

## CHAPTER 53

### SELECTMEN

#### **S53-1. Powers and Duties**

#### **S53-1. Powers and Duties**

A. The Selectmen shall have the general direction and management of the property and affairs of the town in all matters not otherwise provided for by law or by this code.

B. The Selectmen may appear either personally or by Town Counsel or by special counsel duly employed by them before any court, committee of the Legislature or any state or county board or commission or other tribunal to protect the interest of the town, but they are not authorized hereby to commit the town to any course of action.

C. All conveyances of land or interests in land which may hereafter be authorized by vote of the town or otherwise, except land held under tax titles, shall be signed by a majority of the Board of Selectmen unless otherwise provided by law or this Code or by special vote of the town and the same shall be sealed with the Town Seal.

D. It shall be the duty of the Selectmen to impose and enforce a set of rules and regulations for the government of the Police and the Fire Departments and the guidance of the members thereof not inconsistent with the Code. They shall have copies of the same printed for the use of the Police and Fire Departments.

E. The Selectmen may and in accordance with any other legal requirements, settle and dispose of and agree to judgement in or lump sum any claims, demands or suits against the town, and/or its officers, employees, officials, department, boards, commissions, agents or those whose conduct the town may be liable for (or authorize the same) on such terms and conditions as they deem appropriate for the best interest of the town, which in their opinion, acting on advice of Town Counsel or Special Council, it is advisable and in the best interest of the town to so settle.  
**(Amended 10-26-87 STM, Art. 35)**

F. The Selectmen may and are authorized to grant easements, either for a term of years or in perpetuity, upon such terms and conditions as they shall determine, to owners of real property, portions of whose building or buildings on such real property may partially encroach on a municipal street or way or on other property owned, controlled or maintained by the town or under the jurisdiction of the town. **(Added 4-14-86 ATM, Art. 9)**

G. The Selectmen may and are authorized to grant, in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations, easements,

either for a term of years or in perpetuity, upon such terms and conditions as they shall determine, over, on or under property owned, controlled or maintained by the town or under the jurisdiction of the town, to parties needing the same in order to connect to public or private utilities and services, including, but not limited to sewer systems, water systems, electric/power connections, cable lines, gas lines and the like. **(Added 10-19-92 STM, Art. 26)**