

Received 3/10/2026
10:50 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

Board of Selectmen
Budget Meeting
5:00 p.m., Monday, March 2, 2026
3rd floor, Town Hall, and Remote via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Recording

Passcode: LH8375Y!

1. Call to order and roll call

First Selectman Rea called the Board of Selectmen budget meeting of Monday, March 2, 2026, to order at 5:00 p.m. Also present: Selectman Chadd and Selectman Hennick (5:17 p.m.). Staff Present: Beth Moncata, Finance Director.

2. FY 2026-2027 budget workshop

First Selectman Rea explained he reviewed potential budget cuts with the Finance Director this week and asked her to begin the presentation on those cuts. The board discussed at length:

- a. Valley Shore TV: discussed reducing this number, will revisit
- b. Professional Consultant: carried over for water samples/Fuss and O'Neil
- c. PT Seasonal Assessor's Office: increase due to step increase
- d. Technical Services Consultant/Assessor: for permit maintenance, recommended discussion with Assessor Philip
- e. Assistant Tax Collector: discussed removing the (1) hour requested increase, discussed moving to an automated deposit for checks which will reduce bank trips, spoke with Treasurer about implementing.
- f. Grant Supplies/Expenses Town Clerk: reduced to \$4,000 based on actual incentive
- g. Compensation Review: removed the \$2,000 requested increase; committee can request to use town attorney through the First Selectman
- h. Registrar of Voters: requesting a 9% salary increase, salary survey completed and sent to board to review, early voting mandated by the state increased hours, discussion on stipend vs. salary, will come back to this
- i. Insurance and Benefits: Social Security reducing to \$190,000
- j. Liability Insurance: reducing \$118,709/flat
- k. Fire Department:
 - i. Clerical Support; discussed reducing to minimum wage, request for needs from Fire Chief
 - ii. Prof Consulting Services; reduce by \$5,000
 - iii. Safety Products: decrease to \$8,000
- l. Animal Control: still needs a long-term solution
- m. Public Works:
 - i. Brook Cleaning: Public Works has not had time in the past few years to utilize this budget, still needs to get done

- ii. Hand Tools/Chemicals: discussed reducing, \$7,500/\$3,000/adding back portopotty \$1,440
- iii. Sidewalk repair: increase due to add't sidewalks
- iv. Catch basins: increased
- v. Snow and Ice removal: increased to \$70,000 due to add't quantity and pricing
- n. Tree Warden: adjusted, \$25,000 reduction overall
- o. Waste Collection: reduced to actual
- p. Social Services:
 - i. Other Salaries (others running programs): increased to \$8,700
 - ii. Program Supplies/Expenses: reduced to actual \$5,500
- q. Farmers Market: First Selectman Rea met with the new chair of the Recreation Committee but will have further discussion with her about the status of the market/does Recreation want to continue running the market/kept flat for now

Grand Total Operating: currently +3% increase over last year, noted this is mainly from capital and reserve projects. Discussion on bonding and Board of Finance next steps.

3. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaclyn Lehet