

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Approved Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2026**

Board Present: Everett Thurber, and Daryl Simino

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

Others Present: Ted Kraus, Jim Cheever, David Richards, Mindy Chadwick, Jon Thomas, Sarah Gover, Ken Gover, Russell Chisholm, and Jim Creighton.

The Selectmen met to approve payroll/accounts payable and July 28 minutes, town operations, and public safety updates; roadway projects and traffic calming; scheduling of a non-public session; external liaison (state senate candidate introduction).

Administrative Updates

- Approved payroll and accounts payable manifests.
- Approved minutes from the July 28, 2026, meeting.

Points Discussed

- Traffic calming:
 - Question raised whether board decided on speed bumps instead of speed tables.
 - Contractor strongly recommends installing one speed table (has not done two simultaneously). Eight-foot placement discussed relative to a stop sign and intersection widening; apron to be paved first, then table installed on top due to handwork for ramps.
 - On Route 10/Lovejoy Road: a 22-foot segment will flare out; logistics considered for heavy vehicles (e.g., log trucks with skidders).
- Line striping and stop-sign visibility:
 - Concern that Route 10 lacks painted stop lines while Mountain Road (not a state road) has them.
 - Idea to increase visibility (humorous “pinwheels”) after a near-incident involving a motorcyclist speeding through; general issue of drivers moving at 40–45 mph through stop areas.
- State liaison and safety review:
 - Jim Creighton (State Senate candidate) introduced self, thanked fire department, and offered availability across 20 towns.
 - A “DOT request for safety review” was submitted; the state placed it on their agenda. They will not post “your speed” sign on Lempster Street but may allow the Town to. They will handle paperwork to evaluate appropriate measures (similar process used for the stop signs).

Fire/Rescue Report:

- 17 calls since last report:
 - EMS-related calls: multiple mutual aid calls to Marlow (ALS), one MBA on Allen Road, med call on Route 10 in Marlow, carbon monoxide call on Lempster Street, fire alarm activation (Bonnie Plant), smoke investigation (Grandview), vehicle overheating misidentified as fire.
 - Helicopter evacuation: PM call on Long Pond Road; LZ in Washington with their fire assistance; subsequent medical call on Nichols Road; EMS call for a fractured arm.
 - Brush fire: first alarm in Newport; three personnel responded with UTV.
- Engine 1 back in service as of last Friday; life safety work completed.
- Joint training (Fire/EMS) with wind farm scheduled for “tomorrow evening.”
- Bonnie Plant is considering a bulk propane tank instead of multiple tanks; Fire Marshal’s office assisting oversight.
- Mutual aid note: Marlow often calls for every ambulance call; their ambulance had a no-start incident; our department provided first response/transport support; chronic staffing issues noted.

Highway Report:

- Highway and infrastructure:
 - Hurd Hill: ditching and brush cutting completed.
 - Mill Road Bridge: washouts filled with gravel and graded.
 - Winter sand: about two-thirds stockpiled; remaining work ongoing.
 - Storm cleanup: various downed trees and debris cleared town wide.
 - Grandview: sinkhole identified.
 - Culvert removals started, ongoing culvert discovery and excavation.
 - Waldron Road: seven culverts dug out; road cleaned and regraded; turnaround used; brush cut along the whole road; Dero Road issues addressed.
 - Equipment: replaced steering drag link on 2020 Mack; calcium tank pump seized replacement acquired cost-effectively; caliper changed.
 - Current focus: working on Benway Hill.
- **Administrative scheduling:**
 - Non-public session needed with the Conservation Commission; prior attempts scheduled and canceled (originally for the 19th after someone’s return; subsequent cancellations).
 - Decision to set a date/time for Legal discussion; preference for September 2, Wednesday morning (8:00–8:30); participant “Mark” to try to attend, otherwise by phone.

- **Public Participation Long Pond area concerns:**

- Reports of approximately four incidents in recent weeks; sheriff's department engaged; media requesting information from residents; questions about if monthly activity reports were sent to the Select Board.
- Only one specific prior report on file.

Follow-Ups and Next Steps

- Proceed with requesting a non-public session with the Conservation Commission after a selectboard meeting.
- Proceed with requesting a non-public session with the selectboard on Wednesday morning September 2; target 08:30 if feasible. (Legal)
- Contractor will install one speed table (not two) on the apron area, with apron paved first, then table added; accept recommendation due to complexity and handwork required.
- State will handle safety review paperwork; no immediate "your speed" sign for Lempster Street; await outcome of their evaluation.

There being no further business, Everett moved to adjourn the public meeting at 7:14 PM, seconded by Daryl; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant