

Town of Searsport, Maine
Select Board Meeting

September 16, 2025

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, Steve Tanguay and Sandra Otis-Anderson all present. Wes Norton is excused.
4. Announcements: James reported the Information Center renovations are all but complete.
5. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion Sandra made a motion to accept the minutes for the September 2 2025 select board meeting as written. Second by Steve Vote : 4-0-0
6. Acceptance of the agenda: James added 3 11th hour items to the agenda: Mark made a motion to accept the agenda with the additional 3 items added as 11th hour. Seconded by Sandra Vote: 4-0-0
7. Public Comment: None
8. Old Business
 - a. RSU 20 Election Warrant: Mark made a motion to approve and sign the warrant for the RSU 20 Budget Election, to be held November 4, 2025, seconded by Doug Vote: 4-0-0
 - a. Discussion with Auditor Fred Brewer. Mr. Brewer provided financial reports for the 2023 audit. which were reviewed by selectboard members. He gave an overview and explanations as well as answered questions. Doug stated he wants the 2023 audit finalized and presented no later than Friday September 19, 2025. He also requested the board be provide a written time table for the completion of the 2024 audit. James inquired about the requested documents the USDA is looking for. Fred will provide when they are ready.
9. New Business:
 - a. Set Workshop dates. Mr. Ron Huber would like an opportunity to make his a presentation regarding the data he has on the GAC situation. James would like to have a ½ workshop on October 7, prior to the regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting. Wes has requested site visits to facilities. Mark made a motion to schedule a workshop to visit town facilities to begin at 1:00 pm at Union Hall for Wednesday September 24, 2025. Motion was seconded by Sandra. Vote: 4-0-0
10. 11th Hour:
 - a. Enhancement Committee Request for Preliminary Approval. Doug stated the board does not give preliminary approvals. The committee will need to make a presentation. This will be for an art installation in mechanic's hollow on town owned property – the wastewater pumping station site. This is being proposed by Dustin Nadeau as part of the art team. Concerns regarding liability insurance coverage arose. Doug asked if there was any objection from the board. There was none.
 - b. Authorization for use of the town owned ROW next to the Merrithew Building. The Historic Preservation Commission is requesting this. There is a potential buyer for the property adjacent to the ROW. The question involves the placement of heat pumps.
 - c. Fire Department SOG regarding turn out gear. Steve made a motion to approve the SOG as presented, seconded by Mark. Vote: 4-0-0
11. Correspondence:
 - a. Grant application to MMA for funds to upgrade the firewalls on the servers at the police station and wastewater plant.
 - b. Letter from PERC notifying the town they are requesting an independent fiduciary be named to receive and manage payments until the court settles the dispute with Eagle Point Energy Center, LLC,

- c. Two notifications of new E911 addresses at 621 Mt. Ephraim Road and 29 Old County Road.
- d. An update was provided regarding the Tax Anticipation Note at First National Bank.
- e. Notification of the annual MMA business meeting to be held on October 8, 2025.

Steve Tanguay left the meeting at 6:43 pm

12. Treasurer's Warrant. Mark made a motion to accept the Treasurer's warrant pending signatures by the Select Board. Seconded by Sandra Vote : 3-0-0

13. Department Head Reports: Mark made a motion to accept the Police, Fire and Library department head reports as presented. Seconded by Sandra Vote: 3-0-0

14. Select Board Report:

a. Mark thanked everyone who has contributed to the restoration of the information center. He reports the land owner is very pleased.

b. Sandra announced the senior drop in to be held at the community center tomorrow. Fling into Fall will be held on 26th and 27th. Penobscot Marine Museum will hold a Sardine Festival the first Saturday in October.

c. Doug wants the auditors fees held to the fire and requested James call him Friday if we don't have anything yet. He wants the 2024 audit to be closely monitored.

15. Public Comment and the Viewing Public Comment: Rolf Olson thanked the team that made the broadcasting of meetings happen again. He inquired if James had sent notification to the email base. He hopes to see increased public participation in meetings. He expressed his displeasure with the handling of the Audit and inquired about the reasons why the 2023 audit is still not complete. He appreciates the request for a timeline on the 2024 audit. He expressed his pleasure with the proposed art display by the enhancement committee on town owned property in Mechanic's Hollow and is excited to follow this development.

A.J. Koch, Jr. Interim Fire Chief spoke regarding Joyce O'Rourke's upcoming fundraiser on October eleventh to benefit the Searsport, Stockton Springs and Prospect Fire Departments. This will be in the form of an art show at each Fire Station. There will be works of art displayed and for sale and 30% of the sales at each station will benefit that site. He also thanked Sandra Otis Anderson and Dale Cross for the donation of potatoes to the Barney Hose company for their french fry sale at the Fling Into Fall Celebration. There will also be hamburgers and pies for sale.

16. No executive session was held.

18 Adjournment: Sandra made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 pm, seconded by Mark. Vote: 4-0-0

Respectfully Submitted



Janine F. Laveway
Board Recorder

APPROVED: October 7, 2025