

MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF ASSESSORS MEETING

Date:	April 22, 2025
Time:	3:30 PM
Meeting called to order by:	Steve Carr, 1 st Assessor

IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Carr, Joanne Taylor, Ethna L. Thompson

ABSENT

Rodney Varney

OPEN MEETING

Opened meeting at 3:30 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 8, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
The Board approved the minutes as submitted.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- LUPC Building Permit Report
One new permit has been logged since the last meeting:
A 38'x30' dwelling on Wick-Up Lane, Mulandi parcel
- RFP's
 - Lawn Care
The Clerk followed up with the Board regarding potential updates to the Lawn Care RFP, as discussed at the previous meeting, and distributed the draft document via email for further review. Board members present did not recall a detailed prior discussion on the matter and had limited feedback. Second Assessor Taylor requested that the language be revised to specifically include services at the Town Hall property and Transfer Station, as well as spring clean-up, including removal of sand from winter. The RFP will be issued after these language updates are incorporated.
 - Property & Casualty Insurance
The Clerk also followed up regarding the draft Property & Casualty Insurance RFP for additional Board review. It was noted that the language should clearly reflect coverage specific to Sandy River Plantation, with consideration given to statutory minimums. The RFP will be finalized and issued after confirming and revising the language as needed.

- Snow Removal
The Clerk distributed the Snow Removal RFP for review; however, the majority of Board members present expressed no interest in putting this RFP out at this time. Given the small pool of potential contractors and general satisfaction with the current provider, no further action will be taken on this matter at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- Warrant(s) 63, 64, & 65 Disbursement Review/Sign
Warrant 63 was reviewed and signed during the meeting off week and warrants 64 & 65 were reviewed and signed during the meeting.
- RSU #78
 - Budget Meeting May 6, 2025
The Board reviewed the notice from RSU 78 regarding the upcoming district budget meeting scheduled for May 6, 2025, at 6 PM. The notice was confirmed to be in compliance with applicable Maine statutes governing Regional School Units. No countersignature by the municipal officers is required for the budget meeting notice.
 - Budget Validation Referendum June 10, 2025
The Board also reviewed the warrant calling for the RSU 78 Budget Validation Referendum. The warrant does require a countersignature by the municipal officers.

Verification of compliance with relevant state law (Title 20-A MRSA § 1486) was noted, and the Assessor's present at the meeting counter signed the warrant as required.

The Budget Validation Referendum will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at the Sandy River Plantation Town Office, polls will be opened from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Quarterly Financial Report
The Clerk circulated a QuickBooks-generated report for the quarterly financial update. This format was used in an effort to provide the report in a timely manner; however, it is not the usual format typically prepared by the Clerk, which is generally more user-friendly for those less familiar with financial reports.

Board members reviewed the document and expressed a clear preference for the traditional format. The Clerk will return to using the preferred format and have a copy at the next meeting.
- Bridge Reports
The Clerk circulated copies of the Annual Bridge Inspection Reports, as provided by the State of Maine in accordance with State Statutes, which requires regular inspection and reporting of public bridges. These reports are part of the state's effort to ensure infrastructure, safety and compliance. No action was required by the Board at this time.

➤ **Budget Preparation & Funding Updates**

Second Assessor Taylor inquired whether all funding figures from contracted agencies for the upcoming fiscal year have been received. The Clerk informed the Board that all figures had been submitted except for the final County Tax assessment and the Fire Department totals from the Town of Rangeley. The Clerk will follow up with both entities to obtain the outstanding information.

The Clerk and Assessor Taylor also discussed the potential to carry forward funds from the School Fund Account to help offset the RSU 78 budget figure. They further considered removing the previously proposed \$25,000 contribution to the Capital Improvements Reserve, instead funding that reserve entirely through a portion of excise tax revenues annually.

Additionally, there was consensus on ensuring the budget maintains historical funding levels for road maintenance, specifically \$30,000 for summer roads and \$10,000 for winter roads.

➤ **Highway Signage/E-911 Maintenance Items**

A couple of E-911-related maintenance issues were discussed. The Pop Dyer Road signpost has sustained substantial damage; however, it appears the sign itself remains intact. No formal action was taken, though several suggestions were made regarding how to address the damaged post.

There was also discussion of a previously approved expenditure for a town line/highway boundary sign on the Saddleback Access Road. It was noted that two signs or a double-sided sign should be ordered. Joanne suggested reaching out to Dallas Plantation to explore whether they might be interested in participating, as the town line begins where their boundary ends.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 3:30 PM Regular BOA Meeting

The May 6, 2025 Board meeting has been postponed to May 13, 2025, due to the anticipated absence of two Assessors, which would result in no quorum to conduct official business.

Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 4:00 PM BOA & Budget Committee Meeting

ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.