

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD'S MEETING
Wednesday July 1st 2026
Meriden Town Hall

Select Board members present:

- Elise Angelillo, Chair for the meeting
- Kent Webber

Others present:

- Stephen Halleran, Town Administrator (TA)
- Stephanie Schell
- Brad Atwater
- Michael [last name?]
- Bev Widger
- Nancy Norwalk
- Bruce Elder
- Erik Gutsfeld

Minutes of the June 17 meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comment: None.

Department Reports

Police:

Chief Gutsfeld reviewed statistics for June. The department responded to 154 calls, including 7 call-outs after hours and 32 motor vehicle stops.

The Chief reviewed the department's plans for Fourth of July parade coverage, including the Route 12A detour while the parade is in progress.

Facilities:

Saguaro Technologies of Lebanon has been selected as the town's new IT firm, replacing North Country Computer, whose owner, Marc Cohen, is retiring.

Various grants are moving along as previously discussed. In particular, the water department asset management grant is ready to move into its next phase, which will project future capital costs for the department.

1 The Highway Garage roof replacement/truss reinforcement project is now
2 complete and closed out.

3 The Select Board approved spending \$8,000 from reserve funds (facilities, town
4 hall, and library) to cover slate roof maintenance on town buildings. This will be
5 the first time in five years that work has been done. The town office will receive
6 \$5,000 worth of work on its roof, mainly focused on copper flashing replacement.

7 State-required notices reporting on the town's water quality will go out with the
8 second-quarter billing.

9 **Fire:**

10 Chief Elder was thanked for his hard work—more than 40 hours—on a federal fire
11 safety grant application. If approved, the grant will fund new portable radios and
12 fire hose improvements.

13 June was a much quieter month for the department. Calls centered on false
14 alarms and a few motor vehicle accidents.

15 **Human Services:**

16 Stephanie thanked the Select Board, staff, and volunteers who made the summer
17 barbecue at PES a success.

18 She and Recreation Director Dan Cantlin are working to ensure that plenty of
19 hydration opportunities are available at the Fourth of July parade.

20 **Highway:**

21 The Select Board approved Road Agent Collins's plan for initial paving work this
22 summer. Baynes Road, Thompson Cheese Road, and Whitney Road will receive
23 pavement overlays. The town received two bids for this work, \$47,000 and
24 \$60,000; Pike Industries was awarded the work.

25 Rich is costing out two other smaller projects for late summer and will bring
26 quotes in for that work.

27 **Town Office:**

28 The Select Board, on a majority vote, accepted the terms of the Highway Safety
29 Grant as presented, in the amount of \$6,900. Town Administrator Halleran was
30 authorized to sign all grant documents related to this project. The grant is for
31 speed and DUI enforcement patrols.

32 The town office has become aware that at least two households have tried to
33 use counterfeit trash toter stickers rather than paying the cost of the stickers.
34 Neither toter was serviced, and unless the owners present themselves to
35 purchase the proper sticker, the matter will be handled as a "theft of services"

1 complaint by the Police Department. Casella was thanked for catching the
2 infraction and providing photographic evidence.

3 The Select Board, on a roll-call vote, entered into nonpublic session with Police
4 Chief Gutsfeld at 7:25 p.m.

5 The Board came back into public session at 7:45 p.m.

6 7 **Town Administrator Search**

8 The Select Board spent the rest of the meeting working with consultant Bev
9 Widger on the job description for the new Town Administrator and the process to
10 be used in the selection. Bev also outlined her plans for citizen involvement. The
11 job description, as amended, the process, and the citizen involvement plan were
12 all approved.

13 The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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16 Submitted,

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19 Stephen Halleran/Chat GPT
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24 Elise Angelillo
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27 Kent Webber
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