Town of Swanzey, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting – July 23, 2026
Town Hall - Swanzey, NH

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was opened by Chair James Tempesta at 10:05 am. Also present were board members Alan Gross, Bill Hutwelker, Mark LaBelle, and James Ward. Also present were Tania Emerson, Kevin Westcott, and Christine Smith.

Tania Emerson presented Emertech's proposal for phone service. They work with Quest Blue who provides phone cloud service and Emertech provides local service.

Options in terms of phones can affect the price. Their quote was for the most expensive option. The cost for minutes is an estimate.

There are options which might reduce the cost.

NON-PUBLIC SESSIONS

Non-public session(s) per RSA 91-A:3, II *(a) the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee.*

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to enter a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) which was seconded by Jay Ward. All were in favor by Roll Call and the motion passed. The Board entered the non-public session at 10:58am. Present were James Tempesta, Mark LaBelle, W. William Hutwelker III, James Ward and Alan Gross. Also present were HR Coordinator Meagen Kerris, Code Enforcement Officer Chris Levy and Administrative Assistant Katie Collins.

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to come out of the non-public session, seconded by Jay Ward. All were in favor by Roll Call and the motion passed. The non-public session ended at 11:48am.

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to seal the minutes because divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a member of this Board; Jay Ward seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Non-public session(s) per RSA 91-A:3, II *(a) the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee.*

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to enter a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) which was seconded by Jay Ward. All were in favor by Roll Call and the motion passed**.** The Board entered the non-public session at 11:50am. Present were James Tempesta, Mark LaBelle, W. William Hutwelker III, James Ward and Alan Gross. Also present were HR Coordinator Meagen Kerris and Administrative Assistant Katie Collins.

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to come out of the non-public session, seconded by Jay Ward. All were in favor by Roll Call and the motion passed. The non-public session ended at 11:56am.

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to seal the minutes because divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a member of this Board; Jay Ward seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Non-public session(s) per RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee
A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to enter a nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (b) which was seconded by Jay Ward. All were in favor by Roll Call and the motion passed**.** The Board entered the non-public session at 11:59am. Present were James Tempesta, Mark LaBelle, W. William Hutwelker III, James Ward and Alan Gross. Also present were HR Coordinator Meagen Kerris and Administrative Assistant Katie Collins.

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to come out of the non-public session, seconded by Jay Ward. All were in favor by Roll Call and the motion passed. The non-public session ended at 12:16pm.

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to seal the minutes because divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a member of this Board; Jay Ward seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Public session reconvened at 12:16 p.m.

Selectman Ward stated that $60,000 is available in the budget for the phone project. Theresa requested that Jay work with Christine to determine which department budget line(s) the funding will come from. Selectman Hutwelker stated that the Board would like to determine whether EmerTech can provide a five-year contract, preferably by the following day. Selectman Hutwelker advised that he would contact Tania at EmerTech to discuss the request.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by to adjourn by Mark LaBelle, seconded by Jay Ward. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Collins, Administrative Assistant

Approved on July 29, 2026