

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Approved Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2026**

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

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

Others Present: Jim Cheever, Mindy Chadwick, Joe Burnham, Dave Richards, and Scott Goodspeed.

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:30PM

Executive Summary:

- The Board convened the September 22 Selectmen meeting, addressed approvals of prior meeting minutes (pending confirmation due to quorum/attendance), and acknowledged successful completion of primary election operations.
 - Meeting opened; payroll and accounts payable manifests signed by two of three members.
 - Approval of prior minutes (August 25 and September 8) rose. Daryl was asked to review/approve given others' absence or lack of review; Everett to be consulted to confirm.
- Decisions:
 - Provisional acceptance pending Daryl's approval and Everett's confirmation.
 - Admin to log final approval once confirmations are received. *
- Old Business focused on the Meeting House preservation framework. A former state representative, John Tuthill, is willing to assist as liaison on a preservation easement; a follow-up meeting is targeted for early November (post-election). There is ongoing debate about whether a preservation easement is necessary given prior funding restrictions (e.g., LCHIP) and existing protections tied to town ownership.
- New Business included a recommendation from the Conservation Commission to appoint Robin Maguire as a Conservation Commission member; the Board deferred a decision pending full Board alignment.

Department Reports:

- **Highway:** Extensive culvert maintenance, ditching, inspections, valve replacements, gravel/shoulder work, and equipment upkeep completed; roadside mowing to start by the end of next week; Shrenk Road work ongoing/near complete; sand haul to Marlow scheduled for September 28–29; winter salt contract executed (approx. \$10/ton increase; sufficient supply approach in place).

- **Fire/Rescue:** Training coordination ongoing; joint off-road rescue training with Washington rescheduled to October 24 due to attendance constraints; no recent forest fire incidents since two in Newport earlier this season.
- Public Comment centered on Long Pond Road winter plowing. A resident raised concerns about a large plow pushing snow/gravel into their lawn and onto their parked car near the right-of-way. The Highway lead explained operational constraints, right-of-way limits (commonly 50-foot ROW; 25 feet from centerline on each side), and the need to keep roads open for emergency access and full-time residents. Discussion included potential surveying/marketing of ROW to clarify limits. Concerns were noted for the record; no immediate change was made.
- Meeting adjourned to non-public session at 7:01 p.m., at 7:04 p.m. the non-public meeting was cancelled due to zero Conservation Commissions members present.
- The Board moved back into public session at 7:04 p.m.

There being no further business, Mark moved to adjourn the public meeting at 7:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Daryl and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant

* Everett approved the minutes of August 25, and September 8, 2026, on September 23, 2026, at 9:18 a.m.