Town of Swanzey, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting – September 10, 2025
Town Hall – Lower-Level Conference Room
620 Old Homestead Highway, Swanzey, NH

Present: Select Board members: W. William Hutwelker III and James Tempesta. Also present was the Town Administrator Lori Rautiola, Director of Public Works Joe DiRusso, CIPC Chair Steve Bittel, and Administrative Assistant Katie Collins

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair W. William Hutwelker III, at 3:31 pm. at the Town Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Departmental Budgets

Steve Bittel noted that the Town is currently missing departmental budget numbers, which need to be collected and reviewed.

Discussion: Swanzey Lake Dam

Joe provided updates regarding Swanzey Lake Dam.
Bittel stated that an estimated $75,000–$150,000 will be required at this time for engineering and design work only, prior to any construction.

Discussion: Wastewater System Needs

Joe reported that wastewater from North Swanzey Waters will need to either be tied into Keene's system or require millions of dollars in upgrades to remain independent.

Discussion: Road Projects

It was noted that Webber Hill currently does not have sufficient funding to address these needs. The Town requires $163,000 to move forward. Steve Bittel suggested that the Board does not have a problem with allocating funds from the Road Rehabilitation account, which currently has a positive balance.

Joe provided updates on North Winchester Street and California Street projects.
Remaining work includes sidewalk installation, landscaping, paving, and drainage.
The projects are expected to be completed by late October to early November. Bittel asked about the Shaheen Grant. Lori advised that $200,000 was awarded to the town. Bittel said trustees of trust needs the numbers by End of September beginning of November.
Hutwelker stated that the Capital Reserve and Shaheen Grant numbers are close to the budget.

Improvements for Town Hall Downstairs

Steve Bittel reported he received a quote from the architect estimating $350,000 for the installation of a staircase and a LULA in Town Hall. Funding options were discussed, with the preference to use Capital Reserve Funds rather than pursuing a bond. Hutwelker inquired whether the staircase could be constructed on the exterior of the building instead of inside. Lori suggested the possibility of having

the Recreation Department use temporary office space. Steve Bittel noted that if the Town Hall has an ADA-compliant entrance, it will also require an ADA-compliant bathroom. Hutwelker suggested exploring the possibility of installing a pump-up bathroom plumbing system to meet ADA requirements. Hutwelker also recommended considering whether the staircase should be constructed inside versus outside, noting that building it inside may result in cost savings. Joe advised that he could get a contractor number by December 1st.

Carpenter Home Roof
Bittel told DiRusso there are substantial common trustee funds in Trustees account to cover new roof. Hutwelker stated we have to do the roof this year and that we can move forward with the roof. Joe said he will move forward with it and will get a quote.

Motion made by Labelle to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Tempesta: no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Adjournment occurred at 4:16pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Collins
Administrative Assistant

Approved on November 12, 2025