

Town of Otis
Select Board/ Board of Health
Meeting Minutes

Conference Room, 1 North Main Rd., Otis, MA
Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 6:30 PM

This meeting will be held in person at the location provided on this notice.
Members of the public are welcome to attend.

This meeting is being recorded.

Attendance: Gary Thomas, Larry Southard, Terry Gould, Brandi Page, Lisa D’Orazio, Ross Knowles, Bill Hiller, Vinette Crowe, Larry Gould, Mark Anthony, Hal Kobrin and Stacey Schultze.

Call to Order: 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from Mar 19th were approved as amended. The minutes from Mar 24th and Apr 9th were approved as written.

Seasonal Communities Designation: Larry felt that some key parts are still being sorted out and that we should send this back to the Planning Board for further review. Terry and Gary agreed. Bill Hiller asked what the Seasonal Communities Designation is. Brandi read from the state website *“The Seasonal Communities designation was created as part of the Affordable Homes Act signed into law by Governor Maura Healey on Aug. 6, 2024. The historic legislation authorizes \$5.16 billion in spending over the next five years along with nearly 50 policy initiatives to counter rising housing costs caused by high demand and limited supply. The Seasonal Communities designation is designed to recognize Massachusetts communities that experience substantial variation in seasonal employment and to create distinctive tools to address their unique housing needs. The law also established a Seasonal Communities Advisory Council.”*

Shared Animal Control: The Board discussed committing to the proposal for a shared Animal Control officer. We have built the money in the budget for FY27. Terry wonders if the person will actually be able to cover that many towns. It was clarified that ACO’s are now required to attend training as part of the position. Lee is proposed to be the host town for the shared service. Larry made a motion to move forward with the shared service. Motion seconded and passed, vote 3-0.

Master Plan Steering Committee: We will be looking for 7-9 members for the steering committee that will work on updating the Master Plan. Brandi read the desired stakeholder positions that we are looking to fill. A notice will go out and the Board can hopefully appoint people on the 28th.

Revitalization Quarterly Report: Stacey presented the quarterly report from the Revitalization Committee. She asked for guidance on if the committee was being continued at the annual appointments. It was clarified that the positions are one-year appointments and yes they are including them with the annual reappointments.

Appointments: Otis Fire & Rescue had an additional per-diem they were recommending the Board appoint. The Board appointed Kendall Benlien to that position. Eric recommended re-appointment of Kim P. and Gary M. for the summer transfer station positions. They worked for us in 2025 and were a good fit. The Board appointed both for the seasonal transfer station positions. Finally, ACO re-appointments are due in April. The Board re-appointed Kacey H. to the position.

Smile Like Jack Memorial Race: The annual event is planned for July 11th this year. The Board fully supports the event. Brandi mentioned we should ask them to think about an emergency plan in case of a major weather event.

MLP Quarterly Report: Larry presented the MLP quarterly report.

Recent & Upcoming Events: The Book Sale and annual Community Clean-up Day will be April 18th.

Review & Approval of Warrants: Payroll and vendor warrants are on the table for signature.

Not Anticipated by the Board: None.

Adjourn: At 7:17 PM.