Town of Boscawen Public Safety Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure

General Procedures

Applicability

- 1. These Procedures are applicable to the Public Safety Advisory Committee and all boards and committees appointed by the Select Board.
- 2. These Procedures are enacted or amended by the majority affirmative vote during a regular board meeting.
- 3. Membership of each board or committee is determined using the Town of Boscawen Appointment Policy.
- 4. These rules of procedure are adopted under the authority of New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, Chapter 91-A:1-a, as amended. The Town of Boscawen Select Board is authorizing the board which is considered an advisory board that answers to the Select Board. Fundraising and or external negotiations with businesses or other parties may only be authorized by the Select Board

Officers

- 1. A **Chair** shall be elected at the first regular meeting of the board after Town Meeting, or the first meeting after the establishment of a board. Traditionally the longest serving member or the one whose term expires next is the chair.
- 2. A **Vice-Chair** shall be elected at the first meeting after Town Meeting. Said Vice-Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair and shall have the full powers of the Chair on matters which come before the board during the absence of the Chair.
- 3. If the Chair and Vice-Chair are unavailable, then the member with the most seniority present will act as Chair for that meeting.

Terms, Members & Alternates

- 1. **Terms of Members and Alternate Members** shall begin when the member takes the oath of office for a term listed on their appointment. Appointments made to fill vacancies shall be for the remainder of the terms.
- 2. **Members** are expected to attend each meeting of the board to exercise their duties and responsibilities. Any member unable to attend a meeting shall notify the Chair and town office staff as soon as possible. Members, including the Chair and all officers, shall participate in the decision-making process.
- 3. **Alternate Members** shall be appointed, as provided for by the local legislative body, and will attend all meetings to familiarize themselves with the workings of the board to stand ready to serve whenever a regular member of the board is unable to fulfill his/her responsibilities.

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Meetings

Quorum. A quorum for all meetings shall be a simple majority, including alternates. A quorum is required to convene and/or continue any meeting.

- 1. If a quorum is not present (ceases to exist) the presiding officer shall adjourn the meeting immediately.
- 2. Should a member have to temporarily excuse themselves' from a meeting for a short personal issue and there is no longer a quorum, the Chair shall recess the meeting until the member returns.
- 3. If a member disqualifies themselves, the Chair must immediately determine if there is a quorum in order to continue the meeting.
- 4. Members who (vote to abstain) are still counted for purposes of a quorum (Merrimack v. McCray 150 NH 811) (2004).

Regular Meetings.

- 1. A regular meeting is held during the work week, at a time and location appropriate to conduct business and discharge responsibilities.
- 2. A regular meeting cycle shall be established. Member attendance is expected except in extenuating circumstances. In such cases, the member who will be absent is expected to inform the Chair and Town office staff.

Special Meetings.

- 1. Special meetings are those held at the call of the Chair in addition to regular meetings, or are held for a specific purpose. Special meetings may also be held if the volume of business is such that it cannot be conducted during a regular meeting. Like all other meetings, special meetings must be property noticed.
- 2. The Chair shall have authority to call or cancel special meetings.

Public Participation in Meetings.

- 1. Each person desiring to speak during the public comment session shall state their name, street address and, if not a Boscawen resident, their town of residence and shall record their information in the meeting roster. There will be a five minute time limit per person.
- 2. Agenda appointments may be made for a regular meeting through the town office staff. The Chair has the discretion to schedule a different date and time.

Minutes. Minutes of all meetings shall be open to public inspection within five business days of the public meeting in accordance with RSA 91-A:2 II, as amended.

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