

TOWN OF EATON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03832
EVANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
November 4, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen took place on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at the Evans Memorial Building. Present were Greg Grinnell, Dick Fortin and John Schmerfeld. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

The Board reviewed checks and signed the Accounts Payable manifest for \$202,499.42 for 21 items. The Payroll Manifest and checks were also reviewed and signed.

The Board reviewed the Minutes of October 21, 2025. ***Dick Fortin made a motion, seconded by Greg Grinnell, to adopt the Minutes as written. Motion unanimously carried.***

Signature items included a Certificate of Occupancy for James Donato (R04-011-E).

Jacqueline Sparks submitted a Building Permit application to demolish steps and construct a covered entry way & steps in the same footprint at 127 Brownfield Road (U02-002). The Building Permit application was reviewed and approved as all requirements of the 2025 Zoning Ordinance have been met. The Permit was signed by the Board of Selectmen (Permit #2025037).

The Board reviewed an email from Quddus Snyder regarding the granite posts on his Youngs Road property.

NHDRA submitted information on the 2025 Carroll County apportionment for Eaton's tax commitment.

The Board discussed a request to utilize Town Hall and equipment to host Medicare counseling sessions. The Board stated that the computer to be used should be taken off the Town's network for security purposes. ***John Schmerfeld made a motion, seconded by Dick Fortin, to authorize the use of Town equipment for the Medicare sessions based on the ability to isolate the computer from the Town's network. Motion unanimously carried.***

Nancy Spaulding of NHDOT joined the Board to discuss multiple issues and concerns. Dick Fortin explained that one of the stop signs at the four corners is not visible because of vegetation. Dick Fortin stated that a suggestion was to place an extra stop sign on the back of the existing sign or to cut back the vegetation. Nancy Spaulding noted that the right-of-way would have to be measured to determine if vegetation could be cut.

Dick Fortin explained that the Town is collecting water sample data and questioned the status of the low salt designation on Route 153. John Schmerfeld stated that the Thurston

Pond conductivity is rising and that the Pond is exposed to the salt because there is no banking in that area. Nancy Spaulding explained that NHDOT is working with NHDES because there is a lot of this activity in the State and that the data should be sent to Mark Hemmerlein for review as he has been asked for suggestions for balancing traffic safety and water quality. John Schmerfeld questioned whether NHDOT is interested in traffic patterns and Nancy Spaulding noted that data is available for some areas. Nancy Spaulding explained that the Selectmen can apply for a seasonal reduction in speed limits and that they should contact Nick Sanders. Dick Fortin noted that there is a run-off ditch from Route 153 directly into Thurston Pond. Nancy Spaulding stated that a crew will review the site in the Spring to move or upgrade with different stone.

Dick Fortin raised the issue of speed signs on Brownfield Road, especially near Snowville. Nancy Spaulding stated that there was a notice to install the signs and that it should have been taken care of. Dick Fortin explained that at the junction of Route 153 and Potter Road there is a hump in the road making it difficult to see and safely enter onto Route 153.

Dick Fortin questioned if NHDOT has a policy regarding start times for equipment. Nancy Spaulding stated that there is no policy and that it is at the discretion of the Patrol Shed supervisor. The Board raised the issue of Jake brakes. Nancy Spaulding stated that the State does not address that issue as it is federal law and that the Town could adopt a local ordinance that would be enforced by local law enforcement.

The Board reviewed a request for sidewalks submitted by Reaves Black. Nancy Spaulding explained that NHDOT would defer to the 10-year plan developed by the local planning commission. Nancy Spaulding stated that there is LPAC funding under the Complete Street Policy and noted that maintenance would be the responsibility of the Town. Nancy Spaulding stated that she will discuss the request with others in her office.

John Schmerfeld raised the issue of an upgrade to Potter Road which would require a Wetlands Permit. John Schmerfeld noted that application will require an engineer and questioned whether any services are available for this process. Nancy Spaulding suggested contacting HEB.

Trustees Elaine Klose, Jane Gray and Nancy Watson joined the Board. The Trustees and Board reviewed information regarding an alternate corner marker. Elaine Klose noted that her only concerns is the length of the stake. John Schmerfeld expressed concern if the marker pops up. Dick Fortin noted that if the marker is below ground level, it should not be an issue with the mower. Elaine Klose suggested requiring steel rather than aluminum. Nancy Watson suggested permitting these markers as a trial to make sure they will not be an issue. Dick Fortin noted that the regulations should be amended as it requires a 6x6 granite block. Jane Gray suggested amending to set forth a minimum and maximum size for the corner markers.

Dick Fortin explained that the two gates at the Eaton Cemetery gets snow pushed against them and recommended removing the gates for the winter season. Dick Fortin stated that part of the retaining wall at the Eaton Cemetery is laying down and that the Town received an estimate of \$7,000 to restore the wall. Dick Fortin suggested having the work done next summer and questioned whether a Warrant Article should be used for funding. Jane Gray

stated it is better to have the issue discussed at the Town Meeting. Dick Fortin stated that he would like to propose an annual work date at the cemeteries and that a notice could be placed in the Tatler.

Dick Fortin noted that there is a plot in the Snowville Cemetery that is within the wooded area. Dick Fortin asked the Trustees to contact the owner and ask if they would be willing to swap in plots. It was noted that the perimeter of the Snowville Cemetery needs to be brush cut as the growth is creeping into the Cemetery.

The Trustees and Selectmen reviewed the Cemetery Regulations and identified several plots that are in violation and should be contacted to remove decorations and gardens.

Nancy Watson raised the issue of changes in State Statutes regarding Class VI roads. John Schmerfeld noted that the gate on the road connecting Elbow Hill Road to Willis Bean Road is locked. The Board will research the issue.

The Board reviewed the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments. It was the consensus of the Board that the Short-Term Rental amendment should be in line with Town Counsel guidance and that the form to be filled out providing contact information should be mentioned in the Ordinance. Dick Fortin noted that the use of fertilizers should be clarified in the Wetlands Ordinance and that the roll of the Conservation Commission should be limited to reviewing an application.

Peter Sokolosky joined the Board to propose that the Town use "What's App" as a notification system. John Schmerfeld suggested having the Aging In Place group use the system as a trial and that at the January EMD meeting, he will ask about using the application for emergencies. Peter Sokolosky noted that the privacy feature in this application is good and that the Town is not liable because he would be acting as a volunteer.

Greg Grinnell submitted a draft Memorandum of Understanding for the MWV Solid Waste District for the Board's review.

Town of Conway submitted a potential regional impact notice for development on Ledgewood Road in North Conway.

Kenneth & Marguerite Dean submitted a Shoreland Permit Application packet for the Town's records.

John Schmerfeld made a motion, seconded by Greg Grinnell, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lianne Boelzner

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