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2 **c. Decide Select Board Meeting Schedule**

3 Alfred Hanson asked the Select Board to consider meeting the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month and a
4 work session if needed on a Saturday at 9:00 AM. Rick Bixby stated the proposed schedule is fine with him.
5 The Board discussed the drawbacks of meeting on Saturdays. The Board agreed on the meeting schedule of
6 the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.
7

8 **Alfred Hanson made a motion seconded by Mike Smith that the Select Board will meet on the 2nd and**
9 **4th Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM. Motion Passed unanimously.**

10
11 **Mike Smith made a motion seconded by Rick Bixby that any work sessions needed will be held before**
12 **the normal meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 4:00 PM. Motion Passed**
13 **unanimously.**

14 Mike Smith noted that the Town letter head needs to be corrected to reflect the current Select Board
15 members.
16

17 **d. Schedule Meeting with Department Heads**

18 Alfred Hanson stated that he would like to keep the Department Heads agenda item on the Select Board
19 meeting agenda. The Select Board agreed. Judy Newman-Rogers asked for clarification if the 5 day
20 deadline relative to agenda items pertains to meetings with Department Heads. Mike Smith stated that any
21 information that is needed should be within 3 days of the regularly scheduled meeting. Judy Newman-Rogers
22 asked if the Chair has the ability to waive the 3 day requirement. Mike Smith spoke about following the
23 Select Board rules of procedure. Alfred Hanson suggested that over the next two weeks they come up with an
24 agenda template.
25

26 **e. Schedule Meeting with Volunteer Committees and Boards**

27 Alfred Hanson stated that this pertains to the Select Board committee assignments. Judy Newman-Rogers
28 stated that she could contact the committee chairs and advise each Selectmen of their respective
29 committee/board meeting schedules.
30

31 **f. Post Weight Limit on Class V Roads**

32 Herm Blanchette asked for clarification on the process to follow for posting the weight limit on Class V
33 Roads. Herm Blanchette informed the Select Board that he did request that the information be posted on the
34 Town website. Herm Blanchette confirmed that he can be contacted for an exception to travel on a posted
35 road. Alfred Hanson clarified that the Select Board needs to vote to authorize posting of roads.
36

37 **Mike Smith made a motion seconded by Rick Bixby to direct the Director of Public Works to post the**
38 **weight limit on the Class V roads to end no later than the end of April. Roll Call Vote Smith YES**
39 **Bixby YES Smith YES**

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41 **Mike Smith made a motion seconded by Rick Bixby to adjust the order of business by moving Select**
42 **Board Other Business to the end of the agenda. Roll Call Vote Smith YES Bixby YES Hanson YES**

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44 *Discussion on the motion:* Alfred Hanson explained that it was suggested that the Select Board Business
45 agenda item was too close to the end of the meeting after public comment to allow the public to speak on any
46 issues discussed during Select Board Business.

47 **IV. Public Comment**

48 Alfred Hanson opened the floor to public comment reminding speakers of the three minute limit.
49

1 1. **James Gaffney:** hopes the Select Board tone of the meeting tonight continues. He stated that there
2 has been a lack of civility and confrontation in these meetings for a long time. James Gaffney stated that he
3 has a resolution signed by approximately 30 people (additional signatures will be forwarded) to present to
4 the Select Board. James Gaffney stated that there are two main issues that the resolution pertains to

- 5 a. 1. Materials that are needed by the Select Board to make decisions urging transparency and
6 assurance that each Select Board member receives the same materials in a timely manner.
7 James Gaffney stated that the public must have access to documents. He spoke about
8 outstanding right to know requests (RSA 91-a) that have not been fulfilled. James Gaffney
9 explained that there is a liability to the Town.
- 10 b. 2. James Gaffney stated that everyone is human and everyone makes mistakes. He stated that
11 the town has witnessed a series of very public transgressions. He stated that some have been
12 crimes and other have not. James Gaffney stated that with one exception no one has ever been
13 punished. James Gaffney stated that the Select Board is urged to reinstate Kathy Frenette to
14 active service.
- 15 c. James Gaffney explained that the voters at town meeting voted (article 6) to require a standing
16 agenda item to discuss and address the findings of the 2024 audit report. James Gaffney
17 explained that the vote needs to be honored by adding the item to the agenda.
18

19 2. **Steve Hall** asked for a status update on the situation with the Town Administrator. He stressed that
20 the town is paying the salary but the town is not receiving any benefit. Alfred Hanson explained that the
21 Select Board is unable to comment on the situation. Alfred Hanson stated that legal counsel has advised the
22 Select Board to refrain from commenting on the situation. He stated that the investigation is ongoing. Mike
23 Smith stated that this is Mr. Bixby's first meeting and he should be given time to be informed. Rick Bixby
24 stated that he does not need the time and he questioned that this topic as a personnel issue that should not be
25 discussed in public. Mike Smith stated that this is a topic for non-public. Alfred Hanson acknowledged the
26 situation is time consuming and frustrating. Steve Hall asked if the Town has options to fill the position.
27 Mike Smith stated that there is nothing prohibiting the Board from taking a vote to reinstate the Town
28 Administrator. Alfred Hanson stated that is incorrect. Mike Smith stated that it is correct. Alfred Hanson
29 stated they took a vote. Mike Smith said this is a new Select Board. Alfred Hanson stated that he is not
30 interested in discussing the matter any further. At this point several people from the audience spoke without
31 being recognized. Mike Smith stated that more time is needed for Rick Bixby to be informed on the matter.
32 Rick Bixby spoke about additional debriefing from the Town's legal counsel. Mike Smith explained that he
33 and Alfred Hanson could explain the matter. Alfred Hanson stated that he needs to think about this. Mike
34 Smith asked what there is to think about. Mike Smith stated that there have been people who stole money
35 from the Town and the last Select Board did not want to do anything about it. He asserted that the new
36 member of the Select Board has the right to be informed to make his own decision. Alfred Hanson explained
37 that following the legal advice he considers this matter as closed.
38

39 3. **Steve Bridgewater** stated that in an effort to be transparent he would like to know if Alfred Hanson
40 and Rick Bixby ever discussed this issue before Rick Bixby was elected. Alfred Hanson stated that they had
41 not. Alfred Hanson explained that he has not spoken to anyone about this because he is abiding by the advice
42 from legal counsel. Rick Bixby confirmed that Alfred Hanson has not spoken to him regarding this matter.
43

44 4. **Bill Hanson** explained that the Select Board runs the town and legal counsel works for them. He
45 further added that if the Select Board decided to reprimand the Town Administrator in writing and bring her
46 back to work that is the prerogative of the Select Board.

47 5. **James Gaffney** stated that he should have read the resolution because it enumerates a series of public
48 transgressions that other employees have committed. He stated that currently one of those employees still
49 works for the town. James Gaffney stated that the Town Administrator was accused of releasing names of
50 welfare recipient's names. He explained that serving on the audit search committee he and three other

1 people were provided with a stack of problem invoices. James Gaffney stated that the audit search committee
2 saw the invoice related to the incident in question. He added that they saw a redacted email chain. James
3 Gaffney stated that the information came from another employee who had no reason to forward that welfare
4 information. He noted that the employee who committed the same alleged crime remains employed and
5 unpunished. James Gaffney stated that there were invoices of \$10,000 paid more than once. He spoke about
6 an \$11,000 outstanding IRS issue. James Gaffney reiterated that the resolution urges the Select Board to
7 reinstate Kathy. He stressed that by not reinstating her they are increasing the liability of this Town. At this
8 time unrecognized audience members spoke out of turn. Alfred Hanson called for order.

9
10 6. **Sara McNeil** stated that since this is a new board, she feels that it is important that they discuss this
11 matter. She remarked on the large turnout for this meeting

12
13 7. **Ken Milender** asked for clarification regarding who is the investigator in this matter. Alfred Hanson
14 stated that the Merrimack County Sherriff Department is investigating and they have been asked to speed
15 things up.

16
17 8. **Trish Mitchell** stated that there is a small vocal minority who have spoken out about reinstating the
18 Town Administrator. She believes there is a larger majority who are against that.

19
20 9. **Ginger Marsh Town Treasurer** spoke about the delegation of authority for depository authority. She
21 stated that she has read through the audit report. Ginger Marsh stated that the Select Board signs off on the
22 delegation of authority whenever there is a change of elected officials. She explained that this gives
23 authority to the Tax Collector, Town Clerk and their deputies, along with the finance director and Select
24 Board secretary. Ginger Marsh asked if there are any others who have the authority to make deposits over
25 \$1,500 and are they being done in a timely manner. She requested a list of people who have authority and to
26 hold people accountable. Ginger Marsh stated that according to the audit report there were three deposits that
27 were not made in a timely manner and one deposit that did not have adequate supporting documentation.
28 She stated that she worries about this because she works for a bank. She stated that she is bonded but is not
29 sure if others are bonded. She stated that she has 40 years of banking experience and she does not want to
30 jeopardize her standing because of this.

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32 **V. Consent Agenda:** None

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34 **VI. Manifest:** March 17, 2026 Alfred Hanson read the manifest.

35 Motion for the Select Board to approve the following previously signed manifests:

36 --Accounts Payable check numbers 12367 through 12401 dated 3/5/2026, in the amount of \$635,365.75,
37 which includes the January payment to the Kearsarge Region School District of \$550,000.00.

38 Accounts Payable check numbers 12402 through 12416 dated 3/11/2026, in the amount of \$543,484.33,
39 which includes the February payment to the Kearsarge Region School District of \$500,000.00.

40
41 --Motion to authorize the Select Board to approve and order the Treasurer to sign the following manifests:
42 Accounts Payable check numbers 12417 through 12420 dated 3/17/2026, in the amount of \$67,997.20 for the
43 March 19th bi-weekly payroll deposits. Bi-weekly payroll check numbers 4198 through 4201, and direct
44 deposit check numbers E03102 through E03135 dated 3/19/2026 for a net payroll of \$51,202.85.

45
46 **Rick Bixby made a motion seconded by Mike Smith to approve the March 17, 2026 Manifest as read.**
47 **Roll Call Vote: Bixby YES Smith NO Hanson YES**

48 *Discussion on the motion:* Mike Smith stated that he just received this today and he has not had a chance to
49 look at it. Ginger Marsh explained that she reviews the checks and the invoices. She advised the Select

1 Board that invoices are not signed by the Select Board 90% of the time. She requested to have the invoices
2 signed by Select Board. She stated that she will not sign checks that do not have a signed invoice.

3
4 **VII. Minutes: March 3, 2026**

5 **Mike Smith made a motion seconded by Alfred Hanson to table the March 3, 2026 Select Board**
6 **meeting minutes. Roll Call Vote Smith YES Bixby YES Hanson YES**

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8 **III. Select Board Other Business**

9 None

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11 **VIII. Non-Public Session if needed (RSA 91-A:3 II (a-m))**

12 None

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14 **IX. Adjournment**

15 **Rick Bixby made a motion seconded by Alfred Hanson to adjourn the Select Board meeting. Roll Call**
16 **Vote Smith YES Bixby YES Hanson YES**

17
18 The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM

19 Respectfully submitted on 3/19/26 by Tracy Doherty

20 Edits, Judith Newman-Rogers, Select Board Admin Asst.