

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Anson Town Office, 5 Kennebec Street
February 24, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Present were Jim Smith, Brenda Garland, Sharon Mellows, Arty Lane, Stacy Beane and Nancy Gove. Larry McHugh was absent.

1. Call meeting to order. Jim called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.
2. Old business:
 - A) Review and approve the minutes of February 10, 2026. Brenda made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Sharon seconded. Motion carried, vote 3-0-1 absent.
 - B) Review and approve Treasurer warrants #15-#20 and 2026 financials. Brenda made a motion to approve the warrants and financials. Sharon seconded. Nancy indicated that warrants issued were as follows: #15 – payroll - \$15,512.19; #16 – AP - \$6,699.58; #17 – payroll - \$9,771.41; #18 – AP - \$3,750.45; #19 – AP - \$34,640.64; #20 – AP - \$90.00. Nancy reported on the 2026 financials, stating that our expenditures for the current year are well under the authority granted to the town from January 1st through the date of town meeting (authorized to spend up to \$1,464,829.34) and spending as of 2/24 was \$903,987.50. The town has received \$154,154.66 in revenues this year to date. Our net loss at the end of February is roughly \$750,000. Because of our unassigned surplus balance at year end, cash flow has been sufficient to cover the operating budgets, hopefully a trend which will get us through until tax commitment this July. The sewer fund is operating at a net profit currently (1st quarterly commitment of \$39,226.49 exceeds operating expenses of \$20,571.90, resulting in a profit of \$18,654.59. The sewer fund operated at a net loss for calendar year 2025 in the amount of roughly \$55,000. Motion carried, vote 3-0-1 absent.
3. New business:
 - A) Review and approve draft ordinances for posting with the 2026 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The Select Board signed the draft ordinances for Controlled Substance, Needle Exchange and a draft amendment to the solid waste ordinance. As to the suggested restrictions from the last public hearing, the town's attorney advised against them, indicating that they are too close to being considered as zoning regulations (effectively divides the town into different areas with different rules). Neighboring Town of Madison's recent board meeting regarding the methadone clinic coming to the Madison Business Park was mentioned. Establishing safe zones pursuant to 30-A MRSA sub-section 3253 was discussed. The town can establish safe zones and put up proper signage at each location.
 - B) Review paving bids for general obligation bond project. Two bids were received, one from Pike Industries and the other, Manzer's Fine Grade & Earthwork. Pike's bid had a error on the Pease Hill Road project, it was short 935 yards of hot mix at a

quote of \$104/yard or \$97,240. The revised bid for this road is \$680,632. Pike's total bid, after correction, was \$2,083,434.21. Manzer's bid was \$2,043,211. Bid results to be attached to these minutes.

C) Discuss 2026 Selectmen's meeting schedule. Nancy reviewed the proposed schedule, saying that for the month of June, she moved the schedule to the 3rd and 5th Tuesday because of the state election scheduled for June 9th. Jim indicated that the second and fourth weeks work better for him. The June dates were changed to June 10th (Wednesday) and 23rd. The Board supported this change.

4. Other business:

- A) Discuss Quitclaim Deeds for Edward Frith Jr and Dorothy Hayden (sewer). Sharon made a motion to execute the quitclaim deed for Edward Frith Jr. Brenda seconded. Nancy stated that all real estate tax years have been paid in full. Motion carried, vote 3-0-1 absent. Sharon made a motion to authorize a quitclaim deed for Dorothy Hayden. Brenda seconded. Dorothy Hayden has paid all the sewer charges in full. Motion carried, vote 3-0-1 absent.
- B) Supplemental Tax bill. Roger Peppard, assessor's agent, had prepared a supplemental tax warrant to Derek Folsom for some land that was split off from a larger parcel. The larger parcel was reduced but a new account didn't get generated. Sharon made a motion to send a supplemental 2025 tax bill to Derek Folsom. Brenda seconded. Motion carried, vote 3-0-1.
- C) Abatement for Heather Trask-Hilton. Nancy explained that Heather hasn't had a mobile home on this property for several years. Her brother was purchasing a new mobile home to be placed on this property and they had received an E-9-1-1 address. Somehow that information was translated into a new home being placed on this property, which didn't happen until the fall of 2024. Therefore, the tax bills assessed against Heather need to be abated and a supplemental bill for the new mobile home needs to be assessed for 2025. Roger will wait until snow goes before assessing the new mobile home. Sharon made a motion to abate the taxes for Heather Trask-Hilton. Brenda seconded. Motion carried, vote 3-0-1.

5. Department head reports:

Road Commissioner – Arty reported that roads have been posted as gravel roads are getting soft. Snowbanks have been pushed back. Crew is rebuilding screens;
Fire Chief – Stacy reported that Bowman has not returned her call regarding issues at the fire station. She should call the engineer so as not to lose any warranties still in place. Fire extinguishers have been serviced;
EMA Director – Brenda reported no disasters but we are ready; and
Administrative Assistant – Nancy spoke with George Demchak on billing full-time firefighters as ambulance drivers as necessary – this procedure stopped when full-time firefighters were removed from operations. Absentee ballots are available through ¾ without a special circumstance. Town meeting will be at Carrabec High School on Saturday March 7th.

6. Selectmen concerns. None.

7. Public session. Gary Anderson wanted to discuss speeding on Preble Avenue. It's posted as a 25-mph road. Children at Play sign should be enlarged. Speed bumps were discussed. Arty will investigate them. Also suggested that the recreational trail on Preble Ave have proper signage, notifying users of the trail that a road is ahead. Arty will reach out to the rail trail. Asking Somerset County Sheriff's to patrol the area was suggested.

The Bloom house is listed in the town report with an unpaid tax. Nancy is aware of this and is looking into it.

8. Adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m. on a motion by Brenda, seconded by Sharon. Vote 3-0-1.