Town of Swanzey, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting – September 24, 2026
Town Hall – Lower-Level Conference Room, Swanzey, NH

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair James Tempesta at 1:30pm at Town Hall – Lower-Level Conference Room, Swanzey, NH. Other members present were Selectmen Mark LaBelle, W William Hutwelker, James Ward and Alan Gross. Also present was Human Resources Coordinator Meagen Kerris and Director of Planning and Community Development Adam Paquette.

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 1:31pm. Present were James Tempesta, Mark LaBelle, W. William Hutwelker III, James Ward and Alan Gross. Also present were Human Resources Coordinator Meagen Kerris, Director of Planning and Community Development Adam Paquette, and Assistant Town Planner Stephon Mehu.

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 1:45pm.

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 1:48pm. Present were James Tempesta, Mark LaBelle, W. William Hutwelker III, James Ward and Alan Gross. Also present were Human Resources Coordinator Meagen Kerris, Director of Planning and Community Development Adam Paquette, and Code Enforcement Officer Christopher Levy.

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 1:58pm.

Discussion of what the Board is looking for from Adam Paquette as the new Director of Planning and Community Development.

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 2pm. Present were James Tempesta, Mark LaBelle, W. William Hutwelker III, James Ward and Alan Gross. Also present were Human Resources Coordinator Meagen Kerris and Director of Planning and Community Development Adam Paquette.

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 2:39pm.

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.

The Board discussed the engineering needs and funding for the lower level of the Town Hall.

Mark LaBelle made a motion to authorize DPW Director, Joe DiRusso, to engage the engineers this fall for the projected work in the lower level of the Town Hall. James Ward seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Mark LaBelle made a motion to authorize the expenditure of up to $15,000 for the structural engineering study by Cory Attra for the lower level of the Town Hall and for the funds to come from the Town Hall Maintenance and Repair Capital Reserve Fund. James Ward seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board then discussed the repairs needed at Richardson Park.

Next, there was a discussion regarding the new Town Administrator, Jeremy Bourgeois, attending a Selectboard meeting on October 7, 2026, to become familiar with the expectations once he starts full-time.

The Board also discussed the request from Viewpoint for a meeting with the Board of Selectmen regarding their water usage, and what information the Selectboard would like prior to the meeting.

Lastly, there was a discussion of the special Selectboard meetings in the week of September 28, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mark LaBelle to adjourn the meeting; Jay Ward seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Adjournment occurred at 3:21pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meagen Kerris
Human Resources Coordinator

Approved on October 7, 2026