



**Town of Savoy
Massachusetts 01256**

Consulting Fee Regulation for the Savoy Select Board

Expenses for advertising, notices, inspections and professional review will be borne by the applicant.

A. As provided by M.G.L. Ch. 44 §53G, the Select Board, Committee or Commission may impose reasonable fees for the employment of outside consultants, engaged by the Board, Committee or Commission for specific expert services when in the opinion of the Board, Committee or Commission the services are necessary for the Board, Committee or Commission to come to a final decision on an application submitted to the Board, Committee or Commission pursuant to the requirements of: The Town of Savoy Zoning or General Bylaws, Town of Savoy Subdivision Regulations, or any other state or municipal statute, bylaw or regulation, as they may be amended or enacted from time to time. The Board, Committee or Commission may also impose fees for other consultant services for the review of the plans, survey or inspections under any of the above-referenced laws or regulations.

B. **Special Account.** Funds received pursuant to these rules shall be deposited with the town treasurer who shall establish a special account for this purpose. Expenditures from this special account may be made at the direction of the Board, Commission or Committee without further appropriation as provided in G.L. Ch. 44 §53G. Expenditures from this account shall be made only in connection with a specific project or projects for which a consultant fee has been collected from the applicant and only in connection with the Board, Commission or Committee carrying out its responsibilities under the law. Expenditures of accrued interest may also be made for these purposes. Any excess amount in the account attributable to a specific project, including any accrued interest, at the completion of said project shall be repaid to the applicant or to the applicant's successor in interest and a final report of said account shall be made available to the applicant or to the applicant's successor in interest.

C. **Reporting Requirements.** The Town Accountant shall submit annually a report of said special account to the Select Board and Town Administrator for their review. The report shall be published in the town annual report. The Town Account shall submit annually a copy of this report to the director or the bureau of accounts.

D. **Consultant Services.** In hiring outside consultants, the Board, Committee or Commission may engage professional engineers, planners, landscape architects, wildlife scientists, lawyers, designers, or other appropriate professionals able to assist the Board, Committee or Commission and to ensure compliance with all relevant laws, ordinances, bylaws and regulations. Specific consultant services may include but are not limited to analysis of applications, plans, title searches, mapping of lot and/or municipal boundaries and/or right of way, and environmental or land use law. Services may also include on-site

monitoring during construction, or other services related to the project deemed necessary by the Board, Committee or Commission. The consultant shall be chosen by, and report only to, the Board, Committee or Commission and/or its administrator. Consultant's retained shall have an educational degree in or related to the field at issue or three or more years of practice in the filed at issue or a related field.

E. Appeals of Choice of Consultant. Applicants may appeal the selection of the consultant to the Select Board. The grounds for such an appeal shall be limited to claims that the consultant selected has a conflict of interest or does not possess the minimum, required qualifications. The required time limits for action upon an application by the Board, Committee or Commission shall be extended by the duration of the administrative appeal. In the event that no decision is made by the Select Board within one month following the filing of the appeal, the selection made by the Board, Committee or Commission shall stand. Such an administrative appeal shall not preclude further judicial review if otherwise permitted by law, on grounds provided for in this section.

Adopted by the Savoy Select Board on: October 5, 2021



The image shows three handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature is the most prominent and appears to be the name of the board member who adopted the resolution. Below it are two other signatures, likely representing other board members or witnesses.