Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Conference Room at Rindge Town Offices
Date: Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Larry Cleveland, Vice Chair Bob Hamilton, Selectboard Member Tom Coneys, Town Administrator Max Vandervliet, Executive Secretary Victoria Stenersen, and members of the public.

Call to Order: Larry opened the public session at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectmen's Announcements: There were no Selectmen's announcements.

Approval of Payroll, Accounts Payable, and Minutes:

- Larry motioned to approve the payroll for 04.16.2026. Seconded by Bob, it passed 2-0-0.
- Tom motioned to approve the accounts payable for 04.16.2026. Seconded by Bob, it passed 2-0-0.
- Bob moved to accept both sets of minutes from 03.25.2026 and the non-public minutes from 03.25.2026. Seconded by Larry, it passed 3-0.

Follow Up/Notes: Payroll for 04.23.2026 was tabled until a couple of issues are resolved. There was no Accounts Payable for 04.23.2026, so it was tabled.

Old Business:

Discussion of Library Windows: Bob stated that the Library Trustees want permission to replace windows at the Ingalls Memorial Library, and they recommend using Pinnacle. There is only one bid because replacing the windows requires historical specifications. Pinnacle is approved by the L-CHIP grant to replace historical windows, and they had replaced the windows for the Meetinghouse. There is about $120,000 in the Library Expendable Trust Fund.

Decision: Bob motioned to expend $15,520 from the Library Building Expendable Trust Fund to pay for the replacement of the Ingalls Memorial Library windows. Seconded by Larry, it passed 3-0.

Approval of Abatements (RSA 76:16): Max announced that the 60 abatement recommendations received today for the Monadnock Co-op will be added to the following agenda. Larry suggested setting up a meeting for 4:00 pm on Wednesday or Thursday of the following week to review and approve the recommendations. Tom commented on the need to take Avitar's recommendations but will review the applications as well. Larry agreed. This agenda item was tabled.

250th Celebration Update: Victoria summarized the April 16th 250th Celebration Committee Meeting. See Attachment A. The Special Events Permit application was submitted for the Board's approval and will be on the agenda for the following meeting. The layout for the event will be added as an attachment. Victoria requested,

per Mike Cloutier's recommendation, that the Board make a motion to adjust Transfer Station hours on Friday, June 26th, to 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Fire Chief Bob Faas agreed to add the notice to the large electronic sign, and Victoria will add the information to the website and Facebook page.

Decisions: Tom motioned to close the Transfer Station early at 3:00 pm on Friday, June 26th. Bob seconded the motion; it passed 3-0.

New Business:

Changes to Police Detail Rates: Police Chief Rachel Malynowski explained that the Town of Rindge is falling behind the average rate of pay for details. The current hourly base rate for the officers is $60. She requested changing it to $75 per hour to incentivize officers to take the details and make the rate competitive with others in the area. The more details the Rindge Police Department takes, the more money goes into the revolving fund to purchase a cruiser. Town Ordinance governs the detail policy. She requested taking the rate of pay out of the ordinance without changing any of the other language of the ordinance. She suggested adding the following language: "The rate will be reviewed periodically and determined in conjunction with the Police Chief, Town Administrator, and Board of Selectmen." The rate itself would be documented in the appendix of the Police Department policy.

Regarding the officer's current rate, there is an overtime rate exception for weekends, emergency call-outs, etc. The cruiser fee is $15 per hour, and the administrative fee is $25 per hour. All fees, including the officer's fee, require a minimum of 4 hours of payment, with no maximum. An officer can only take a detail during their time off, not during their regularly scheduled shift. The Police Department Detail Policy essentially mirrors the Town Ordinance, and the only change was the rates. They discussed the cancellation policy and the number of details per year. Rachel recommended reviewing the rates every three years. She provided two versions of the updated ordinance; one included the statement and the rates removed, and the second had the updated rates. She asked for a decision on which version and the effective date of the new rates. This item was tabled for the Board to review the policy and ordinance.

Addition of Temporary Increase of Hours for Assessing Clerk: Max requested to increase the Assessing Clerk's hours for the next 12 weeks by an average of 2 hours per week. The total cost would be about $500. The budgeted line item would be overspent, which would require finding funds elsewhere in the budget. The hours would be used as needed. Roberta Oeser, Main Street, recommended taking it out of the Revaluation Capital Reserve fund if they must, because it applies.

Decision: The board agreed to the increase; no motion was made. Bob asked Max to track the hours and notify the Board if the hours go above the average of 24 hours per week over 12 weeks.

Cemetery Trustees – Request to Petition the Court for Release of Perpetual Care Funds: Cemetery Trustee Victoria Stenersen credited Roberta Oeser with bringing this forward. She explained that at the last Cemetery Trustees meeting, they decided to request the Board for permission to petition the Court to release the Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds. The estimated cost is $5,000. The attorney first sends a draft petition to the Charitable Trusts Division. If they support the petition, the court will likely approve the petition. If they are not in support, the chance of the court approving the petition is very slim and requires more documentation and funding. If the Charitable Trust Division is not in support, the Town can rescind the petition.

Bob advised waiting to move forward until there is an update from Town Council on a similar case with another Town. They discussed the cost. The total of the Hillside Cemetery Perpetual Care fund as of December 31st, 2025, was $264,537. The fund makes about $30,000 in interest per year. They discussed what has historically been done to fund Rindge Cemeteries, other cemetery and stranded funds, the definition of perpetual care, and headstone repairs. Historical Society President Karla MacLeod suggested using the argument that the Meetinghouse Cemetery is a part of the historic site of the Meetinghouse and Horse sheds to release the funds. The old cemetery preservation grant was mentioned. The board agreed to wait.

Special Events Permit Application (RSA 41:11): The Special Events Permit Application is for a 5k Color Run fundraiser to support a Youth Mission Group to Guatemala on May 23rd at the Rindge Town Common from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Set-up begins at 6:00 am. The estimated attendance is 50 to 100 participants. No tents or significant structures were proposed, and no road closures. The Fire and Police Chiefs reviewed the application.

Decision: Larry moved to approve the special events permit for the 5k Color Run on May 23rd, 2026. Tom seconded the motion; it passed 3-0.

Any Other Official Business: Tom commented on a problem with payroll this week and the inconsistencies and errors on the financial statement, which is the first since January. Max stated that he met with Helene to review them. Bob and Larry also mentioned errors they saw. Tom explained the need for regular and accurate financial reporting and analysis so they have a good overview by the end of the year.

Citizens' Forum: Larry opened the forum at 7:06 pm and closed the forum at 7:19 pm.

Roni Hamilton, East Monomonac Road, stated that the changes Chief Rachel made to the Police Detail is an excellent move and she hopes they approve.

Roberta Oeser, Main Street, stated that there are two Buzwell-Hardy Trust Funds, one for the poor and the second for educational purposes. In 1933, Hannah Hardy bequeathed funds to the Town for the entertainment and education of the Town. The word entertainment was dropped when it was combined with the Buzwell Trust Fund. She suggested using the funds for the 250th; all that is needed is the Board's approval and a letter to the Trustees requesting extraction. Roberta questioned if they should have been combined because the purpose of the two funds must be the same. She also mentioned two other funds that are for the benefit of the Town and could be used for the repair of the Gazebo.

Judy Unger-Clark, Fitzgerald Road, asked about the parade route. Victoria answered the parade is from the Transfer Station to Hillside Cemetery and back to the Transfer Station. Judy also asked if there were any farms in the Town that have been in the same family for over 200 years. Roberta responded that she believes the Jones' farm is closest. Judy explained that the NH Preservation Alliance has several things regarding the 250th anniversary. Funding may be available for the headstones; if not, they may provide other resources

Craig Clark, Fitzgerald Road, asked about when they will be working on the Rand Cemetery. Larry answered that this Friday, starting at 8:30 am, Kai from NH Cemetery Gravestones will try to remove all four of the stones by lifting them straight up with the tripod. The goal is to keep them intact. They will reset the stones using a mix that drains the water from the stone. Jeff Goodreau will be volunteering with his tractor. Tom Horne permitted them to go through his yard to bring in the trucks. Jewel Masonry is willing to donate time to repair the stone wall. Kai from NH Cemetery Gravestones believes the daughter is buried there and will confirm using ground-

penetrating radar. Larry wants to get a small stone for the daughter and raise the funds for it. They will finish the project with wood chips at a later point. The newspaper is aware of the project.

Informational Items, Communications, and Updates: There were none.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Stenersen

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Executive Secretary