

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Monday July 27th, 2026

3:00 p.m.

Present: Eric Pope and Bruce Remick

Others Present: Jim Judd, Delinquent Tax Collector and Ric Pare, Forest Fire Warden.

1. Call the meeting to order.

-Meeting called to order at 3pm.

2. Make any changes/additions as needed.

-E Taylor Hatton School: Discussion about the multiple, persistent leaks in the roof of the school, despite several attempts made to patch them. The Board decided to have the roof professionally assessed to determine the overall roof condition and potential fixes. Bruce also updated Eric about the continued progress made by MEI Electric to upgrade the electrical system in support of Arctic Air's Heat Pump installations – all covered by the MERP Grant.

-Community House: Contractor Jesse Villeneuve notified Eric that he had intended to begin work on the new entryway this week but will be delayed for an indeterminate amount of time – he will keep Eric posted.

-Tax rate: After a review and discussion, the Selectboard set the Residential rate at 1.0516 and Non-Residential Rate at 1.3556.

3. Review and approve the minutes of last meeting of July 13th 2026 as written.

-Reviewed and approved.

4. Let any guests speak.

-Delinquent Tax Collector Jim Judd updated the Selectboard about the recent tax sale results: The sale brought in approximately \$70,000 toward the delinquent tax balance, approximately \$70,000 remains outstanding, but it was a successful effort as the overall balance was reduced by half.

5. Tabled from meeting of July 13th, 2026, #2 - discussion of site visit of Town Forest property.

-Tabled to August 10th.

6. Tabled from last meeting of July 13th, 2026, Forest Fire and Fire Statute changes.
 - Forest Fire Warden Ric Pare joined the Board to discuss the recent passage of Act 162 and the changes in the FFW appointment and oversight process. The new act states that the Selectboard no longer has the authority to appoint their Town's FFW – the duty of FFW is now bestowed upon the Chief of the Town's responding Fire Department. In a Town such as Morgan, where it is served by 3 area Departments (Brighton, Charleston, Derby Line), one is chosen by the Selectboard to serve as FFW. Eric will reach out to Derby Line Fire Chief Craig Ellem to discuss him taking on the role – once determined, Ric Pare is willing to remain on as Deputy FFW and will assist the Chief with related duties.
7. Email from NVDA requesting the Town to appoint a representative to NVDA to be able to vote to adopt the NVDA Regional Plan.
 - Tabled to August 10th.
8. FEMA discussion of amended scope of work for Project#800373.
 - Amended scope has been approved by FEMA and is currently in Final Review. Once the 3 Hazard Mitigation culvert replacements are completed later this year, the project will begin the closeout process.
9. Review, approve and sign the Agreement for General Law Enforcement Services for the Orleans's Sheriff's Department.
 - Reviewed, approved, and signed.
10. Other Business:
 - None
11. Review, approve, and sign orders #26004 in the amount of \$4,501.52 for Bauer, Gravel and Farnham Attorney for the Tax sale.
 - Reviewed, approved, and signed.
12. Review, approve, and sign Order #26005 in the amount of \$13,918.67 for payroll and \$16,866.80 for Accounts payable.
 - Reviewed, approved, and signed.
13. Adjourn the meeting.
 - Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Next Meeting will be Monday, August 10th at 5pm