

## Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting June 9, 2026

Members Present: Lynn Sweet, Chair; Brian Monahan

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:40PM. The Board approved the payment of bills and payroll. The minutes of the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved. A timber tax warrant was approved. The 2025 MS-535 financial report was reviewed and signed. A notice of pay rate for the Library was approved. Miscellaneous correspondence was read.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) draft letter for future auditing firms was read and approved. Letters will be sent to several firms for their consideration.

A request from Bear Paw to post a QR code in the foyer at the Town Hall and on the Town website was read and discussed. After consideration, the Board was in agreement that before the QR code be posted, the actual QR code be provided for review.

The Selectmen briefly discussed matters at the Recycling Center.

Application denials from NHDES were reviewed. The Board defers to the State on these types of permit issues.

The Board discussed the Strafford Fire Department's provision of mutual aid to surrounding municipalities. Questions were raised regarding whether mutual aid responses are reimbursed or if the arrangement is based on informal reciprocity among neighboring towns.

Board members expressed concern that Strafford taxpayers may be subsidizing other communities, particularly those that have reduced funding for their own fire departments. It was noted that Strafford residents should remain the primary priority for emergency services. Formal communication to surrounding towns may be considered in the future from the Strafford Select Board to other Select Boards.

At this time a motion was made and seconded to recess the Selectmen's Meeting for the public hearing followed by a unanimous vote. The meeting was recessed at 6:00PM.

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00PM.

The notice of the public hearing was posted at the Post Office, Town office and Town website and the Foster's Daily Democrat on May 26, 2026. This hearing was held pursuant to NH RSA 53-C:3-a for the purpose of considering a proposed cable television franchise agreement with Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. The proposed agreement was available for viewing at the Town Hall

during normal business hours and on the Town website at [www.trafford.nh.gov](http://www.trafford.nh.gov) . There were no questions and the public hearing closed at 6:01PM.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Brian Monahan to reconvene the Selectmen's meeting. After a vote, the meeting reconvened at 6:02PM.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Brian Monahan to approve the granting of the proposed cable franchise agreement with Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. After a unanimous vote, the proposed agreement was signed.

A letter from the Police Chief was read and discussed regarding the addition of roads required for a Police detail unit. The Board requested to meet with Police Chief Young and Lieutenant Bernard at their next meeting to review Police matters.

Selectman Monahan reported positively on the recent Hazardous Waste Day event, noting that the operation was conducted in an efficient and well-organized manner. He observed that the process for traffic flow, material collection, and coordination among staff and volunteers appeared smooth and effective.

A complaint was raised regarding a dog running loose in the beach area while its owners were present. Board members noted that although the location may be State-owned, the Town has an existing leash law. It was also recalled that signage had previously been posted at the beach prohibiting dogs.

The Board received an email from Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) requesting input on priority transportation projects in Strafford, including roads, bridges, and culverts, for inclusion in the region's long-range plan. A meeting between SRPC and Road Agent Matt Messenger will be set scheduled in June to discuss potential projects and available funding opportunities.

The Board discussed the upcoming vacancy and possible replacement for the Minutes Keeper position, as Bob Fletcher will be stepping down in August.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made, seconded and voted on to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:41PM.