

Town of Hartford
Selectmen's Meeting
Approved Minutes
April 7, 2026
Hartford Town Hall & YouTube
5:00pm-6:30pm Job Interviews
6:30pm Regular Meeting begins

Present: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Aaron Harvey, Nicholas Tiffit, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Road Commissioner Bim McNeil, residents Lennie Eichman, Rebecca Elsmann, Steve Elsmann, Susan Goulet, Rusty Goulet, Brandon McNeil, Margaret Matthews, and Lee Holman.

- I. Cathy called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.
- II. Aaron motioned to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MRSA 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6) (A) Job Applicant Interviews at 5:45pm. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
Aaron motioned to exit executive session at 6:10pm. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
- III. Aaron motioned to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MRSA 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6) (D) Audit Contract via Zoom at 6:23pm. Cathy second. All in favor=3.
Nicholas motioned to exit executive session at 6:55pm. All in favor=3.
- IV. All present pledged Allegiance to the Flag
- V. Cathy motioned to approve minutes of the March 16, 2026 Selectmen's Budget Workshop, March 17, 2026 Selectmen's meeting, & March 18, 2026 Selectmen's Budget Workshop. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
- VI. Cathy motioned to approve Warrant 18, Payroll Warrants March 18, 2026, March 25, 2026, & April 1, 2026. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
- VII. Reports
 1. RSU 10 Director Report: None.
 2. Road Commissioner Report: None. A notice from FEMA was reviewed stating that projects must be complete by June 30, 2026.
 3. Constable Report: None.
 4. CEO Report: None.
 5. ACO Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by the ACO.
 6. Fire Warden Report: None.
 7. Treasurer Report: It was reported that only one 2023 lien was left unpaid as of today and will foreclose April 8, 2026.
 8. Road Committee Approved Minutes: None.
 9. Planning Board Approved Minutes: The Board reviewed the January 5, 2026 and March 2, 2026 minutes. It was stated that the January minutes included a budget request from the Planning Board for adobe software to allow editing with the scanning project.
 10. Ad hoc Planning Committee Approved Minutes: None.
 11. Ordinance Committee Approved Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of 11/24/2025.
 12. Cemetery Committee Approved Minutes: None.
 13. Solid Waste Committee Approved Minutes: None.
 14. Recreation Committee Approved Minutes: None.
 15. Buckfield Hartford Sumner Withdrawal Committee Approved Minutes: The Board reviewed all minutes from January to present.
- VIII. Calendar Reminders
 1. 2023 Liens Foreclose 4/8/26 5pm
 2. Nomination Papers Due 4/9/26 5pm
 3. Budget Com. Mtg. 6pm 4/9/26 6pm

4. Recreation Com. Mtg. 4/13/26 6:30pm
5. Solid Waste Com. Mtg. 4/16/26 6:30pm
6. Town Office Closed 4/20/26
7. Selectmen Mtg. 4/21/26 6:30pm
8. RSU Meetings all being held in Buckfield

IX Unfinished Business

1. Tax Acquired Property: Aaron motioned to extend the sales agreements of both tax acquired properties to the date of April 30, 2026. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
Cathy motioned to sign quit claim deeds for both properties (Blanchard & Nelson) and issue the deeds to the closing company upon receiving payment in full. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
Aaron motioned to designate Cathy Lowe as signer for the closing of the two tax acquired property sales as advised by the town attorney. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
2. Digital Communications & Technology Policy amended: Aaron motioned to approve the amended digital communications & technology policy. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
3. Google Workspace: The Board reviewed a proposal from Austin Electric to install and monitor a Google Workspace. Alternative options were presented to the Board with set up and monitoring offered in house. Tabled.
4. Annual Town Report Cover: Aaron motioned to approve the Town Report Cover designed by Lorraine Parsons. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
5. Annual Town Report Dedication: Nicholas motioned to approve the dedication of the town report to Arthur Harvey as written. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
6. Annual Town Report Selectmen Report: Nicholas motioned to approve the Selectmen's report for the town report as written. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
7. Spirit of America Award: Aaron motioned to approve the Spirit of America award to Walter Thomas and the award statement as amended. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
8. Community Action Grant Application: Tabled.

X New Business

1. Mowing Bid Opening: Seven bids were received:
\$118,500.00 (3 years), \$75,000.00 (3 years), \$18,000.00, \$13,500.00, \$13,000.00, \$12,900.00, and \$12,500.00.
Cathy motioned to accept the bid of \$12,500.00 per year from Rusty's Lawncare for a term of three years. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
2. Snowplow Bid Opening: One bid received: year one= \$8,100.00 per mile; year two=\$8,250.00 per mile; year three=\$8,400.00 per mile; year four, extension=\$8,550.00 per mile; year five, extension=\$8,700.00 per mile; snow removal of municipal parking areas=\$2,000.00/year; snow removal at intersections \$75.00/hour with a maximum annual cost=\$7,500.00.
Cathy motioned to accept the bid from McNeil Farms for a term of three years with an optional two-year extension. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
3. Transfer Station Proposal: Aaron received a transfer station development proposal from TRC. The proposed site for a transfer station is 44 Gurney Hill Road in Hartford. The first task listed in the proposal is a vernal pool study at the cost of \$4,000.00. The Solid Waste Committee has been exploring options for trash disposal and costs are expected to rise in the future. The total of the TRC proposal is \$75,000.00.
Aaron motioned to approve the cost of the vernal pool inspection at \$4,000.00 to be paid from the sanitation account. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
4. Railroad bed/L. Eichman: Tabled.
5. Recreation Committee Events Permission to use Town Hall: Aaron motioned to approve the following Recreation Committee events: Suppers 4/10 & 5/8, Movie Night 4/22. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

6. MMA Risk Management Renewal Application: The Board reviewed the completed renewal application. No Action.
 7. Housing Opportunity Grant Phase I & Phase II: Tabled.
 8. Hartford Happenings/Bulk Mailing: Nicholas will draft a letter to include. Tabled
 9. Bulky Waste Collection Rules and Regulations Policy amendments: Aaron motioned to approve the amended Bulky Waste Collection Rules and Regulations Policy. Cathy second. All in favor=3.
 10. Bulky Waste Flyer Revised: Aaron motioned to the amended Waste Flyer. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
 11. Draft Town Meeting Warrant: Aaron motioned to schedule a Board Workshop one hour prior to next week's Budget Meeting (date to be determined) to review town meeting warrant articles. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
 12. Proposed Ordinance Amendments/attorney review: Tabled.
 13. Laura Fogg Irish Trustees donation request: Aaron motioned to approve a \$300.00 donation from the Laura Fogg Irish Trust to a resident of Hartford as recommended by the LFI Trustees. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
 14. Waste Committee request/Free Sale: Aaron motioned to allow the Waste Committee to use the town hall on May 29, 30, 31, 2026 for a Free Sale. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
 15. Maintenance Position: Tabled.
 16. AVCOG Officers ballot 2026-27: The Board completed the ballot.
 17. Generator Service: Aaron motioned to have Fields Electric look at the generator battery situation pending what Aaron & Nicholas find out after they inspect the generator. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
 18. Donation: Nicholas motioned to accept the anonymous donation of forever postage stamps with the stipulation that we reduce the 2026-27 postage budget by \$1,560.00. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
- XI Appointments/Resignation: Aaron motioned to appoint Eileen Provost as Ballot Clerk. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
 Aaron motioned to appoint Eileen Provost to the Solid Waste Committee. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
1. Constable: Aaron motioned to appoint Steve Elsmann as Constable. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
 2. Road Committee Resignation: Nicholas motioned to accept the resignation of Rick Gammon from the Road Committee. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
- XII Training : None.
- XIII Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed all correspondence.
- XIV Agenda Items for Next Meeting: RR Bed, Google Workspace, Community Action Grant, Transfer Station Proposal, Housing Grant Phase II, Hartford Happenings mailing, Town Meeting Warrant, Maintenance position, Generator repair, proposed ordinance amendments.
- XV Communications: Nicholas stated that he will share the newly created Town Face Book Page to People of Hartford Face Book group.
- XVI Cathy adjourned the meeting at 9:07pm.

Minutes approved by:

Cathy Lowe

Date

Aaron Harvey

Date

Nicholas Tift

Date

