

TOWN OF SMITHFIELD
Summary of the March 2, 2026
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

PRESENT:
Rebecca Bright
Daniel Keay
Justin Furbush

ALSO, PRESENT: Nichole Clark Hans Rasmussen
Corey Skehan Michelle Taylor
Jay Merry Annebell Merry
Laura & Tim Covert Amy Downing
Meredyth Tuttle

THIS MEETING WAS TAPED AND THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS A BRIEF SUMMARY.

The summaries of the February 17, 2026 meeting minutes were accepted as typed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Town Roads Plow & Sand Specification Review (not vote) for Bidding Process

The board received a copy of the current contract and prior years contract prices. The board will continue with discussions at the next meeting.

2. Withdrawal of Petition submitted to Withdraw from RSU #54

The TA stated for the record that the petitioner that submitted a petition for the withdrawal process to the Town Clerk has withdrew the petition. The items will not be an article in the FY 2026-27 Town Meeting Warrant.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Commentary

a. Meredyth Tuttle-June Referendum Election

Meredyth Tuttle spoke as a resident first, stating her feelings about the board not following through with the process to look into withdrawing options from the school district.

Meredyth spoke as Town Clerk and suggested the board create a referendum question at the June referendum election asking the residents if they want the board to look into options.

b. DEP Proposed Surface use Restriction Ordinance-North Pond

The TA informed the board that a possible DEP surface use restriction ordinance is being discussed for North Pond in three area. The restriction would be to for the areas that the divers will be participating in to remove invasive aquatic species. The TA will keep the board informed.

2. Public Hearing-Set Permit/Technical Fees for Non-Residential Solar Energy-Producing Facilities Application

The TA informed the board that the Public Hearing for non-residential solar permit technical fees had been moved to March 17, 2026 meeting.

3. Town Meeting Warrant FY 26-27

a. Signature

Justin Furbush motioned to sign the FY 2026-27 Town Meeting Warrant. Rebecca Bright seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Property Declaration Insert

The TA explained to the board that pursuant to the state statutes, the property declaration form is no longer required to be put in the town reports.

c. Art 3 Property Tax Levey Limit

In 2025 the property tax levy limit requirements changed, and municipalities no longer had to have that as a vote of the residents. The TA has now been notified that the legislature has put the requirement back to being a requirement.

4. Request for Food Sovereignty Ordinance-Town Resident

A resident contacted the office and asked if the town could look into creating a Food Sovereignty Ordinance. The TA gave the board all of the information pertaining to food sovereignty gathered from Maine Municipal Association. Corey Skehan, a resident was at the meeting to explain why they requested the ordinance. The board will take all of the information and review.

5. Skowhegan Savings CD

The Tax Collector asked the board if they wanted the current CD with Skowhegan Savings to be left in the system to continue to collect interest. The board agreed to leave the money in the CD. The board asked the TA to have the Tax Collector come to a meeting to discuss options for the CD. The current value of the CD is \$212,448.84.

6. KRDA FirstPark Budget Meeting Notice

The board received an information letter from KRDA FirstPark about the upcoming 2026-27 budget meeting for March 19, 2026. The TA will communicate with the towns KRDA representatives Gloria Kelly and ask for any updates.

7. Municipal Parking Lot Contract Questions

Some areas of concern were discussed about the Municipal Parking Lot plowing & sanding contract. The area near the FD office window has an abundance of snow being piled up, the bulkhead area, and the back steps entrance to the food pantry. When the contract comes up for renewal in October 2026, those areas will be addressed with the contractor.

8. Road Signs Needing Fix/Replacement

a. E-911 Signs

The TA spoke with Justin about E-911 signs around town that are fading and about El-lies Ln sign and post that was hit by a vehicle. Justin will let the TA know which signs need to be replaced due to fading and he will take a look at Ellie's Lane and let the TA know what is needed.

b. Amish Buggy Signs

The office was contacted by the M.D.O.T. and two Amish buggy signs are being made and will be dropped off at the office.

9. Adjourn and Sign Warrant #3-26

Justin Furbush motioned to adjourn and sign Warrant #3-26. Rebecca Bright seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.