

MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF ASSESSORS & BUDGET COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING

Date: May 13, 2025
Time: 4:00 PM
Meeting called to order by: Steve Carr, 1st Assessor

IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Carr, Joanne Taylor, Rodney Varney, Ethna L. Thompson
Evelyn Beaulieu, Sharon Dingfelder

ABSENT

Mickey Haas

OPEN MEETING

Opened meeting at 4:00 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **April 1, 2025**

The Boards unanimously approved the meeting minutes as presented.

Continuing Business

- **Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Proposed**

- **Final Review & Recommendations**

The Board of Assessors and Committee conducted a final review of the proposed Fiscal Year 2025–2026 municipal budget.

The Town Clerk began by noting that, as presented at the beginning of the meeting, the proposed budget reflected a 7.13% increase over the previous fiscal year. The Clerk provided an overview of the major contributing factors to this increase, including:

A 33% increase in the county tax assessment

A 53.54% increase in land use planning costs

A 61% increase in the ambulance services contract

These increases were discussed line by line, with the Committee reviewing the justification and impact of each change.

The Board of Assessors and Committee then turned its attention to the funding and donation requests submitted for consideration in the FY 2025–2026 budget.

It was agreed unanimously that only organizations that fully complied with the Plantation's application process would be considered for recommendation or inclusion in a warrant article. Compliance was defined as:

Use of the Plantation's official request form

Submission by the stated deadline

Inclusion of required financial documentation

Of the 17 requests received, only 8 met these criteria. The remaining 9 were disqualified from further consideration and will not be recommended for funding nor included in the warrant.

The 8 compliant applications were then reviewed individually. The Committee agreed to recommend zero funding for any and all clubs or organizations with membership-based and/or fee-based activities, as these were deemed outside the scope of municipal support priorities.

The following funding recommendations were made for the remaining organizations:

Maine Forestry Museum – \$500

Rangeley Public Library – \$5,000

Rangeley Region Health & Wellness (Youth & Senior Programming) – \$1,600

Other Business

Next Meeting Date

No additional meetings, all work finalized.

Adjourn Meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM