

TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
Board of Selectmen
240 Middle Road
Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816
Telephone: (603) 569-4539
www.tuftonboronh.gov

Selectmen's Meeting
4:30 p.m. Town Office

Monday, August 24, 2026

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

At approximately 4:32 p.m., Chair Murray called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Murray then offered his welcome to Interim Town Administrator Paul Sanderson. Chair Murray reports that Mr. Sanderson has a wealth of knowledge and experience to draw from. Mr. Sanderson then thanked staff and residents for being welcoming and he encouraged people out there to contact him with any questions.

PUBLIC INPUT none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Murray made a motion to accept the Aug 10, 2026, meeting minutes as presented, Selectman Brinser seconded, vote 2-0-1, Selectman Dancy abstained due to absence.

Chair Murray made a motion to accept Aug 10, 2026, 5:54 p.m. non-public and the Aug 10, 2026, 6:37 p.m. non-public minutes as presented and remain sealed, Selectman Brinser seconded, vote 2-0-1, Selectman Dancy abstained due to absence.

Selectman Brinser made a motion to accept the Aug 14, 2026, work session minutes, Selectman Dancy seconded, vote 3-0. Motion passed.

Selectman Dancy made a motion to accept the Aug 17, 2026, work session minutes, Selectman Brinser seconded, vote 3-0. Motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS

Jack Parsons, Code Officer, provided his update. Mr. Parsons reports that 2026 is a little ahead of the 2025 statistics Mr. Parsons reports that he has ten building permits, two new houses, two Certificates of Occupancy, and fifty-two inspections.

Chief James Hathcock provided the Police Department update, covering training and calls for service. He discussed traffic concerns on Mountain and Durgin Roads and will ask State Police about increased enforcement. Four unregistered dog license cases proceeded by summons, with fifteen days to resolve. One application for Police Officer was received from the recent Granite State advertisement: the Chief plans to broaden recruitment. Chief Hathcock confirmed that the police budget can cover salary, uniforms, and academy costs, and that the 16-week academy commitment could benefit the department for the right candidate.

Jack Widmer, Treasurer, presented updated police-station expenses, estimating a \$16,000 overage after comparing contracts and costs. Hayman Builders offered to supply and spread loam at their expense. The Board discussed delaying final grading and paving, using a warrant article, or applying police-budget savings. However, Chair Murray would not support approval of

costs without confirmed funds. Mr. Widmer recommended asking NR Howard to complete the approximately \$185,000 in contracted and paid asphalt work; he considered a roughly \$12,000 overage reasonable after the propane journal entry correction. Mr. Sanderson will consult legal counsel about options for resolutions. Mr. Widmer said recovering money from the previous contractor is unlikely to be cost-effective. The Board thanked him for his work.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Release of Welfare Lien, Roberta Blumit, per Tax Collector

Jackie Rollins, Tax Collector, raised a Registry of Deeds issue involving an auctioned property on Butternut Lane. A lien was recorded in 1977, but records do not show the amount owed or whether it was paid. Although the property has changed ownership four times and the lien was likely resolved, it must be cleared for the title.

Selectman Brinser made a motion to sign the lien release as recommended by the Tax Collector, Selectman Dancy seconded, vote 3-0, motion passed.

2. GWRSD August 2026 payment, sign check-
3. Notice of Appointment, Mitchell Tufts, Parks & Rec Commission
4. Notice of Appointment, Sarah Warner, Parks & Rec Commission
Selectman Dancy made a motion to sign both appointments for the Parks & Recreation Commission, Chair Murray seconded, vote 3-0, motion passed.
5. Supplemental Warrant, Willand Rd Betterment, April 1, 2026- March 31, 2027, \$5,500.36
Chair Murray made a motion to accept and sign the supplemental warrant as presented, Selectman Brinser seconded, vote 2-0-1, motion passed. Selectman Dancy abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

- SOLitude Lake Management letter, Aug 6, 2026, treatment area
Chair Murray read aloud a letter and stipulated that it is yearly treatment.
- NH DES Letter of Deficiency LRM 25-036, Map 26-1-15/16, 26-1-17/18, 26-1-19
- NH DES Letter of Deficiency LRM 25-036. Map Windswept Island -37-1
- Union Wharf Parking Concern
Chair Murray summarized a letter about parking concern at Union Wharf. Discussion occurred about what is the intent behind the handicap parking concerns. Chair Murray delegates to Mr. Sanderson to work with Chief Hathcock.
- Vertical Bridge contract update
Chair Murray reviewed the concern given the contract offered Vertical Bridge for compensation related to cell towers within town. Selectman Brinser stated that Mr. Sanderson has a great handle on this. Mr. Sanderson explained that given the state of the market and the need for more market locations he is confident the town is in an advantageous position.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Meeting Room Technology & Recordings
Selectman Dancy raised concerns about meeting-room technology and recording limitations, which slow the process. Options included Zoom, a TV, or a projector with a drop-down screen. Mark Mulert noted that Zoom creates one recording, while Teams may require combining two. The Board agreed to explore improvements and test recording with Zoom.

2. August–October Meetings

The Board discussed daytime and evening meetings. Chair Murray preferred 4:30 p.m., though daytime meetings may better accommodate vendors. Members shared their scheduling preferences and agreed dates could be adjusted as needed.

3. Holiday Calendar 2027- Town Office

Discussion moved on to the draft calendar. Selectman Brinser raised the question of celebrating Juneteenth. Chair Murray asked for the basis of this decision. I offered clarification on where the decision for Juneteenth was from the previous board let by Selectman Albee. Discussion moved on to how to address the thirteen dates. Ms. Rollins offered that in the past it was well received to have a floating holiday.

Selectman Brinser made a motion to move to a floating not Juneteenth for 2027 Holiday calendar for the Town Office, Selectman Dancy seconded, vote 3-0, motion passed.

4. Holiday Calendar 2027- Transfer Station - tabled.

Appointments (Cont.)

Chief Adam Thompson supported a floating holiday and reviewed department calls. He discussed the Dive Bar fire in Alton, including response and personnel safety; outstanding balances and progress on the central-station cascade system; and Northwoods Camp incident involving seven injured patients that did not require an official mass-casualty declaration because adequate resources were available. AC Morgan explained clean-air refill safeguards and air-pack limitations. Chief Thompson also reviewed the airboat sale and authorization the sale. AC Morgan favored returning equipment-sale proceeds to the related capital reserve fund; Chief Thompson noted an existing revolving fund but was unsure how it could be used.

Selectman Brinser made a motion to authorize the sale of the 2005 Yankee Badge air boat and trailer as requested for \$31,110, Selectman Dancy seconded, vote 3-0, motion passed.

Chief Thompson reported successful Fire Department support for Old Home Day, including traffic control and water for the foam party. He credited Scott Thompson with the electrical aspects of the cascade-system installation and noted that recent mass-casualty and driver-operator training proved useful. He also updated the Board on camp inspections, operations, long-term projects, and potential members of the virtual Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee, supported by Lakes Region Planning.

ACTION ITEMS (Cont.)

5. Sodom Road & HEB agreement re FEMA grant

I offered clarification that contact information needs to be revised due to staffing changes.

Chair Murray made a motion to have the Chair sign a corrected authorization for Sodom Road FEMA, Selectman Brinser seconded, vote 3-0, motion passed.

Appointments (Cont.)

Chris Ruel, Transfer Station, updated the Board on waste and revenue. A previously denied reimbursement is under revision, and he will work with Mr. Sanderson to provide missing information. Before proceeding with the scale, they will coordinate with the state and vendor to meet groundwater permit and environmental requirements. Mr. Sanderson will provide weekly updates. The assistant transfer-station applicant withdrew.

OTHER BUSINESS

At approximately 6:17 p.m., Chair Murray made a motion to enter non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Employee hiring and compensation, Vote 3-0. Roll Call Vote- Murray- Yes, Dancy- Yes, Brisner- Yes, motion passed.

At Approximately 6:43 p.m., Chair Murray made a motion to exit non-public session and seal the minutes, Selectman Dancy seconded, Vote 3-0, motion passed. Roll Call Vote- Murray- Yes, Dancy- Yes, Brisner- Yes, motion passed.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND SELECTMEN'S UPDATE

Mr. Paul Sanderson, Interim Town Administrator, thanked officials and staff for their welcome. He is exploring a finance position, strengthening internal controls and transparency, and prioritizing the MRI migration and staff training. The MS-1 and audit remain on schedule, though school-district timing is outside the Town's control. He also discussed the police-station audit's implications for the 2026 audit. By consensus, the Budget Committee may interview the recording-secretary candidate and submit a recommendation.

Selectman Brinser requested timely MRI rollout updates and propane and oil information. Mr. Sanderson said he is following Town policy and Board direction, receiving support from Lakes Region Computer, reducing the paperwork backlog, and supporting staff. Staff are reconciling available records with open matters. The Board also discussed facilities management and policy gaps Mr. Sanderson may identify.

Selectman Dancy asked whether vendor contracts, expiration dates, and renewal options are centrally tracked.

Mr. Sanderson outlined the distinct administrative and finance responsibilities, including human resources, benefits, tax reporting, and deadlines, and supported cross-training for backup coverage. The Board also discussed the upcoming three-week Middle Road closure for the State's failing box-culvert replacement at North Country Village. State communications will lead, with concise Town updates shared online. Website improvements may also be needed for accessibility and easier document access.

ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 7:19 p.m., Selectman Brinser made a motion to adjourn, Selectman Dancy seconded, vote 3-0, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley N. Esposito
Clerical Secretary

Attached

Code officer (no report submitted), PD, FD, Transfer station update