

Town of Nahant – Meeting Minutes
Board of Selectmen
Wednesday March 04, 2026 via ZOOM
Robert Tibbo, Chairman, Gene Canty, Vice Chairman
Patrick O'Reilly, Recording Secretary, Alison Nieto, Town Administrator

Attendance: Gene Canty (GC) Robert Tibbo (RT), Patrick O'Reilly (PO), Alison Nieto (AN)

1. Meeting Opening

RT: opened the meeting at 6:38pm

2. Opening Comments

RT:

- a. Winter Parking Ban** – in effect until March 20, 2026 from 12AM-6AM.
- b. Annual Town Census:** The 2026 Annual Town Census has been mailed to residents.
- c. Annual Resident Parking Stickers:** Stickers are expected to be available March 15
- d. Annual Dog Licenses:** Dog Licenses are due back to the Town Clerk by April 1st
- e. Charles Kelley Scholarship:** Scholarship application due by April 10, 2026.
- f. Town Election:** Saturday April 25, 2026.
- g. Annual Town Meeting:** Saturday May 16, 2026

3. New Business

- a. *Vote to appoint Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate Members***

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen vote to appoint Ian Brown as an alternate member on the Zoning Board of Appeals effective March 4, 2026 with a term expiring June 30, 2026.”

PO: seconded the motion

AN: I think his term is supposed to say 2026

RT: so moved we will amend to 2026

Discussion:

Ian Brown (candidate joined the meeting)

RT: Ian is a brother to Jake Brown who is on the ZBA, is there any issue with conflict with that?

Diane Dunfee (Town Clerk): there is no conflict of interest if they are on the same board. Ian will also be an alternate. He would not get voting powers unless they need him, if ZBA didn't

have a quorum. If there was a family member who came in front of the ZBA with a permit then they would need to recuse themselves.

Ian Brown: My brother Jake is on the ZBA. I moved to town with my wife in 2024. We have a one year old son. I work as a software engineer and looking forward to serving.

Roll call vote: **RT:** yes **PO:** yes

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen vote to appoint Scott Ofrias as an alternate member on the Zoning Board of Appeals effective March 4, 2026 with a term expiring June 30, 2028.”

PO: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: **RT:** yes **PO:** yes

Scott Ofrias (candidate): I am originally from New York. I have lived in Nahant since 2019. I am a real estate litigator.

During discussion the Town Clerk noted that the original motion for Ian Brown with the term date of 2026 was correct. Motion amended again back to original motion.

Gene Canty joined the meeting

b. Vote to Approve Event Requests

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Wish Upon a Wave event on Sunday March 22, 2026 beginning at 12:00pm on Short Beach.”

GC: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: all in favor

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Spring Soccer event request on Saturdays at 8:00am beginning on Saturday May 2, 2026 through Saturday June 20, 2026 at Flash Road Park.”

GC: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: all in favor

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Demakes Family YMCA Stride Along the Tide 5K road race on Saturday May 09, 2026 beginning at 8:15am at Lowlands Park”.

GC: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: all in favor

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Annual Coolidge Middle School Kite Day on Friday May 22, 2026 beginning at 12:00pm on Short Beach.

GC: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: all in favor

c. Vote to Approve the Board of Selectmen Omnibus budget and send to the Advisory and Finance Committee

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Omnibus budget and send to the Advisory and Finance Committee for their review

GC: seconded the motion

Discussion:

AN: Shared her screen. I have just one change to the budget since we met a few weeks ago. One adjustment. I presented the FY27 budget about 3 weeks ago. Then on February 26th we received a letter from the MWRA the town’s FY27 assessment and it was slightly higher than we thought so I am asking to revise the budget from 615K to 618K.

Roll call vote: all in favor

d. Vote to Open and Close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and send to the Advisory and Finance Committee

MOTION RT: “I move the Board of Selectmen open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.”

GC: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: all in favor

Discussion:

AN: shared her screen. Adjustments made: Added Article 19 to change the bylaw to move the Town Election to June of each year. We are also adding a section to revise the amount of time a resident can speak.

RT: Agrees with both changes. Changing the time someone can speak may compel more people to speak.

Pete Barba (Town Moderator): I think 3 or 4 minutes is enough time. That may be enough time for regular warrant articles but we may need to change it if we have a more complex warrant article. Or we could put in language saying at “Moderators discretion”.

AN: The other article we are adding is Article 20 which would be a charter change and would change the time of when town meeting needs to be posted from 14 days to 7 days. The last change was to the “Continuing Committees” article. We went through to see if we can eliminate any committees that are not in used. The committee’s we are recommending to remove, are the

Cable TV Advisory, Coast Guard Design, Tennis committee, Green Community, Nahant Fire Station Architectural Assessment. I added two, the Public Safety Designer Selection Committee and Right's of Ways committee.

MOTION RT: "I move that we approve the following as recommended and described by the Town Administrator, the addition of Article 19 to amend general by laws, the addition of Article 20 to amend the town charter, the changes to article 24 regarding continuing committees.

GC: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: all in favor

MOTION RT: I move the Board of Selectmen vote to close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and send to the Advisory and Finance Committee for their review."

GC: seconded the motion

Roll call vote: all in favor

4. Ongoing Business

5. Town Administrators Report

a. *Winter Storm Recap*

AN: Thanked the Town Departments for their work during the recent storms. Update on budget process. The CPC is done interviewing all of the applicants. The FinCom is meeting tomorrow and will zone in on the school budget and general government budget. Update to The public safety feasibility study. I spoke to the Architect this morning. They are still working on the report, hoping to finalize by end of April. Asked them to do a presentation to the BOS and residents in mid-April. Update to Water Meter Replacement. The project is out to bid and we will accept bid March 17th.

6. Citizens Comment

Brendan Barenek Olmstead (2 Summer St): made a comment on the article to change the length of time someone can speak at town meeting and if we have ever looked into how long and how many times people have spoke.

Peter Barba (Town Moderator): made a comment on the speaking time limit at town meeting. Thanked the DPW for storm clean up. Proposed we do a reading of the Declaration of Independence to celebrate 250th anniversary of America.

Diane Dunfee (Town Clerk) Answered question about how long people have spoken at past town meetings and will look into it.

Kerry Collins (22 Breezy Hill Terrace): Made a comment about the time length to speak at town meeting

7. Adjourn

RT: asked for a motion to adjourn

GC: so moved

Roll call vote: all in favor

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm on Wednesday March 4, 2026

Meeting Minutes prepared by Administrative Assistant, Kristin Taylor on March 5, 2026

Meeting Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen on the 1st day of April 2026