Board of Selectmen
July 20, 2026
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Present: Selectmen Ed Haskell, Bob Berti, & Isaac DeWever
Town Administrator: Joe Chivell

6:00 PM Meeting called to order by Board Chair, Ed Haskell.
Payroll and accounts payable checks reviewed and signed.

Documents to review & sign:

- Payroll worksheet

6:00 PM Transfer Station

The Board of Selectmen met with the Rumney Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton "Sonny" Ouellette for an update on the Transfer Station operations.

Superintendent Ouellette provided a handout showing the reduction of tonnage since the Town of Dorchester discontinued the use of the Rumney Transfer Station.

There was a discussion regarding approaching a couple area towns to start using the Rumney Transfer Station allowing them to close their site or change the location they use for their transfer station needs. Ouellette stated that operationally he was in favor of approaching a couple area Towns. The Operating budget would need to reflect the percentage of tonnage that our operation would absorb.

Superintendent Ouellette reported that he is working on creating and ordering a plaque to honor the memory of long time Transfer Station attendant Billy Moses. Ouellette has looked at different types of metal and wood designs. He will report back to the Board on his findings.

An overview of the new DES Solid Waste Surcharge and the municipal reimbursement process was provided by Ouellette. The Town has received its vendor number and project number. A request for an ACH reimbursement has been submitted. Ouellette reported that the first round of reimbursements has been submitted. Submissions are limited to 90-day periods of time; Ouellette believes the first round of reimbursement is about $400.00.

6:30 PM Police Department –

The Board met with Police Chief Greg Patten for a Department update. Chief Patten reported that the Department has sixteen open-court cases; four pending trials and the remaining twelve are either hearings or arraignments.

Chief Patten reported that the Department continues to be busy taking on new cases, today the Chief received a felony bad check report and a sexual assault involving a minor. The Department has been busy dealing with neighborhood dispute issues. The Department continues to assist the Fire-EMS Department with their calls for service. The Chief reported that they receive motor vehicle complaints daily.

The radar sign was posted on Rumney Route 25 in the area of Dorchester Road tracking eastbound traffic. Chief Patten reported that during a 7-day period it tracked 13,500 vehicles. It was reported that 73% of the vehicles were travelling over the posted speed limit, with a peak speed of 80MPH.

The Board had requested a status of the Internal Review Policy that has been mandated under NH RSA 106-L19 (eff, Jan. 1, 2023) and NHPSCT Law Enforcement Accountability. He assured the Board the policy had been filed as required and he planned to bring a copy for tonight's meeting, but got busy and did not have time to get it ready.

The Board requested a status update on the MDT grant the Chief had submitted. Chief Patten reported that he had no news on the grant other than his understanding that 50% of the eligible towns had received their grant award notification.

The Police Department was given the Unlicensed Dog Warrant, that was signed during the June 15, 2026, Board of Selectmen Meeting, to follow up on. There were twenty dogs on the list, and a total of sixteen different owners. Chief Patten stated that he spoke with one owner today and had attempted to contact three others by telephone. He feels several of the dogs listed are no longer in Rumney.

The Board had asked about Rumney police coverage on the weekends. Chief Patten reported that half to three quarters of the weekend have been covered. If Rumney Police are not out, State Police cover the Town.

During a past meeting with the Board of Selectmen Chief Patten reported that he wanted to research replacing the Department handguns. Patten stated that he still plans to look into this but has not started the research.

Chief Patten stated that he still plans to look into starting a drone program, he is still researching the possibilities.

The open Police Secretary position had 7 applications, the Chief reported 6 withdrew and the remaining one had forgotten to respond.

Chief Patten reported that his cruiser had a flat tire last week. It was repaired but will plan to purchase new summer tires next year. Patten reported that Officer O'Leary's vehicle was backed into while he was on a call. The driver's side rear door received some minor scrapes on the decals.

At 6:45 PM Selectman, Isaac DeWever, stated he had an item that should be discussed in nonpublic session. DeWever made a motion to enter nonpublic session as allowed by NH RSA 91-A:3, II (a). The motion received a second from Selectman, Ed Haskell. There was no discussion on the motion. Following a rollcall vote the motion passed 3-0.

At 6:50 PM Selectman Isaac DeWever, made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. The motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. Following a rollcall vote the motion passed 3-0.

6:50 PM Town Administrator Report –

A copy of the July 6, 2026, Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes were provided for the Board review. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, made a motion to accept the minutes from the Board of Selectmen's July 6, 2026, Board Meeting. The motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The notice of payment for Forest and Lands was provided for the Board to review. The Town Administrator reported that the Town had received the payment in the amount of $42,703.00.

An invoice for the Fire Department's Emergency Response to 372 East Rumney Road had been mailed to the responsible party and the property owner. It was reported that payment had been made by the property owner.

As reported during an earlier meeting, the Town is eligible for either reimbursement or credit towards the 2027 Worker Compensation coverage. The amount earned by the Town is $1,443.00. The Board agreed to request a credit of $1,443.00 towards the 2027 invoice.

The 2025-2026 Plymouth Ambulance reimbursement of payments totaled $56,986.92. The Town will receive a reimbursement check in that amount within the next few weeks.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that Todd Randlett had been contracted to complete the junkyard cleanup of the Daigle property, 172 School Street. Randlett, Fire-EMS Chief, Evan Hacker, and Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, were on site the day of July 15, 2026, for the cleanup. Trash and debris were removed from the site, and it is felt that the property is 90% compliant. There is a verbal agreement regarding a few items that were left behind that will be addressed by the property occupant.

A site inspection of 79 School Street, the Saunders property, is scheduled for July 24, 2026; to inspect the progress they are making on their cleanup effort. Several other properties will follow.

The Town website is undergoing a migration. CivicPlus will remain the host company and will take over the maintenance from a third party they have been using. The initial work will be done in the background. Once the migration is complete the website will look a little different, but it will hold all the same content.

The Board of Selectmen meet the first and third Monday of each month. The first Monday of September is September 7, 2026, Labor Day. When the Board of Selectmen meeting schedule was set last December, the Boards week one meeting was moved to September 8, 2026, which is now known to be Primary Election Day. The Board was asked to consider either moving their meeting a week early, a week late, or simply cancelling the meeting all together. It was decided to wait until the August 17, 2026, Select Board meeting to make the final decision on this meeting date.

While the Highway Department grader and roller were parked on Doetown Road diesel fuel was stolen from the equipment. Between trucking diesel to the site, priming, and prepping the equipment almost an entire day's work was lost. Camera systems and other deterrents were discussed.

Following a review of needed winter materials, a purchase order for 2026-2027 Winter sand was submitted. The cost per yard is $13.75 which includes delivery. The Board agreed with the purchase and Select Board Chair, Ed Haskell, signed the purchase order. Warren Sand and Gravel will begin deliveries upon the request of the Road Agent.

Following the completion of the FY2025 audit the 2025 MS-535 has been completed and was made available for review and signatures from the Board. The Board agreed to accept the 2025 MS-535, and all three Board members signed the document. It will now be submitted to the NH-DRA portal.

NH-DOT supplied the Town with a driveway application for a property located off Rumney Route 25. The application also included a potential layout of the property the driveway will access. Both were provided as preliminary information for the Town.

7:10 PM Old Business –

The School Street culvert emergency culvert replacement project is moving forward. The Town was able to provide an overview of the work that had been completed and an additional overview of the scope of work that could be completed to NHDES. The NHDES reviewed that information and authorized the additional emergency work and extended the Emergency Authorization out to August 15, 2026.

The Board was informed of the progress made to date:

- The temporary easement was signed by the property owners at 415 School Street allowing equipment to access the work area.
- The old headwall that had been pulling away from the bank has been removed.
- The pre-existing galvanized culvert pipe has been removed.
- Using a coupler a plastic ADS culvert pipe has been added to the existing concrete culvert pipe that is under School Street.

Moving forward the plan is:

- A concrete footing and end wall will be poured to support the plastic ADS culvert pipe.
- The footing and end wall will be placed in the same footprint as the prior end wall.
- This area will be back filled and compacted with gravel. 2 foot + ledge will be used for bank stabilization.
- Rip rap will be used to receive the water exiting the outlet end of the culvert pipe to eliminate erosion.
- The area will be seeded and mulched to bring it back to the preexisting appearance.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, spoke with NH-HSEM regarding mitigation funds. Chivell reported that the mitigation funds process would be at least 18 to 24 months and the requirement to meet possible funding would probably more than double the cost of the project, and funding would not be guaranteed.

While part of the Highway Department Staff was working on the School Street project, other members were working on the Buffalo Road ditching effort, maximizing the time they have the rented excavator. As they ditch, they are inspecting the culverts that are in place. Most are either plastic or concrete, only one appears to be in need of replacement.

The Old Route 25 crack seal project started today. Both Road Agent Jesse Horne and Selectmen Ed Haskell, reported that they are happy with the product being used. They both were happy with the installation of the sealant as well. It will be about a two-week project, weather permitting.

There were no EMS District Meetings this month The attorney, from DrummondWoodsum, assigned to work with the member Towns to create the District supplied the Towns involved with documents they require to move forward with the legal component of creating the District. One document was a Conflict Disclosure, and the second document was the agreement to complete the work for the Formation of the EMS District. Both documents were reviewed. Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to sign both the Conflict Disclosure and the Formation documents. The motion received a second from Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Both documents were signed by the Board of Selectmen.

The roadside signs, to be placed on Rumney Route 25 to show the Sand Hill Bridge has a 6-ton limit, have been ordered.

7:35PM New Business –

Old Home Day topics were discussed. Old Home Day Chair Roger Scroggins sent an email asking about the electrical outlets that are broken. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, stated that he plans to attend the Old Home Day Committee meeting tomorrow and will inspect the outlets.

Scroggins also asked about the agreement to use the Eaton property for parking again this year. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, provided an updated use agreement for the Board to review. Chivell stated that he would meet with the Eaton's and ask if they will sign the agreement. The Board approved the updated agreement and Selectman, Isaac DeWever, made a motion to allow Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, to sign on behalf of the Town once the Eaton's sign the agreement. The motion received a second from Selectman, Ed Haskell. There was no discussion, the motion passed 3-0.

The Board members discussed their availability for the opening ceremony. There will also be a Selectmen's table this year to allow for information to be shared about creating the EMS District and the creation of The Rumney Trade and Technology Scholarship.

There was a discussion that the Board hopes everyone remembers this is intended to be a family friendly environment. At times gatherings can become politically divisive and this event is not the place for this type of rhetoric.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported to the Board that there is no one currently holding the Boston Post Cane. Chivell asked if the Board would like to offer the Cane to the oldest Rumney

Resident and perhaps present it during the Old Home Day event. The Board agreed that it would be appropriate and asked that attempts be made to make the presentation happen.

Stowell and Rhonda Kelner, 69 Water Street, Rumney, delivered a letter to the Board of Selectmen regarding the Rumney Highway Department. It was a compliment for the Road Agent and staff for their fine job on Water Street. Noting that the road surface is better than it has been in years. Also complimenting them on their respect for the front lawns and mailboxes while widening the street. The Board acknowledged the letter and appreciated the time it took the Kelner's to write and dropoff the letter. The Board also asked that a copy of the letter be placed in the personnel files of both Jesse Horne and Frank Smith.

7:47PM Nonpublic for Personnel Discussion –

Selectman, Isaac DeWever, made a motion to enter nonpublic session as allowed by NH RSA 91-A:3, II (a) & (c). The motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. Following a roll call vote the motion passed 3-0.

8:10 PM Return to Public Session –

Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. The motion received a second from Selectman, Isaac DeWever. Following a roll call vote the motion passed 3-0.

8:12 PM Adjournment –

Selectman, Isaac DeWever, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH

<u>Up-coming Meeting/Closure Dates</u>

Planning Borad Meeting	July 28, 2026
Board of Selectmen Meeting	August 3,2026
Conservation Commission Meeting	August 12, 2026

Approved Meeting Minutes of the July 20, 2026, Board of Selectmen Meeting

Board of Selectmen Meeting	August 17, 2026
Planning Board Meeting	August 25, 2026
Town Office Close – Labor Day	September 7, 2026
Primary Election	September 8, 2026