

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Anson Town Office, 5 Kennebec Street
February 10, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Present were board members: Jim Smith, Brenda Garland, Sharon Mellows and Larry McHugh. Also present were Nancy Gove, Arty Lane and Stacy Beane.

1. Call meeting to order. Jim called the meeting to order at 6 PM.
2. Public hearing to review two draft ordinances: 1) Needle Exchange Program, Needle Disposal Sites and Medical Supervised Injection Sites; and 2) Controlled Substance Facilities Ordinance. Jim opened the public hearing at 6:01 pm. There was much discussion on the current draft ordinances which centered around: 1) can we restrict a clinic within a specific radius from the center of town, 2) can we mandate the minimum lot size for a proposed facility, 3) can we restrict how close an existing clinic can be from another proposed facility; and 4) can we regulate distance from a needle exchange site to a methadone clinic? The Board will pose these questions to the town attorney and get back to the citizens on any changes to the drafts. The public hearing closed at 6:42 p.m.
3. Review and approve the minutes of January 27, 2026. Brenda made a motion to approve the minutes. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0.
4. Review and approve Treasurer warrants #10-#14. Warrant details are: #10 – AP - \$1,042.50; #11 – PR - \$11,054.62; #12 – PR - \$8,774.07; #13 AP - \$4,547.12; #14 – AP - \$310,131.26. Brenda made a motion to approve the warrants as read. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0.
5. Review and approve the 2026 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Brenda made a motion to approve the 2026 Annual Town Meeting Warrant scheduled for Saturday, March 7, 2026. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. The Board signed the warrant calling this meeting.
6. Department head reports:
Road Commissioner – Arty said that he's been grading and they've been cutting the snowbanks back. Paving work has been put out for bids.
Fire Chief – Stacy reported on two fires one in New Portland and the second on Winter Street in North Anson. Engine 83's gauges froze. They now have floor heat at the new fire station, they also need to move the thermostat from it's current location (too warm to trigger heat). The high jets for the overhead doors didn't get bled out. There is a circulator pump that needs to be replaced. Lance is waiting until spring to install the generator. Regarding the south station, generator still showing low coolant. Stacy reached out to CND out of Hermon and has scheduled service.
EMA Director – Brenda reached out to Sara regarding a sign in/out sheet for the emergency shelter.
Administrative Assistant – Nancy reported that the 2026-2027 Embden contract has been signed by all parties; she gave the fire chief a copy of the agreement.
The dedication of the Town Report will take place at town meeting, starting at 2:30 p.m. before the annual business.
There will be a Toll Bridge fundraising effort on Feb 22 from 8 to 4, sponsored by the Snow Riders Club; said event to take place on the Madison/Anson bridge. Nancy has notified emergency services (highway, fire and AMS Ambulance) and will suggest that the organizers also check with neighboring Madison and ME DOT where it is a state road.
Three additional foreclosure letters are ready to be mailed (Nancy found a new address for

them). The Board signed the foreclosure letters.

Foreclosed property of Riley Merrill – he has paid his taxes (2023 thru 2025) in full. Sharon made a motion to sign the Municipal Quitclaim Deed for Riley Merrill. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0.

The 2025 Audit is complete, and the draft short report has been received. Nancy had a question on this draft regarding expensing the overage from the fire station build (\$39,234.90) to come from the fire department's operating budget for 2025. She'll speak with the auditor about the correction.

The General Obligation Bond application has been approved by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. Nancy will work with bond counsel on funding various paving projects.

7. Selectmen concerns. Larry commented that he thought the roads were in good shape for this time of year.
8. Public session. Daryle inquired about the water problem at the station – 3 to 4 leaks. Kari asked to see the expenses for the new fire station building project.
9. Executive session to discuss confidential records (poverty abatement request) pursuant to 1 MRS § 405(6)(F). Sharon made a motion to go into executive session. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. The board went into executive session at 7:17 p.m. Sharon made a motion to come out of executive session. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. The Board came out of executive session at 7:48 p.m. Sharon made a motion to abate the 2023 taxes for account #1091 (64 Madison Street) in the amount of \$1,318.84 and to accept a minimum monthly payment of \$125 towards taxes and/or sewer charges. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0.
10. Adjourn. Jim made a motion to adjourn. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.