



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES – August 26, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Present: Nancy Carney, Martin Nolan, Jennifer Cesaitis. Staff: Debbie Favreau, Rhonda Sheats

Members of the public: Dana Pinney, Mike Piquette, Bill Pine, Suzzane Gray, Andy Woods

Call to Order

Chair Nancy Carney called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment – Dana Pinney wanted to make sure the Board would check with Senator Denise Ricciardi on available funds for the Water District.

Public Hearing – None

Appointments

6:00 p.m. Meet with Senator Denise Ricciardi – Senator Denise Ricciardi met with the Board to review state funding opportunities and legislative support for Fitzwilliam. She noted prior funding secured for the town, including \$239,343 in property tax relief and more than \$103,000 in transportation funding for 2026, and discussed efforts to increase municipal meals and rooms revenue sharing. Senator Ricciardi also discussed potential legislation and Drinking Water Trust Fund support for Fitzwilliam's water infrastructure needs, with filing opportunities in September and November. She invited town representatives to advocate for Fitzwilliam when the bill is presented in January. The Board also discussed rural transportation needs, charitable gaming revenue opportunities, education funding impacts, and possible statutory changes related to commissioner residency requirements.

6:50 p.m. Meet with Building Inspector Leon Genre – Mr. Genre provided an update on cleanup progress at Nick's Used Cars, reporting that Jennifer Methe has made significant improvements by removing approximately 1,200 tires and multiple dumpster loads of scrap metal. The property still requires cleanup of tires used as retaining walls in ponds, and hazardous materials in trailers on the premises need proper placarding. The site currently operates with a temporary permit while working toward full junkyard status, with a crusher scheduled to arrive by September 1 to further address the cleanup. The Board discussed the temporary junkyard permit, noting that the current permit expires in September and must be renewed through a reapplication process. Mr. Genre will continue to inspect the cleanup progress.

7:13 p.m. Meet with Recreation Director Fallon Ball – The Board discussed revising the Recreation Coordinator position from a stipend to a paid role, with plans to present a compromise proposal to retain Ms. Ball in the position through the March town meeting. The Board reviewed current recreation programs, including soccer, walking groups, and upcoming activities, while discussing potential changes to job responsibilities and eliminating the requirement for office hours. Ms. Ball agreed to submit a CIP request of \$20,000 for recreation department needs, and the Board will deliberate separately on the compensation proposal before sending Ms. Ball an email offer.

7:24 p.m. Nonpublic Session – Hiring – Ms. Cesaitis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nolan, to enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(b). Roll call vote: Ms. Carney, yes; Mr. Nolan, yes; Ms. Cesaitis, yes.

Public session reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

Ms. Carney made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cesaitis, to seal the minutes because disclosure would likely adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Roll call vote to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session: Ms. Carney, yes; Mr. Nolan, yes; Ms. Cesaitis, yes.

7:42 p.m. Nonpublic Session – Legal – Ms. Cesaitis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nolan, to enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(e). Roll call vote: Ms. Carney, yes; Mr. Nolan, yes; Ms. Cesaitis, yes.

Public session reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Nolan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Carney, to seal the minutes because disclosure would likely render a proposed action ineffective. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Roll call vote to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session: Ms. Carney, yes; Mr. Nolan, yes; Ms. Cesaitis, yes.

8:02 p.m. Nonpublic Session – Personnel Compensation – Mr. Nolan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cesaitis, to enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(b). Roll call vote: Ms. Carney, yes; Mr. Nolan, yes; Ms. Cesaitis, yes.

Mr. Nolan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cesaitis, to seal the minutes because disclosure would likely adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Public session reconvened at 8:23 p.m.

Roll call vote to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session: Ms. Carney, yes; Mr. Nolan, yes; Ms. Cesaitis, yes.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Cesaitis, to approve the August 12, 2026 minutes, manifests, and signature folder. Motion carried 3-0-0. Ms. Cesaitis requested that the Chairman read what is on the Consent Agenda.

New Business

- Ms. Cesaitis made a motion to approve the vendor permit applications, one for baked goods and the other for hot dogs and drinks for Tucker's Torch. Mr. Nolan seconded the motion and requested waiving the fees on both applications. Motion passed 3-0-0.
- Ms. Favreau shared that the town is currently at \$1.55 per gallon through the end of July with Swanze Oil. She asked whether Swanze Oil offers a lock-in fee and requested the total gallons used. Superior Plus is willing to offer a three-year contract at \$1.519 per gallon. Mr. Nolan made a motion to accept the three-year contract with Superior Plus unless Swanze Oil is lower; Ms. Cesaitis seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.
- Ms. Cesaitis shared that she would like to have the following departments on the Town Communication Committee: Economic, Library, Land Use, Recreation, Highway, Fire Department, Police Department, Water District, and a Selectman. This would be in an advisory capacity only, allowing departments to share successes and challenges. Ms. Cesaitis stated that communication is the biggest problem. Mr. Nolan said this would be a start but would not solve everything. The matter will be tabled until the next meeting to give Mr. Nolan and Ms. Carney time to review the plan.
- Ms. Carney discussed a Fire Department grant application for training, hiring, and retention purposes, with notification expected by Friday. The Board expressed concern about accepting the grant before fully understanding the parameters and plans and preferred to wait for written confirmation before holding a public hearing.
- Ms. Carney read the resignation from Gene Cuomo of the Highway Department, effective August 23, 2026. The Board accepted the resignation letter with regrets, with a motion made by Mr. Nolan and seconded by Ms. Cesaitis; motion passed 3-0-0.

Budget Work

- The Board discussed Executive Budget increases, including salary steps, health insurance, and software upgrades, noting that QuickBooks would cost approximately \$3,500 plus ongoing monthly payroll-service fees of \$400. When asked about alternatives to QuickBooks, Ms. Favreau explained that municipal software options were significantly more expensive, at approximately \$100,000. The Board inquired about health insurance costs, and Ms. Favreau indicated that information would not be available until September or October.

Continued Business

- The Board addressed lighting requirements, with quotes obtained from Forrest Kirby, though no response had been received yet. It was also noted that certain parcels at the Pole Barn area cannot be developed because they are encumbered by a New Hampshire Parks grant, limiting any modifications to outdoor recreation uses only. The Board also discussed the status of oil tanks at the Bills Oil location near the landfill, noting that propane tanks had been removed but the future of the oil operations remained uncertain; the area may be considered for a future community center.
- A CIP request for recreation was submitted for review for tennis court lighting installation, along with a quote from Hamblet Electric.

Other Business – Information Only – None

Nonpublic Session – RSA 91-A:3, II(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (i)

- Nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(b) – Hiring
- Nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(e) – Legal
- Nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(b) – Personnel Compensation

Outstanding Action Items – None

Adjournment: Mr. Nolan made a motion to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. Ms. Cesaitis seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Sheats
Administrative Assistant

Nancy Carney, Chairman

Martin Nolan

Jennifer Cesaitis
Board of Selectmen