

Town of Frenchboro

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Select Board
Joe Lunt
Chris Hodgkins
Myron Lenfestey
Jackie Mitchell
Larry Smith

Town Administrator
Rick Erb

Select Board Meeting

September 21, 2026
5:00 pm

Larry Smith, Jackie Mitchell, Myron Lenfestey, and Joe Lunt were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

Minutes from Last Meeting: The 9/8/26 minutes were taken up. Motion to accept by Joe Lunt, seconded by Larry Smith and approved 4-0.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting will be the day after Indigenous Peoples Day, 10/13/2026 at 5:00 pm.

Warrant & Treasurer's Report: The warrant was larger than usual because there hadn't been included at the previous meeting and large planned expenses (including debt service) were scheduled for this date.

Daniel Swain reported that the TRIO conversion to a web-based system will likely need to be carried out this year and that this is not a surprise to the Town. Purchase of computer equipment was reported on. It was also reported that twenty-four 2025 tax lien notices have gone out as certified mail.

Ferry Report: Duncan Bond and Jan Keiper discussed a letter that had been sent by Swans Island officials to the State Ferry Service as they continue to lobby for schedule changes that Frenchboro has opposed. A proposed rebuttal was discussed, and it was suggested that Frenchboro may want to consider proposing its own alternatives.

There was also a report on ferry terminal repairs to be made within the month.

Head of the Harbor: Lauren Jennings and Rick Erb discussed project status, including EPA funding and environmental permitting. Rick will be away from 9/22/26 to 10/2/26 and it was agreed that during that time, communication with Wright-Pierce and others will flow through Lauren and the five Select Board members. Rick confirmed that he will inform Wright-Pierce of this. It was noted that Wright-Pierce is responding to the EPA's request for more documentation needed for final grant approval.

Land Sale: Brooke Knights joined the meeting by Zoom and discussed strategy for marketing the town-controlled building lots. Previously, the Town had focused on splitting the 7.5-acre lot into two parcels, but Brooke and Board members questioned the wisdom of this. Board members concluded that it would be preferable to sell the lot as it is currently configured, without splitting it into two. Brooke will continue to put documentation together for the sale, with a target of 10/2/26 to have it prepared. It will then be reviewed with the Town Administrator on 10/7/26. It was agreed that a 45-day period for local buyers would be reasonable and that opening the sale to others would likely take place in the Spring. The exact timeline will be determined when the packages on the properties are completed.

Building Repairs: Estimates provided by Austin and Duchesne were discussed, noting that Austin's proposal was significantly higher. However, Board members expressed concern that the scope of work is different in the two proposals. The issue of available reserve funds was also raised and it was agreed that a review of those finances is needed before proceeding. Timing of the project is also an issue and may focus on ensuring that the restroom is ready for Spring opening.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Joe Lunt moved to adjourn. Seconded by Myron Lenfestey and unanimously approved at 6:40 pm.