

*Town of Livermore Falls*  
*Office of the Select Board*

**Ernie Souther**  
**Bruce Peary**  
**William Kenniston**

**Jeffrey Braynt**  
**John Benedetto**

Select Board Meeting  
**May 5, 2026**  
Livermore Falls Town Office  
6:00 pm

1. **Call meeting to order** – Carrie called the meeting to order at 6pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Election of Board Chair** – Will nominates Ernie Souther for Board Chair and Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, John nominated Bruce for Chair and Bruce declined the nomination. Bruce moves to cease nominations, Will 2<sup>nd</sup> the nomination. All in favor 4-0-1
4. **Election of Board Vice Chair** – Bruce nominates Jeff Bryant for Board Vice Chair and Ernie 2<sup>nd</sup> the nomination. Bruce moves to cease nominations, Ernie 2<sup>nd</sup> the nomination all in favor 4-0-1
5. **Adjustment to agenda**
6. **Public Hearings**
7. **Approval of the Minutes**
  - 7.1 April 21, 2026 – Will moves to approve minutes and Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor 4-0-1
8. **Old business**
  - 8.1 Legal Services Proposals
    - Drummond Woodsum - \$300 - \$400/hour project based
    - Bern Stein Shur - town attorney would be \$330hr except for Labor, Tif, Municipal bond work and litigation matters this would be \$430hr.
    - Will asked how this compares to our current attorney? Carrie said her prices went up to \$300. There is one other quote that Carrie needs to find and asked if they wanted to table until she can get it. Ernie asked if we had anything that needed an attorney for coming up? Carrie told Ernie there is nothing.
    - Ernie motions to table until they have more information, Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor 5-0-0
9. **New Business**
  - 9.1 Transfer station – container reserve request
    - Bill got three quotes to have two containers delivered to the transfer station. They range from \$19,454 to \$26,270, the company that came in the lowest is who we purchased from in January, 2024, and the price went up \$1,717 since then.
    - Ernie motions to approve the purchase of two containers from the reserve account at \$19,450, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 4-0-1
  - 9.2 Police cruiser replacement – reserve request
    - Want to replace car #1 with a 2026 ford interceptor hybrid, the #1 car has 106,000 miles on it and 14,000 engine hours. Ernie asked if there is enough money in the reserve account for the car, Carrie said there was. Ernie motions to approve the purchase of the police vehicle out of the reserve account, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor 4-0-1
  - 9.3 Excavator purchase – reserve request
    - Bill did research on five different manufactures & warranties, some of the warranties are horrible for the price you are paying, you get a 1yr warranty. Bill feels the Cat machine is the best option for the town because it has a 5yr/5000hr warranty, and it comes with an extra set of hydraulics.

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The next one is Itachi, you have this in your packet, these are the top two going by warranty, price and service.

Bill recommends the Cat for \$128,956; it comes with extra hydraulics at the end of the booms for any future attachments we might purchase in the future. Ernie is asking what it is replacing, and that will be the Hyundai loader that is 26yrs old and at the Transfer Station. We are going with an excavator because we are looking at purchasing a mulching head (a joint purchase) for mulching the Rec Field, Foundry Road and several other roads we have in town. The excavator will be so much easier and faster for digging, the biggest thing is safety for doing culverts and not facing OSHA violations being too close to the ditch. Will was asking if this was money the town has been putting away for a while now for this purchase and bill said yes. Ernie wanted to clarify this would not increase the tax burden and Bill told him no, these are funds we already have sitting in the account. John motions to table this to get a little more information on this and look into the cost of renting instead of purchasing and hiring a third party. Will motions to purchase the excavator for \$128,956, Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 4-0-1

9.4 Sand bid award

We received two quotes and CH Stevenson was the lowest again this year with 6.95 a yard and the other one at 7.98 a yard. Ernie mentioned Stevensons is closer so less time and less fuel, Bill agreed and said they are ordering 200 yards more than last year. Bruce moves to except the bid at 6.95 a yard, Will 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

9.5 Norris Bridge Engineering Bids

Acorn Engineering - \$85,950, Dirigo - \$42,000, SME - \$74,100, Barry Huff McDonald Milligan \$48,000, Main-Land - \$83,000 and CMA - \$30,600. Carrie is asking if one of the board members Could look at these because she knows Main-Land based the bid on DOT specs and a couple other ones did it based on a really big box culvert. So you need to figure out if they do have to do one and half bank full width, if it is she believes it will have to be just over 30 feet, so it is all going to depend on what you are looking for as the budget and how they are going to have to design from that. Ernie asked if we have a grant in motion for this project and how much is the grant? Carrie said we do and the amount is around \$63,000. Ernie motions to table a decision on the Norris Bridge Bids until we have a chance to review it, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor 5-0-0

9.6 June 8 – 2 pm office closing to public for training

Ernie motions to close off for training, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

9.7 June 30 – 12 noon office closing to public for year-end processing

Ernie motions to close off for EOY, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

9.8 Alternate Retirement Plan – 457B Plan and ICMA

Will motions to join alternate retirement plans with no match from the Town, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

9.9 Set Adult Use Marijuana Fee

Ernie motions to set Adult use fee the same as Medical fee, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 4-0-1

9.10 Lawn Mower and Trailer – Joint Sewer Reserve Request

Mark -Looking at a John Deer zero turn with a 48-inch deck. I was approved last year for One and the board rescinded it. We reused the Cub Cadet for another year and that cost us hours to do that, it is still running would just like permission to buy a zero turn for the sewer

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department. I went with John Deer because of the serviceability and a three year/300 hour bumper to bumper warranty. You are not going to get that with these ones from Home Depot and they do not have a 48-inch deck. John asked about tabling and looking into contracting the mowing out and if we could get a quote for that? Ernie motions to approve the trailer for \$3,500, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

9.11 Sewer Split Rate – Mark asks to table until next meeting, Ernie moves to table, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in Favor 5-0-0

9.12 Set date for Sewer Rate Public Hearing – Workshop to be set before public hearing, Carrie will reach out with a date. The billing policy will be looked at during the workshop. Bruce motioned to set Public Hearing for June 16, 26. Ernie 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

**10. Warrants/Abatements/Deeds/Quit Claim**

10.1 Payroll Warrant: #16 \$29,993.05, #17 \$31,071.23 – Ernie motions to approve payroll warrant, Will 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

10.2 General Fund Warrant: #45 \$25,792.69, #47 \$19,090.03, #48 \$50,430.05  
Pay Req #74 \$799,117.28

Ernie motions to approve Warrants, Will 2<sup>nd</sup>s. All in favor 5-0-0

10.3 Abatements, Quit Claim Deeds, Supplements

Abatement: Map 17, Lot 11-15-ON \$105.28 – Mobil home was moved without permit, there is nothing to Lein. Will motions to abate \$105.28, Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor 5-0-0

Quit Claim: Map 30, Lot 30A

Quit Claim: Map 15, Lot 55

**11. Board Discussion** – Bruce thanks the public works for putting up the new flag in Union Park.

John would like a few items on the next agenda for discussion, the items are town emails for each board member so you are not using your personal one and it looks more professional. Carrie will look into the cost of emails, and Ernie said each board member has created a separate email just for town business. John would like to discuss having a quarterly select board priorities action plan, thinking this will help the board stay a little more focused on items that could be resolved or implemented, that are not the Town Managers day to day focus.

**12. Manager Discussion** – Carrie wants to thank all 262 voters that came out last Tuesday to vote.

Summer Rec applications have been dropped off at the schools, the time frame is 6/29 – 7/30, we were able to keep the same cost at \$100 per child from each town. All applications will be returned here to Livermore Falls.

The tri town recreation master plan committee received the President's recognition award from AVCOG last week. There was a lot of work done by a lot of people and stakeholder's, and it's a Good plan, the plan is on the Town's website.

**13. Department Head Discussion** – Bill - Tri Town sweeping was finished last Monday, Ken finished all the vinyl from the window project, we help the railroad change a panel on Foundry Road and help get the crossing ready for paving. The fine grade was completed today and plan on getting the base paving done tomorrow, and weather permitting the surface pavement done on Thursday. We started

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painting crosswalks and parking spaces today and hoping to have complete that by Memorial Day.

Mark – We had a joint sewer committee meeting last week and everything looks good, milestone 1 and milestone 2 at the treatment plant are at substantial completion. Milestone 3 is underway as far as design and ordering equipment. We do have some reserve account requests coming forward, I am still getting pricing and variation. This is for the sludge holding tanks to help reduce future costs for cleaning those tanks, I will have a better explanation when I come to the boards for that, this will be a joint reserve account request.

Byrce – We have three planning board terms that expired, we have applications available at the office. I do believe two are interested in reappointment and maybe one interested in stepping up as a regular member. Dunkin Donuts is doing a complete remodel, and Cumberland Farms will be doing face lift. There are multiple property maintenance cases active, and they seem to be going very well. 143 Main St was a pretty big mess, and it's been cleaned up quite nicely. It's nice to see some of these taken care of.

John is asking Bryce for a monthly update going forward on new building permits, to help the board understand what is happening in the community.

**14. Public Comment - None**

**15. Executive Session – 1 MRS §405(6)(C) – Real Property** – Ernie called Executive Session in at 8:04, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 5-0-0. No action taken.

**16. Executive Session – 1 MRS §405(6)(A) – Personnel Matters** – same as above. No action taken.

**17. Adjourn** – 8:16pm Bruce motioned to adjourn, Ernie 2<sup>nd</sup> All in favor 5-0-0

