

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes – Approved 7/22/2025
5 Kennebec Street
July 8, 2025 at 6:00pm

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

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Review and approve the minutes of June 24, 2025 Selectmen's meeting. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes. Larry 2nd. Vote 3 in favor, 1 abstained (Brenda), 1 absent (Sharon).
2. Warrants & Financials. Brenda made a motion to approve the warrants. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent. Financial matters: Treasurer Gove asked the board to approve and sign a letter to FEMA/MEMA giving Nancy Gove full authority to communicate, sign and execute all natural disaster reimbursement matters. Larry made a motion to sign authorization letter. Brenda seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent. Treasurer Gove explained that 6-month financials were in their board packets and offered to review the detail with them should they have any questions.
3. Authorize RFP for managed Information Technology Service Provider. Town Administrator, Nancy Gove, met with Brian Lippold to discuss IT services to be funded, in part, by a grant from the New England Energy Corridor (offered to host municipalities of which Anson is one). It was determined that we start the process anew, beginning with an RFP and bid form. A short turn-around timeframe was proposed since most IT vendors were already familiar with town needs. IT services would be provided to all town buildings (town office, highway garage, north and south fire stations). Brenda made a motion to approve the RFP as presented. Jim seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent.
4. Discuss agreement with DOT regarding a project for ADA Curb Ramp Improvements in Anson along Route #16. Road Commissioner, Arty Lane spoke with DOT regarding the sidewalk and curb ramp improvements planned along Route 16. They are primarily small repairs. No overlimit permits are necessary. Brenda made a motion to approve signing the contract with DOT. Larry seconded. Vote 4-0-1 absent.
5. Discuss approval of a Liquor License Renewal Application for The Kennebec Café. Nancy explained that renewal applications are now processed electronically and asked the board for permission to authorize this license. She indicated that she had spoken with the owners and there were no issues with serving beer, wine and spirits at their establishment to date. The board approved the license renewal.
6. Waste Management's rates to increase August 1st per our contract. A 3% increase will be implemented on August 1st per our current five-year contract. The board asked Nancy to check on the rate as it appears to be more than 3%.

7. Discuss approving town roads as ATV trails. June 18th Special Town Meeting authorized the Select Board to designate certain roads as ATV trails. Nancy contacted MMA to see what risks/liability the town might have by designating roads as ATV trails. In addition to checking with the Road Commissioner to make sure that the roads are wide enough for safe passage within the public way, roads must be posted with highly visible signs designating the access route. There was debate as to whether the ATV Club would purchase the necessary signs and posts. The Board agreed to postpone any action until the number of signs needed, the costs associated with signage and who would be covering said costs could be determined.

8. Department Head reports: Road Commissioner – Arty reported that in addition to screening sand, they are working on equipment repairs and maintenance. He mentioned the need to hire a seasonal employee as our winter employee will not be returning this fall. The Board asked the administrator to assist with advertising. Fire Chief – Stacy reported that a rescue boat has been delivered. It was purchased by the Town of Embden at a cost of \$2,745 and is being donated to Anson. She filed for an extension on the Forestry Grant. She received a thank you from a resident which included a monetary donation to be used by the fire association. Stacy inquired on the firefighter payout for the 1st quarter of 2025. The Select Board authorized the 1st quarter payroll for the paid-call firefighters. Administrative Assistant – Nancy reported that the new flooring project is scheduled for the week of July 14th. The 30-day tax lien notices were sent out to 217 real estate accounts with a total of \$200,000 still uncollected. The 2025 tax commitment is scheduled for July 28th. Assessing field crew will be viewing the new construction over the next two weeks. She signed the Spectrum contract for new phones and internet services to take over after the Bee Line termination of services to the town office, highway garage and south fire station. The windmill in North Anson has a \$6,000 budget. Nancy advertised in-house the rec director position. If no one in-house applies, she'll widen the search (website, MMA, etc.).

9. Selectmen concerns. None.

10. Public session. Daryl Partridge inquired about the status of the warming shelter. Brenda Garland, EMA director, indicated that she had contacted Mark Campbell and he was to get back to her. She hadn't heard back but will follow up on this. The concern was that winter will be coming and we shouldn't delay on finding a resolution to resident needs.

11. Adjourn. Jim made a motion to adjourn. Larry seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.