

**Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday, April 20, 2026**

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

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Town Treasurer and School Board Chair; 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 6:31 PM.

Member Chicoine moved approval of the April 6, 2026, minutes, seconded by Member Elliott, and the motion was approved.

The Board signed a variety of DRA documents, including MS-232, Appropriations Voted, MS-636, Budget, Warrant Articles posted, Budget MS-60A, Audit, and authorized the Chair to approve the audit firm's submission of MS-535, financial statements, and the MS-60, audit.

There was a discussion about the invitation to a guided tour of the natural burial site at the end of Boucher Road, scheduled for May 16.

There was a discussion of the Easton Planning Board's actions on the Hutchins subdivision, previously approved by the Benton Planning Board

There was a discussion of holding a separate meeting to discuss cemetery regulations.

Treasurer Swauger noted the operating account at Bar Harbor Bank had \$153,440.69, and the NH PDIP balance was \$400,078.36. Checks prepared by the Treasurer were signed by the Board. The Treasurer also noted some corrections to the auditors' MS-60 audit and MS-535 financial statements for 2025. The Chair said he would convey the corrections to the auditors.

School Board Chair Swauger reported he was reelected as Chair, with Amanda Bemis elected as Co-Chair, and Brenda Finoia as Secretary. He noted that 17 Benton children were enrolled in school and 12 were being home-schooled.

The Board signed yield tax certificates.

The Board authorized road work on the upper part of Howe Hill Road to repair some spring damage.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.