

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Anson Town Office, 5 Kennebec Street
November 25, 2025, 6 p.m.

Present were Jim Smith, Larry McHugh, Brenda Garland and Sharon Mellows. Dept heads: Nancy Gove, Stacy Beane, Arty Lane.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1. Review and approve the minutes of the November 12th workshop and meeting. Sharon made a motion to approve the minutes as referenced. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0.
2. Approve treasurer warrants #118 - #122. Brenda made a motion to approve the warrants. Larry seconded. Treasurer Gove stated warrants details: #118 – payroll for \$30,272.22; #119 was accts payable (A/P) - \$6,969.89; #120 payroll - \$11,380.76; #121 A/P - \$4,508.41; #122 A/P - \$69,194.41. Vote 4-0.
3. Discuss Emergency Shelter Plan with EMA and RSU 74. Mark Campbell presented the board with the proposed shelter expenses. The total estimated daily cost was \$2,500; however, the town would be billed for actual costs when building is used as a shelter. Larry made a motion to adopt the plan and accept the maximum rates as proposed. Jim seconded. Vote 4-0.
4. Review and approve the Interlocal Agreement for youth recreation sports between towns of Anson, Embden and Solon. Sharon made a motion to accept the agreement. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0.
5. Open proposals for townwide revaluation. Two bids were received: RJD appraisal bid \$236,500 with a completion date of 7/1/2029. Sharon noted that they did not include personal property in their bid. Maine Assessment & Appraisal bid \$305,250 with a completion date of 2028. Personal property was included at a rate per account. They referenced digitized tax-mapping services at \$5,000. The Board received a copy of each proposal and will study the bids.
6. Set the date for the annual town meeting and election. There was discussion of moving the date to the following Monday for town meeting and Tuesday for the municipal election (March 9th and 10th). After some discussion, it was agreed to put this option out to voters on the annual town meeting warrant. Larry made a motion to set the date of March 7, 2026. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0.
7. Approve and sign the Notice of Damage to Town Roads. The Board wanted the Administrator to run this by MMA legal before supporting such notice.
8. Discuss cost-of-living wage adjustments for town employees. The federal cost of living has increased by 2.8% for social security wages. Larry made a motion to give a 3% COLA adjustment to all wages. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0.
9. Department head reports: Road Commissioner-Arty reported that their equipment is all up and running and highway is ready for winter weather. He put up some road

signs.

Fire Chief-Fire department replaced two air tanks at a cost of \$3,003.19. Pump tests cost - \$1,187.35. Serviced SCBA tanks at a cost of \$827.96. Hose/nozzles cost \$1,910 with large diameter hose costing \$4,945. Payroll stipends have been paid out. Went on a water leak call at Parkwoods apartments. Derek Kinney to service 4 other fire trucks. They winterized the forestry trucks.

Administrative Assistant – Nancy met with Vernice Boyce of RHR Smith to review and work on the 2024 audit adjustments. The auditor recommended that the Treasurer clean up the chart of accounts in 2025 so we can start fresh in 2026 and offered her services through a Non-attest agreement at a cost not to exceed \$3,500, estimate up to 20 hours. Larry made a motion to approve the agreement with RHR Smith. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. We received a request for a Municipal Quitclaim Deed from Rebecca Crayford's office. It was for a 2009 tax lien against Scott Wilson that was not discharged. Sharon made a motion to sign the quitclaim deed. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0. There will be a public hearing on the proposed ordinances scheduled for December 3, at 6 pm. Nancy has drafted an EMA Director Job description for Brenda to review and then will bring it before the entire board. LRAP funds received - \$79,996. Town Christmas party has been scheduled for 12/18 at noon.

10. Selectmen concerns. None.
11. Public session. Arty asked the fire chief why Anson is not getting toned out. Chief said Anson is getting toned out. If referring to Madison, they changed their "all call" tone as Anson would beat Madison to a fire.
Daryel Partridge stated that the north village curbing is damaged by the church parking lot. Arty had noticed that.
Kari Estes said the Mass Gathering ordinance is missing all even numbered pages on the website.
12. Executive session to discuss personnel matters (department head evaluations) pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6)(A). Sharon made a motion to go into executive session. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Board entered executive session at 7:34 p.m. the board came out of executive session at 8:44 p.m. Larry made a motion to give the highway employees a 2% merit increase. Sharon seconded. Vote 4-0. Larry made a motion to give Nancy and Arty a 5% merit increase. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Sharon made a motion to give the Fire Chief a 2% merit increase in addition to the 3% COLA and the Board of Selectmen a stipend of \$3,000/board member. Larry seconded. Vote 3-0-1-Brenda abstaining.
13. Adjourn. Larry made a motion to adjourn. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.