## Office of the Ayer Board of Selectmen Office of the Ayer Town Administrator



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## Town of Ayer Board of Selectmen

## Town-Wide Policy Regarding Lands Designated Under MGL Chapter 61

It shall be the policy of the Town of Ayer that in the event that the Ayer Board of Selectmen are formally notified of any addition to, change of, and/or right of first refusal regarding lands under MGL Chapter 61, the Town shall follow the following policy:

- 1. Upon formal notification of an intent to sell and/or convert lands in the Town of Ayer under MGL Chapter 61, the Ayer Board of Selectmen will adhere to all of the legal procedures and parameters set forth under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 61;
- 2. Upon receipt of a sufficient Notice of Intent as prescribed under MGL Chapter 61, the Ayer Board of Selectmen will respond to that Notice of Intent including its right of first refusal in a duly posted, Open Session meeting of the Ayer Board of Selectmen in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. Furthermore this formal response will include the declaration of a Public Hearing to be conducted by the Ayer Board of Selectmen following the provisions and procedures of MGL Chapter 61;
- 3. The Public Hearing process shall serve as the working and deliberative forum for the Ayer Board of Selectmen to gather input from Town Boards, Commissions, Committees, and the Public as well as any relevant documents, reports, and/or studies to aid in its determination of whether to exercise the Town's right of first refusal to purchase the property in accordance with MGL Chapter 61;
- 4. All business and matters pertaining to the Chapter 61 Process will be conducted in accordance with the Open Meeting Law; Public Records Law; and MGL Chapter 61. The minutes of all meetings and proceedings as well as written records (unless exempted by the Public Records law) will be available to the Public in the Ayer BOS Office at Town Hall and on the Ayer BOS Webpage.;
- 5. In the event that the Ayer Board of Selectmen after conducting the Public Hearing Process under MGL Chapter 61 vote to affirmatively execute the Town's right of first refusal to purchase/acquire said property/properties, the Board of Selectmen shall conduct the purchase and sales negotiations subject to the Open Meeting Law and upon reaching a Purchase and Sales Agreement, the authorization to execute and purchase said Agreement is ultimately subject to an affirmative vote of the Ayer Town Meeting.

Policy adopted on July 14, 2015 by a vote (3-0) of the Ayer Board of Selectmen.

Jannice L. Livingston, Chair

Christopher R. Hillman, Clerk

Gary J. Luca, Vice-Chair

TOWN OF AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN