



Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen
Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2024 – 6:00 pm
Rowe Town Hall, Meeting Room #1

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>
Chair	Joanne Semanie	x	
V-Chair	Edward Silva	x	
Selectmen	William Baker	x	

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Marilyn Wilson, Loretta Dione, Wayne Zavotka, Susan Gleason, Daniel Pallotta @ 6:08pm
BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Ed Silva @ 6:05pm
IN-PERSON AUDIENCE: Rick Williams, Suzie Zavotka
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Brooke Shulda
ZOOM PARTICIPATION: no audience.

Call to Order: Chair Semanie called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm
Announcement of recording devices: NONE
Noteworthy Announcements: NONE

FY2026 Budget Discussion

1. New Growth and Receipts to date/ Levy Expectations and direction: Rick Williams, the Chair of the Board of Assessors (BOA), attended the meeting to inform Finance Committee members about new growth identified by Sansoucy. He explained that this new growth has increased the levy limit.
2. Selectmen Capital Priorities: The Board of Selectmen (BOS) and the Finance Committee (Fin Com) discussed the capital improvement plan, noting that it has not been adequately maintained over the past several years. Finance Committee Chair Pallotta has requested that the Board of Selectmen prioritize updating the capital improvement plan. During the pre-budget meeting with department heads on December 5, it was recommended that both the BOS and Fin Com ask all departments to consider their capital needs and to present these during their FY26 budget hearings.
3. Wage & Salary Chart/COLA: Fin Com Chair Pallotta has requested that the BOS postpone setting the COLA until later in the budget process, and department heads will be instructed to input only the next step wage for each employee.
4. Free Cash – has not been certified yet.

New Business:

1. Bill H.3989—An Act authorizing the Town of Rowe to continue the employment of fire department member Dennis Anner.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Chair Semanie motioned to approve BILL H.3989, An Act authorizing the Town of Rowe to continue the employment of fire department member Dennis Annear, as written. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Silva, was unanimously approved. (vote:3-0-0)

2. Fire Chief – Proposed emergency scenarios RE: Tunnel Road Bridge – NOT DISCUSSED

Old Business:

1. Fire Chief Succession Plan – The town administrator will work with Charlemont to schedule the next meeting date and time.

Road/Bridge Projects:

Yankee Road:

It was suggested to contact Great River Hydro to find out who performs their environmental reviews.

Tunnel Road Bridge:

Marilyn Wilson informed BOS of her findings while she was a member of the Selectboard.

Hazelton Road Bridge:

No update.

Cyrus Stage Bridge:

No update.

Potential FY25 STM Items:

1. PD – Cruiser – POTENTIAL
2. Transfer of Park Funds
3. Highway Dept. New Vehicle
4. Oil Tank Removal - maybe

Warrants/Contracts:

1. Chair Semanie reviewed FY25 Vendor & Payroll Warrant #11
2. Bill H.3989

Mail:

1. Opioid Task Force Letter

Minutes:

1. September 26, 2024, Minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE: Chair Semanie motioned to approve and sign the September 26, 2024, minutes as written. The motion, seconded by Selectmen Baker, was approved. (vote: 3-0-0)

2. November 07, 2024, Minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE: Chair Semanie motioned to approve and sign the November 07, 2024, minutes as written. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Silva was approved. (vote: 3-0-0)

Unforeseen Business:

1. Vacation Request – Ben Gelb

Citizen Comments:

None.

Future Meetings:

Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 6:00 pm

Thursday, December 05, 2024, at 6:00 pm

Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 6:00pm

Adjournment: 8:03 pm

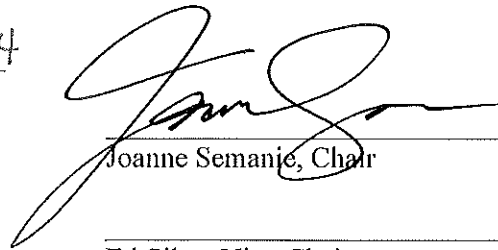
MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chair Semanie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm. The motion, seconded by Selectmen Baker was unanimously approved. (vote: 3-0-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke E. Shulda, Town Administrator

Approval Date: December 20, 2024

Approved by:



Joanne Semanje, Chair

Ed Silva, Vice-Chair


Bill Baker, Selectmen

Documents:

1. Agenda for November 21, 2024
2. Bill H.3989
3. Opioid Task Force Letter
4. Vacation Request Form