

Town of Hartford
Selectmen's Meeting
Approved Minutes
February 17, 2026
6:30pm@ Hartford Town Hall & YouTube

Present: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Aaron Harvey, Nicholas Tiftt, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, residents Lennie Eichman, Margaret Matthews, and Lee Holman.

- I. Cathy called the meeting to order at 6:30pm
- II All present pledged Allegiance to the Flag
- III Aaron motioned to approve amended minutes of the January 20, 2026 Selectmen's meeting & minutes of the February 3, 2026 Selectmen's meeting. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.
- IV Cathy motioned to approve Warrant 15, Payroll Warrants February 4, 2026 & February 11, 2026. Aaron second. All in favor=3.
- V Reports
 1. RSU 10 Director Report: None.
 2. Road Commissioner Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by the Road Commissioner (attached).
 3. Constable Report: None.
 4. CEO Report: None.
 5. ACO Report: None.
 6. Fire Warden Report: None.
 7. Treasurer Report
 - A. Bank Reconciliation January 2026: The Board reviewed the bank reconciliations.
 - B. The Board signed the bill of sale to McNeil Farms for the Grader.
 8. Road Committee Approved Minutes: The Board reviewed approved minutes of the 12/4/25 meeting.
 9. Planning Board Approved Minutes: None.
 10. Ad hoc Planning Committee Approved Minutes: None.
 11. Ordinance Committee Approved Minutes: None. Last meeting was canceled due the storm.
 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 approved minutes of the 12/1/25 and 01/08/26 meetings.
- VI Calendar Reminders
 1. Solid Waste Committee Mtg. 11/19/26 6:30pm
 2. Ordinance Committee Mtg. 11/23/26 6pm
 3. Ad Hoc Comprehensive Plan Committee Mtg. 2/24/26 6:30pm
 4. Buckfield, Hartford, Sumner Withdrawal Committee Mtg. 2/26/26 6:30 Sumner
 5. Nomination Papers Available for Selectman 3/2/26
 6. Planning Board Mtg. 3/2/26 6:30pm
- VII Unfinished Business
 1. Salt Shed Door Repair: Aaron motioned to have Overhead Door Company repair the door at the salt shed and to approve up to \$5,000.00 to be paid from the Town Building Improvement Reserve. Cathy second. All in favor=3.
 2. Snow Plow Turnaround/Bernier: Tabled.
 3. Budget Surveys/Selectmen: Two Board members turned in their surveys. All three have been received.

4. Edward MacDonald Safety Grant/Salt Shed & Garage Lights: Aaron motioned to apply for the Edward MacDonald Safety Grant for lighting at the garage and salt shed in the amount of \$2,500.00. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

VIII New Business

1. News Release/Open Session: Nicholas read the news release he prepared for the website, email, & Facebook concerning the removal of open session from the Board agenda. The Town Clerk suggested amending the citizen request agenda policy or the news release since they do not have the same requirements.

Nicholas motioned to add to the agenda "citizen request agenda policy". Aaron second. All in favor=3.

Nicholas motioned to revise the citizen request agenda policy to require written requests. Aaron second. All in favor=3.

Aaron motioned to approve the press release as written. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

2. Communications Policy: Aaron presented a proposed communication policy to the Board. Tabled. Nicholas motioned to add communications to future Board agendas. Aaron second. All in favor=3.

3. Regional Household Waste Collection/AVCOG: Nicholas motioned to participate in the 2026 Regional Household Hazardous Waste Program allowing up to 3 units per person. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

4. Audit June 30, 2026/RHR Smith: Aaron motioned to place the 2025-2026 audit out to bid with a deadline of March 17/2026 for bids to be submitted. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

5. Oxford County Budget: Informational, the 2026 proposed budget is \$\$252,728.00.

6. Appeals Board Request/Legal fees: Aaron motioned to allow the Appeals Board to contact the town attorney for legal advice with an appeal if needed. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

IX Appointments/Resignation: None.

X Training: None.

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed correspondence.

XII Agenda Items for Next Meeting: Communication Policy, Drake Real Estate-review of offers, Bernier Snowplow agreement, Budget Workshop dates.

Nicholas motioned to add RSU10 Withdrawal confirmation of engagement to this agenda. Aaron second. All in favor=3.

Aaron motioned to pay Preti Attorney \$10,000.00 from the legal reserve for a retainer of services. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

XIII Aaron motioned to enter into Executive Session Pursuant to MRSA 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6) (F) Health Officer at 7:55pm. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

Cathy motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:00pm.

Aaron motioned to contact the town attorney to see what the steps are to condemning the place. Nicholas second. All in favor=3.

XIV Cathy adjourned the meeting at 8:05pm.

Minutes approved by:

Cathy Lowe

Date

Aaron Harvey

Date

Nicholas Tift

Date