

TOWN OF WELD
23 MILL STREET P. O. BOX 87
WELD, MAINE 04285-0087
Phone: 207-585-2348 Fax 207-585-2540
e-mail: townclerk@weld-maine.org Website – weld-maine.org

Meeting Minutes

Board/Committee: Select Board Meeting

Date: May 19, 2026

Time: Started at approximately 5:38 PM

Location: To be confirmed

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order with Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Members Present

- Lisa Miller (Chair)
- Steve Conant
- Dina Walker

3. Members Absent

None

4. Others Present

- Robert Jackson (Public Works)
- Barbi Castonguay
- Laurie Pratt
- Carol Conant
- Corey Hutchinson (Fire Chief)
- Becky Vining
- Rick Davol (Communications Consulting Service)
- Colleen Stewart
- Mike Stephenson (Assessor)

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion: Steve Conant moved to accept the minutes from April 21 Select Board meeting.

Second: Dina Walker

Discussion: Corrections discussed including WBRC (not WDRC) for fire department build plans and Carol Cochran (not Carol Conant). Discussion regarding AI-generated minutes format and content.

Vote: Motion passed with Steve Conant voting aye, Lisa Miller voting aye, Dina Walker voting no.

6. Old Business

A. Website Update - Aptuitive to WordPress

Motion: Steve Conant moved to transition from Aptuitive to WordPress.

Second: Dina Walker

Discussion: Cost savings of \$400/year noted. Security and ADA compliance concerns raised. Research on municipal website best practices is recommended.

Motion: Steve Conant moved to table the motion for future meeting to allow additional research.

Vote: Motion to table approved unanimously.

B. RSU Nine School Board Position

Open position effective July 1, 2026. Board will post opening on listserv, website, and Facebook to seek applicants.

C. Bridge Repair Reports - West Book Bridge

Board discussed moving forward with soliciting bids from Calderwell Engineering for West Book Bridge repairs. Options for wooden or concrete deck to be included in quote requests.

7. New Business

A. Dummer's Beach Assessments

John E. O'Donnell and Associates declined to assess Dummer's Beach. Mike will continue handling assessments.

B. Dummer's Beach Tax Liens

Motion: Lisa Miller moved to release 10 tax liens at \$25 each (total \$250) for Dummer's Beach campers.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

C. MMA Legislative Policy Committee

Nomination forms are available for interested town officials or employees.

D. Town Hall Agreement - Joanne Stiniford Celebration of Life

Rental agreement and insurance paperwork completed for previously approved alcohol use event.

E. Liquor License Application - Kawanhee Inn and Restaurant

Annual review required. Link to be forwarded to board members for review and approval.

F. Planning Board Violation Fees

Motion: Steve Conant moved to adopt new violation fees as proposed by CEO (36% increase to maintain consistency with application fee increases).

Second: Dina Walker

Vote: Approved unanimously.

G. Tax Acquired Property - Map 33 Lot 22

Discussion of procedures for disposing of foreclosed property. Proposal to be developed for next meeting.

H. 911 Road Naming - Rock Gate Lane

The 911 addressing officer proposed naming the previously unnamed road (88 School Street with multiple residences) as "Rock Gate Lane" for emergency response purposes. Road would remain private. Decision tabled for additional research.

8. Applications Reviewed

None

9. Public Hearing / Public Comment

Fire Department Updates (Corey Hutchinson)

- Burn permit system updates in progress with the state forest ranger
- Online permit restrictions are being modified for fire danger levels
- Medical evaluation requirements for firefighters changed due to the occupational health center closure

Public Works Updates (Robert Jackson)

- 14 loads placed on Center Hills Road
- Material trucked from Pratt's Pit for pothole repairs

Vendor Payment Issue (Rick Duvall)

\$10,629 radio purchase for fire department delayed due to \$10,000 expenditure limit policy. Historical Society contribution of \$5,000 created procedural complications. Four weeks overdue payment discussed.

10. Motions, Seconds, and Votes

All motions, seconds, and votes listed above in respective sections.

11. Conditions of Approval

- Website research to include MMA recommendations and formal RFP process
- Tax lien releases to be processed by town clerk
- Planning board violation fees effective immediately

12. Action Items / Follow-Up

- Lisa Miller: Contact Calderwell Engineering for bridge repair quotes
- Barbi Castonguay: Research website options and follow up with MMA IT recommendations
- Board: Review liquor license application link when provided
- Board: Finalize warrant articles for special town meeting
- Colleen Stewart: Process Dummer's Beach tax lien releases

13. Next Meeting

- **Emergency Select Board Meeting:** Friday, May 29, 2026 at 5:30 PM at Town Hall (to finalize warrant articles)
- **Special Town Meeting:** Friday, May 29, 2026 at 6:30 PM at Town Hall
- **Regular Select Board Meeting:** Monday, June 23, 2026

14. Adjournment

Motion: Steve Conant moved to adjourn.

Second: Dina Walker

Vote: Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40 PM.

Minutes prepared from meeting recording and by Otter, reviewed for accuracy by Town Clerk and approved by Select Board. Some specific details are marked “to be confirmed” due to audio clarity.