Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Conference Room at Rindge Town Offices
Date: Wednesday, September 23rd, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Larry Cleveland, Vice Chair Bob Hamilton, Selectboard Member Tom Coneys, Executive Secretary Victoria Stenersen, Fire Chief Bob Faas, Building Inspector Roger Seppala, and members of the public: Karla MacLeod, Robert Terk, Roni Hamilton, Craig Clark, Judy Unger-Clark, and Mark Geiger. Town Administrator Max Vandervliet attended via telephone on speakerphone.

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

Selectmen's Announcements:

- Starting Friday, September 25th, 2026, Robblee Tree Service will remove potentially hazardous trees on the West Rindge Common. The work should be completed by the end of next week, Friday, October 2nd, 2026. The playground will be closed for the duration of the project, and a portion of Bradford Street may also be closed to through traffic for safety purposes.
- Bob thanked the Rindge Fire Department for their response to a structure fire, which was found fully engulfed upon arrival. There were no injuries to anyone in the Fire Department, the resident, or his dog. They were toned out at 1:20 a.m. on Saturday, September 12th; the department was out within 10 minutes. The house was a total loss, and there were no occupants in the building. He thanked the towns that responded, which included Jaffrey, Winchendon, Fitzwilliam, Troy, Ashby MA, Richmond, Ashburnham MA, New Ipswich, Keene, and Temple. He noted that the dry hydrants need to be addressed because there was a problem with access. He reminded the public to thank the firefighters for their service.
- The Rindge Women's Club Harvest Fair is on Saturday, September 26th, 2026, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Rindge Recreation Center, 283 Wellington Road, Rindge, NH.
- The first P.O.O.R. Meat Raffle of the season is on Saturday, October 3rd at 1:30 pm at the Jaffrey American Legion on Webster Street. The proceeds will benefit Rindge Community Projects and the Rindge Veterans Association.
- The General Election is on November 3rd, 2026, at the Rindge Memorial School Gymnasium. The polls will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Bob hopes for a better turnout and encouraged residents to vote.

Approval of Payroll, Accounts Payable, and Minutes:

- Larry moved to approve the payroll for 09.17.2026 & 09.24.2026. Seconded by Bob, it passed 2-0-0.
- Bob moved to approve the accounts payable for 09.17.2026 & 09.24.2026. Seconded by Larry, it passed 2-0-0.

- Larry moved to approve the minutes from 04.15.2026 and 08.26.2026 and the non-public session minutes from 08.26.2026 and 09.09.2026. Seconded by Tom, it passed 3-0.

Follow-up/Notes: Larry noted that there was a higher amount in payroll to pay out a departing employee. Tom questioned the non-public minutes approving a starting wage of $67,500 and not $70,000. Larry stated that in the meeting minutes it starts at $67,500, and upon successful completion of the academy, the officer gets a $2,500 bonus to bring the wage to $70,000. During a meeting between Larry, Max, and Rachel they agreed on a compromise to make the starting wage $67,500. Max explained that the starting wage for a certified officer is dependent on qualifications and years of experience. Part of the agreement also included developing a step plan in the next three months. The step plan will show where candidates will be in terms of wages.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: There was none.

Any Other Official Business: Tom asked Bob Faas if the new hire from the employment transaction form on 08.18.2026 was a per diem member. Chief Faas answered that it is a nights-and-weekends call member. Tom asked when they will receive the contract from Peterborough so that he can review it. Max responded that it will not be sooner than one week, as they are waiting on a few details and the attorney needs to review it.

Citizens' Forum: Larry opened the forum at 6:14 p.m. and closed the forum at 6:15 p.m.

Craig Clark, Fitzgerald Road, stated that he is sorry to see another officer leave. He then asked if there were smoke detectors in the house that burned down on September 12th. Chief Faas answered yes, but they were not activated. The fire appears to have started on the outside of the home. Craig then asked if the bittersweet can be removed from the pine tree by the iron gate at the West Rindge Common, as it will kill the tree. Larry responded that he is not sure if Mike has a quote from them and if adding that will increase the cost.

Informational Items, Communications, and Updates:

Karla MacLeod, Old New Ipswich Road, announced that the Ward Trust met yesterday and voted to spend another $7,000 for the roof of the horse sheds. Quotes were higher than expected, but they have not received all of them yet.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Stenersen

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Executive Secretary