

REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING – THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026 AT 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Steve Barrup, Karen Camber, Rick Gosselin, Bob Best, Hannah Roberts, Steve Edgerly, Luke Hardt, Dan Gauvin

Steve Barrup called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Rick Gosselin made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9th, 2026 meeting. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Bob Best noted some nuisance geese in and around the fire pond. He will look into the possibility of buying a plastic swan to repel them.

Luke Hardt reviewed plans for a logging project on Pogony Hill this fall. The selectboard requested a formal recommendation from the Conservation Committee.

Steve Barrup reviewed the 2026 Tax Rate Calculations. Rick made a motion to set the 2026 Homestead Tax Rate at 2.0929 and the 2026 Non-Homestead Tax Rate at 2.3257. Motion passed on a voice vote. Full calculations can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office.

The selectboard reviewed a request from Orleans-Essex VNA & Hospice for appropriation to be included in the 2027 Town Meeting Warrant. Steve Barrup made a motion to authorize Hannah Roberts to sign the request, noting that it fully complied with appropriations policy. Motion passed on a voice vote.

The board reviewed a suggestion from AllEarth Renewables to "lock" the non-tracking solar panels into a position that will minimize further damage from winter snow load. Steve made a motion to approve the plan, and noted that the board still intends to budget for the full repair in 2027. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Steve Edgerly discussed the need to update the dog ordinance. Steve Barrup noted the relationship between Steve Edgerly's work as the Health Officer and the Animal Control Officer, and the need for a more comprehensive look at how the town can best help pets in need. Rick made a motion to increase the fines listed in the dog ordinance, which he later rescinded. Steve Edgerly will do research into resources that might be able to assist him in the event a pet needed emergency placement and/or veterinary care.

Bob Best noted his concern that maintenance on the ball field has not yet been completed this year. The board noted that it is typically done later in the fall. Bob Best will look into options for maintenance in the coming years, after the current maintenance contract expires.

There was no road report.

Water/Sewer/Solar/Recycling Report – Steve Barrup noted that the final cost to have the municipal septic tanks pumped was approximately \$24,000.

Rick Gosselin reviewed the sheriff's report.

Steve Barrup made a motion to approve warrants, bank statements, and journal entries.
Motion passed on a voice vote.

Hannah Roberts mentioned her intention to sign a contract for the digitization of more land records using money from the Restoration Fund. The selectboard voiced their support.

Vote to adjourn 6:36 pm.