

Town of Weld
Select Board Agenda

Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Time: 5:30PM – 6:30PM (1 hour)

Location: Town Hall

Call Meeting to Order:

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call, Determination of Quorum
3. Housekeeping

Minutes of Previous Meeting and Communications

- Accept Minutes from SB meetings March, 25, 2025 into the Town's records.

Unfinished Business -- None

New Business

1. Public Relations

Background: Each year, the Town of Weld may submit a candid's name to the Maine chapter of Spirit of America to receive the annual "Spirit of America" award. Traditionally, the Town has submitted the name(s) of the individuals who the most recent Town Report was dedicated to.

RESOLVE: That the Selectboard authorize Carol Cochran to complete paperwork for submission to Spirit of America Tribute & Involvement to recognize Kevin & Holly Cochran as Town of Weld's recipient of the "Spirit of America" award for 2025.

2. Financial/Public Relations – Maine State Park Free Seasons Pass Policy (PILOT Raymond & George Foundation)

Background: The Town legislature accepted a PILOT donation from Raymond & George Foundation (Camp Kawanhee for Boys) at Town Meeting, March 8, 2025, for the amount of \$5000 to purchase free annual season passes to Maine State Parks. The SB will discuss the reviewed draft policy for adoption.

RESOLVE: That the Selectboard adopt the George & Raymond Frank Foundation (Camp Kawanhee) Free State Park Passes Policy.

3. Information & Technology /Public Relations – Website

Background: Since our last meeting, neither the Town Clerk nor the Treasurer has had time to edit the website. To date, the Selectboard Chair has devoted approximately 10 hours of time (1 hour training) to reorganizing and updating the website for public use.

The current service plan with Aptuitiv, Inc. is the **Starter Plan (\$25/month)** permitting only one person as administrator with limited assistance.

Recommendation to upgrade the current service contract with Aptuitiv from the Starter Plan to the **Basic Plan (\$45/month)** allowing unlimited administrators to access and edit the website and SB to authorize relevant municipal officials to update the relevant webpages such as the “calendar” and “news” on a more timely and efficient basis.

RESOLVE: That the Selectboard authorize, (1) an upgrade of the current service contract plan with Aptuitiv, Inc., the Town’s current web design provider, from the Starter Plan (\$25/month) to the Basic Plan (\$45/month), (2) the Chair of the Selectboard, the heads of the municipal departments and committees, or a designee, to update the Town website’s calendar, news, and relevant department/committee pages as needed.

4. **General Government/Financial/Legal – Grant Applications**

- Update on documentation and progress of various grant applications (safety grants) (*Steve Conant*)
- Clarification on legal procedure of grant applications to acceptance of grants by Town (*Dina Walker*)

RESOLVE: That the Selectboard authorize Department Heads, Committee Chairs, or their designees and appropriate key municipal official to apply for grants on behalf of the Town of Weld provided that the relevant Selectboard or Town Legislature approval is received prior to acceptance of such grant.

5. **Town Property – Town Office Renovations Progress**

Background: Richard Proffeno, independent contractor, has continued the painting and general renovation work in the town office due to the flood damage in mid-February 2025. He expects the paintwork to be finished by early May. The counter remains to be replaced.

RESOLVE: That the Selectboard authorize the Selectboard Chair to be the Project Manager to make relevant decisions with respect to the renovation and interact with the various contractors for the remainder of the renovation of the Town Office

6. **Town Property/Public Works – Town Garage Renovations**

Background: Public Works has requested that an office cubical/room be built on the “second floor” of the town garage to allow for a separation of office work vs storage and maintenance of road work equipment.

The SB discuss to discuss options:

- Amend Job Description of Public Works Personnel, or
- Hire Independent Contractors to complete the project

7. **Financial/Legal – Federal Action Alert: Tax Exempt Bonds Status at Risk**

Background: We received a notice from MMA in late March 2025 to municipal leaders that the tax exemption on municipal bonds is at

serious risk. In Maine, municipal bonds fund community projects, including essential infrastructure projects like roads, water systems, and public safety facilities. The tax-exempt status makes these bonds especially valuable, as it keeps borrowing costs low for municipalities and reduces the financial burdens placed on property taxpayers. The Town of Weld is currently is a beneficiary of such tax-exempt status re the municipal bond (\$190,000) we are due to receive this year for the repair of the Kennedy Bridge. The National League of Cities (which Town of Weld is a member of via MMA) is encouraging selectboards to pass resolutions in support of the tax exemption to share with federal leaders.

RESOLVE: That the Selectboard adopt the Resolution Declaring Support for the Preservation of the Federal Tax Exemption of Municipal Bonds

Other Business

1. Department/Committee Updates (Selectboard Liaison/Department Heads/Committee Chairs)
 - a. **General Government – Update:** Confirm that MMA Property & Casualty Renewal, due March 28, 2025, has been filed (*Carol Cochran*)
 - b. **Financial/Tax – Update:** State Preliminary Valuation Report (Carol sent to SB for review on April 11, 2025)
 - c. **Transfer Station – Update:** documenting Transfer Station activities for town record keeping (*Steve Conant*)
 - d. **Legal – Update:** Survey Results Closed as of Friday, April 11, 2025 for Draft Solar Farm/Large Commercial Structure Ordinance (*Dina Walker*)
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. **Financial – RESOLVE:** Accept donations received from March 1, 2025 to date
 - b. **Public Relations/Community Involvement – AVCOG General Assembly Representatives for 2025:**
Background: AVCOG annual call for 2 reps was sent to all municipal officials on April 2, 2025; deadline April, 17, 2025, no

volunteers for positions received other than Lise Bofinger and Dina Walker

RESOLVE: That the Selectboard appoint Dina Walker and Lise Bofinger as Weld's AVCOG General Assembly Reps for 2025.

- c. Important Brief(s) from MMA Executive Committee Meeting, April 16, 2025 (*Dina Walker*)
 - FY 2026 – FY 2027 State General Fund Budget – What's At Stake
 - Any other updates from SB members?

Public Comment (15 mins)

Next Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, May 27, 2025

Adjournment