

Town of Shirley
Select Board Meeting
May 20, 2026

Present:

Selectman Chairman: Nick Hanson

Selectman: Barry Bateman

Town Clerk/Secretary to the Selectman: Brandie Costantine

Public Present:

Scott Phillips

Tom Taliento

Call to order:

Chairman Nick Hanson Called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, directly followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Meeting recorded by the Town Clerk.

Approval of minutes:

Motion by: Barry Bateman to accept the minutes of April 29, 2026, seconded by Nick Hanson. Motion carried 2-0.

Town Warrant:

The Select Board reviewed and signed the town warrant.

Correspondence:

Information on the proposed bond was reviewed.

New Business:

1. Barry discussed the bond proposal that will go before the town at the annual meeting. The bond would fund paving on West Road, from the bridge to the school bus turnaround, and on North Road. If the work is not done now, the roads will continue to deteriorate and repair costs will increase.

The proposed bond amount is \$267,476.00 plus interest. The town would make one payment a year in the amount of \$51,447.20 for six years. This will be explained further at the annual meeting.

2. Charlie Baker contacted Barry about the plaque at Shirley Pond. He said the plaque is faded, peeling and should be repaired. After discussion, Barry agreed to contact the county.

3. The toilet in the office will be replaced next week.

4. Barry reported that the new dry hydrant has been installed and is ready for use. The Greenville Fire Department tested it, and within 30 seconds it was producing water. They reported getting 1,000 gallons per minute. The Fire Department will test the hydrant twice a year. The Select Board thanked the Greenville Fire Department for coming out to perform the test.

5. Nick reminded everyone that the Dumpster will be here Saturday for bulky waste.

Old Business:

None

Selectman Additions:

None

Public Comments:

1. Scott Phillips asked whether the Select Board plans to place the ordinances prepared by the Planning Board, on the warrant for a town vote. He noted that the Planning Board had already held a public hearing and that the ordinances now need voter approval. The ordinances presented at the hearing included two solar ordinances—one addressing solar in general and one addressing commercial solar—a Land Use Ordinance correction, a Cannabis Ordinance changing the term “marijuana” to “cannabis,” and a Budget Committee Ordinance.

Nick said he did not believe a Budget Committee was necessary, Scott responded that the decision should be left to the town. After further discussion, Scott asked whether the ordinances would be placed on the warrant for a vote. Nick and Barry both agreed that all will be on the warrant.

2. Tom Taliento discussed the storm damage on Blanchard Road and the FEMA funding the town received. Based on his research, he understood that the town submits the completed work and FEMA determines the amount it will reimburse. Tom asked whether the town submits invoices and then receives payment from FEMA. Barry explained that the town has already received about \$68,000. He said FEMA staff came out with GPS equipment and recorded coordinates, and the funds must be spent within those designated areas. Barry also stated that the FEMA money will be placed in a separate account. Nick added that the work was completed before the town received the funds in winter. Tom then asked if the work had been documented for FEMA. Barry replied that the town had to account for the money it spent and that the FEMA funds are the town being reimbursed.

Nick added that there is still work that needs to be done on both the Blanchard Road and the North Road, and they would like to build up these roads so this does not happen again. The plan is to split the money the town has between the two roads and use money from the summer roads account if needed.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Nick Hanson, seconded by Barry Bateman. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Brandie Costantine, Town Clerk