

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting November 18, 2025

Members Present: Lynn Sweet, Chair; Brian Monahan, R. Stephen Leighton
Others Present: Ellen White, Administrator; Sonja Smith, Minutes Keeper

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM. The minutes from the October 28th meeting were read and approved. Information provided by the Town Clerk for the March election was reviewed. Miscellaneous correspondence was read.

The Board discussed the setting of the 2025 tax rate of \$20.96 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, a 3% increase over 2024. Both the Town and School used large portions of the unassigned fund balances as revenues to help offset the tax rate; the Town used \$500,000 and the School used \$497,217.

Initial proposed numbers for each department were reviewed and discussed with several items being cut or departments being asked to revisit their requests. The Board was in agreement that they are not in support of exorbitant requests and they will be keeping any budget increase to the absolute minimum.

The County Tax Apportionment letter was read. Acknowledgment of its receipt was signed by Chair Sweet to be sent back to the Strafford County Commissioners offices.

The contract with Interware, support for the Town Clerk's "Clerkworks" software, was read and signed. An update on the status of the tax and assessing software implementation was given. The Town received the invoice and expects that the conversion will take place in early 2026.

The contract for the 2026 Revaluation with KRT Appraisal was signed. This contract had been reviewed and approved by the Selectmen at their September 16th meeting. Its signing must take place after the DRA's review and approval. The Board expects to review proposals for the utility portion of the revaluation at their December meeting.

The 2026 Transfer Station stickers are on order and will start being distributed in the first part of December.

The Budget Hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 10th at 6PM with a snow date of Thursday, February 12th. It was mentioned that the March elections will be on Tuesday, March 10th and Town Meeting will be the following Saturday, March 14th.

Because of scheduling conflicts, the Board cancelled their December 9th meeting and will meet on December 16th instead.

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made, seconded and voted on to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:32PM.