

**Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday, July 6, 2026**

Select Board Members: William Darcy, Chair, Regina Elliott, and Phillip Chicoine

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Town Treasurer and School Board Chair; Michael Stiebitz, Tax Collector and Town Clerk; Joe Boutin, III, Chair of the Planning Board and School Board member; and Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor.

These draft minutes of the Town of Benton Select Board are believed to be accurate and correct, but they are subject to additions, deletions, and corrections by the Select Board at the next meeting when the Board votes its final approval of the minutes. These minutes are made available at this time to conform to the requirements of New Hampshire RSA 91-A:2.

Chairman Darcy called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Member Chicoine moved approval of the June 22, 2026, minutes, seconded by Member Elliott, and the motion was approved.

The Planning Board recommended the issuance of three building permits. The Select Board reviewed the application of Diane and Scott Roden for building permits for two sheds on their property on Tunnel Stream Road and approved the permits. The Board also reviewed the application of Kristin Marrazzo and Jeffrey Thompson to build a log residence on Howe Hill Road and the permit was approved. Lastly, the Board reviewed the permit application of Marilyn McMahon for a modular home on Bradley Hill Road, and approved the permit.

The Board reviewed the request of the Littleton Fire Department to be paid for responding to a Fire that was mostly on federal land above the Olivarian Dam and the proposed response letter.

The Chairman reported receipt of a letter from the Secretary of Interior informing the Town that the payment in lieu of taxes for federal land in Benton this year is \$84,119.

The Chairman reported that certified letters were mailed to the two junkyard owners demanding they cease and desist operation of their junkyards in Benton.

Member Chicoine reported that Tom Mayo was interested in doing gravestone repair work. It was noted that the prior contractor repaired 28 headstones for \$7,800. Member Elliott suggested the wooden cemetery fence should be painted white. It was also noted that the bridge to the cemetery on high street was no longer there. It was decided not to replace it.

There was a discussion of the Tax Kiosk and whether Benton should post some of its tax information on that online resource. Members were encouraged to view the Kiosk before making a decision on its use.

Michael Stiebitz made inquiries of possible carpenters to work on the Town Hall ramp and door project.

Treasurer Swauger noted that the operating account at Bar Harbor Bank had a balance of \$91,732.22 and the NH PDIP balance was \$403,722.96. Checks prepared by the Treasurer were signed by the Board.

School Board Chair Swauger reported on a recently passed bill that may affect the treatment of school board unassigned balances. He also reported that the fiscal year-end unassigned fund balance would likely be less than previously reported.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.