

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting February 17, 2026

Members Present: Lynn Sweet, Chair; R. Stephen Leighton, Brian Monahan

Others Present: Ellen White, Town Administrator; Sonja Smith, Minutes Keeper

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM. Board members reviewed bills and payroll and approved payment. The minutes of the February 3, 2026 meeting and the February 10th Budget Hearing were read and approved. A notice of pay rate for the Police Department was approved. Miscellaneous correspondence was read.

Two abatement requests were denied on recommendation from the Assessor. The Selectmen reiterated that under RSA 76:16, abatements can only be granted for issues such as disproportionality, factual errors in the assessment, or hardship. Constitutional arguments, including those related to the wording error, are outside the authority of municipalities to decide. Residents are welcome to file an abatement request, but it must fall within the criteria.

At this time a motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Steve Leighton to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet - Aye, Steve Leighton - Aye, Brian Monahan - Aye

The Board entered non-public session at 5:47PM.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet to leave non-public session and seconded by Brian Monahan to return to public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet - Aye, Steve Leighton - Aye, Brian Monahan - Aye

Public session reconvened at 6:16PM.

No votes were taken or decisions were made during the non-public session.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Steve Leighton to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet - Aye, Steve Leighton - Aye, Brian Monahan - Aye

After review and discussion, the Board asked that the Fire Chief provide documentation showing the Selectmen's approval of the holiday-stipend schedule for per diem members.

The contract for Waste Management was read. After discussion, the Board was in agreement to approve and sign the contract.

The Board discussed the shed at the Recycling Center, including the possibility of replacing it, as well as the need to address the outdoor lighting.

Matters pertaining to the upcoming Town Meeting were reviewed and discussed. The Board agreed the meeting must be managed efficiently with respect to time.

At this time a motion was made by Steve Leighton and seconded by Brian Monahan to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet - Aye, Steve Leighton - Aye, Brian Monahan - Aye

The Board entered non-public session at 6:18PM.

A motion was made by Brian Monahan to leave non-public session and seconded by Steve Leighton to return to public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet - Aye, Steve Leighton - Aye, Brian Monahan - Aye

Public session reconvened at 6:28PM

No votes were taken or decisions were made during the non-public session.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Brian Monahan to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet - Aye, Steve Leighton - Aye, Brian Monahan - Aye

An update on the revaluation was discussed. The Town is waiting for the State to approve the utility contract.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made, seconded, and voted on to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:38PM.