

Selectmen's Meeting/Advisory Board Minutes
Anson Town Office, 5 Kennebec Street
January 13, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Present were Jim Smith, Brenda Garland, Larry McHugh and Sharon Mellows. Advisory Board present were Daniel Savage, Janice Miller and Tom Poirier. Department Heads present were Nancy Gove, Stacy Beane, Arty Lane.

1. Call meeting to order. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Budget Discussion (with the Advisory Board): Nancy began the budget meeting by stating that if all the proposed budgets are recommended, then the budget will be \$138,370 more than last year (including adding a full-time highway position). Without the added highway position, the budget will increase \$91,573 over last year. Anticipated revenues and other funding sources is down by \$104,544.

A) Discuss adding another full-time employee in the Highway Department. The two boards agreed to discuss funding this position in the highway article.

B) Review 2026 budget articles for town meeting warrant.

Article 3: 2027 budget spending limit. Sharon made a motion to recommend yes. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Advisory board: Tom moved to recommend yes. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 4: taxes due date and interest for delinquent taxes at 7%. Sharon made a motion to recommend 7%. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Advisory Board: Janice made a motion to recommend 7% interest rate, Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 5: anticipated revenues. Sharon made a motion to recommend \$796,500. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0; Advisory Board: Tom made a motion to recommend \$796,500. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0. AMENDMENT: Sharon made a motion to amend 1st park revenues to \$8,800, bringing the total revenues to \$797,300. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$797,300. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 6: Administration. Brenda made a motion to recommend \$561,280. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend \$561,280. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 7: Selectmen, Planning Board & special Officers. Larry made a motion to recommend \$39,281. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$39,281. Daniel seconded. Vote 2-0-1 abstained – Janice Miller.

Article 8: Transfers. Brenda made a motion to recommend \$40,693. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend \$40,693. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 9: KRDA-1st Park. Sharon made a motion to recommend \$8,800. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend \$8800. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 10: Public Safety. Larry made a motion to recommend \$530,287. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$530,287. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 11: Highway. Arty Lane is supportive of adding another full-time position. Larry made a motion to recommend \$772,100. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$772,100. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 12: Community Programs. Larry made a motion to recommend \$42,488. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend \$8800. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 13: CATV-11. Sharon made a motion to recommend all franchise fees received, approximately \$3,000. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$3000. Daniel seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 14. General Assistance. Brenda made a motion to recommend \$10,350. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend 10,350. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 15. Charitable Organizations. Larry made a motion to recommend \$35,084. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend 35,084. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 16. Cemetery, Etc. Larry made a motion to recommend \$29,450. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$29,450. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 17: KVRWC and Household Waste collection day. Brenda made a motion to recommend \$66,204. Sharon seconded. Jim asked that amounts be broken out. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend 66,204. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 18: solid Waste. Sharon made a motion to recommend \$170,000. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$170,000. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 19: Debt Service. Sharon made a motion to recommend \$462,241. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$462,241. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 20: Capital – remove railroad ties. Sharon made a motion to recommend \$30,907. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$30,907. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 21: Capital – Trackless Machine. Larry made a motion to raise and appropriate the recommended amount of \$50,000. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$50,000. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 22: Capital – Town Office Improvements. Larry made a motion to raise and appropriate the recommended amount of \$20,000. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$20,000. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 23: Capital – Sewer Pumps. Larry made a motion to raise and appropriate the recommended amount of \$29,000. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$29,000. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 24: capital – Revaluation. Sharon made a motion to raise and appropriate the recommended amount of \$59,125. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend \$59,125. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 25: Embden fire Protection negotiation. Sharon made a motion to approve. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend yes. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 26: Capital – transfers. Sharon made a motion to raise and appropriate the recommended amount of \$74,000. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend \$74,000. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 27: Recreation. Larry made a motion to recommend \$50,324. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0. Janice made a motion to recommend \$50,324. Tom seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 28: Solid Waste Ordinance amendment. Sharon made a motion to recommend yes. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Advisory board abstained from voting.

Article 29. Needle Exchange, Disposal and Medical supervised Injection Sites ordinance. Sharon made a motion to recommend yes. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Advisory board abstained from voting.

Article 30: Controlled substance Facilities Ordinance. Sharon made a motion to recommend yes. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Advisory board abstained from voting.

Article 31. was passed over – waiting for general obligation bond warrant article language.

Articles 32 through 38. Sharon made a motion to recommend yes to articles 32 through 38. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend yes to articles 32 through 38. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

Article 39. Change the date of 2027 town meeting and election. Brenda made a motion to recommend yes. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Tom made a motion to recommend yes. Janice seconded. Vote 3-0.

2. Old business:

A) Execute Revaluation Contract. Sharon made a motion to approve the contract with RJD Appraisal. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0.

C) Review and approve the minutes of December 23rd, January 7, 2026. Sharon made a motion to approve the minutes of 12/23. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. Sharon made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/7. Larry seconded. Vote 3-0-1 – Brenda abstained.

3. New business:

A) Appointments to various positions. Brenda made a motion to appoint Nancy Gove as Treasurer & Tax Collector, Kimberly Moody as Town Clerk, Registrar of Voters and GA Administrator, Arty Lane as Road Commissioner, Stacy Beane as Fire Chief, and Jeff Drew as CEO, LPI, Health Officer and Addressing Officer. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0.

B) Approve Assessing Contract 7/1/26 – 6/30/27. Contact was not available for review.

C) Execute Municipal Quitclaim Deed for Stacey Slate, 20 Madison Street property. Sharon made a motion to approve the Municipal Quitclaim Deed for Stacey Slate, 20 Madison Street property. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0.

D) Discuss changes to Employee Handbook. Nancy wanted to update Section VI Timekeeping & payroll by adding a new C. Call-In pay. Whenever an employee is called back in to work, employee shall receive a minimum of 2 hours pay. Sharon made a motion to approve the recommended change. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0.

E) Approve job description for EMA Director. Sharon made a motion to approve the EMA job description. Larry seconded. Vote 3-0-1 – Brenda abstained.

F) Discuss Embden Fire Protection Contract for 2026. Sharon made a motion to approve the draft contract as written. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0.

4. Discuss financial matters with the Treasurer.

A) Treasurer warrants for 2025: warrants #133 - #139; 2026: warrants #1-#4. Nancy

reported the details of the warrants. Sharon made a motion to approve the warrant #133 through #139 and numbers 1 – 4. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0.

B) Year-end financial reports. Nancy reviewed the summary expense and revenue details for the general fund, the sewer fund and the special revenue funds.

C) Discuss going out to bid for General Obligation Bond for road paving and reconstruction. Arty reviewed the roads scheduled for repairs and the estimated costs by road. The Board asked Nancy to get the information on bonding limits and warrant article language. The board will decide which roads and how much to authorize in a general obligation bond.

5. Department head reports: Road Commissioner – Arty reported that he’s used about half of the season’s road sand/salt materials in December. Working on getting ice off back roads. Pump station #1 was down. Rebuilt the pump. Fire Chief – Stacy reported that Engine 82 was serviced. The compressor was serviced. Lance Arsenault said the generator parts are coming in. Stacy wants Lance to look at the conduit from the utility room to the compressor. Low coolant alarm at the south station. Joe Pooler started his own business (Dirigo) for checking fire extinguishers at a much lower rate than Encore offers. Stacy received permission to purchase Adobe on the town’s credit card at a cost of \$600ish. Floor radiant heat at the new north station was discussed. No auxiliary heat. Stacy put a call into Brian Cobb to see what else can be done. EMA Director – none.
Administrative Assistant – Nancy reported that the 2024 Audit is now available. We made an offer to hire a Customer Service Specialist – offer was declined so we’re back to square one. The Somerset County Caucus meeting scheduled for 1/26/2026 at 6:30 pm at the Old Point School in Madison was mentioned. Jim Smith indicated that he withdrew his nomination from the county budget committee. Nancy asked the board about taking a vacation after town meeting. Board agreed.
6. Selectmen concerns. None.
7. Public session. Daryel Partridge wanted to discuss the plowing contract for the North Village, park N ride and parking lot. Sidewalks are okay but plow guy is filling driveways.
8. Adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. on a motion by Brenda, seconded by Sharon. Vote 4-0.