

MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF ASSESSORS & BUDGET COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING

Date: May 4, 2026
Time: 1:00 PM
Meeting called to order by: Rodney Varney, 1st Assessor

IN ATTENDANCE

Board of Assessors: Rodney Varney, Joanne Taylor, Lisa Kinsman
Budget Committee: Sharon Dingfelder, Carole Hoffmann, Stacy Varney
Staff: Ethna L. Thompson, Clerk

ABSENT

None

OPEN MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM by First Assessor Varney.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the prior joint meeting were approved by motion of Assessor Kinsman and second by Assessor Taylor.

Continuing Business

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed

- **Departmental Proposed Numbers**

01 Administration

01-03 Insurance

The Board reviewed updated insurance figures following receipt of a workers' compensation quote from Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Risk Management Services at a lower rate than the current provider. The Plantation has moved forward with changing providers, resulting in revised budget figures.

BOA Action: Motion by Assessor Kinsman, second by Assessor Varney, to recommend \$21,800.00 for the Insurance line.

Budget Committee Action: Motion by Carole Hoffmann, second by Stacy Varney, to recommend \$21,800.00 for the Insurance line.

02 Public Safety

The Board discussed proposed Public Safety expenditures, including discussion regarding HealthReach transportation services, fireworks, and Town Park contributions identified on notices of due. Discussion also included comparable transportation-related services available through Western Maine Community Action (WMCA) and Western Maine Transportation Services (WMTS).

BOA Action: Motion by Assessor Kinsman, second by Assessor Varney, to recommend \$105,540.00 for the Public Safety budget.

Budget Committee Action: Motion by Stacy Varney, second by Sharon Dingfelder, to recommend \$105,540.00 for the Public Safety budget.

New Business

Estimated Tax Rate Impact

The Clerk presented an estimated impact of the proposed FY 2026–2027 budget on the mil rate using prior year valuation figures. It was noted that the estimates are illustrative only, as the mil rate will be formally set by the Board of Assessors in conjunction with the Assessors' Agent following completion of the revaluation and final valuation and adopted budget figures.

The Clerk further noted that the municipal budget is legally required to balance and that the figures reviewed represent a preliminary snapshot prior to finalization of updated revenue estimates, valuation figures, and overlay calculations. It was explained that the Board and Assessing Agent will work together to align revenues, expenditures, and overlay amounts as part of the final mil rate setting process.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Next Meeting Date

The Board of Assessors and Budget Committee completed review of the FY 2026–2027 proposed budget and finalized all recommendation votes, there is no next meeting scheduled.

Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethna L. Thompson, BOA Secretary

These minutes are a summary of the meeting and are not a verbatim transcript.