

Town of Sedgwick
Select Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 26, 2026

Call to Order:

Susan opened the meeting and established a quorum with all three Select Board members present: S. Ford, B. Duffy, and D. Carter. Also in attendance from the Town Office were L. Dow and D. Ford. Various members of the public were present, including B. Sherwell, K. Stark, J. Franklin, R. Fowler, C. Eaton, and S. Eaton. Attending online were M. Means and R. Colburn.

Motion and 2nd to accept the minutes as written. 3-0 approved.

CEO REPORT:

Duane commented on last week's minutes, clarifying that the Hancock County Planning Commissioner should not be confused with the Town's Planning Board or the State's Planning Commission. He reviewed the plan for Manheimer's property scheduled for April 6th, noting that, as a formality, the Planning Board will conduct a site walk in accordance with the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. He also mentioned that he intends to contact Caleb Scott regarding his permit to ensure the plans and project remain in compliance with permitting regulations

**Susan added Road Commissioner to the agenda for reports from Ben going forward*

DISCUSSION and/or ACTION ITEMS

1. Appointed positions paperwork: Lyndsey prepared the annual appointment documents for all town officers. The Select Board reviewed and signed each document for filing.
2. Back Taxes, Terri Pert property, Carrie Eaton: Carrie Eaton attended the meeting to discuss questions regarding properties associated with her family. Joe Eaton did not attend, as Carrie stated she had advised him not to. The Board discussed a previous consideration of sending Joe Eaton a letter regarding a tax-acquired parcel of land that has been delinquent for an

extended period. The Board explained that selling this property could relieve Joe and other family members of a substantial financial burden.

Duffy noted that the total amount owed for all properties in the family's name exceeds \$50,000. Even with current payment arrangements, continuing at this rate has been difficult. While Carrie is currently the only person making payments and is up to date, there were months when payments were late. The existing payment plan requires specific amounts to be paid monthly by a designated due date. The plan was intended to support timely payments and reduce financial strain.

Carrie expressed that she had previously offered to pay the tax-acquired parcel first, but the Board preferred that Joe's house be prioritized because it represents the largest financial burden and is his primary residence. The Board noted that selling the land could have alleviated significant financial stress for the family.

Carrie asked if she could pay off the balance in full next week. The Board approved this, and she will coordinate with Lyndsey to complete the payment.

Carrie also inquired about eligibility for a Homestead Exemption. Lyndsey explained that, according to law and guidelines, these properties do not qualify. Carrie disagrees with this assessment. Lyndsey will follow up with the Assessor's Agent, Matt, for clarification.

Additionally, the Board addressed concerns and complaints regarding property cleanup efforts by Carrie and her husband. Carrie indicated that Vaughn Leach would be dropping off dumpsters now that snow has cleared, and she intends to continue the cleanup project.

3. Update on Deputy Town Clerk, Deputy Tax Collector position: The Board conducted three interviews and has extended an offer to one of the

candidates. The Board is currently awaiting acceptance of the offer and confirmation of a start date

4. What Town Roads might be paved this year if any: Susan raised the topic of potential town road paving for the upcoming year, noting that she had hoped to speak with Ben at this meeting to begin preliminary discussions. She also mentioned that she has received a few general inquiries regarding which roads, if any, may be paved this year.
5. Update on town audit: Amy provided an update on the town audit, noting that she is currently finalizing the check reconciliation. Lyndsey explained that, historically, the town had paid auditors thousands of dollars annually to complete this work. She noted that the process has been challenging due to the way records were previously maintained, but expressed hope that the finalized reconciliations will be completed by April 15th. Lyndsey also stated that she is awaiting clarification on any additional information needed by the auditors and will follow up accordingly. It was further noted that next year's audit process is expected to be significantly smoother due to the staff's efforts to improve and maintain accurate records.

UNRESOLVED BUSINESS:

Tax Letters will be sent out tomorrow. Barry discussed with Lyndsey the possibility of selling Brian Rankin's property. Mr. Rankin has been keeping up with his payments. The board agreed to send him a friendly letter informing him of the opportunity to benefit from the sale of the property. Under the new law, the property would be listed at fair market value, and any amount received above what is owed to the town would be returned to Mr. Rankin, providing him with potential financial benefit while resolving the outstanding debt.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Brian Sherwell presented the Board with information regarding invasive plant species and shared a proposed remediation plan for their review at next week's meeting. He noted that there are available resources and potential funding

opportunities, and suggested that the Town consider forming a volunteer group to help lead and support this effort.

ADJOURN:

Motion and 2nd to adjourn at 6:58pm. 3-0 approved.