



**Town of Rowe**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Minutes**

Thursday, December 04, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

Rowe Town Hall, Meeting Room #1 & Via Remote Participation

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN:** Joanne Semanie, Bill Baker

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Wayne Zavotka, Loretta Dione, Jeff Bailey, Ed Silva

**TOWN OFFICIALS:** Assessors Chair Rick Williams, Treasurer/Collector Jakob Voelker, Town Administrator Brooke Shulda

**IN-PERSON AUDIENCE:** None

**ZOOM PARTICIPATION:** MLP Manager David Dvore, Laurie Ledger

**Call to Order:** The Selectboard remained in session from their 5:00 PM meeting.

**Announcement of recording devices:** None

**Noteworthy Announcements:** None

**Selectboard Meeting Minutes for the Joint Selectboard/Finance Committee Meeting**

1. Town-Wide Department Guidance

Since most departments are familiar with the budget process, the Town Administrator and Finance Committee Chair Dan Pallotta, have made attendance at this meeting optional for department heads.

Finance Committee Clerk Wayne Zavotka ran the Finance Committee in place of Chair Pallotta.

Clerk Zavotka informed finance committee members Silva, Bailey, and Dionne of a newly requested responsibility of working with departments on their budgets.

2. Discuss New Growth, Levy Expectations, Capital Priorities, and Direction

Clerk Zavotka reviewed Chair Pallotta's FY2027 budget recommendations. Pallotta requests that no special or capital projects be requested unless there is an emergency. He prefers to focus on the Library Feasibility Project and reducing the remaining \$740,000 for the Road Bond. Pallotta asks that all departments keep their budgets within a 2% increase, compared to the 2.5% increase from previous years, considering the \$200 tax increase. He has asked department heads to include their employees' next grade and step increases within their budgets. All departmental budgets are due by Thursday, December 18th.

MLP Manager David Dvore explained that the MLP has received CAF11 Grant funding, which will be used to pay down the Broadband debt. The current debt for Broadband is \$85,000 with an interest of \$3,263.40. After applying the Grant funds, the remaining borrowed balance is expected to be \$10,000. Assessor's Chair Rick Williams clarified that the MLP Broadband debt does not need to be on a town meeting warrant.

Assessors' Chair Rick Williams explained the various Town revenue/spending sources to the Selectboard and Finance Committee.

1. Raise and Appropriate
2. Free Cash
3. Stabilization – current amount of \$1.335 million
4. Capital Stabilization – current amount of \$572,100
5. Borrowing

Chair Williams explained how, each fiscal year, the Selectboard votes on a 2.5% override appropriation for the following fiscal year, increasing the Capital Stabilization amount. He also explained that the excess Levy Capacity is \$1.29 million, meaning the Town could raise and appropriate that amount if needed, but this would result in an increased tax rate.

\*The FY2027 Budget Discussion ended.

Wayne Zavotka wanted to inform everyone of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Community Meeting happening on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Rowe Elementary School.

Treasurer/Collector Jakob Voelker joined the meeting to explain the costs associated with the transition from the QDS Collector Software to Vadar. He informed everyone that this transition will likely cost \$18,000 to complete two data pulls.

### **Citizen Comments**

### **Future Meetings:**

1. Thursday, December 04, 2025 – 6:00 PM
2. Thursday, January 15, 2026 – 6:00 PM
3. Thursday, January 22, 2026 – 6:00 PM
4. Thursday, January 29, 2026 – 6:00 PM
5. Thursday, February 05, 2026 – 6:00 PM
6. Thursday, February 12, 2026 – 6:00 PM
7. Thursday, February 26, 2026 – 6:00 PM

**Adjournment:** 6:48 PM

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chair Semanie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM. The motion, seconded by Selectman Baker, was approved. (vote: 2-0-0)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke E. Shulda, Town Administrator

Approval Date: 12/18/2025

Approved by:

  
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Joanne Semarie, Chair

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VACANT, Vice-Chair

  
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Bill Baker, Selectmen

**Documents:**

1. Agenda for December 04, 2025