

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– January 5, 2026

Present: Chris Ellms, Richard Bielefield, Rusty Talbot
Jennifer Gaudette

Guests: Judy & Larry Sawyer, Kathy Jablonski, Brian Beaulieu, Jonah Hanowitz

MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes of December 22, 2025, seconded by MR. TALBOT. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

The board received the latest U199 updates. No work the past two weeks.

The Board will meet next Monday the 12th in Franconia at 4:30pm with the Franconia and Easton Select Boards to discuss Transfer Station and Recreation department budgets. The board will hold it's regular meeting at approximately 5:30 pm.

Jennifer advised the board that she has contacted the town attorney regarding an abatement appeal filed in Grafton Superior Court by Nick Davidge dba Ad Astra Trust Lafayette Road. Map 221, Lot 13. Currently the town assessing contract is expired as we look for a replacement.

There was a Worker Compensation filed by a member of the fire department.

The Town received \$68,136.15 in Rooms & Meals funds.

The town received a check from Franconia in the amount of \$4,032.00 for the town's share of sale of container from Transfer Station.

The board signed a Current Use Application for Map 219, Lot 30 Beres & Eisenberg Joint Revocable Trust.

Margo Connors has reached out to NC Health Consortium regarding a regional health officer. The current Health Officer Deb Corey has resigned as of January 31, 2026. Margo is currently the Deputy Health Officer.

Hourly rate for Town Attorney has increased to \$275 per hour. NHMA Legal are used as often as possible.

Jennifer updated the board on a Right to Know Request that was received.

RED MCCARTHY provided a written status report on Crane Hill Bridge.

North Country Healthcare will be hosting a series of community listening sessions. Wednesday, February 4th at the Rocks Estate from 5:30-7:30pm.

The board discussed correspondence from NHMA regarding HB 314 and agreed on opposition.

Open Public:

Question regarding Chris Ellms mentioning the height of the current tower on Scragg which is 192'. Proposed new tower is 150'. They will need to go through the Variance and Site Plan procedures.

There was a question if just anyone can file a right to know. The answer is yes and the town can't charge for the time spent researching. Can only charge if paper copies are made. Can require that the party requesting information come and go through the files themselves.

LARRY SAWYER advised that the Conservation Commission received some paperwork from DES regarding the Jesseman property and wetlands concern. He will send a copy to the office.

With no more public business before the Board, MR. ELLMS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. TALBOT the meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday January 12, 2026, at 4:30 pm at the Franconia Town Hall to be followed with a meeting at 5:30 pm at the Crapo Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Town Administrator