

Board of Selectmen
August 3, 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
- Septic Design 12-001 008
- Intent to Cut 11-001 005
- PAF Vacation – Chief Patten
- PAF Vacation – Superintendent Ouellette
- Pay adjustments – Fire Department Members

Document reviewed & not signed:

- Intent to Cut 13-008 001 – Acreage on Intent did not align with Property Card

6:00 PM Fire Department –

The Board of Selectmen met with Fire-EMS Chief, Evan Hacker, for a Department update. Chief Hacker provided the Board with the Monthly Report for the month of July.

The Department responded to 25 EMS calls, four of which Rumney EMS provided the transport and handled two non-transport. The Department responded to 14 Fire calls and 3 Motor Vehicle Accidents. The Chief conducted 5 Oil/Propane inspections. The Department's monthly training covered their BLS CPR Refresher. Chief Hacker provided the Board with a printout of the monthly activity pie chart.

Chief Hacker reported this past weekend, starting August 1st the Department responded to 9 calls for service.

Chief Hacker reported that he had developed a Hazardous Condition Report Form to track situations resulting from either calls for service or inspections. This form allows for tracking of conditions and documenting the notification being given to the property owner. Hacker is

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obtaining quotes to have this made into a duplicate form (one for the department and one for the property owner).

Chief Hacker reported that the Department members have started using the on-line training program that was approved a few Board meetings ago. The system allows the Chief and Deputy-Chief to set up appropriate training sessions for the Department members.

The Purchase of two sets of bunker gear boots at the cost of \$573.00 per set was requested. Chief Hacker reported that these boots will be issued to two members that have completed Fire 1 training. Hacker reported that he has funds in the Fire Department Operating Budget to cover the purchase. Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to authorize the purchase of two sets of bunker gear boots at the cost of \$573.00 per set. The motion received a second from Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Chief Hacker reported that he is looking into two additional purchases, 1) replacement pagers, 2) an AED for the SUV. He will try to have pricing available for the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

The Department will be interviewing an applicant this evening who has applied to be a member of the Department.

Selectman, Isaac DeWever, asked Chief Hacker for his input of the driveway/road set up for a pending sub-division off Groton Hollow Road. Hacker stated that he did have a chance to speak with Planning Board Secretary, Judi Hall, about this. The items that Chief Hacker spoke to were:

- Need of a cul-de-sac – Chief Hacker reported that as the property is situated currently a cul-de-sac is not needed. If it were to be developed further a cul-de-sac may be needed to allow fire engines to turn around due to the turning radius.
- The E-911 numbering system will need to be laid out better to identify the different buildings that are on site.
- The Chief is willing to attend any future Planning Board meeting to discuss this matter.

6:20 PM Police Department –

The Board of Selectmen met with Police Chief, Greg Patten, for a Department update.

Chief Patten acknowledged that he had been asked to develop a monthly report form, much like the Fire Department has been providing for the Board. Chief Patten stated that he did not have that available for this meeting.

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Chief Patten reported that there were 177 Calls for Service, 5 new Criminal Cases, 9 motor vehicles stops, and one Court case during the month of July.

The Board has requested a copy and status of the required Internal Review Policy. Chief Patten reported that he was mistaken in that he thought this had been completed and that it has not been completed to date. Chief Patten provided a copy of Rule 1.01 Organization that states that the purpose of organization of the manual the Departments directives, policies, rules, and procedures.

An update of the MDT grant was requested by the Board. This update was requested to assist with any financial related planning that may be required for the grant. Chief Patten reported that since the last Board meeting he had contacted the Department of Safety, who is the grantor. Patten stated that there was an error on an excel format, also they need to have a copy of the Town's Financial Audit. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, stated that he can help with the audit request.

Chief Patten reported that there are only about two unlicensed dogs on the Unlicensed Dog Warrant and it was all set.

Chief Patten reported that he will set up the "No Parking" signs for Old Home Day the Friday Night prior to Old Home Day. Patten stated that he contacted the Grafton County Sheriff's Office to request two Deputy Sheriffs to assist with parade traffic.

The Police Secretary position is still vacant. Chief Patten reported that he renewed the posting of the vacancy on Indeed over the weekend. The renewal generated 17 new applicants.

The Radar sign was placed near the Plymouth/Rumney Townline to collect traffic data of eastbound vehicles. During the first week of July, it identified 8,000 vehicles. The average speed was 47MPH with a peak speed of 97MPH.

During the time frame of July 8th and 15th the Radar sign was placed on the west end of Route 25. During that period the sign identified 15,600 vehicles. 9% were travelling over 15MPH of the posted speed limit, with a peak speed of 72MPH.

Chief Patten reported that he had updated the Tow and Impound Inventory form used by the Police Department. A copy of the form was provided for the Board's review.

The Board of Selectmen and the Rumney Police Department had received a citizen complaint regarding the alleged violation of the Quiet Hours part of the Disorderly Actions Ordinance. The complainant stated that situation has been going on for the past 9 years.

Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that this does not fall completely on the Police Department, Fire Department, or NH-DES. But no one should have to put up with an ongoing situation like this. Berti asked what the Police Department is doing to address this issue. Chief

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Patten stated that he is aware of 911 calls being made about the noise and activities going on at the location being complained about. Patten stated that years ago he called NH-DES about his concern of water contamination from the property. Selectman, Bob Berti, asked about the noise issues. Chief Patten stated that it is a terrible place, but they have scanners and they know when the police are responding and stop the noise. Patten stated that Rumney Police are not out at that time of night and stated that State Police will not go to noise complaints. Chief Patten stated that they have arrested several people at the property, but most of the time they are just released by the Court system. Chief Patten asked if the Board expected the police department to flip the schedule and work those hours. Chief Patten stated that he feels bad for the complainant and talks with him on a regular basis. Selectman, Isaac DeWever asked if there were any other legal avenues? Civil actions? Junk Yard actions? Chief Patten stated that he could look into the charge of a disorderly house, but that would be a charge against the property owner, not the person that is causing the issues. Patten was asked if he'd spoken with the County Attorney about taking that approach. Patten stated that he had not but will try.

7:00 AM Public Forum –

There was no input during Public Form.

7:05 AM Town Administrator Report –

A copy of the meeting minutes from the July 20, 2026, Board of Selectmen Meeting were provided for review. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, made a motion to accept the July 20, 2026, Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes. The motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Coverage of the Polls during September 8, 2026, Primary Election was discussed. Both Selectmen, Bob Berti and Isaac DeWever, reported they would not be available that day. Alternative coverage measures were discussed. A definite plan will be approved during the August 17, 2026, Board Meeting.

A Town owned roadside worksite sign was taken from the crack seal worksite along Old Route 25. The sign, sign stand, and base were valued at about \$300.00.

A draft of the Department and Committee Head Budget Letter was reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. The letter outlined what is needed to complete the FY 2027 Budget along with the due dates. The Board approved the letter, which will be disseminated August 4th.

The Town inspected 79 School Street as it relates to an alleged illegal junk yard. The person that lives on the property walked the area with Code person Audrey Cline and Town Administrator Joe Chivell. The property lines were verified and actions that need to be taken identified and explained.

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Correspondence between Town Council and the property owners of 51 & 118 School Street, sites of alleged illegal junk yards, were shared with the Board.

Correspondence between NH-DES and the owners of 2625 Stinson Lake Road regarding a possible violation was provided to the Board for their review.

7:25 PM Old Business –

An update on projects that the Rumney Highway Department is working on was provided.

- School Street Culvert – The footing for the culvert wall has been poured. The form for the culvert wall will be built this week, and the area will be made ready for pouring additional concrete.
- Buffalo Road Ditching is continuing. The rented excavator will be returned on Aug 6th, both sides of Buffalo Road, between the Wentworth/Rumney Town line and Sand Hill Road should be completed by that time.
- The crack sealing of Old Route 25 and Swainsboro Road were completed today.
- The 6-ton limit signs for Sand Hill Bridge have been placed along the eastbound and westbound sides of Rumney Route 25, as well as on both ends of Sand Hill Road. The one-lane bridge signs have been put into place on both ends of the bridge.

The 2026 Highway Department Projects expenditures and pending expenditures were reviewed. Adding projects this Fall was discussed. Quotes for additional crack seal were obtained. Crack Sealing School Street, Cross Road, Sand Hill Road, the upper parking lot of the Rest Area, Fire Department parking lot, Town Office parking lot, and Police Department parking lot were discussed. Funds are available within this years Road Improvement Budget to complete the street and roads listed above. Funds to complete the Rest Area are available. Part of the funds needed to complete the parking lots is available. The Board discussed the need to keep up with Town roads infrastructure, the availability to the crack seal vendor, and the probable cost increases for this type of project next year. The Board agreed to move forward with these additional projects. Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to approve the expenditure to crack seal School Street, Cross Road, and Sand Hill Road at the cost of \$17,215.00. The motion received a second from Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$3,300.00 to crack seal the parking lot of the Rest Area, with funds from the Rest Area budget to be used, and the expenditure of \$3,300.00, using available funds from the operating budgets, supplemented with Building Improvement Capital Reserve funds, to crack seal the parking lots at the Fire Station, the Town Office, and the Police Department. The motion received a second from Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed 3-0.

7:50 PM New Business –

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Rumney Tax Collector, Dawn Coffey, provided a list of four properties that are possibilities of being deeded if the 2023 taxes are not made. Coffey will be at the August 17th Board meeting to present properties to be deeded.

7:55 PM Nonpublic Session –

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.

8:30 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 roll call vote the motion passed 3-0.

8:35 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

Up-coming Meeting/Closure Dates

Conservation Commission Meeting	August 12, 2026
Board of Selectmen Meeting	August 17, 2026
Planning Board Meeting	August 25, 2026
Town Office Close – Labor Day	September 7, 2026
State Primary Election	September 8, 202