

Town of Mendon

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 9, 2026

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Town Office with remote option available

Selectboard Members Present: Seth Bridge, Sarah Buxton, Megan Smith

Officers Present: Sara Tully, Town Administrator, Mark Fiore, Constable and Director of Emergency Management

Others Present: Fred Bagley, Brian Gates, Carol Gates, Justin Lindholm, Rene Sanchez, Debbie Singiser, Greg Smith

Call to Order – S. Bridge called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Orders and Payroll

S. Bridge moved to approve the signing of orders for 2/5/26 in the amount of \$27,042.63 and payroll for 2/3/26 with a gross amount of \$15,771.01 and a net of \$11,384.91. S. Buxton seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

S. Bridge moved to approve the minutes for 1/22/26 and 1/26/26. The motion was seconded by S. Buxton and the motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

- Town Meeting is scheduled for March 2nd at the VTrans building, 61 Valley View, at 6 p.m. Polls will be open March 3rd, 2026, at the town office from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- The Selectboard Introduced and welcomed Mark Fiore as the newly appointed Constable and Emergency Management Director.

Public Comment

- Justin Lindholm questioned the relocation of the John Vincent, Native American and Revolutionary War Veteran marker currently located on Route 4 and Old Turnpike Road. He expressed concerns about historical preservation, and suggested the marker stay in place and create an additional monument near the Town Office.
- Brian Gates questioned S. Bridge regarding zoning permits and alleged fraud. He stated he had submitted requests for responses from the zoning administrator and

town attorney and didn't hear back from either one of them. Mr. Gates yelled his demands and accusations to the Selectboard and he was called out of order. The Rutland County Sheriff Deputy removed Mr. Gates from the meeting.

- C. Gates continued the complaints. She demanded response to requests she had made for meetings with the town attorney and responses to notices of violation.

Recess

S. Bridge called to recess due to disruptions during public comment by B. Gates. The meeting resumed shortly thereafter.

Business

Barstow Unified Union District School Board

- D. Singiser, BUUSD Chair, discussed the BUUSD Annual Report.
- Upcoming district meeting scheduled for February 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the school, with a virtual option (note: virtual attendees cannot vote).
- Discussion of school budget, projected tax rate increase (~12%), and factors affecting the budget, including contract negotiations and changes in student numbers.
- Information about the annual report and where to find budget details (town website, school website).

Route 4 Four Updates

- F. Bagley provided an update that the Appalachian Trail crossing relocation is planned for summer.
- Safety improvements including signage and physical barriers discussed.
- Bus stop improvements and request for a Mendon representative on The Bus board.
- Radar speed sign installation status reviewed.
- Discussion of future Route 4 engineering and paving, with recommendations to begin planning for intersection improvements.

John Vincent Historic Marker

- F. Bagley requested relocating the John Vincent historic marker for better visibility and recognition.
- Consideration of creating an additional marker versus relocating the existing one.

- Decision to table the discussion and consult with the Commissioner of Historic Preservation.

Mendon Website Updates

- M. Smith and J. Bridge are reviewing presentations for municipal website upgrades.
- They will provide a recommendation to be presented at the next Selectboard meeting to contract for website upgrades.
- Emphasis on improving accessibility and engagement for residents.

Town Meeting and Town Report

- S. Tully provided an update on the town report mailer and its contents.
- Discussion of presentation plans for the upcoming town meeting.
- Clarification on the process for voting on zoning regulations and the availability of information at the polls.

Adjournment

- Motion by S. Bridge to adjourn at 6:34 p.m. Motion seconded by S. Buxton. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approved: _____

Megan Smith

Sara Tully- Clerk

Seth Bridge

Sarah Buxton