

Town of Searsport, Maine

Select Board Meeting

January 6, 2026

1. Call to Order: 6:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Doug Norman, Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Doug Norman Chair, Mark Bradstreet Vice Chair, Sandra Otis-Anderson, Mark Bradstreet , Steve Tanguay and Wes Norton are all present.
4. Announcements: None
5. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion: Sandra made a motion to accept the minutes for the December 16 2025 select board meeting as written, seconded by Mark. Vote : 5-0-0
6. Acceptance of the agenda: Wes made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Steve Vote: 5-0-0
7. Public Comment: Joe Hupperich, representing the residents of the Mobile Home Park on back Searsport Road. They are looking for the best path forward to create a rent stabilization moratorium. There is currently a model that has been drafted at the State level by House of Representative member Cassidy in the form of LD1755. He provided the board with the draft copy which will be reported back to the Housing Committee for their review. James feels the best pathway forward for the Town of Searsport is to put this in front of the voters as a warrant item at the annual town meeting in March without confusing it with a moratorium. He suggests pursuing a citizens initiative rather than a moratorium. He requested that Joe bring the model before the next Select Board meeting which would allow enough time to gather the necessary signatures for a citizen's initiative to be placed by the Select Board on the town meeting warrant as a separate article. A moratorium impacts more than just the one trailer park.
8. Old Business: None
9. New Business:
 - a. Resignation from Wastewater: Howard Clark has resigned after 38 years of service from the Wastewater Department. Steve made a motion to accept with regret the resignation of Howard Clark as Wastewater Superintendent and to promote Dan Smith as interim Wastewater Superintendent until appointments are made in March and to authorize the manager to fill the position of operator immediately. Motion was seconded by Doug. Vote: 5-0-0.
 - b. Liquor License for Captain Nickles Inn. Steve made a motion to approve the renewal of the liquor license for the Captain Nickles Inn, seconded by Doug. Vote: 5-0-0
10. 11th Hour: None
11. Correspondence:
 - a. Notification from Maine Municipal Association Risk Management Services notifying the town of an automobile accident involving a plow truck.
 - b. Notification from Maine Municipal Association Risk Management Services notifying the town of the 2026 Unemployment Compensation Fund contributions.
 - c. Thank you letter from Spectrum Generations for their 2025 donation.
 - d. Thank you letter from The Friends of Sears Island for their 2025 donation.
 - e. Thank you letter from Life Flight of Maine for their 2025 donation.
 - f. Letter from PERC notifying the town of the continued bypass status of our solid wastes to the Juniper Ridge Landfill.

g. Letter from the City of Belfast notifying the Town of the increasing fees for Paramedic Intercepts and EMS services.

h. Letter from Sarah Hopkins, Finance Director informing the Board of the upcoming training and go live dates for the conversion to Trio Web Base. If the conversion does not go smoothly it might require the town office to be closed on February 6, 2026.

i. Letter from CEO Scott Giroux informing the board of a new address at 13 Elaine Way.

12. Treasurer's Warrant. Mark made a motion to accept the Treasurer's warrant pending signatures by the Select Board. Seconded by Sandra Vote: 5-0-0

13. Town Manager and Department Head Reports: Doug made a motion to table these reports to the next meeting, seconded by Steve. Vote: 5-0-0

14. Select Board Report:

a. Mark mentioned how fantastic the Town looks – especially with the holiday decorations.

b. Sandra continues to get positive comments from folks around town regarding how great the town looks.

c. Steve let everyone know that school for tomorrow has already been cancelled due to the impending ice storm.

d. Wes had no report

e. Doug thanked Howard Clark for his years of dedicated service to the Town and the Wastewater Department.

15. Public Comment and the Viewing Public Comment: None

16. Executive Session M.R.S.A. 1 § 405 (6) (F) Confidential – (General Assistance Matters and Poverty abatement requests) Mark made a motion at 6:37 pm to leave regular session and enter into executive session under M.R.S.A 1 § 405 (6) (F) Confidential – (General Assistance Matters and Poverty Abatement requests). Seconded by Doug Vote: 5-0-0.

Mark made a motion at 6:40 pm to exit executive session and return to regular session, seconded by Doug Vote: 5-0-0

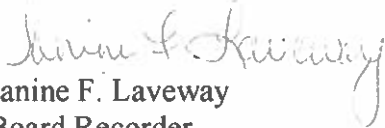
17. Decisions from Executive Session; Mark made the motion to approve the following requests from the Jenny Lawrence Fund. The motion was seconded by Doug Vote: 5-0-0

a. WP 25-41 100 gallons of Kerosene

b. WP 25-42 Up to \$50.00 for Emergency Supplies

18. Adjournment: Mark made a motion to adjourn at 6:42 pm seconded by Doug Vote: 5-0-0

Respectfully Submitted


Janine F. Laveway
Board Recorder

APPROVED: January 20, 2026