

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2025

Town Office, 227 Justin Morrill Highway, Strafford, 05072

Selectboard Participants in Person: Kelly Harman, Toni Pippy

Selectboard Participants vis Zoom: Mary Linehan, Jeff Solsaa

Participants in Person: Chris Behr, Bryan Kovalick, John Freitag,

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

This is the first of 3 meetings to review the draft Strafford Capital Budget. The version of the draft used at the meeting is visible in the Zoom recording of the meeting.

The projects and amounts in the Capital Budget are for planning purposes only.

1. Town Garage Projects

This section includes projects to maintain or improve the town garage. A MERP (Municipal Energy Resilience Program) audit was used to identify some of the projects.

- Electric vehicles and road equipment - Not practical at this point. Revisit as electric options become more viable. Remove battery and EV projects.
- Heat pump - Remove project. The current furnace is adequate.
- Door insulation recommended by MERP. Leave.
- Solsaa: The building insulation is inadequate and wasteful. Add a \$92,000 insulation project for 2028, and follow up with an actual quote.

2. Old Town Garage

- Move the pouring of a concrete slab to 2026.
- Remove the solar panel project (the lack of electric grid precludes the project)

3. Highway Department

- Loan & equipment replacement - no changes
- The repeater project can be put off 1 year unless it is already in the budget

4. Highway Infrastructure

This section was reorganized to reflect the latest grant and quotes from contractors, and to prioritize certain projects. Several projects were moved to different years or had their projected cost adjusted. The paving projects were adjusted to minimize roads that alternate from paved to gravel (which is costly to maintain and plow because the different sections require different equipment).

Brian Kovalick will follow up with an updated version of the draft document.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm