Town of Auburn
Board of Selectmen
Stritch Meeting Room
Town Hall
August 17, 2026
7 PM
Approved Minutes

Selectmen Present: Keith Leclair, Tom Carroll and Todd Bedard

Others Present: Town Treasurer Christine Tewksbury, Finance Director Mimi Friolet, Mike DiPietro, Herb Tardiff, Gary Domourad, Town Administrator Chris Sterndale, and Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order

Mr. Leclair called the meeting to order at 7 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Public Comments

III. Appointments with the Board

A. Treasurer Christine Tewksbury – Investment Policy

Town Administrator Sterndale provided drafts of the Investment Policy and Delegation of Deposit Authority and noted a couple of minor changes to the wording.

Christine Tewksbury introduced herself noting she has been the Town Treasurer since 2020. She noted the policy has been updated to comply with regulations.

Ms. Tewksbury discussed the investment policy and the town's investment with the NH Public Investment Pool which now has a balance of roughly $2 million. She noted that with recent tax payments the general fund has about $9.5 million, some of which can be moved to the investment account leaving enough to fund operating expenses and noted funds can be clawed back as needed.

Mr. Leclair asked the differences between the checking account versus the investment account. He asked about bank fees and balance limits to offset those fees.

Mr. Domourad asked the interest rates between the two and Ms. Tewksbury noted the NH Pool is about 4.5% and Finance Director Friolet indicated the checking account earns about 2.25%.

Mr. Carroll motioned to approve the Investment Policy as presented. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bedard motioned to approve the delegation of deposit policy as presented. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Consent Agenda

V. New Business

A. Electric supply contract

Town Administrator Sterndale provided the Board with preliminary information from Priority Power and account information from Eversource

First Mr. Sterndale reported that there will be a distribution project ongoing in the next five years in the Pingree Hill Area.

Mr. Sterndale then explained the community choice aggregation where the Town selects a default provider for residents that they can opt out of. Currently the default is Eversource. He noted Freedom Energy will come in and talk to them at one of the next few meetings.

Mr. Sterndale then discussed group net metering and credits for major energy projects which are a decades long commitment with about $2,000-$3,000 in revenue.

Mr. Sterndale then discussed the town's electric account with Eversource, and the price locked in three years ago. He explained the difference between provider, supplier, broker and producer. He noted the difference between their price and average residential homes as .10 cents versus the .14 cents residents pay. The lock in price is up for renewal. Mr. Leclair asked if he had talked with the school. Mr. Sterndale noted they have until October 31st. He will reach out to the school. Mr. Carroll agreed it was better to have the combined buying power.

VI. Old Business

A. NHMA Policy Conference

Town Administrator Sterndale asked the board if they wanted to attend the conference on Friday afternoon or send him. Mr. Sterndale will attend. He noted that topics include unfunded mandates, local control, not fostering competition among towns, opposing and supporting legislation.

B. Town Hall Siding

Town Administrator Sterndale reported the deleading abatement is scheduled and siding should begin Monday.

C. Roadside Mowing

Mr. Sterndale reported that roadside mowing continues a little slower so that debris can be picked up. The article will go in the Town Crier tomorrow morning. Feedback has quieted down. He noted they will start next year in April or late June to avoid school bus runs.

Mr. Domourad asked about the budget. Mr. Sterndale noted that the Highway Director intends to use $30,000 for the budget and see what that can get us. It should be done every year. The height difference was changed and done higher up.

Mr. Leclair asked about drainage easements and Mr. Sterndale noted Mr. Rolfe was taking care of detention ponds and culverts.

Mr. Tardiff asked about overhanging or dead trees on Water Works property.

VII. Committee Reports

Mr. Carroll reported that Parks & Recreation continues to discuss the proposed budget and pickleball.

VIII. Town Administrator Updates

Town Administrator Sterndale reported that the state approved the piles. He met with three landscape providers who will provide sketches and estimates.

Mr. Sterndale reported that Saturday is household hazardous waste day at Raymond.

Mr. Sterndale reported that summer camp is done and was full for three weeks. There is a summer concert on Wednesday. The Town parade will be Saturday the 12th starting at 10 at the Circle of Fun.

Mr. Sterndale reported that Fidium is stringing fiber to the complex and town hall and the town's contract with Comcast is lapsing.

Mr. Sterndale reported that the School Board is meeting tonight to discuss the November vote and default budget and then they will come to the Select Board meeting to discuss the outcome of their meeting. Department Heads will meet next week to discuss their budgets. There may be some fire dept. purchases.

IX. Minutes

A. August 3, 2026

Mr. Carroll motioned to approve the August 3, 2026 meeting minutes. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

B. Consideration of unsealing non-public minutes: Oct 21 & 28, Nov 4, 2013

Mr. Carroll motioned to leave unsealed the non-public minutes of October 21, 2013, October 28, 2013 and November 4, 2013. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

X. NON-PUBLIC SESSION 91-A:3(II)(d)(l)

By Roll Call Mr. Leclair motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91A-3(II)(d) and (l). Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Mr. Leclair voted aye, Mr. Carroll voted aye, and Mr. Bedard voted aye. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting room was closed to the public at 7:47 PM.

Mr. Leclair motioned to come out of non-public session. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting room was reopened to the public at 7:53 PM.

By Roll Call Mr. Leclair motioned to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Carroll motioned to forgo the appeal/motion to rehear the case at Rockingham Superior Court. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Carroll motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary