

Board of Selectmen
Town of Sandown, NH
August 24, 2026

Meeting Date: Monday, August 24, 2026

Meeting Location: Sandown Town Hall, upper meeting room

Members Present: Eric Olsen, Meganne Daly, Ed Mencis, Ben Sharpe and Tom Tombarello.
Town Administrator, Lynne Blaisdell and recording secretary, Beth Cashman

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Olsen at 6:31pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of Selectmen meeting minutes from 8/10/26.

Motion by Selectman Tombarello to accept the minutes from 8/10/26

Second by Selectman Mencis

Motion **PASSED** 3-0-2

Public Comment

Matthew Brooks of Kelly Rd was present and introduced himself as a candidate running for State Representative representing Sandown.

Don Selby of Hunt Rd was present and introduced himself as State Representative asking for re-election.

Rich O'Hanley, Public Works Director

Discussion regarding 2026-2027 Plow Rates, Contracts and status of backhoe.

Rich was here to present the Winter Maintenance and Snow Removal Service Contract for the town of Sandown. The contract will remain the same as last year; he is also hopeful that there will be at least 14 trucks out there caring for the roads this winter.

Rich stated that all contract drivers last year were great and are expecting to return this year. His crew did a great job as well. The backhoe (2009) was slightly repaired but then found to have a lot of rust and is unsafe to operate. It will not be used, parked in the lot. Selectman Tombarello said that the budget needs to be "budgeted" better as to not go over and clarified that the plow rate is staying the same.

The cost of salt has gone up. Morton is charging \$75.42/Ton for Bulk Safety Salt and \$95.08/Ton for Bulk Blizzard Wizard Salt.

Motion by Selectman Sharpe to keep the Winter Maintenance and Snow Removal Service Contract for 2026-2027 the same as 2025-2026 as presented.

Seconded by Selectman Daly

Motion **PASSED** 5-0-0

Motion by Selectman Sharpe to accept the new costs for salt from Morton's as well as allowing Rich O'Hanley to be the signature for the paperwork.

Seconded by Selectman Daly

Motion **PASSED** 5-0-0

New Business

Discussion regarding proposed 2027 wage increases.

Town Administrator, Lynne Blaisdell shared that the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) from Social Security is projected to be between 3.5% and 3.8% for 2027. This rate is typically set in October. Chairman Olsen asked Gayle Hamel to provide an update on health/dental/vision insurance increases as well as wage increases based on 1%-3%. This can be shared with department heads for budgeting purposes. Union contract negotiations are also coming up. Selectman Tombarello stated that the town's employees need to be paid. With more new developments being built, more families, more school-age children, the town will need more employees and more equipment.

Acceptance of donations to Oktoberfest Donation Trust Fund

Motion by Selectman Tombarello to accept a total of \$1,680 in donations to the Oktoberfest Donation Account.

Seconded by Selectman Daly

Motion **PASSED** 5-0-0

Appointment of Inspector of Elections and Coverage for State Primary Election

Motion by Selectman Tombarello to appoint Leslie Kruithof to Inspector of Elections with the appointment expiring on July 31, 2028.

Seconded by Selectman Daly

Motion **PASSED** 5-0-0

Coverage for State Primary Election

All Selectman are to be present at the close of the town polls to count all ballots. In addition, each one has chosen a time slot during the day.

Selectman Daly 8:00-10:30am

Selectman Mencis 10:30-1:00pm

Selectman Olsen 1:00-3:30pm

Selectman Tombarello 3:30-6:00pm

Selectman Sharpe 6:00-close

Old Business

Motion by Selectman Daly to appoint Elizabeth Unger to the role of recording secretary for the Recreation Commission as the rate of pay of \$22/hour.

Seconded by Selectman Sharpe

Motion **PASSED** 5-0-0

Superintendent of Schools, Timberlane Regional School District email concerning the 2027 Deliberative Session. Based on a survey that was sent to all 4 towns, that session will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2027, starting in the morning. The entire Board of Selectmen are fine with the chosen date.

Department Liaison Report**Selectman/Chairman Olsen:**

Cable Meeting, Tuesday 8/25/26. Members needed.

Selectman Tombarello

Budget Committee meeting next week.

Selectman Mencis:

Planning board meeting, no one showed up, maybe next month.

Selectman Daly:

Appointment of new recording secretary.

Selectman Sharpe

Conservation Committee is doing maintenance on some trails.

Motion by Selectman Daly to enter non-public meeting under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) employee matters and (c) reputation.

Seconded by Selectman Mencis

Motion **PASSED** 5-0-0

Roll Call vote to enter nonpublic session

Eric Olsen	Y/N
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Meganne Daly	Y/N
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Ed Mencis	Y/N
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Ben Sharpe	Y/N
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Tom Tombarello	Y/N
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Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm

119 Next Meeting is Monday, August 31, 2026.

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121 Submitted By:

122 Beth Cashman