Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
5 Kennebec Street
July 22, 2025 at 6:00pm

Present were Chairman Arnold Luce, Vice Chair Jim Smith, Larry McHugh and Sharon Mellows. Brenda Garland was absent.

1. Review and approve the minutes of July 8, 2025 Selectmen's meeting. Larry made a motion to approve. Jim seconded. Vote 3 in favor, 1 abstained – Sharon (as she was absent), 1 absent – Brenda.

2. Warrants & Financials. Larry made a motion to approve the warrants. Jim seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent.

3. Review bids for managed Information Technology Service Provider. Bids were received from three vendors, BTS, Ergoes and SJ Rollins. Brian Lippold from Casco Bay Advisors was present to review the results with the Board. One vendor had made a mistake on their bid which changed the prices. Brian explained the one-time costs for hardware and set up (existing hardware may be used if hardware meets the minimum specifications) and the annual costs to the town. Our current budget for IT services is not going to be sufficient moving forward. With the SECD grant of up to $35,000, the town will be able to purchase necessary equipment. Larry made a motion to approve BTS should the results of the bidders remain unchanged. Jim seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent.

4. Discuss Somerset County two-payment plan for Town of Anson. The town has the option to do nothing and pay the county bill on or before November 1st without penalty or to move to a two-payment system with an additional interest expense of $4219.47 or 4% which would come from Overlay. Treasurer to look at revenues from 2024 commitment. Jim made a motion to pay the county taxes in one payment by November 1st. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent.

5. Update on warming shelter. Brenda is scheduling a meeting with Mark Campbell, Troy Dunphy and Mike Smith (who is currently on vacation). More to follow.

6. Update on Waste Management's rate increase. The increase at the commercial entrance will go from $96.36 to $99.25/ton; Residential rates will go from $110.59 to $113.91/ton. This increase to be effective August 1st.

7. Update on ATV road designation. Jeff Ireland indicated that the top priority is to have 4 roads initially designated as ATV trails. Those are Fahi Pond, Hilton Hill, Hilltop and Smith Roads. Jeff indicated that a bridge work is necessary on Hilltop Road by Merry Road. Jim made a motion to approve these 4 roads as ATV trails. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent. There is a process for approving State roads of which getting town approval is one of the initial steps. Those would include Main Street, North Main Street and Valley Road to Union

Street (Routes 3201A/16 and Route 234. Jim made a motion to start working on getting DOT approval on these state roads. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent. It was understood that as other roads are nearing ready to designate as ATV trails, Jeff will reach out to the Town administrator.

8. Sign Municipal Quitclaim Deeds for Harold Thibodeau III and David and Darlene Merrill. Larry made a motion to approve the quitclaim deeds. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent.

9. Department head reports: Road Commissioner Arty Lane reported that he is ditching and putting culverts in. Winter sand is done. Wants to start work on hauling gravel for the Grinch storm. Arty received an estimate to repair pump station #5 - $6,096. Jim made a motion to authorize this expense. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent. Seasonal job has been posted, applications due back by 8/11/25. Arnold stated that he received a call about what a great job Arty had done on a project. Fire Chief was absent. Administrative Assistant reported that the flooring job is now complete. She would like to schedule a Board of Assessor's meeting for Monday, July 28th in the afternoon to do the 2025 tax commitment. Sharon made a motion to schedule the meeting. Jim seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent.

10. Selectmen concerns. None.

11. Public session. Leanne Dickey suggested that the Town look into a bid policy.

12. Adjourn. Jim made a motion to adjourn. Larry seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Board of Assessor's Minutes
5 Kennebec Street
July 28, 2025 afternoon (2:00 p,m.)

Present were Arnold Luce, Jim Smith, Larry McHugh, Brenda Garland and Sharon Mellows (Board of Assessors). Also present were Roger Peppard, assessor's agent and Nancy Gove, Tax Collector.

1. 2025 Tax Commitment. Nancy Gove reported that the total appropriations we up roughly $600,000 over last year and anticipated revenues are down roughly $200,000, a net increase of $800k. Roger Peppard indicated that there was $13,000,000 in new value this year, however, it was not enough to cover the increase. There was a mistake in last year's commitment whereby other revenues were overstated by $200,000. Three proposed mil rates were offered, the first providing only $11,000 in overlay which is too low according to the tax collector. The high mil rate would have generated $55k in overlay but the mil rate increase to the taxpayers was too high in the opinion of the tax collector. The middle option with a mil rate of $18.48 and an overlay of $34,797 was recommended. Nancy also stated that Maine Revenue Sharing receipts for Jan-June 2025 came in lower than state projections therefore she wants to keep projections at a conservative amount; state projections were $499,600 and tax collector used a safe $411,000. The Board of Assessor's unanimously agreed to set the mil rate at $18.48 per one thousand of value. The 2025 Tax Commitment and Tax Assessment Warrant were signed.

2. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm.