

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD'S MEETING
Wednesday June 3rd 2026
Meriden Town Hall

Selectmen present: Amy Lappin
Elise Angelillo
Kent Webber

Others Present	Stephen Halleran, TA	Maria Guzman
Micheal -Z	Stephanie Schell	Brad Atwater
Bev Widger-Z	Nancy Norwalk-Z	

The meeting opened at 6:05pm

The May 20 Board minutes were approved as amended.

Public Comment Resident Maria Guzman continued to express concerns about the Town's audit process. The Town's auditing firm has indicated that they do not communicate directly with residents, but that they will take questions from their client, the Select Board.

Ms. Guzman asked that the Board waive this requirement and allow her to communicate directly with the auditors. The Select Board was not inclined to grant this waiver; a motion to approve the waiver failed, 0–3. Board members noted that allowing residents to communicate directly with the auditor would, in their view, create unnecessary cost to taxpayers, as the auditors would bill the Town for the time necessary to answer inquiries.

Both the Town and the School District use the firm Plodzik & Sanderson, which audits more than 270 towns and school districts in New Hampshire. The Select Board expressed full confidence in the firm's ability to audit the Town's accounting records. Completed audits are public documents and are posted on the Town's website.

Department Reports

Emergency Management Stephanie Schell reported on a successful evacuation drill of the Plainfield School to the KUA Flickinger Art Center. This once-every-three-years drill involves walking the students from the school to the art center. Stephanie thanked the School community, Highway Department, Police, and Fire Department for their assistance with the drill. She noted that useful information is learned at each of these events. Plainfield's representative from Homeland Security was in town assisting with the drill as well.

Facilities The highway garage roof project is now substantially complete, with only minor punch-list items remaining.

Brad has added a handrail to the library book-sale storage shed and has tightened the handrail at the Plainfield Town Hall.

Water Department
Phase II meter replacements are nearly complete.

Highway Spring road grading is fully underway. This week, Colby, Ladieu, Porter, and Columbus Jordan Roads have received attention. Center of Town Road and Croydon Turnpike are scheduled for early next week.

The kickoff meeting for the replacement of the Grantham Mountain Road bridge has been held. All necessary design work and permitting will be completed this year, with the replacement planned for next summer.

Police and Fire Both Chief Gutsfeld and Chief Elder were at a scheduled event at the Estabrook School; their reports were deferred to the next meeting.

Town Office The Select Board signed the Town's MS-535 report, prepared by the Town's auditors for submission to the NH Department of Revenue Administration. The form provides final audited financial information for the 2025 year. The 2025 Town audit will be completed and posted on the Town's website within the next two weeks.

Nonpublic Session At 7:50 p.m., on a roll-call vote of 3–0, the Select Board entered nonpublic session for an employee matter. The discussion focused on planning for the replacement of the Town's long-time Town Administrator, who will retire on Friday, April 2, 2027.

The Board came out of nonpublic session at 8:10 p.m., and the meeting was immediately adjourned.

Submitted,

Stephen Halleran/Chat GPT

Amy Lappin

Elise Angelillo

Kent Webber

