

**Select Board Meeting**  
**September 30, 2025**  
**Andover Town Hall, 6 p.m.**

*\*Posted agenda is subject to change\**

**MEETING ATTENDENCE**

***Selectboard Members:***

Brian Mills (BM) & Justin Thacker (JT)

***Secretary to the Board:***

Susan Mills (SM)

***Department Heads:***

Road Commissioner Per Tripp (PT)/Employee Josh Hodgson

***Board Members:***

None

***Citizens:***

Fred Dethridge, Pete Coolidge, Barb Simmons, MaKayla Wells, Toby Wells, Margaret Madigan, Patricia Cox

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE:** 6:01 p.m. by BM / JT

**SELECT BOARD UPDATES**

*Brian*

- Asked Rob from Pike, who are grinding the County side of South Arm – can they get the FEMA piece ground and paved and he said he could as long as we voted on it tonight – not including the Covered Bridge Road – see vote taken under Agenda Adjustments
- Conversation with resident about moving stuff at the Transfer Station
- Asked Mark Thurston to get an estimate from Casella's on disposal of waste; (MW – campground) they switched to Casella and had good luck; contact is Jim Merrill (Pine Street Waste of Bethel)
- Email on traffic concerns over Labor Day - email went to everyone but the Sheriff – they reached out to me last week and said they would try to increase traffic enforcement up this way the next few weeks

*Justin*

- We have our next Solar meeting next Tuesday, October 7 @ 4:30 p.m.
- Touched base with the State about speed limit sign and tree blockage around the curve – they are supposed to send someone (Roger/Wilton Branch) to take a look or at reducing speeds ahead in commercial area
- Speed limit electronic signage; (SM) should we send a letter of request? Yes, let's do it – his message machine cuts you off

## **CITIZEN REQUESTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS** – follows Roberts Rules of Order

- **Pete Coolidge – Christmas Concert/Town Hall Rental Form**  
**Motion** to allow the Andover Summer Concert Series to hold their winter concert upstairs in the Town Hall with no fees made by BM, seconded by JT  
**Discussion** - SM – capacity is 144. (PC) that's how many chairs are put up; (JT) was there a heat issue at the second show; (PC) floor rug concerns/dust is settling on upstairs floor and tracks everywhere – concerned about this element for people with respiratory issues; (SM) will work with PC and MA to order a new rug using Town Hall funds per Board  
**Vote:** Carried
- **Toby Wells** – noticing an uptick in Air BNB's renting to ATV owners and are not sharing rules and regulations for riding the trails; they are under managers, not owners when you call and not good communication with them, (BM) been aware of it for a while - I have no problem putting it on the agenda next week and reaching out, TW – we give out rules and maps and good luck with that process with our campers; we share that if it is not on them map it isn't a trail; (JT) same with snowmobiles? MW/TW – it doesn't appear that they do...if they are renting in the winter, it is for skiing or snowmobiling

## **MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL**

### **9.16.25 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion** to approve meeting minutes dated 9/16/25 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** - None

**Vote** – Carried

### **9.23.25 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion** to approve meeting minutes dated 9/23/25 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** – None

**Vote** - Carried

## **WAGE WARRANT #14**

### **1. Wage Warrant #14**

**Motion** to pay Wage Warrant #14 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** - Payroll

**Vote** – Carried

### **2. Adjusted Wage Warrant #13**

**Motion** to pay Adjusted Wage Warrant #13 original amount of \$4,973.98, additional fees of \$3,750.05 for a new total of \$8,724.03 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** – September taxes

**Vote** - Carried

## **FINANCIAL WARRANTS**

### **1. Archies**

**Motion** to pay Archies in the amount of \$3,141.17 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** – Transfer Station fees pick up / drop off

**Vote** – Carried

### **2. Spencer Paving**

**Motion** to pay Spencer Paving in the amount of \$344,937.24 made by BM / seconded by JT)

**Discussion** – for top coating the East Andover Road and drive-way aprons

**Vote** – Carried

### **3. IIA Fire Department Testing**

**Motion** to pay IIA Fire Department Testing in the amount of \$4,485.51 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** - None

**Vote** – Carried

### **4. Secretary of State**

**Motion** to pay Secretary of State in the amount of 1,066.00 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** - None

**Vote** – Carried

### **5. Remainder Warrant #14**

**Motion** to pay Remainder of Warrant #14 made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** - None

**Vote** – Carried

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

### **Road Commissioner – Per Tripp**

Provided handouts for suggested road bid for winter sand and job description

1. Restock sand pile with 950 cubic yards; winning bid will include operator and machinery to stockpile the sand; (JT) set deadline of the 14<sup>th</sup>, do we put in the paper? (BM) yes, our policy requires it be posted in the paper, (PT) can we accept email bids vs mailed bids, (BM) yes

**Motion** we put out sand bid to include machinery and operator to stockpile the sand to be due back no later than October 14<sup>th</sup> and can be received by email made by BM / second by JT

**Discussion** - (BM) Can we even out the road a bit while doing the sand pile? (PT) Would like to put more blocks in with wash outs, etc., (BS) can citizens still get sand? (PT) yes; (JT) do we have a sign for no playing in the sand? (PT) yes, but it doesn't stop them

**Vote** – Carried

2. Seasonal on-call plowing job description was shared with the board; (PT) our current one will do it if we can't get someone. I used online resources to pull job description together; can we post this again?

**Motion** we post for a Season Highway Employee to plow snow estimated time of Nov 15 2025 – April 15, 2026 preferably someone with a Class B license made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** – (PT) do we need to post this? (BM) Yes; max pay of up to \$21/hour

**Vote** - Carried

3. Tree at Fire Station – been trying to contract with no success to know what type of lift he has, (JT) he has been ill
4. Have been spending money on repairs on trucks
5. Laptop issue – cannot hook it up to the printer – issue with emails, (BM) suggested he purchase a small printer for the garage
6. (JT) Do you know if Jim Adler had addressed the playground? (PT) No. I do have a post hole digger for the poles for the court

### **BOARD/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **1. Waste Resources Policy**

**Discussion** – (JT) did you see the policy I drafted September 2<sup>nd</sup>? I emailed it to you – regarding waste fill, 1<sup>st</sup> come, first serve, I took drafts from 3 other towns, likely not in your email unless you archived it, we loose items after 14 days if not archived. (BM) we will revisit next week

#### **2. Personal Property Tax – Puzzle Mtn. Soapery**

**Motion** we request Puzzle Mountain Soapery to provide a letter requesting to be removed from the from the Personal Property tax rolls to be consistent made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** – (BM) Kim gave me a copy of her property tax at the Solar meeting last week and informed me she had asked to have it removed last time we met about it and it did not get done; (SM) it did not get done because she did not provide the letter she was asked to provide.

**Vote** - Carried

#### **3. Carpentry Bids – Fire Station**

**Motion** we get an estimate on the Fire Station doors from the town Fire Chief made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** – (BM) we have followed protocol with no results, what are we going to do? Ask the fire chief for a price, rebid it or not do it, (JT) Jim Adler expressed concern about conflict of interest but he also doubled any bids would come in; (BM) as long as his estimate is within the limits of the budget for it I have not problem answering to it, I hate to see a project not get done because of that – he is a carpenter by trade; (JT) I think we have followed the correct protocol and did what we needed to do

**Vote** - Carried

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Covered Bridge Sign – Citizen Request**

**Motion** to accept the citizen request by Gary Gallant and ask Road Commissioner to evaluate the sign placement and move it if it makes sense made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion – Request was to move the posted road sign closer to the intersection, allowing them to move their sign for Granite Farm closer to their driveway on the left after the bridge going toward East Andover; (BM/JT) it makes sense to move it nearer the intersection**

**Vote – Carried**

2. **O'Donnell's Tax Commitment Request for Information Email**

**Motion** to email O'Donnell's to go ahead with the information they have made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion –** (BM) confused by the email received; the max amount for BETE is \$9K, why can't he figure it in, amount should go under Personal Property, (JT) we thought we missed the deadline for filing, which MA says is May 1<sup>st</sup>, and why we had not responded earlier this summer. (BM) I would think they would have entered the personal property if it was possible; BM to send an email to move forward without it

**Vote – Carried**

3. **HMPG Application – (Cross Street Culvert Grant) Mtgs/Timeline**

**Discussion – (BM)** for mitigation grant - we cannot come up with invoices and work that doesn't exist. I am a little bit upset about how long it took for them to get this going. (JT) I tried to ask questions, and she has responded to some of the questions, but I have more questions after her answers. She wasn't us to meet a lot. (BM) if nothing is going to change, I don't see the point in meeting if they don't have the numbers they need. I have asked a couple of them about the box culvert not through this grant and they have not answered me on that. I can send Cassandra an email stating we don't see the point in meeting if we don't have the numbers (getting to 1.0). See audio for full discussion.

4. **South Arm Road paving (FEMA)**

**Motion** to hire Pike to do the South Arm piece, reclaim and fine grade 2200' x 20 base coat of 2" and driveway prep, if needed, for total estimate of \$107,235 and that is a FEMA job made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion –** Pike was hoping he could get it done this Fall as he is up there right now grading the road, so we are hoping he can grind it even if he needs to come back in a few weeks to pave it.

**Vote - Carried**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Tree Growth Penalty (Stickney)**

**Motion** to stay with O'Donnell's opinion assessment on the Tree Growth penalty for the Stickney property in question in whatever he has recommended made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion –** (BM) I have seen all the emails and she needs to follow the process she feels she needs to follow; I always take O'Donnell's opinion – John did say it comes from the Board of Assessors, which is us, but I do not have the expertise; we can change the 20 vs 25% John is using – and there are somethings in here we could change as the Board of Assessors, but some of them would go away from their recommendations (O'Donnell's); (JT) which is not good practice? (BM) No – they are hired to do this job – we send all of it to them. (JT) if we made changes against this it

could potentially affect others, right, set precedence? (BM) it could. See tape for entire discussion  
Secretary to print off the emails and put in the file

**Vote** – (not taken)

**2. Cemetery Brush Cutting Request by Sexton**

**Motion** we ask the Highway Crew to clear brush near Row 5 Lot 6 by Basil Hutchins cemetery lot in anticipation of an incoming headstone made by BM / seconded by JT

**Discussion** – request per Todd Piper, on behalf of the Sullivan plot holder

**Vote** – Carried

**ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA**

**1. Notices on EMA Training**

**Discussion** – (BM) Been getting some notices on EMA training, but position is still posted, I cannot attend training during the day; (JT) hopefully the new select person will be interested in this spot

**2. Responses to Job Postings**

**Discussion** – (BM) I don't think we have gotten any responses to the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer postings

**3. Town Hall Parking Lot**

**Motion** to have the Highway Department shim the parking lot entrance out here all around the edge with either loam or crushed gravel or combo or whatever he thinks is best made by BM/ seconded by JT

**Discussion** – There is quite a drop off in some places and they may hit it with the plow

**Vote** - Carried

**4. Wage Request Email**

(JT) As a post of record, we did receive written confirmation the Town Clerk was rescinding her concern over her payroll but that is something...(BM) I did see that, but I really feel it needs to be resolved, (JT) that is what I was getting ready to say; (BM) after reading the transcribed minutes done by the secretary, I really think we have a responsibility to find out what's happening, (JT) I agree, I think what will help is having a third select person that way you could abstain and we can vote and move forward. (BM) It need to be resolved, I still would like to set up a date, I honestly don't think I need to abstain as it is money approved by the voters, any other realm I would; (JT) yes, I was thinking the election is November 4<sup>th</sup>, so hopefully it won't be long and we can, (BM) we will revisit it.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. MRSA §405 (6)(D) - Employee Review**

**Motion** to enter into Executive session per MRSA § 405 (6) (D) Labor Negotiations at 6:51 p.m. made by BM, seconded by JT

**Discussion** - None

**Vote** – Carried

Exited session at 7:10 p.m.

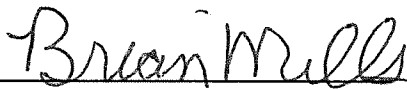
2. **Motion** to hire Josh Hodgson as a full-time Highway Employee at a starting wage of \$22 hour and all the full-time job benefits with start date of October 1, 2025, made by BM / second by JT  
**Discussion** – None  
**Vote** - Carried

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion** to adjourn meeting at 7:39 p.m. made by BM and seconded by JT  
**Discussion** – None  
**Vote** - Carried

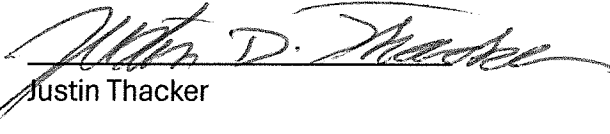
*Full meeting audio available upon request: SM-MTG-Minutes (date of meeting).pdf*

*\*Signatures needed or information included*



**Date:** 10-14-25

Brian Mills, Chair



Justin Thacker