town of Billerica website - No Exhibits**

Proclamation and Public Recognition

4. **September 11th – Proclamation undated**

Public Hearings

5. **Public Hearing – National Grid and Verizon #31162558 – National Grid to install (1) JO Pole (Pole #87-50) on Andover Road beginning at a point ~300' southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Andover Road and Salem Road, Billerica, MA – NG Application dated 07/10/25, DPW Comments dated 08/19/25, Contractor Acknowledgement dated 08/21/25, Electrical Comments dated 08/27/25, Traffic Safety Comments dated 08/24/25, Abutters List dated 08/12/25, Public Hearing Notice undated**
6. **Public Hearing – Change of Stock Interest on an Existing §12 Restaurant On-Premises Wine and Malt License for Sichuan Cooking, Inc. d/b/a Sichuan Gourmet at the premises located at 502 (aka 498) Boston Road, Billerica, MA – Billerica application dated 08/06/25, Memo from Lt. Coffey dated 08/01/25, ABCC Application dated 06/23/25, Public Hearing notification in Lowell Sun dated 08/18/25**
7. **Public Hearing – New On-Premises All-Alcohol Beverages §12 Restaurant, Common Victualler's License, and Weekly and Sunday Entertainment Licenses for Wicked Good Wings, Inc. dba Wicked Wings at the premises located at 816 Boston Road, Billerica, MA – Billerica application dated 08/15/25, Memo from Lt. Coffey dated 08/10/25, ABCC Application dated 07/21/25, Abutters List dated 07/24/25, Public Hearing notification in Lowell Sun dated 09/03/25**

Interviews

8. **Town Counsel Interviews: Harrington Heep – Response to RFP for Town Counsel & Legal Services dated 08/20/25**

New Business (Quick Items) No Exhibits

Appointments

9. **Open Space and Recreation Committee – Justin Damon – Application dated 08/18/25**

Presentation - No Exhibits

Committee Reports - No Exhibits

Old Business - No Exhibits

New Business - No Exhibits

Approval of Meeting Minutes - No Exhibits

Meeting Schedule – No Exhibits

September 22, 2025 and October 6, 2025

Approved On: December 15, 2025