

**Minutes of Special Meeting of Brandon Selectboard  
Joint Meeting with Budget Advisory Committee  
30 January 2025, Brandon Town Hall**

Selectboard present: Doug Bailey, Ralph Ethier, Heather Nelson, Brian Coolidge

Budget Advisory Committee present: Barry Varian, Karen Rhodes, Jan Coolidge, Gabe McGuigan, Tricia Welch

Public present: Seth Hopkins, Bill Moore, Kathleen Rausenberger, Wayne Rausenberger, Bill Claessens, Steve Koch, Jeff Cohen, Cindy Cohen, Ken Manning, Wyatt Waterman, Tim Kingston, Brent Buehler, Jeff Haylon, Barbara Scribner, Noah O'Connor, Steven Jupiter, Billy Bullock, Jessica Doos, Shiraz Daya, Matt Lewis, Carrie Lewis, Jay Merluzzi, Cecil Reniche-Smith, Vicki Disorda, Devon Fuller; several present by Zoom

Doug Bailey called the meeting to order at 7PM.

The selectboard presented its FY26 budget proposal with a series of slides and commentary on the information in those. This presentation appears in full at this link and is incorporated into these minutes: <https://www.townofbrandon.com/fy26-proposed-town-budget/>

This took about the first half hour. The floor was then opened to public questions, which were fielded by the selectboard, town management team, and budget advisory committee. This took about 90 minutes. Key points raised focused on capital planning and funding, affordability, police staffing levels, grants and other non-budget revenues, and the relationship of the selectboard-requested appropriation article to the operating budget and the tax rate. When it appeared there were no further questions or comments forthcoming, the meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Seth M Hopkins, town manager