

## **PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING BOND AUTHORIZATION PROPERTIES**

1. Any land nominated for conservation acquisition or easements shall be presented to the Natural Heritage Committee for consideration. Using the "*Barrington Natural Heritage Committee Selection Criteria for Land and Conservation Easement Acquisitions*", the committee will gather the appropriate information necessary for review. Recommendations shall be forwarded to the Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) for its decision as to moving the recommendation forward, following the procedures described below.
2. The BCC makes a decision whether or not to enter into an understanding with the landowner with regard to determining the feasibility of taking land protection action mutually agreeable to both parties. This decision usually includes agreement to have the property appraised.
3. The land owner and the BCC sign a formal but non-binding memorandum of understanding regarding steps to be taken and any financial transactions to take place at future times.
4. The memorandum of understanding is reviewed by the Selectmen (possibly in Nonpublic session). If they disapprove the memorandum is returned to the BCC for possible revision.
5. If the Selectmen wish to continue, the BCC holds a public hearing on the use of bond money for this purpose.
6. After review of the public comment and possible revision, the Selectmen instigate the process of securing the bond money required.
7. In the case of the town acquiring the land, an eligible organization willing to hold the easement is identified and a conservation easement deed is drafted and agreed upon.

In the case of the town acquiring the development rights, a conservation easement deed is drafted and agreed upon by the landowner and the town.

8. The Selectmen approve the final agreement and it is executed.