

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Approved Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2026**

Board Present: Mark Lightner, Everett Thurber, and Daryl Simino

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

Others Present: Ted Kraus, Scott Goodspeed, Jim Cheever, Jon Thomas, David Richards, and Mindy Chadwick

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

Opening and Approval of Minutes

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on July 28, 2026.
- The payroll and accounts payable manifests have been successfully signed.
- A motion to approve July 14, 2026, minutes as printed was made, seconded, and passed.

Old Business Updates

- Old business: discussion on fire rescue inventory completion date, August 12, 2026, and rescue boat motor updates sold to Tom Brennan; Jon will drop the check off to the Town Office.
- No update from Bill Rodeschin on the Friends of the Lempster Meetinghouse.
- Coach Road landowners are communicating with each other to resolve their issues.

Department Reports

Highway Department Report

- Allen Road has been paved.
- Sinkholes identified on Grandview Road.
- Front shocks and hydraulic details mentioned for equipment (front shocks “on the one top;” “four sixteens” on hydraulic).
- Discussion on winter sand.
- Boom mowers and small mower procurement/use discussed; home mower considered useful for overgrown areas (Charlestown Turnpike mentioned).
- Clarification on contracting hours for mowing: total 90 hours not per tractor/operator.
- Feasibility discussion about buying a tractor with boom attachments—likely not feasible due to limited seasonal use.
- Staffing/workload:
 - Consideration of adding help to manage workload while Micah is present, board’s discretion on staffing decisions.
- Transfer station/Pay per throw:

- Price data from Milton, VT: contractor bag now \$11 (50 gallon); 30-gallon bag \$7; *kitchenbag(13gallon)* \$2.
 - Discussion on bag sizing, cash handling concerns, punch-card systems, expiration on cards (now 2 years), and preventing out-of-town trash abuse.
 - Concerns about C&D (construction & demolition) receiving household trash via large contractor bags; need for bag identification (town bags).
 - Illegal dumping noted (e.g., Mill Road); volunteer cleanups sometimes gather ~50 bags.
- Traffic calming:
 - Community request to add speed tables (2) near the common, particularly around 111 Lempster Street and the stop sign area due to speeding (e.g., 55 mph recorded on Lovejoy Road).
 - Distinction between speed bumps vs. speed tables; recommendation to use speed tables (examples from Keene and Eastman).
 - Requirement to install signage in advance for speed tables; extra cost acknowledged.
 - Construction details discussed: speed table standards cited—22 feet long in direction of travel, full road width, 3–3.5 inches high; plateau top ~10 feet with two 6-foot transitions. Potentially 4–5 rows of asphalt; possible shorter tables considered. Daryl to meet with Scott to decide on the locations.

Fire/Rescue:

- Public safety/EMS:
 - Regional paramedic “fly car” concept discussed (e.g., Ford Explorer) to provide quicker paramedic response for major incidents (e.g., Delta-level calls) across towns like Unity.
 - Funding model: paramedic paid through their entity; revenue via patient billing; portion supported by a rural grant with a short application window (deadline by July 31).
 - No immediate contractual obligations anticipated; board support to explore details further; questions remain on supplies/equipment, governance, and town impact.
 - Fire engine sent to Patten for work; bumper arrived; work to start the next day.

Public Participation:

- Inquiry about an antique shop on Long Pond Road (past the beach); concerns about road capacity, parking, and association input.
- Without zoning, denial is not possible; recommendation to be aware and advise on parking/road blockage.
- Approval for an “antique” sign was granted.
- No overnight parking sign availability queried.

- Ditching noted as ongoing maintenance; cannot complete all roads in one year; work connected to where equipment/projects lead; shoulders to be addressed after paving is complete.
- Announcement: a new sheriff is expected in the not-too-distant future.
- Petition on Robin's desk to be signed by the board; plan to contact and prepare a letter to the State DOT.
- Speed table measurement verification suggested (compare to existing installations; note that one is a bump, one a table).
- Public anecdotes on speeding, traffic impacts, and individual experiences.

There being no further business, Daryl moved to adjourn the public meeting at 7:54 PM, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant

Decisions Made

- Proceed with exploring regional paramedic "fly car" program and rural grant opportunity; acknowledge short deadline but no immediate contractual commitment.
 - Approve installation of speed tables near the common area (subject to standards and signage) to address speeding concerns.
 - Approve an "antique" sign for the proposed small antique shop on Long Pond Road; advise applicant to manage parking and avoid blocking the road.
 - Continue ditching as a maintenance priority linked to active projects; defer shoulder work until paving is complete.
 - Fire engine repair to proceed at Patten with bumper installed and work starting the next day.
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Follow-Up Actions

- Obtain detailed documentation on the regional paramedic fly car program, including supply sourcing, liability, billing mechanisms, and grant terms, report back to the board.
- Coordinate with contractors on speed table design and installation timing, ensuring community notification and signage.
- Inspect and prioritize remediation of sinkholes on Grandview Road.
- Continue to refine transfer station policy options based on regional pricing data and mechanisms to deter out-of-town trash and household trash in C&D.
- Confirm availability and placement strategy for "No Overnight Parking" signs.
- Provide status updates on fire engine repairs and expected return-to-service date.