

SELECT BOARD MEETING
Monday, June 29, 2026
6:30 pm
Nowak Room, Town Offices
10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING BEGINS AT 7:00 PM

Meetings can be watched on Ch 22 or Ch 6 or YouTube. Attendees can join in person or virtually via Zoom.

To access the meeting, click this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87372595412>

To access the meeting via telephone, call: +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Webinar ID: 873 7259 5412

Please join the meeting with your full name if you want to speak.

Use the "Raise Hand" button to alert the chair you wish to speak. On the phone, press *9.

More instructions to access the meeting here: <https://www.exeternh.gov/townmanager/virtual-town-meetings>

Contact us at extvg@exeternh.gov or 603-418-6425 with any technical issues.

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Board Interviews
 - a. Conservation Commission (2029) – Ethan Fishbaugh 6:30 pm
 - b. Planning Board (Alt. 2027 or 2029) – Ryan Kelly 6:40 pm
 - c. Trustees of the Robinson Fund (2029) – Dan Provost 6:50 pm
3. Swearing In – Police Officer Christopher Dowd
4. Recognition – Daughters of the American Revolution – First Place National Video Contest
5. Public Comment
6. Discussion/Action Items
 - a. Water/Sewer Rates Discussion – Corey Stevens, Finance Director
 - b. Budget v. Actual Results (Unaudited) at 12/31/25 compared to 12/31/24 – Corey Stevens, Finance Director
7. Approval of Minutes
 - a. June 15, 2026
 - b. June 22, 2026 Goal Setting Meeting
8. Appointments/Resignations
 - a. Appointment - Exeter Housing Authority – Megan Spencer - 2028
9. Town Manager's Report
 - a. Master Patrol Officer Designation
 - b. New Town Offices Hours Open to the Public
 - c. Assessing Office Coverage
10. Select Board Committee Report
11. Correspondence
12. Review Board Calendar
13. Non-Public Session
14. Adjournment

Niko Papakonstantis, Chair

Select Board

Posted 6/26/26 Town Office, Town Website

Persons with a disabling condition may request accommodations in order to attend this meeting. Requests should be made with 72 hours notice.

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Board Interviews



Town of Exeter
Town Manager's Office
10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833

Interview
6/29/26
6:30 pm
CONFIRMED

Statement of Interest Boards and Committee Membership

Committee Selection: Conservation Commission

New

Re-Appointment

Regular

Alternate

Name: Ethan Fishbaugh Email: EFish4291@gmail.com

Address: 6 Brookside Drive #11 Exeter NH 03833 Phone: 603-828-2724

Registered Voter: Yes No

Statement of Interest/experience/background/qualification, etc. (*resume can be attached*).

As a lifelong seacoast resident and outdoor enthusiast, I take great interest in preserving our outdoor resources. I have been involved since last year as a volunteer for trail maintenance, and have participated in two site walks and most of the trail building days in the town forest this spring. I believe my professional skillset in quality operations and project management would allow me to add value as I expand my conservation knowledge. I am committed to not only protecting our natural gifts, but also enhancing community awareness, education, and involvement as critical components of executing that goal.

If this is re-appointment to a position, please list all training sessions you have attended relative to your appointed position.

I understand that: 1. this application will be presented to the Exeter Select Board only for the position specified above and not for subsequent vacancies on the same board; 2. The Town Manager and Select Board may nominate someone who has not filed a similar application; 3. this application will be available for public inspection.

After submitting this application for appointment to the Town Manager:

- The application will be reviewed and you will be scheduled for an interview with the Select Board
- Following the interview the Board will vote on your potential appointment at the next regular meeting
- If appointed, you will receive a letter from the Town Manager and will be required to complete paperwork with the Town Clerk prior to the start of your service on the committee or board.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older:

Signature: Ethan L Fishbaugh Date: 6/9/26

To be completed by Select Board upon appointment:

Date Appointed: _____ Term Ending: _____ Full: _____ Alternate: _____



Town of Exeter
Town Manager's Office
10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833

June 29, 2026
6:40 pm
CONFIRMED

Statement of Interest
Boards and Committee Membership

Committee Selection: Planning Board

New Re-Appointment Regular Alternate

Name: Ryan Kelly Email: ryankelly@gmail.com
Address: 24 Prospect St Phone: 203-910-0813

Registered Voter: Yes No

Statement of Interest/experience/background/qualification, etc. (resume can be attached).

I've lived in town with my family for ten years and am excited about Exeter growing and improving. I'm invested in the master plan process, have volunteered for some feedback sessions and would like to be more involved. Professionally, I am a solution architect at a tech company and manage technical projects with multiple stakeholders.

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I certify that I am 18 years of age or older:

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 6-1-26

To be completed by Select Board upon appointment:

Date Appointed: _____ Term Ending: _____ Full: _____ Alternate: _____



Town of Exeter
Town Manager's Office
10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833

Interview w/SB
6/29/26 6:50 pm.
CONFIRMED

Statement of Interest
Boards and Committee Membership

Committee Selection: Trustees of the Robinson Trust Fund

New

Re-Appointment

Regular

Alternate

Name: Dan Provost

Email: dprovost@sam16.org

Address: 18 Westworth St.

Phone: (603) 661-2855

Registered Voter: Yes

No

Statement of Interest/experience/background/qualification, etc. (resume can be attached).

I am interested in joining the Board of Trustees for the Robinson Trust Fund as an engaged and "embedded" member of the Exeter, and Greater SAU-16, educational community. I have taught at ETS for nearly 20 years, and in that time I have seen the impact that entities like the Trust can have, particularly the "grant program" that provides money to support "innovative programs and activities for students that better prepare them to compete in today's world."

If this is re-appointment to a position, please list all training sessions you have attended relative to your appointed position.

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- Following the interview the Board will vote on your potential appointment at the next regular meeting
- If appointed, you will receive a letter from the Town Manager and will be required to complete paperwork with the Town Clerk prior to the start of your service on the committee or board.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older:

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 5/4/26

To be completed by Select Board upon appointment:

Date Appointed: _____ Term Ending: _____ Full: _____ Alternate: _____

Swearing In

Recognition



FW: Exeter DAR chapter wins national first place for Powder House video

1 message

Paul Cohen <pcohen@exeternh.gov>
To: Pam McElroy <pmcelroy@exeternh.gov>

Tue, Jun 16, 2026 at 4:39 PM

From: Niko Papakonstantis <npapakonstantis@exeternh.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 12:50 PM
To: Paul Cohen <pcohen@exeternh.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Exeter DAR chapter wins national first place for Powder House video

Hi Paul,

Let's include this in the next packet under recognitions.

Thanks,

NP

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **RM Allen** <rmallennh@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jun 16, 2026 at 9:04 AM
Subject: Exeter DAR chapter wins national first place for Powder House video
To: Linda Hopey <lhopeymax@gmail.com>

Hello friends and colleagues,

It is my pleasure to let you know that we have received notification from national DAR that Exeter chapter was awarded first place in the video contest from the DAR national pr and media committee.

Certificate will be attached to the New Hampshire packet at DAR Continental Congress in Washington DC at the end of this month. New Hampshire State Regent Marilyn Huston has been notified.

If you are interested in viewing this award-winning public service announcement that Exeter Chapter daughters filmed in 2025 with the local cable channel Exeter TV, you can check it out here.

This was truly a group effort and we thank all the people involved.

In DAR service and friendship,

Renay Allen

Exeter Chapter Regent

2025-2028

Watch "Exeter's Role in the Battle of Bunker Hill" on YouTube

https://youtu.be/YIII3GTyab4?is=gU5aUz_PiAt8hJPZ

Public Comment

Discussion/Action Items

Water/Sewer Rates Discussion



TOWN OF EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

10 FRONT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 • (603) 778-0591 • FAX 772-4709

www.exeternh.gov

TO: EXETER SELECTBOARD & PAUL COHEN, TOWN MANAGER
FROM: COREY STEVENS, FINANCE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: PROPOSED WATER & SEWER RATE INCREASES
DATE: JUNE 29, 2026

Over the past few months, Town Administration in collaboration with Public Works and the chair of the Water & Sewer Advisory Committee have met to review the operational performance of the water/sewer utilities. This is an exercise we do periodically throughout the year, and as part of this process we consider the appropriateness of current rates charged for utility services. As you will recall, the town completed a rate study in 2023, and rates for both water and sewer were raised at the beginning of 2024. As we look out over the next 5-6 years of operations, several factors lead us to conclude that the town should begin to raise utility rates starting in 2026. This is particularly true with water, as the town is currently evaluating the replacement of its surface water treatment plant on Portsmouth Ave.

Attached to this memo are several documents that support our recommendation for utility rate increases. We are proposing new rate schedules for usage fees (consumption) and service fees (meters), with an effective date of July 1, 2026. The Town Manager and I presented the rate increases to the Water & Sewer Advisory Committee at their meeting on June 10, 2026, and the Committee voted to support the 2026 increases. As you will see on the attached forecasts, the need for rate increases, particularly for the water utility, will be annual. However, both Town Administration and the Committee agreed that operational performance and capital needs should be regularly monitored and that any future rate increases be based on the most current results at the time.

Corey

Water & Sewer Operating and Capital Needs Forecast Considerations and Assumptions

- Multi-year rate strategy to fund operations and prepare for capital needs:
 - Surface water treatment plant (SWTP) online in early 2030's
 - Potential loss of State Aid Grant (SAG) to Sewer Fund in future State budget cycles
 - Last utility rate adjustment in both funds was in January 2024
- Assumptions for both models are based (roughly) on historical experience:
 - 92% budget utilization
 - 4% operating budget increase (removing debt service)
- Water Fund:
 - Usage increases from 6% to 15% annually over the planning horizon (2026-2031)
 - 23% Service Fee increase brings meter rates to 2025 levels recommended by 2023 rate study
 - Continued increase in contribution from General Fund for fire protection services
 - Annual increases are targeted to prepare for anticipated SWTP debt service beginning in 2030
 - Significant use of fund balance in 2030, while maintaining a FB target of at least 40% of annual revenue
- Sewer Fund:
 - Moderate rate increases as capital needs are anticipated to be modest in coming years
 - State aid grant adds significantly to revenue, but is subject to renewal every 2 years by the State
 - Sewer fund maintains a healthy fund balance
 - Plan is to use fund balance toward select projects during the planning horizon
 - Rate increases and elevated fund balance are considered reasonable due to SAG question
- Overall:
 - Increases are needed to address aging infrastructure, rising debt service, regulatory requirements, and inflationary cost pressures
 - Balance affordability with sustainability; maintain adequate reserves; manage grant uncertainty; support phased increases
 - Both funds meet or exceed American Water Works Assoc. recommended reserve levels (40% of annual revenue)

WATER & SEWER UTILITY OPERATING FORECASTS

WATER	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Assumptions						
Budget Utilization	92%					
Budget Increase	n/c	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Usage Rate Increase	6%	10%	12%	14%	15%	15%
Service Fee Increase	23%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Fire Protection Fee Increase	50,000	ann.				
Other Revenue Increase	2%	ann.				
Revenue	5,215,512	5,736,838	6,322,886	7,064,402	7,972,143	9,026,642
Expenses	4,544,911	5,704,321	6,008,216	5,633,182	9,293,318	9,161,711
Surplus/ (Deficit)	670,601	32,516	314,670	1,431,220	(1,321,175)	(135,069)
Use of Fund Balance	500,000	-	-	-	20,000	80,250
Fund Balance - \$3,687,500	3,858,101	3,890,617	4,205,287	5,636,507	4,295,332	4,080,012
pct. of Revenue	74%	68%	67%	80%	54%	45%
SEWER						
Assumptions						
Budget Utilization	92%					
Budget Increase	n/c	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Usage Rate Increase	0%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Service Fee Increase	12%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Other Revenue Increase	3%	avg. annual				
Revenue	8,598,055	8,813,133	9,121,278	9,428,461	9,743,367	10,071,505
Expenses	7,996,720	8,353,323	8,439,082	9,037,058	9,586,095	9,605,454
Surplus/ (Deficit)	601,335	459,810	682,196	391,403	157,272	466,051
Use of Fund Balance	124,000	500,000	-	1,252,000	1,272,000	80,250
Fund Balance - \$6,700,000	7,177,335	7,137,145	7,819,341	6,958,744	5,844,016	6,229,817
pct. of Revenue	95%	92%	96%	82%	67%	68%

**Proposed W/S Rate Updates
Effective 7/1/2026**

	<u>WATER</u>		<u>SEWER</u>	
Usage	incr.	6%	incr.	0%
	Current	Eff. 7/1/26	Current	Eff. 7/1/26
Tier 1	10.72	11.36	16.99	16.99
Tier 2	13.41	14.21	21.24	21.24
Tier 3	16.08	17.04	25.49	25.49
Service	incr.	23%	incr.	12%
	Current	Eff. 7/1/26	Current	Eff. 7/1/26
3/4"	46.75	57.51	38.48	43.10
1"	65.45	80.51	53.87	60.34
1.5"	84.16	103.51	69.26	77.58
2"	135.58	166.77	111.59	124.98
3"	514.29	632.57	423.28	474.07
4"	654.54	805.09	538.72	603.37

Town of Exeter (NH) Water & Sewer Advisory Committee

DRAFT Minutes for the Meeting of

June 10, 2026

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order in the Nowak Room, Exeter Town Offices, Exeter, NH by Chairman Bob Kelly at 6:30 pm. A meeting quorum of other Committee members included Carl Wikstrom, Alan Mangan, and Selectboard Representative Mr. Dan Chartrand. Selectboard Representative Molly Cowan was unable to attend.

Corey Stevens, the Town Finance Director, and Paul Cohen, the Town Manager, were also in attendance. Asst. Town Manager, Melissa Roy, was able to attend part time, as well.

2. New or Other Business

To accommodate attendees' schedules, Mr. Kelly rearranged the agenda for the following presentation.

a. Water and Sewer Rate Analysis.

Mr. Kelly described recent rate setting events for the Committee. Beginning in 2016, the Town hired a third party consultant to develop rates that will adequately provide cash flow for the utilities in the face of impending capital projects, such as the Groundwater Treatment Facility on Lary Lane, the Wastewater Treatment Facility on Newfields Rd., and, down the road, further expansion of the groundwater system and possible upgrades to the Surface Water Treatment Facility on Portsmouth Ave. The rates set in this timeframe provided a successful framework for funding and paying for such capital projects.

The Town conducted another rate analysis in 2023 to update the prior work as new capital projects had, or were about to, hit the debt service roles. In addition, post-COVID, the town was experiencing significant increases to chemical and energy usage, factors that needed to be worked into annual budgets, and, therefore, rates. This 2023 model, the initial rates of which, were implemented in early 2024, is the basis of our current system and rate levels.

Mr. Kelly noted that he had been working with the Town Executive Team for almost a year to plan for the future budget requirements. Mr. Kelly invited Mr. Stevens to summarize his Department's financial assessment of budgets and impending debt service for the utilities, and how they might affect rates.

A summary of Mr. Stevens' presentation of a multi-year rate strategy to fund operations and prepare for capital needs is driven by the following:

➤ **Water Fund.**

- Want to maintain a Fund Balance target of 40% of annual revenue (AWWA recommendation).
- Surface water treatment plant (SWTP) online in early 2030's.
- Usage increases from 6% to 15% annually over the planning horizon.
- 23% Service Fee increase in 2026 brings meter rates to 2025 recommended levels.
- Continued increase in contribution from General Fund for fire protection services (place holder of \$50,000/yr. pending Budget Committee review).
- Annual increases are targeted to prepare for SWTP debt service beginning in 2030.

➤ **Sewer Fund.**

- Potential loss of State Aid Grant (SAG) to Sewer Fund in future State budget cycles. Currently \$900K per year off of debt service. State aid grant adds significantly to revenue, but subject to renewal every 2 years.
- Moderate rate increases as capital needs are anticipated as modest in coming years.
- Sewer fund maintains a healthy fund balance.
- Plan is to use fund balance toward select projects during the planning horizon.
- Rate increases and elevated fund balance considered reasonable due to SAG question.

In conclusion, increases are needed to address aging infrastructure, rising debt service, regulatory requirements, and inflationary cost pressures. The goal is to balance affordability with sustainability; maintain adequate reserves; manage grant uncertainty; support phased increases. Both funds generally meet or exceed AWWA recommended reserve levels (40% of annual revenue)

To support the discussion, a detailed handout was provided for each fund (see attached herein). Based on the current budget, debt services, proposed projects to be funded out of fund balance, and an estimated, preliminary budget for 2027, a proposed increase to each utilities service charge to get to the 2025 level in the model, as well as a 6% increase in the Water rates (Tiers 1, 2, and 3) are proposed. The Sewer rates will remain unchanged for 2026/2027. After discussion by the Committee, it was agreed that a similar accounting would be conducted next year at this time to assess how the changes affect the fund balances and if, indeed, additional adjustments are required. The following actions were taken on the Tier 1 rates.

	<u>Water Rates</u>		<u>Sewer Rates</u>	
	<u>Quarterly Fee</u>	<u>Rate *</u>	<u>Quarterly Fee</u>	<u>Rate*</u>
Current rates	\$46.75	\$10.13	\$38.48	\$16.99
Proposed Sept. 2026 adjustment	\$57.51	\$11.36	\$43.10	\$16.99

*Usage rate based on per 1000 gallons used. Finance Department will work up exact rates for Tiers 2 and 3 prior to meeting with the Selectboard to confirm the proposed adjustments.

Mr. Wikstrom moved and Mr. Mangen seconded a motion to adjust the quarterly service fees as described above. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Mangen moved and Mr. Wikstrom seconded a motion to adjust the Tier 1 water rate as described above. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

It is anticipated that the Committee and Finance Director will present to entire three Tier adjustment schedule to the Selectboard at a future meeting.

3. Regular Business

a. Water and Sewer Bill Abatement Requests. None at this time.

4. Committee Calendar

The normal Committee schedule of the first Wednesday of one month per quarter is based on the exact dates of availability of the Committee members. Due to anticipated member availability, the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 6:30 pm** in the Nowak Room at the Exeter Town Offices.

Mr. Kelly adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Bob Kelly, Recording Secretary pro tem
June 12, 2026

WATER

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		
Assumptions								
Budget Utilization	92%							
Budget Increase	n/c	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%		
Usage Rate Increase (July)	6%	10%	12%	14%	15%	15%		
Service Fee Increase	23%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%		
Fire Protection Fee Increase	50,000	ann.						
Other Revenue Increase	2%	ann.						
Revenue								
Usage Revenue	4,019,537	4,424,759	4,918,054	5,565,137	6,376,699	7,333,204		
Service Fees	843,034	1,030,579	1,071,802	1,114,674	1,159,261	1,205,631		
Fire Protection Fee	155,000	205,000	255,000	305,000	355,000	405,000		
Other Revenue	75,000	76,500	78,030	79,591	81,182	82,806		
Total Revenue	5,092,570	5,736,838	6,322,886	7,064,402	7,972,143	9,026,642		
Budget (excludes debt)	3,307,421	3,439,718	3,577,307	3,720,399	3,869,215	4,023,983		
@ 92%	3,042,827	3,164,540	3,291,122	3,422,767	3,559,678	3,702,065		
Debt								
Existing	1,389,084	2,301,781	2,444,094	1,990,935	1,859,681	1,649,093		
Proposed	-	-	-	46,480	275,959	312,553		
SWTP	-	-	-	-	3,370,000	3,300,000		
Other								
Lead Svs. Lines	113,000	173,000	173,000	173,000	173,000	173,000		
Vehicles	-	65,000	100,000	-	55,000	25,000		
	1,502,084	2,539,781	2,717,094	2,210,415	5,733,640	5,459,646		
Total Budget	4,544,911	5,704,321	6,008,216	5,633,182	9,293,318	9,161,711		
Surplus/ (Deficit)	547,659	32,516	314,670	1,431,220	(1,321,175)	(135,069)		
Use of FB	500,000	-	-	-	20,000	80,250		
Fund Balance	3,735,159	3,767,675	4,082,345	5,513,565	4,172,390	3,957,071	0.44	
12/31/2025	3,687,500	2,037,028	2,294,735	2,529,154	2,825,761	3,188,857	3,610,657	0.40 AWWA recommended

SEWER

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	
Assumptions							
Budget Utilization	92%						
Budget Increase	n/c	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Usage Rate Increase (July)	0%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Service Fee Increase	12%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Revenue							
Usage Revenue	6,731,418	6,873,205	7,148,133	7,434,059	7,731,421	8,040,678	
Service Fees	656,902	764,161	803,248	835,378	868,793	903,545	
State Aid Grant	1,031,639	1,015,767	999,896	984,024	968,153	952,282	subject to renewal every 2yrs.
Septage Fees	75,000	85,000	95,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
Other Revenue	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Total Revenue	8,569,959	8,813,133	9,121,278	9,428,461	9,743,367	10,071,505	
Budget (excludes debt)	3,626,505	3,771,565	3,922,428	4,079,325	4,242,498	4,412,198	
@ 92%	3,336,385	3,469,840	3,608,634	3,752,979	3,903,098	4,059,222	
Debt							
Existing	4,660,335	4,883,483	4,785,448	4,932,199	4,840,349	4,738,727	
Proposed	-	-	-	161,880	707,648	807,505	
Other							
Vehicles	-	-	45,000	190,000	135,000	-	
	4,660,335	4,883,483	4,830,448	5,284,079	5,682,997	5,546,232	
Total Budget	7,996,720	8,353,323	8,439,082	9,037,058	9,586,095	9,605,454	
Surplus/ (Deficit)	573,239	459,810	682,196	391,403	157,272	466,051	
Use of FB	124,000	500,000	-	1,252,000	1,272,000	80,250	
Fund Balance	7,149,239	7,109,049	7,791,245	6,930,648	5,815,920	6,201,721	0.68
12/31/2025	6,700,000	3,015,328	3,118,946	3,248,553	3,377,775	3,510,086	3,647,689
							0.40 AWWA rec. (less SAG)

Budget v. Actual Results (Unaudited) at 12/31/25 compared to 12/31/24



TOWN OF EXETER
10 FRONT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 (603) 778-0591 • FAX 772-4709
www.exeternh.gov

TO: SELECT BOARD & PAUL COHEN, TOWN MANAGER
FROM: COREY STEVENS, FINANCE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: BUDGET V. ACTUAL RESULTS (UNAUDITED) AT 12/31/25, COMPARED TO 12/31/24
DATE: JUNE 29, 2026

The following are results of operations for 2025 in the General Fund, Water & Sewer Funds, as well as the Cable Access, Recreation, and Ambulance Revolving Funds.

General Fund Budget vs. Actual Revenue and Expenditures

General Fund Revenue

For the budget year ending December 31, 2025, Total General Fund Operating Revenue was \$25.4M, representing 103% of the FY25 overall budget of \$24.6M. By comparison, Total Operating Revenue at December 31, 2024, was \$23.8M representing 104% of the overall FY24 budget.

General Fund Revenues Highlights for 2025:

- **Property Tax Revenues**

- Property tax invoices totaling \$68.3M were issued in FY25 (\$32.4M in May; \$35.9M in December). The Town's portion of property taxes in 2025 equaled \$18.4M, \$3.0M of which was retained by the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District. 73% of property tax revenue was allocated to the school districts and county in 2025 as follows: Cooperative District \$24.7M; Exeter District \$22.9M; County \$2.2M.
- As of 12/31/25, 97% of the year's property taxes had been collected. These results are consistent with past years. The outstanding receivable balance was \$2.3M at year end, which has been reduced to \$1.06M as of the date of this report. See accompanying table at the end of this report.
- Other components of Property Tax Revenue include:
 - Current Use Tax \$418K, compared to \$745K in FY24 (2024 included the Gateway and Rose Farm projects)
 - Overlay (abatements) of \$65K was a decrease of \$258K from the prior year
 - Interest & Penalties of \$136K on outstanding balances, compared to \$103K in FY24
 - Other miscellaneous income of \$51.6K, compared to \$46K in FY24

TOWN OF EXETER – BVA REVENUE & EXPENDITURES 2025 VS 2024 (UNAUDITED)

- **Motor Vehicle Revenues:** \$3.7M collected, representing an increase of \$161K (5%) over 2024. Historical MV Revenue:

Year	\$
2025	3,700,000
2024	3,500,000
2023	3,300,000
2022	3,200,000
2021	3,200,000

- **Building & Permit Fees:** \$707K collected, representing a significant increase of \$361K over 2024. The major driver behind these results came from the Academy’s building permit for renovations to Academy Hall which totaled \$375K. A summary of construction activity is below:

	Est. Building	Fee	New S/F	Total
<u>Year</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Homes</u>	<u>Permits</u>
2025	92,417,898	730,695	25	1104
2024	50,213,191	346,378	16	993

- **Other Permits and Fees:** \$148K collected, representing an increase of \$8.7K over FY24.
- **State Revenue Sharing:** The Town received no revenue sharing in FY25.
- **Meals & Rooms Tax Revenue:** \$1.6M from the state, representing a modest increase of \$34K over the prior year. Historical M&R Revenue:

Year	\$
2025	1,617,000
2024	1,583,000
2023	1,526,000
2022	1,416,000
2021	1,125,000

- **State Highway Block Grant:** \$326.8K from the state, representing a \$9.3K increase over FY24. Historical Block Grant Revenue (*exclusive of additional one-time aid in 2022 & 2023*):

Year	\$
2025	326,800
2024	317,500
2023	310,800
2022	302,000
2021	296,500

- **Other State Grants:** \$8.6K from the State was a decline of \$20K from the prior year. Collections from the Radiological Emergency Response Program (RERP) in 2024 were increased by \$10.6K due to additional training exercises that took place in Exeter during that year.

- **Income from Departments:** \$1.1M collected, representing an increase of \$52K over the prior year. Major contributions to this category include Police detail work and reimbursements for the school resource officer services, insurance reimbursements, welfare contributions from community organizations, bulky waste and household hazardous waste fees, and transfer station permit fees. Broken down:
 - Income from Departments - \$332K collected, representing an increase of \$75K over FY24. Increases in Building dept. general revenue, insurance reimbursements, and Police Detail fees led to this increase.
 - Waste & Refuse Charges - \$778K collected, representing a decrease of \$23K from FY24. A decline in Blue Bag revenue of \$40K from the prior year was partially offset by increases in other charge categories.
- **Interest Income:** \$564K in interest earned, representing a 15% decline from the prior year's income of \$662K. Declining interest rates during 2025 are the primary reason for these results.
- **Rental & Miscellaneous Revenues:** \$16.5K booked in FY25, was essentially flat over FY24. Income includes: \$6.8K from the rental of the Historical Society building and various Rec. Dept. permits/rentals; \$2.1K from the NH Charitable Foundation; \$7.5K in Comfort Dog donations. Comfort Dog expenses were \$8K in 2025.
- **Transfers In:** Activity for 2025 includes:
 - EMS Revolving Fund – \$307K of prior year's ending fund balance transferred to General Fund.
 - Use of Bond Proceeds – \$64K to pay down the principal balance on outstanding debt obligations.
 - Sick Leave Trust – \$158K requested from the Trustees of Trust Funds to cover retirement activity in 2025.
- **Use of Fund Balance:** \$650K approved by the Select Board for use in setting the 2025 tax rate.

General Fund Expenses

Total General Fund Operating Expenses for FY25 were \$23.7M, representing 96% of the \$24.6M budget for the year. These results include warrant articles approved from taxation of \$180K, which are discussed in detail later in this report. The 2025 budget results were consistent with results in FY24 (97% spent). Personnel costs (wages, taxes and benefits), which represent 70% of the annual general fund budget, came in under budget by \$900K resulting in the end-of-year surplus. The town was successful in hiring a Human Resources Director in October, while the Public Works department continued seeking candidates for several open positions. Budget v. actual results in non-compensation expense lines will vary based on circumstances within individual departments. A discussion of the 2025 highlights and notable variances to budget is below.

General Government Group (BOS, TM, HR, Legal, TC, EL)

- **General Government Group** actual expenditures were \$1.49M for FY25, representing 97% of budget. For comparison, the FY24 budget was 93% spent at year-end.
 - **Select Board** expenses of \$22K were 100% of the FY25 budget. There were no notable budget to actual variances in 2025.
 - **Town Manager** expenses were \$438K, representing 95% of the department budget and a turnback of \$21K. Unspent wage and benefit lines of \$18K, were the result of the open Town Manager position during the second half of the year. General expense lines, led by Conference/Room/Meals and Education/Training made up the balance of unspent lines in Town Manager.
 - **Human Resources** expenses were \$128K, representing 59% of the department budget. Wage and benefit lines were spent below budget \$102K because of the open HR Director position for most of the year. A part-time position within the department was also vacant for part of the year. General expense lines were also underspent, mostly because of the personnel vacancies.
 - **Legal** expenses were in line with FY24 spending at \$112K, resulting in spending over budget expectation of \$12K. As discussed in previous reports, legal costs vary from year to year and are unrestricted by budget limits in general.
 - **Insurable Repairs** in the amount of \$61K were offset by insurance reimbursements of \$59K as of year-end. Damaged vehicles/equipment repairs totaled \$33K, and repairs to structures \$28K.

Finance Group (Finance, Tax, Assessing and IT)

- **Finance Group** actual expenditure was \$1.2M, representing 97% of the 2025 budget. These results are consistent with results from the prior year.
 - **Finance/Accounting** expenses were \$413K, representing 101% of the budget. An overage of \$1.3K in Audit Fees resulted from additional audit procedures required when the former Town Manager resigned. An overage of \$3K in Contract Services resulted from a one-time update to the Town's credit rating.
 - **Information Technology** expenses were \$388K, representing 90% of the annual budget. Wages, tax and benefits results were \$43K below budget expectations for the year due in large part to health benefit elections among department staff. Overall general expense lines were spent according to budget expectation, with some variability among the various lines. Computer Software and Network Supplies were below budget expectation \$16K and \$12K respectively, while the following lines came in over budget: Internet Services (\$14K); Software (\$9.5K); Capital Outlay (\$7K).
 - **Tax Collection** expenses were \$132K, representing 96% of the budget. Several general expense lines were unused including Deeded Property, Legal Services, Education/Training, leading to overall below budget spending of \$5K in the department.

Planning, Building Inspection, other Boards and Commissions

- Actual expenditure for this group was \$740.5K for FY25, representing 94% of the annual budget. 2025 was the first full year in which the Planning department included Economic Development. This restructuring occurred as a result of the Keegan Management Report.
 - **Planning** – Actual spending of \$282K, representing 87% of the category budget. Wages, tax and benefits were substantially underspent (\$66K) because of a prolonged absence in the department during half the year. This vacancy was covered by outside contract services, resulting in an offset to the unspent wages of \$25K.
 - **Other Divisions** – Other divisions with Planning had a combined spending of \$459K, representing 98% of their combined budgets. These divisions include Inspections/Code Enforcement and Economic Development, as well as various boards and commissions.

Police Department

- Actual department spending was \$4.6M for FY25, representing 95% of the overall Police Department budget for the year. 2025 was the first year of the recently negotiated Exeter Police Association union contract which included an estimated budgetary impact of \$133K for the year. The department found itself short-staffed in all three divisions at times throughout the year. Notable division results are highlighted below.
 - **Administration** – Actual spending of \$1.19M was \$5.5K under budget for the year. Wages, tax and benefits came in \$2K below budget, while general expense categories, led by Equipment purchases, were \$3.5K under budget.
 - **Staff Division** – Actual spending of \$593K in FY25, representing 88% of budget. The division’s annual budget includes 5 full-time officers. Due to staffing shortages, labor resources were shifted from Staff to Patrol. Staff ran with 4 officers during the year leading to wage and benefit spending below budget by \$81K. General expense came in underbudget just slightly, \$2,400.
 - **Patrol Division** – Actual spending of \$2.3M for the year was \$94K below budget. The division was budgeted for 17 full-time officers in 2025. In addition to one long-term injury, Patrol experienced turnover beginning in the third quarter, and the division ended the year with three vacancies. Although overtime expenses were \$10K over budget, wages, taxes, and benefits were \$97K under budget overall, driven primarily by full-time wages (\$68K under budget) and retirement costs (\$17K under budget). General expenses, primarily Fuel, were overbudget \$3.4K for the year.
 - **Communications/Dispatch Division** – Actual spending of \$480K was \$44K below budget expectation. Labor is the primary cost driver in this division and therefore the reason for the savings. While Dispatch was mostly fully staffed in 2025, the division did experience some turnover. This turnover led to full-time wages below budget \$23K and health insurance costs \$26K. Overtime lines were over budget \$14K for the year, as staff handled the turnover and coverage for other colleagues in the division.

Fire Department

- Actual department spending was \$4.48M for FY25, representing 98% of the overall Fire Department budget for the year. 2025 was the first year of the recently negotiated Exeter Professional Firefighters Association union contract which included an estimated budgetary impact of \$158K for the year. Notable division results are highlighted below.
 - **Administration** – Actual spending of \$869K was \$6.7K under budget expectation for the year. The unspent portion of the Admin. budget largely pertained to Retirement costs (\$4K).
 - **Suppression** – Actual spending of \$3.4M was 97% of the division’s budget for 2025, representing a \$90K savings. Spending on full-time wages were under budget by \$25.5K, as the division grappled with a few vacancies over the course of the year. Overtime spending came in under budget \$23K, employee insurance \$10K, and Retirement costs \$16K. General expenses were spent below budget another \$10K, with multiple cost categories contributing to this result.
 - **Emergency Management** – No notable variances to budget for FY25.
 - **Health** – No notable variances to budget for FY25.

Public Works Department

- Public Works Department had actual spending of \$5.76M in FY25, representing 92% of the annual DPW budget. Results were in-line with the prior year (91% spent in FY24). 2025 was the first year of the recently negotiated Exeter Service Employees International Union (SEIU) contract which included an estimated budgetary impact of \$138.5K for the year. Public Works continued to see success in recruiting new hires to replace outgoing staff, however still struggled to fill key positions during the year, most notably for Town Engineer. Specific division results are highlighted below.
 - **Administration** – Actual spending of \$413K, representing only 67% of the 2025 budget. The positions of Assistant Engineer and Engineering Tech. remained open throughout the year. Additionally, in the spring the Town Engineer formally retired, but continued with the town on a part-time basis. As a result of the vacancies and staffing changes, Wage, Tax and Benefit lines were spent below budget expectation by \$267K in Administration. General expenses were slightly above budget expectation \$5.4K, led by Contract Services for costs associated with Pickpocket Dam.
 - **Highways and Streets** – Actual spending of \$2.05M, representing 95% of the division budget. The Highway division started and ended the year fully staffed, however did experience one vacancy for a six-month period. This led to wages and benefits spending \$44K below budget expectation for the year. General expense lines with notable budget v. actual variances include:
 - Asphalt Reclamation – \$5K budget unspent.
 - Fuel – \$7.3K over budget expectation.
 - Road Paving – \$16K unspent of the \$700K budget.
 - Sidewalks/Curbing – \$10K budget unspent.
 - Storm Drain Cleaning - \$28K unspent as contracted work was performed in-house.
 - Tree Maintenance – Unspent budget of \$22K in 2025.

TOWN OF EXETER – BVA REVENUE & EXPENDITURES 2025 VS 2024 (UNAUDITED)

- **Vehicle Maintenance** – Over budget \$32K. A few significant repairs (\$5K - \$10K range ea.) along with other general vehicle repairs.
- **Snow Removal** – Actual spending of \$474K, was \$185K over the FY25 budget for snow fighting. 2025 was active, with snow events at both the beginning and end of the year. The town’s reliance on outside contractors for snow plowing (\$100K over budget) has continued to increase as staffing has been a challenge and expectations around road and sidewalk clearing rise. Spending on Salt has also increased (\$40K over budget for FY25). Overtime spending of \$87K was \$17K over budget expectation for the year. Because the overall General Fund expense budget was in a surplus position at year-end, we elected not to tap into the Snow & Ice Deficit Fund to cover the \$185K overage in 2025. Snow fighting in early 2026 has also been active, and we anticipate requesting reimbursement from the Fund at some point during this year. The current Snow & Ice Deficit Fund balance is \$267K.
- **Solid Waste** – Actual spending of \$1.6M was \$44K below the FY25 budget amount of \$1.65M. These costs were offset by DPW solid waste revenue (blue bags, recycling bins, dump stickers, Hazardous Waste Day, etc.) of \$778K.
- **Stormwater** – Actual spending of \$60K, representing 65% of the 2025 budget for this division. Catch basin replacement did not take place in 2025 resulting in unspent budget of \$28K.
- **Streetlights** – Actual spending of \$117K, representing 79% of the FY25 budget. Energy cost for the town’s streetlights continued to decline in 2025, coming in \$30K under budget expectation. Maintenance costs were in line with budget at \$7.0K.
- **General Maintenance** – Actual spending of \$577K, representing 85% of the budget for this division. Staff turnover during 2025 led to full and part-time wage savings of \$19K and \$18.7K respectively. Tax and benefit savings were \$26K as a result. Heavy reliance on contracted services for cleaning continue to be utilized in 2025, resulting in over budget spending of \$25.5K for the year.
- **Building Maintenance** – Public Works is responsible for the maintenance and utilities of buildings and structures owned by the Town. Cost categories include maintenance, electricity, gas, water/sewer, misc./supplies. Below are the combined budget results for all buildings in 2025:

Category	Under/(Over) Budget	
	2025	2024
Maintenance	\$ 15,808	\$ 2,052
Electricity	\$ (2,858)	\$ (757)
Natural Gas	\$ 10,948	\$ 15,149
Water/Sewer	\$ (7,750)	\$ (7,026)
Misc./Supplies	\$ 2,977	\$ 11

Maintenance – below budget spending at the Public Safety Complex, Public Works and Parks & Rec. was slightly offset by overspending at Town Offices.

Natural Gas – several building with natural gas costs \$2K-\$3K below budget in FY25.

Misc./Supplies – below budget spending on Train Station supplies. These costs also include the station platform lease and liability insurance.

- **Mechanics Garage** – Actual spending of \$160K, representing just 49% of the Garage annual budget. Perhaps no single DPW division suffered from labor shortages as severely as Garage did in 2025. This critical 3-person shop started off the year with 2 staff, then dropped to 1 before rebounding to full staff late in the year. As a result, less than half of the Garage wage and benefits budget was spent during 2025.

Welfare

- The Town, in conjunction with local charities, assists residents with heat, electricity, gas, rent, medical, food as well as other miscellaneous expenses during the year. The cost of welfare assistance fluctuates from year to year based on the needs of the community. Overall Welfare spending of \$183K in FY25 was over budget by \$5K, however the results are worthy of further explanation. Despite our initial success with hiring a Welfare Administrator in 2024, the position unfortunately experienced turnover during 2025. For several months the Administrator position remained vacant leading to wage and benefit costs below budget \$22K for FY25. During this time, Welfare administration was supported by the Town Manager’s office. With regard to direct relief to residents, 2025 was another active year for assistance. Direct relief for shelter costs continued to dominate the assistance requests, and Rent/Hotels costs ended FY25 \$37K over budget expectation. Burial assistance was \$4.8K over budget, while utility assistance came in \$7.4K under budget expectation. Below is a detailed comparison of actual expenses in Welfare for the past two years:

	2025	2024	Change
Wage & Taxes	27,848	23,176	4,672
General Admin.	1,140	2,979	(1,840)
Assistance - Shelter	134,382	128,810	5,571
Assistance - Utilities	6,523	14,724	(8,201)
Assistance - Medical	1,817	1,132	685
Assistance - Other	11,279	8,510	2,769
Totals	182,989	179,331	3,658

The Town is fortunate to receive outside relief from individuals and organizations to help defray the cost of assistance. In 2025, outside relief totaling \$19.7K came primarily from the Wentworth Trust. This was a decline of \$12K in overall contributions from FY24 which may be the result of staff turnover during the year. Contributions in 2026 total \$17K through April 30th. This revenue is recorded in the general fund as welfare reimbursements under Income from Departments. Factoring in outside relief, actual Welfare spending was \$14K under budget expectation for FY25.

Human Services

- Actual expenses of \$100K represented 100% of the 2025 Human Services budget. Funds in this budget are used to support local non-profit organizations that assist Exeter residents in need. Requests for

funding are submitted annually by these organizations and vetted by a committee of volunteer residents in town. The local non-profits often work closely with the Town’s welfare department to provide assistance throughout the year.

Parks & Recreation

- Actual expenses of \$773K were \$9.8K over the budget in 2025.
 - **Recreation** expenses of \$508K were 99% of budget for this division. Wages, Tax and Benefit lines were again below budget expectation in 2025 for a combined \$5K. Savings in both full and part-time wages of \$11K were offset by benefits over budget \$6K.
 - **Parks** expenses of \$265K were 105% of budget for this division. Wages, Tax and Benefits were \$13K over budget primarily due to changes in benefit elections during staff turnover.

Public Library

- Actual expenses of \$1.28M were directly in line with budget expectation for the library in 2025. \$8K in unexpended wage/tax & benefit lines was transferred to Library Services to facilitate paying for needed repairs and maintenance of the facility.

Debt Service

- General Fund Debt Service for capital projects was \$1.9M in FY25, a decrease of \$111K from FY24. Retiring debt and reduced interest costs of \$282K were offset by new short-term borrowing costs of \$171K on the new Public Safety complex. Retiring debt included the Great Dam removal project and to past park development projects.

Capital Outlay/Leases

- Actual spending of \$314K, representing 88% of the annual 2025 budget for Capital Outlay. A breakdown of equipment leases and purchases is below. Vehicle fleet tracking software was an additional \$11.6K in FY25.

Existing Leases:	
E-One Pumper Fire	72,363
SCBA Fire Equipment	51,271
Patrol Motorcycle	2,100
Sidewalk Tractor	38,584
New Leases in 2025:	
Sidewalk Tractor #58	47,090
Dump Truck #33	33,875
ADA Accessible Van	11,649
Vehicle Purchase in 2025:	
Police Cruiser	45,058
	301,990

Payroll Benefits & Taxes

- Actual spending of \$654K, representing 130% of the FY25 budget. This budget category is comprised of health insurance buyouts, sick leave buyouts, and worker’s comp. insurance. Employees electing health insurance buyouts came in above expectation by \$7.5K in 2025. This is attributable to employees changing their health insurance election at renewal and new employees who elect the buyout upon hire. Sick leave buyout is budgeted at \$1 as the General Fund is reimbursed through the Sick Leave Trust for these costs. Sick buyouts related to retiring employees were \$158K in 2025.

General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance

- Based on 2025 revenue and expense activity, the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance is projected to be \$6.6M as of 12/31/25, compared with \$5.99M as of 12/31/24.

Warrant Article Appropriations

- In addition to the new collective bargaining agreements and lease purchases detailed above, voters approved an additional \$180K in warrant articles funded through taxation in 2025. These included:

	Status	Budget	Spent
Parks Improvement Fund	Funded in March	100,000	100,000
Transfer Station Improvements	Design stages	50,000	-
ADA Capital Reserve Fund	Funded in March	25,000	25,000
Sestercentennial Celebration Fund	Funded in March	5,000	5,000
		<u>180,000</u>	<u>130,000</u>

Water Fund Budget vs. Actual Revenue and Expenditures

Water Fund Revenue

- Water Fund Operating Revenue was \$5.1M for 2025, representing a 3% increase (\$169K) in revenue over 2024. Rate payers used 310M gallons of water in 2025 compared to 306M gallons in 2024. Several revenue categories contributed to the increase and actual revenue results for 2025 are detailed below.
 - Water Consumption Charges – \$4.0M in revenue collected, was a \$68K or 2% increase over the prior year.
 - Water Impact Fees – \$88K collected, which was a \$55K increase over FY24. Utility impact fees are collected on new residential and commercial construction.
 - Hydrant Maintenance Fee – \$130K contribution from the General Fund was a \$30K increase over the prior year. This contribution helps to support the cost of maintaining water lines used for fire suppression within the town.

Water Fund Expenses

- Water Fund Operating Expenses were \$4.16M for FY25, representing 90% of the budget, which was \$474K below budget expectation. Wages and benefits accounted for \$200K of unspent budget, general operating expenses made up \$114k, and Capital Outlay \$160K. \$135K of unspent budget was encumbered at year end for purchases and projects in process. Notable variances to budget are discussed below.
 - Water Administration – Actual spending of \$560K, representing 93% of the annual Administration budget. Open positions in the Town Manager’s office and Human Resources, a portion of which gets allocated to Water Admin., led to labor savings of \$44.5K in 2025. Spending on general operating expenses was generally in line with expectations.
 - Water Billing – Actual spending of \$219K, representing 98% of the FY25 Billing budget. Part-time wages were underspent by \$5K, as a new part-time staff member was hired in early 2025 and the hours worked have been increased since the prior year. Overspending in Consulting Services (\$3K) for the one-time update to the Town’s credit rating was mostly offset by savings on Internet Services of (\$2K).
 - Water Distribution – Actual spending of \$801K, representing 85% of the 2025 budget. The division includes eight staff positions which are split 50/50 with Sewer Collection. The division had two vacant positions during the year and at one point was down three staff. This led to labor costs below budget \$87K in FY25. General expense lines ended the year \$56K under budget expectation, mostly led by savings of \$38K in meter replacement/backflow testing. However, \$36K for meter equipment was encumbered at year end.
 - Water Treatment – Actual spending of \$1.04M, representing 89% of the budget. This division has five full-time members when fully staffed, two of which were vacant during 2025. Fortunately, the division was able to back fill with a part-time employee in 2025 leaving overall wages and benefits underspent \$62K for the year, primarily due to health insurance savings. Savings on Chemicals, Consulting Services, Lab Testing and Utilities led to general expense savings of another \$63K in this division.

- Water Fund Debt Service expense was \$1.4M in 2025, a \$186K decrease from FY24. The decrease is attributable to retirement of debt on two capital projects in FY24, including design work on the Salem Street utility project. Annual decreases in interest payments also contributed to the cost decrease.
- Water Fund Capital Outlay – Actual spending of \$111K during the year, representing 41% of the 2025 budget. However, an additional \$90K of this line was encumbered at year end.

Water Fund Net Income

- The Water Fund ended 2025 with a Net Operating Income of \$946K, and the projected Unassigned Fund Balance for Water Fund at the end of 2025 was \$3.69M, compared to \$3.0M at the end of 2024.

Sewer Fund Budget vs. Actual Revenues and Expenditures

Sewer Fund Revenue

- Total Sewer Fund Operating Revenue was \$9.0M for FY25, representing a 3% (\$284K) increase over FY24. The State renewed its commitment to the State Aid Grant program for wastewater projects in 2025, and Exeter received \$1.05M toward its Wastewater Treatment Facility as a result. This was a decrease of \$15.9K from the previous year's SAG award, as scheduled. Use of bond proceeds to offset debt service during 2025 was \$342K, an increase of \$121K over FY24. Revenue from Sewer Fund operations increased a modest \$179K over FY24 with notable increases highlighted below:
 - Sewer Usage Charges – \$6.9M collected, representing a \$100K increase over FY24. System usage increased 1% year over year.
 - Septage Receiving Fees – \$41K collected compared to \$0K in 2024. The receiving facility came back online in 2025 after being upgraded and began generating revenue again for the sewer enterprise fund.

Sewer Fund Expenses

- Sewer Fund Operating Expenses were \$7.7M for FY25, \$503K below budget expectation and an increase of \$874K over 2024. Given the shared nature of the water/ sewer labor force, it is not surprising that much of the unspent budget (\$358K) comes from wage and benefit lines. Notable results within each division are discussed below.
 - Sewer Administration – Actual spending of \$644K, representing 102% of the annual Administration budget. Like Water, open administrative positions that get allocated to Sewer from the General Fund led to wage and benefit spending below budget \$47K. We continued to use an outside contractor to assist with running the wastewater treatment plant due to staffing, leading to an overage in Consulting Services of \$65K.
 - Sewer Billing – Actual spending of \$212K, representing 96% of the Billing budget. Part-time wages were underspent by \$6K, as a new part-time staff member was hired in early 2025 and the hours worked have been increased since the prior year. Staff in this division is shared with Water Billing. Overspending in Consulting Services (\$3K) for the one-time

update to the Town's credit rating was mostly offset by savings on Internet Services of (\$2K).

- Sewer Collection – Actual spending of \$546K, representing 73% of the 2025 budget. Collection shares staff with Water Distribution. The cost for eight staff positions in Collection is split 50/50 with Water. Vacant positions during the year led to labor costs below budget \$120K in FY25. General expense lines were spent below budget another \$77K, led by utility savings of \$41K.
- Sewer Treatment – Actual spending of \$1.49M, representing 86% of the Treatment budget for 2025. This division has six full-time positions when fully staffed, two of which were vacant during Q1 2025, and one for the remainder of the year. Fortunately, this division was also able to back fill with a part-time employee in 2025, however, overall wages and benefits remained underspent \$183K for the year. General expense lines were spent below budget \$52K, notably Utilities \$15K, and Solids Handling \$24K.
- Sewer Fund Debt Service expense was \$4.6M in 2025, an increase of \$426K from the prior year. First year debt service payments on the sewer siphons project (\$612K) was offset by a decrease from retiring debt of \$186K.
- Sewer Fund Capital Outlay – Actual spending of \$180K, representing 95% of the annual Capital Outlay budget. Equipment and vehicle leases were \$87K in FY25, while expenses for other capital equipment totaled \$91K.

Sewer Fund Net Income

- Sewer Fund Net Operating Income for 2025 was \$1.3M, compared to \$1.9M in 2024. The annual state aid grant of \$1M in combination with open positions, continues to significantly contribute to budget surpluses in the Fund. General expense lines for supplies, maintenance, etc., were mostly spent, with \$70K remaining on budget lines totaling \$1.48M.
- Fund Balance – The projected Unassigned Fund Balance for Sewer Fund at the end of 2025 was \$6.7M, compared to \$6.5M at the end of 2024. This ending balance is net of authorized uses of sewer fund reserves totaling \$760K for various sewer-related projects in progress.

Water/ Sewer Fund Accounts Receivable

The balance on outstanding receivables continues to be consistent year over year. See Accounts Receivable Summary at the end of this report. While the overall decline of \$200K in receivables is favorable, the results may have more to do with timing than any significant trend in collections.

Revolving Funds - Budget vs. Actual Revenues and Expenses

Cable Television Revolving Fund (“CATV”)

Annual Cable Franchise Fees received by the town have been in decline over the past few years, beginning in 2023. Franchise fee revenue in 2025 totaled \$232K compared to \$296K back in 2021. The CATV and General Fund share the annual franchise fee revenue. In FY25, revenue allocated to CATV was \$116K, compared to \$127K in FY24. Based on operating results, an additional \$46K in franchise fees was transferred from General Fund to CATV at year-end to assist in meeting operating and capital outlay requirements of the Fund. The CATV financial report reflects this transfer. Overall CATV revenue declined \$23K from the prior year.

CATV wages and benefits increased \$30.8K over the prior year. In mid-2024, CATV added a FT staff member, which drives the year-over-year increase. CATV is comprised of two part-time and one full-time staff and an allocation of one-half of the Media Coordinator’s full-time salary. In 2026, two additional on-call employees have been hired to cover more town events and meetings. General expenses increased \$11K over FY24, mainly the result of an increase in the cost of annual subscriptions for stock media content.

CATV continued to grow in 2025, producing public interest content and videos that have generated a lot of interest in the services provided by the department. Due to the allocation of franchise fees between CATV and the General Fund, CATV ended 2025 with a net deficit of \$40K. Therefore, CATV fund balance was reduced from \$171K at the end of FY24 to \$131K at 12/31/25.

Recreation Revolving Fund

The Town’s Recreation dept. continued to see increased participation across its offerings in 2025, whether it be summer camps, youth sports or senior programming. In the fall of last year, the new multi-generation facility at 10 Hampton was opened, which is also home to the Rec. dept. offices. Revolving Fund revenue for 2025 was an increase of \$126K over the prior year. These results were led by an increase in Program Revenue of \$65K; Impact Fees \$33.5K; and Grant Revenue of \$25.6K. Generous grants and donations from the Exeter Hospital and Riverwoods have allowed the Rec. dept. to expand program offerings to seniors in the community.

Recreation wages and benefits of \$367K were an increase of \$29K over FY24. As part of the grants noted above, the Town has hired a part-time Senior Coordinator. This position, along with an increase in hours by seasonal staff, contributed to labor costs results. General operating costs increased \$96.5K over 2024. This includes increases in programming costs (\$30K), pool maintenance and supplies (\$14K), general supplies (\$12K). Net Income from Operations was \$125.6K for 2025 – results that were consistent with those from 2024.

Capital Outlay – As part of the 10 Hampton Road project, the Selectboard approved the use of recreation revolving fund balance and recreation impact fees to supplement the project’s CDFA grant. \$125K of fund balance and \$110K of impact fee revenue was authorized for use on the

project. These amounts are reflected under the Capital Outlay section of the Revolving Fund financials. As a result, the fund ended 2025 with a total fund balance of \$183K as detailed below.

	Recreation Activities	Impact Fees	KWM Fund	Unassigned Fund Bal.
Fund Balance 12/31/25	\$ 157,421	\$ 23,145	\$ 2,441	\$ 183,007

EMS Revolving Fund

The Fire Department’s EMS division experienced another year of increased demand in 2025. Responses totaled 2,731, an increase of 336 calls over FY24. Collected ambulance revenue also increased by \$102K over the prior year, reaching \$962K. Additional revenue growth is expected in 2026 and beyond, supported by billing agreements the Fire Department executed with several insurance carriers earlier this year.

Labor costs increased by \$51K in FY25 compared with FY24. 2025 was the first full year in which the department maintained six personnel on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Beginning midway through 2024, 60% of shift coverage overtime costs were allocated to the EMS budget. This 60/40 split between EMS and Fire (General Fund) better reflects the department’s call volume and operational demands. General operating expenses increased by \$25K over FY24, driven by \$13K in capital outlay for ventilator equipment, \$7K for staff training, and \$6.8K for third-party billing services.

A new communications console for the Dispatch center was completed in 2025 and will be installed in the new public safety complex currently under construction on Continental Drive. As noted in prior reports, \$150K of EMS fund balance was authorized for fabrication and installation. The total projected EMS contribution is currently \$144K.

Based on 2025 operating results, the EMS Revolving Fund’s projected Unassigned Fund Balance as of 12/31/25 is shown below:

EMS Revolving Fund

Fund Balance at 1/1/2025	167,187
2025 Net Income from EMS Operations	<u>384,906</u>
Fund Balance at 12/31/2025	552,093
Contribution to Communications Console	<u>(144,167)</u>
Adjusted Fund Balance at 12/31/2025	407,926
Transfer to General Fund in 2026	<u>(350,000)</u>
Remaining Fund Balance	<u><u>57,926</u></u>

Town of Exeter
General Fund Operating Revenue (unaudited)
As of December 31, 2025 and 2024

Source	Current Year 2025 Budget vs Actual				Prior Year 2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual Revenue 12/31/25	\$ Budget Variance Over /(Under)	Actual as a % of Budget	2024 Budget	Actual Revenue 12/31/24	\$ Budget Variance Over /(Under)	Actual as a % of Budget	2025 vs 2024 \$ Variance	2025 vs 2024 % Variance
Property Tax Revenue	\$ 15,823,584	\$ 16,045,458	\$ 221,874	101%	\$ 15,155,617	\$ 15,142,704	\$ (12,913)	100%	\$ 902,754	6%
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	3,500,000	3,663,749	163,749	105%	3,250,000	3,502,259	252,259	108%	\$ 161,490	5%
Building Permits & Fees	600,000	707,323	107,323	118%	350,000	346,378	(3,622)	99%	\$ 360,945	104%
Other Permits and Fees	152,375	147,734	(4,641)	97%	135,500	138,971	3,471	103%	\$ 8,763	6%
Meals & Rooms Tax Revenue	1,616,548	1,616,548	-	100%	1,400,000	1,582,651	182,651	113%	\$ 33,897	2%
State Highway Block Grant	326,800	326,800	-	100%	310,825	317,497	6,672	102%	\$ 9,303	3%
FEMA	-	-	-			14,261	14,261		\$ (14,261)	-100%
Other State Grants/Reimbursements	8,457	8,582	125	101%	25,000	28,870	3,870	115%	\$ (20,288)	-70%
Income from Departments	1,058,300	1,110,595	52,295	105%	1,152,750	1,058,324	(94,426)	92%	\$ 52,271	5%
Sale of Town Property	500	170	(330)	34%	1,250	615	(635)	49%	(445)	-72%
Interest Income	550,000	563,835	13,835	103%	300,000	662,158	362,158	221%	(98,323)	-15%
Rental & Misc Revenues	66,500	16,552	(49,948)	25%	43,350	16,367	(26,983)	38%	185	1%
Revenue Transfers In/Out	283,261	529,386	246,125	187%	261,570	399,113	137,543	153%	130,273	33%
Use of Fund Balance	650,000	650,000	-	100%	600,000	600,000	-	100%	\$ 50,000	8%
Total General Fund Operating Revenue	\$ 24,636,325	\$ 25,386,732	\$ 750,407	103%	\$ 22,985,862	\$ 23,810,168	\$ 824,306	104%	\$ 1,576,564	7%

Town of Exeter										
General Fund Operating Expenses (unaudited)										
As of December 31, 2025 and 2024										
Department	Current Year 2025 Budget vs Actual				Prior Year 2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual Expenses 12/31/25	\$ Budget Variance Under / (Over)	% Spent	2024 Budget	Actual Expenses 12/31/24	\$ Budget Variance Under / (Over)	% Spent	2025 vs 2024 \$ Variance	2025 vs 2024 % Variance
Total General Government	\$ 1,539,270	\$ 1,487,171	\$ 52,099	97%	\$ 1,379,075	\$ 1,282,576	\$ 96,499	93%	204,595	16%
Total Finance	1,260,085	1,216,029	44,056	97%	1,116,581	1,066,592	49,989	96%	149,437	14%
Total Planning & Building	791,985	740,517	51,468	94%	765,823	726,892	38,931	95%	13,625	2%
Total Police	4,837,619	4,609,388	228,231	95%	4,430,392	4,365,852	64,540	99%	243,536	6%
Total Fire	4,584,574	4,480,322	104,252	98%	4,365,129	4,304,593	60,536	95%	175,729	4%
Total Public Works	6,277,828	5,763,903	513,925	92%	5,882,586	5,365,449	517,137	91%	398,454	7%
Total Welfare	177,758	182,989	(5,231)	103%	144,094	179,331	(35,237)	124%	3,658	2%
Total Human Services	100,000	100,000	-	100%	98,325	98,325	-	100%	1,675	2%
Total Parks & Recreation	763,226	773,081	(9,855)	101%	688,829	670,503	18,326	97%	102,578	15%
Total Other Culture/Recreation	36,500	36,684	(184)	101%	34,500	34,107	393	99%	2,577	8%
Total Library	1,281,634	1,281,448	186	100%	1,185,689	1,190,669	(4,980)	100%	90,779	8%
Total Debt Service	1,948,573	1,948,571	2	100%	2,069,272	2,059,658	9,614	100%	(111,087)	-5%
Total Capital Outlay & Leases	354,584	313,660	40,924	88%	254,983	249,576	5,407	98%	64,084	26%
Payroll Benefits & Taxes	502,689	653,750	(151,061)	130%	445,584	469,769	(24,185)	105%	183,981	39%
Appropriations Voted from Taxation	180,000	180,000	-		125,000	125,000	-		55,000	44%
Total General Fund Operating Expenses	\$ 24,636,325	\$ 23,767,512	\$ 868,813	96%	\$ 22,985,862	\$ 22,188,892	\$ 796,970	97%	\$ 1,578,620	7%
Net Operating Income/ (Deficit)	\$ -	\$ 1,619,220	\$ 1,619,220		\$ -	\$ 1,621,276	\$ 1,621,276			
(LESS) EOY Approved Encumbrances		\$ 30,824				\$ 80,445				
Net Income/ (Deficit)		\$ 1,588,396				\$ 1,540,831				

Town of Exeter
Water Fund Revenues & Expenses (unaudited)
As of December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025 Budget vs Actual				2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual Revenue 12/31/25	\$ Budget Variance Over /(Under)	% Collected	2024 Budget	Actual Revenue 12/31/24	\$ Budget Variance Over /(Under)	% Collected	2025 vs 2024 \$ Variance	2025 vs 2024 % Variance
Water Fund Revenues										
Total Water Fund Operating Revenues	\$ 4,635,000	\$ 5,107,030	\$ 472,030	110%	\$ 4,962,773	\$ 4,938,244	\$ (24,529)	100%	\$ 168,786	3%
	2025 Budget vs Actual				2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual Expenses 12/31/25	\$ Budget Variance Under /(Over)	% Spent	2024 Budget	Actual Expenses 12/31/24	\$ Budget Variance Under /(Over)	% Spent	2025 vs 2024 \$ Variance	2025 vs 2024 % Variance
Water Fund Expenditures										
Water Administration	\$ 599,274	\$ 559,887	\$ 39,387	93%	\$ 537,491	\$ 420,791	\$ 116,700	78%	\$ 139,096	33%
Water Billing	\$ 224,238	\$ 219,387	\$ 4,851	98%	\$ 211,744	\$ 198,663	\$ 13,081	94%	\$ 20,724	10%
Water Distribution	\$ 945,346	\$ 801,117	\$ 144,229	85%	\$ 930,828	\$ 798,138	\$ 132,690	86%	\$ 2,979	0%
Water Treatment	\$ 1,166,276	\$ 1,040,726	\$ 125,550	89%	\$ 1,051,947	\$ 967,063	\$ 84,884	92%	\$ 73,663	8%
Water Fund Debt Service	\$ 1,427,931	\$ 1,427,933	\$ (2)	100%	\$ 1,640,513	\$ 1,613,896	\$ 26,617	98%	\$ (185,963)	-12%
Water Fund Capital Outlay	\$ 271,935	\$ 111,473	\$ 160,462	41%	\$ 590,250	\$ 74,691	\$ 515,559	13%	\$ 36,782	49%
Total Water Fund Operating Expenses	\$ 4,635,000	\$ 4,160,524	\$ 474,476	90%	\$ 4,962,773	\$ 4,073,242	\$ 889,531	82%	\$ 87,282	2%
Net Operating Income/(Deficit)	\$ -	\$ 946,506	\$ 946,506		\$ -	\$ 865,002	\$ 865,002		\$ 81,504	9%
(LESS) Approved Encumbrances		\$ 135,182				\$ 45,769				
Net Income/ (Deficit)		\$ 811,324				\$ 819,233				

Town of Exeter

Sewer Fund Revenues & Expenses (unaudited)

As of December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025 Budget vs Actual				2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual Revenue 12/31/25	\$ Budget Variance Over/(Under)	% Collected	2024 Budget	Actual Revenue 12/31/24	\$ Budget Variance Over/(Under)	% Collected	2025 vs 2024 \$ Variance	2025 vs 2024 % Variance
Sewer Fund Revenues										
State Grant Revenue	\$ 1,047,510	\$ 1,047,510	\$ -	100%	\$ 1,063,381	\$ 1,063,381	\$ -	100%	\$ (15,871)	
Sewer Fund Revenues	\$ 7,134,642	\$ 7,962,812	\$ 828,170	112%	\$ 6,427,049	\$ 7,662,634	\$ 1,235,585	119%	\$ 300,178	4%
Total Sewer Fund Operating Revenues	\$ 8,182,152	\$ 9,010,322	\$ 828,170	110%	\$ 7,490,430	\$ 8,726,015	\$ 1,235,585	116%	\$ 284,307	3%
	2025 Budget vs Actual				2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual Expenses 12/31/25	\$ Budget Variance Under/(Over)	% Spent	2024 Budget	Actual Expenses 12/31/24	\$ Budget Variance Under/(Over)	% Spent	2025 vs 2024 \$ Variance	2025 vs 2024 % Variance
Sewer Fund Expenditures										
Sewer Administration Expense	\$ 630,909	\$ 644,019	\$ (13,110)	102%	\$ 566,755	\$ 475,501	\$ 91,254	84%	\$ 168,518	35%
Sewer Billing Expense	\$ 220,664	\$ 212,350	\$ 8,314	96%	\$ 208,169	\$ 192,175	\$ 15,994	92%	\$ 20,175	10%
Sewer Collection Expense	\$ 744,394	\$ 546,527	\$ 197,867	73%	\$ 717,012	\$ 482,946	\$ 234,066	67%	\$ 63,581	13%
Sewer Treatment Expense	\$ 1,722,121	\$ 1,487,073	\$ 235,048	86%	\$ 1,635,020	\$ 1,343,796	\$ 291,224	82%	\$ 143,277	11%
Sewer Fund Debt Service Expense	\$ 4,675,128	\$ 4,609,287	\$ 65,841	99%	\$ 4,192,568	\$ 4,182,958	\$ 9,610	100%	\$ 426,329	10%
Sewer Fund Capital Outlay Expense	\$ 188,936	\$ 179,703	\$ 9,233	95%	\$ 170,906	\$ 127,899	\$ 43,007	75%	\$ 51,804	41%
Total Sewer Fund Operating Expenses	\$ 8,182,152	\$ 7,678,959	\$ 503,193	94%	\$ 7,490,430	\$ 6,805,275	\$ 685,155	91%	\$ 873,684	13%
Net Operating Income/(Deficit)	\$ -	\$ 1,331,362	\$ 1,331,362		\$ -	\$ 1,920,740	\$ 1,920,740		\$ (589,378)	-31%
(LESS) Approved Encumbrances		\$ 17,775				\$ 15,991				
Net Income/(Deficit)		\$ 1,313,587				\$ 1,904,749				

Town of Exeter
CATV Revolving Fund - Revenue & Expenses (unaudited)
As of December 31, 2025 & 2024

	2025 Budget vs Actual				2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual at 12/31/25	\$ Variance	% Variance	2024 Budget	Actual at 12/31/24	\$ Variance	% Variance	2025 v. 2024 \$ Variance	2025 v. 2024 % Variance
CATV Revenues										
Cable Franchise Fees	\$ 236,728	\$ 116,254	\$ (120,474)	49%	\$ 212,200	\$ 127,253	\$ (84,947)	60%	\$ (10,999)	-9%
Tech/AV Service Fees	\$ 480	\$ 800				\$ 640	\$ 640			
Transfer In From General Fund	\$ -	\$ 46,254	\$ 46,254	100%		\$ 58,103	\$ 58,103		\$ (11,849)	100%
Total CATV Revenues	\$ 237,208	\$ 163,308	\$ (74,220)	69%	\$ 212,200	\$ 185,996	\$ (26,204)	88%	\$ (22,688)	-12%
CATV Expenses										
Wages, Taxes & Benefits	\$ 182,927	\$ 172,449	\$ 10,478	94%	\$ 163,504	\$ 141,614	\$ 21,890	87%	\$ 30,834	22%
General Expenses	\$ 28,801	\$ 30,961	\$ (2,160)	107%	\$ 41,990	\$ 19,720	\$ 22,270	47%	\$ 11,241	57%
Total CATV Expenses	\$ 211,728	\$ 203,409	\$ 8,319	96%	\$ 205,494	\$ 161,334	\$ 44,160	79%	\$ 42,075	26%
Net Operating Income/(Deficit)	\$ 25,480	\$ (40,101)	\$ (65,901)		\$ 6,706	\$ 24,662	\$ 17,956		\$ (64,763)	-263%

Town of Exeter
Recreation Revolving Fund Revenues & Expenses (unaudited)
As of December 31, 2025 & 2024

	2025 Budget vs Actual							2024 Budget vs Actual							Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	RR Fund Actuals	Impact Fees Actuals	Wright Memorial Fund Actuals	Actual at 12/31/25	\$ Variance	% Variance	2024 Budget	RR Fund Actuals	Impact Fees Actuals	Karen Wright Memorial Fund Actuals	Actual at 12/31/24	\$ Variance	% Variance	2025 v. 2024 \$ Variance	2025 v. 2024 % Variance
Total Rec. Revolving Revenue	\$ 771,002	\$ 978,219	\$ 55,963	\$ 22	\$ 1,034,204	\$ 263,202	134%	\$ 675,000	\$ 885,882	\$ 22,407	\$ 2	\$ 908,291	\$ 233,291	135%	\$ 125,913	14%
Wages, Taxes & Benefits	\$ 278,278	\$ 367,934	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 367,934	\$ (89,656)	132%	\$ 267,863	\$ 338,866	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 338,866	\$ (71,003)	127%	\$ 29,068	9%
General Expenses	\$ 415,700	\$ 540,663	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 540,663	\$ (124,963)	130%	\$ 341,750	\$ 444,170	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 444,170	\$ (102,420)	130%	\$ 96,493	22%
Total Rec. Revolving Expenses	\$ 693,978	\$ 908,597	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 908,597	\$ (214,619)	131%	\$ 609,613	\$ 783,036	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 783,036	\$ (173,423)	128%	\$ 125,562	16%
Net Operating Income/(Deficit)	\$ 77,024	\$ 69,621	\$ 55,963	\$ 22	\$ 125,606	\$ 48,582	163%	\$ 65,387	\$ 102,846	\$ 22,407	\$ 2	\$ 125,255	\$ 59,868	192%	\$ 351	0%
Capital Outlay																
Total Capital Outlay	\$ 274,975	\$ 155,973	\$ 110,401	\$ -	\$ 266,374	\$ 8,601		\$ 15,000	\$ 22,060	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,060	\$ (7,060)		\$ 244,314	

**Town of Exeter
Ambulance Revolving Fund - Revenues & Expenses (unaudited)
As of December 31, 2025 & 2024**

	2025 Budget vs Actual				2024 Budget vs Actual				Comparison of Actuals	
	2025 Budget	Actual at 12/31/25	\$ Variance	% Variance	2024 Budget	Actual at 12/31/24	\$ Variance	% Variance	2025 v. 2024 \$ Variance	2025 v. 2024 % Variance
Total EMS Revolving Revenues	\$ 793,615	\$ 961,741	\$ 168,126	121%	\$ 813,499	\$ 859,984	\$ 46,485	106%	\$ 101,757	12%
Wages, Taxes & Benefits	\$ 332,640	\$ 340,316	\$ (5,928)	102%	\$ 283,089	\$ 289,057	\$ (4,968)	102%	\$ 51,259	18%
General Expenses	\$ 227,320	\$ 236,519	\$ (9,199)	104%	\$ 207,817	\$ 206,864	\$ 953	100%	\$ 24,747	12%
Total EMS Revolving Expenses	\$ 559,960	\$ 576,835	\$ (15,127)	103%	\$ 490,906	\$ 495,921	\$ (4,015)	101%	\$ 76,006	15%
Net Operating Income/(Deficit)	\$ 233,655	\$ 384,906	\$ 152,999		\$ 322,593	\$ 364,063	\$ 42,470		\$ 25,751	7%
Less: Transfers Out to GF	-	307,557	(307,557)			261,569	(261,569)		45,988	
Net Income/(Deficit)	233,655	77,349	460,556	33%	322,593	102,494	304,039		(25,145)	-25%

**Town of Exeter
Property Tax/Liens Receivable
As of December 31, 2025 and 2024**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Bill Year</u>	<u>Balance Outstanding</u>		<u>\$ Change</u>
		<u>12/31/25</u>	<u>12/31/24</u>	
Lien	2020 & prior	60,322	98,054	(37,732)
Lien	2021	24,409	57,130	(32,721)
Lien	2022	54,100	154,066	(99,966)
Lien	2023	171,643	288,149	(116,506)
Lien	2024	420,297	1,863,705	(1,443,408)
	Subtotal	<u>\$ 730,771</u>	<u>\$ 2,461,104</u>	<u>\$ (1,730,333)</u>
Tax	2025	<u>\$ 2,260,422</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,260,422</u>
	Grand Total	<u>\$ 2,991,193</u>	<u>\$ 2,461,104</u>	<u>\$ 530,089</u>

Town of Exeter
Accounts Receivable Aging Summary - Water & Sewer
As of December 31, 2025 and 2024

	<u>Current</u>	<u>31-60 Days</u>	<u>61-90 Days</u>	<u>Over 90 Days</u>	<u>Total</u>
As of 12/31/25	\$ 863,404	\$ 190,854	\$ 40,623	\$ 92,616	\$ 1,187,497
Percent Outstanding	73%	16%	3%	8%	100%
As of 12/31/24	\$ 881,260	\$ 293,824	\$ 47,428	\$ 164,061	\$ 1,386,573
Percent Outstanding	64%	21%	3%	12%	100%
Increase/(Decrease)	\$ (17,856)	\$ (102,970)	\$ (6,805)	\$ (71,445)	\$ (199,076)
% Increase/(Decrease)	-2%	-35%	-14%	-44%	-14%

Approval of Minutes

Select Board Meeting
Monday June 15, 2026
6 PM
Nowak Room, Town Offices
Draft Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Members present: Chair Niko Papakonstantis, Vice-Chair Molly Cowan, Clerk Nancy Belanger, Julie Gilman, Dan Chartrand, Town Manager Paul Cohen, and Assistant Town Manager Melissa Roy were present at this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Papakonstantis at 6 PM.

2. Discussion/Action Items

a. Westside Drive Project Update

Public Works Director Stephen Cronin was present to discuss this item. Mr. Cronin said this project began in November 2025 after a multi-year planning and design process starting in 2020. The water system improvements were done throughout winter 2025-2026. In March 2026 they transitioned into the drainage improvement phase, which was completed in April 2026. At that time there was a public meeting for residents of the neighborhood. In spring 2026 they entered the reconstruction phase. Currently, they are working on above-ground utilities and granite curbing, which should continue through the week of June 21. When that is complete, they'll transition to site and property restoration. There should be substantial completion by September 2026; the binder course will go through the winter season, and final paving will take place in late spring or early summer of 2027.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked for public comment on this issue.

Herb Moyer of 51 Westside Drive said he is appreciative of the work going on but he has concerns, which are reflected in a petition he created. He had 84 signatures plus 10 more yesterday. His concern is that the narrowing of the roadway by 38%, the lack of sidewalks, and the failure of the Police to enforce speeding regulations. It's posted at 20 miles an hour, but a few go 45 miles per hour or more. With the narrower width, if two cars are in the roadway, there's only about 10 feet for a pedestrian. The Police Department has been very cooperative, with speeding monitors on telephone poles, and they saw a number of "enforceable" excess speed events. He foresees Exeter making a tragic mistake here.

Mr. Chartrand asked if historically there have been sidewalks in the neighborhood. Mr. Moyer said yes, but they're in terrible shape and few people use them. If the town put in new ones, he thinks people would use them.

Mr. Chartrand asked Mr. Cronin if that was within the scope of the work, and Mr. Cronin said no. We went through several public meetings as part of the design process where we solicited resident feedback. We had one design that had sidewalks around the perimeter of the neighborhood, but that was not what

was approved to be built. There are no funds available for the construction of a sidewalk.

Mr. Chartrand asked Mr. Cronin if narrowing the roads reduces speeds. Mr. Cronin said yes, that tends to have a calming effect.

Ms. Belanger asked if we should look into limiting parking to one side only. Mr. Cronin said it's something we could look into. As part of this project, we're lengthening driveways, which may reduce people parking on the road.

Mr. Moyer said there is a single 20 MPH sign for the whole neighborhood. He'd like to see something flashier or more creative.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if it would be possible in the future to add sidewalks without disturbing the work already done. Mr. Cronin said potentially. We did not change the town's right-of-way widths. A single sidewalk around the perimeter could be installed without disturbing the granite curb. Mr. Papakonstantis said he imagines that would be costly, and Mr. Cronin said yes.

Mr. Papakonstantis suggested investigating whether "no parking" signs would be helpful or whether we should put up more speed limit signs. He would like the Town Manager to discuss with Chief McCain about what they can do to enforce the speed.

Nicholas Metz of 1 Tilton Ave said he's heard questions and concerns from his neighbors throughout this project. This was coming out of Covid, and the first three public meetings were via Zoom. The residents' input fell off short when it came to discussion of the sidewalks. In 2022, the only design shown had sidewalks. At the third Zoom meeting in May 2023, there was a vote taken on whether they wanted the design with or without sidewalks; 12 said they didn't want sidewalks and 7 or 8 said they did. There are 90 households in the neighborhood, so the sample rate was not acceptable. There was supposed to be a follow-up survey that he doesn't believe transpired. There was some confusion about whether the roads would be narrowed. People are flying through the neighborhood, and pedestrians are stepping up onto lawns. It's often delivery drivers or couriers. The road diet is supposed to slow people down, but we really need sidewalks.

Deb Payson of 53 Westside Drive said sidewalks are important to her. She has bad balance and sometimes falls. The sidewalks weren't safe, so she had to walk in the road. Kids are out playing in the road and riding bikes. There should have been a mailed letter with a survey about the sidewalks. She would like to see a more detailed schedule of the work. She didn't expect to be living in a construction zone so long, although the crew is very nice and responds to her concerns. She is concerned about safety but doesn't think ticketing speeders would do much. Mr. Papakonstantis said we can certainly put more speed signs in.

Shannon Blaise of 7 Westside Drive said the speed in the neighborhood is unacceptable. Could we have a sign that tells the driver what their speed is compared to the speed limit? There are so many kids and dogs walking along.

Stephanie Willette of 2 Silvio Drive said the road is even narrower than it was supposed to be now that they've added the curbs. Several years ago, she reached out to the DPW about more signs after her neighbor's dog was hit. She was told that it would happen after the project, but it has been delayed for many years. The one sign has been obstructed by overgrown trees.

Kate Mattera of 9 Westside Drive said it was her dog that got hit by the car. She has a 9-year-old son who is not allowed to go far because the street is dangerous. She had hoped that the narrowing would be helpful with the speed, but she is still seeing people coming around the corner very fast. She wonders if they could do speedbumps to manage that speed. Mr. Papakonstantis asked Mr. Cronin about speedbumps, and he said it would be a maintenance issue. We'd also have to evaluate the effect on Public Safety response times.

Marshall Stephen of 8 Tilton Ave said the roads being narrow is going to throw people off, especially in the winter. The roads are poorly lit. There should be painted pedestrian crossings so people will slow down. We need more participation data when we proceed on a project.

Mark Pittandreigh of 8 Silvio Drive said the initial design had no granite curbing, just swales for water to run off. Were the curbs added later? Mr. Cronin said there were stormwater elements that were part of the project; narrowing the road was intended to create more room for swales and infiltration areas. Mr. Pittandreigh said he thought there would be gravel swales so you could park there, but with the granite curbing, the road has shrunk significantly. There will be blind spots with people parking on the road. Lighting has always been bad in the neighborhood; he would like to see improvements. Mr. Cronin said with the narrowing of the road, the poles are further back, but there may be some options for directing that light better.

Karen Moyer of 51 Westside Drive said there are real hazards to animals in the neighborhood. Her neighbor killed her dog a few years ago. At the back of the neighborhood people go very fast. She likes the signs that show your speed and the speed limit.

Mr. Papakonstantis said he appreciates the leadership role that Mr. Metz and Mr. Moyer have taken. He also appreciates the residents for coming to speak. He asked Mr. Cronin to consider next steps with signage and lighting.

b. Swasey Parkway Coastal Resiliency Final Report –

Swasey Parkway Trustees Dwane Staples, Dave Short, and Darius Thompson, as well as Conservation & Sustainability Planner Kristen Murphy, were present for this item.

Swasey Parkway Trustees Chair Staples called the meeting of the Swasey Parkway Trustees to order at 6:49 PM.

Ms. Murphy said we received a coastal resilience grant to take a look at sea level rise for Swasey Parkway. We created a small project team with herself, representatives from the Select Board and the Swasey Parkway Trustees,

Melissa Roy, and Steve Cronin. She introduced consultant Nick Messina of CMA Engineers.

Mr. Messina said the project's goals were to enhance Swasey Parkway's resilience to flooding, look for opportunities to enhance natural systems, incorporate community input, and look for opportunities to develop the project in phases to respond to changing conditions. This grant was specific to the Parkway, so it couldn't be applied to adjacent and abutting properties.

The first public workshop was in December 2025 where we heard general public feedback. After that we developed three conceptual options. The second workshop was in March 2026. The grant wrapped up in April 2026 and we issued a final report. At the first public workshop, we heard feedback on what level of investment the public was willing to make in the Parkway; about half were willing to make a moderate investment, and the rest were split between low and high investments. Accessibility and walkability were the top priorities. Parking and driving there was low priority.

Concept 1, the low intervention measure, was mainly a vegetation management plan, but this would not be meaningfully impactful. Concept 2, the medium intervention measure, proposes a raised multi-use path along the river. It also includes removing the North Brook dam, which would have moderate ecological benefits. Drainage would need to be installed in low points where we could treat the water before discharging into the Squamscott. The high intervention measure would include the medium intervention work, plus creating a floodable stormwater area adjacent to Norris Brook and in the center of the Parkway. This would be a significant change in land use that the town would have to get comfortable with. Regarding costs, the low intervention cost would be around \$42,000, while medium and high would be above \$2M.

During the second workshop, 15% were in favor of making no changes. Concepts 2 or 3 had 62% support when combined.

There is no subsequent work planned. If we took this to a design phase, we would want to get more public feedback as well as site investigation and permitting review. We could also consider a broader view of the area as a whole, rather than just the Parkway.

Ms. Gilman said she thinks that the "king tides" are the problem. Why are we not addressing the raised roadway as part of a sea wall? Mr. Messina said the scope of the work was just the Parkway itself. You can achieve a consistent elevation of 10 feet with the raised path. Extending it into downtown was outside of the scope of the workshops.

Mr. Staples said there was some discussion about if we raised that wall, we want to be careful about how we're changing the flow of the river. Mr. Chartrand said Norris Brook is not going anywhere. Even if we raise the seawall, the water will still come in there.

Ms. Belanger said she's concerned about 222 Water Street, where our public housing is. She wants them to be specifically included in future public meetings. She's also concerned about bicycles and pedestrians sharing one

path. Ms. Murphy said part of this effort was stakeholder mapping. Tony Teixeira [of the Exeter Housing Authority] was one of the contact points for this activity, but that doesn't necessarily reach the residents.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked the Swasey Parkway Trustees for their comments. Mr. Staples said we need more data. Mr. Thompson said addressing the sea level rise is much bigger than just the Parkway. This is a good starting point.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked Ms. Murphy what the next steps are. Ms. Murphy said we wanted to get the public thinking about these concepts, such as "retreat or resist," as well as get a flavor of how people feel about it. We should be including an analysis of sea level rise in our CIP projects. Our next rendition of the Master Plan could consider these issues. She's not looking for an action from the Board tonight.

MOTION [Swasey Parkway Trustees]: Mr. Staples moved to adjourn the Trustees meeting. Mr. Thompson seconded. The motion passed 3-0 and their meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Ms. Belanger asked Ms. Murphy about Raynes Farm. Ms. Murphy said we've been working on renovations to Raynes Barn since 2019, and they're finally complete. There will be a public "open barn" event in July.

c. Public Hearing – Cass Street – 3rd Reading

Mr. Papakonstantis read the notice of public hearing:

Notice of Public Hearing Pursuant to RSA 31:95-b,III(a)

Notice is hereby given that the Select Board of the Town of Exeter will hold a public hearing consisting of three (3) readings in the Nowak Room, 10 Front Street, Exeter for the purpose of complying with the provisions of RSA 31:95-b,III(a) for a proposed change to parking regulations on Cass Street. The first reading will be Monday, May 18, 2026. The second reading will be Monday, June 1, 2026. The third reading will be Monday, June 15, 2026. Each reading will begin at 7:00 PM. Dated: May 8, 2026.

Mr. Papakonstantis said the request was specifically regarding the "no parking" sign. Staff will continue to look into the other issues raised.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to open the public hearing for Cass Street pursuant to RSA 31:95-b,III(a). Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Cronin said the petition is to change the current ordinance to restrict parking on both sides of the road from Park Street to a point roughly 170 feet from the intersection west on Cass Street.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked for public comment.

Abigail Matthis Pitou of 20 Cass Street said she initially filed the petition, which stated that the "no parking" from 20 Cass Street to Park Street was 75-80 feet west on Cass. She doesn't know how the number got changed. She filed her petition on October 17, 2025 and only heard this 100+ number in the last

meeting. Pam [McElroy] looked into this and found that the number came from a letter Mr. Cronin sent on May 14 to the Select Board without her [Ms. Pitou] cc'd.

Mr. Cronin said we measured from the driveway at 20 Cass Street, and it was exactly 170 feet. He added that we have a CIP in the works for this area, and that would be the ideal time to try to reconfigure something.

Kelly Richards of 25 Cass Street said she was aware that there was a disparity in the distance, but her position and her neighbors' is the same. That intersection is not unsafe. The intersection study and the Police Department records show no issues. Park Street is no longer used as a bypass since the bridge has been closed. She discussed the history of this area as detailed in the packet the residents presented to the Select Board.

Kayoko Tazawa of 22 Cass Street said while she was away, a vehicle was parked in front of her house even though there's supposed to be no parking in that area. She would like to have a "no parking" sign at the telephone pole near her house.

Ms. Pitou said there is a highway easement and a public easement. She's not disputing that it's a public road. She's not using an ordinance to her own benefit. Accidents aren't isolated, they come in "accident clusters." There's an area where people barrel through from Summer Street onto Cass Street. The issue is not isolated to this area, it's one big cluster.

MOTION: Mr. Chartrand moved to close the public hearing. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Chartrand said he's not in favor of changing the parking regulations on Cass Street at this time. The other Board members agreed.

MOTION: Mr. Chartrand moved to deny the proposed amendment to section 101.2 of the parking regulations ordinance regarding Cass Street, finding that the requested expansion of parking restrictions has not been demonstrated to warrant a permanent ordinance change at this time, and to further direct town staff to evaluate existing encroachments into the public right of way along Cass Street, including the extent to which those encroachments may affect roadway width, site distance, parking availability, and traffic operations. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

d. Public Hearing – Wadleigh Street – 3rd Reading

Mr. Papakonstantis read the notice of public hearing:

Notice is hereby given that the Select Board of the Town of Exeter will hold a public hearing consisting of three (3) readings in the Nowak Room, 10 Front Street, Exeter for the purpose of complying with the provisions of RSA 31:95-b,III(a) for a proposed change to traffic control signage on Wadleigh Street at Forest Street. The first reading will be Monday, May 18, 2026. The second reading will be Monday June 1, 2026. The third reading will be Monday, June 15, 2026. Each reading will begin at 7:00 PM. Dated: May 8, 2026

Mr. Cronin said this is to change the existing intersection of Wadleigh and Forest from a two-way stop to a three-way stop with the addition of a third stop sign.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to open the public hearing. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Karen Dangora of 6 Wadleigh Street said she values her home because of the peace and quiet. Cars speeding down the street are affecting that value. It's a very dangerous corner for walkers. She hopes the Board will support another stop sign and any other traffic-calming measures.

Pete Nikidis of 5 Wadleigh Street said he sees horrible speeding every day. Drivers don't even follow the stop signs that exist. He's a huge proponent of adding this stop sign. He also wants to find a way to move the existing stop sign coming out of Rose Farm forward for better visibility. Since people aren't following these stop signs, he would like to see a stop sign with flashing lights around it. When we had the speed limit signs there it did slow things down temporarily. We talked about a speed table or speed bump, and he would love to be part of that decision making. Enforcing the stop signs further is the way to make it all come together.

Mr. Cronin said we'll do our best to realign the stop sign coming out of Rose Farm or look for an advance warning sign. We looked into speed tables but the geography of the intersection is challenging. There could be a tipping risk for vehicles. With the idea of sticking to the intent of the petition, and not having notified Rose Farm about additional options, he doesn't recommend proceeding with it at this time.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to close the public hearing. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Papakonstantis said although additional options are not covered by the motion, town staff will continue to work to make this area safer.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved that pursuant to policy 89-18, the requirement for placement of regulatory traffic devices and signage on public roads, the Select Board authorize a three-way stop configuration at the intersection of Wadleigh Street and Forest Street. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

e. Park Street Bridge Update

Michael Sliper and Maurice O'Connell of CSX, Mike Moser of NH DOT, and Public Works Director Stephen Cronin were present for this discussion item.

Mr. Sliper said the Park Street bridge has been out of service for some time. CSX owns the bridge, and our intent is to remove it. It's considered an obstruction. We don't have a timetable but it would likely be before the end of the year. There will be some routine maintenance to the tracks, but there's no plan for increasing speed or running double-stack trains. This bridge is an out-of-service structure that is beyond its useful life.

Mr. O'Connell said since acquiring PanAm, CSX did a major tie replacement project and spent \$100M upgrading the former PanAm to class 1 standards. There's been tremendous improvement for both freight and the Amtrak Downeaster.

Mr. Sliper said for the removal, we would remove the bridge and peel the stone structures on either side back to match the grade to the hill on either side. We'll also install a more permanent end-of-road device such as a jersey barrier or guard rail.

Mr. O'Connell said the removal of the bridge would make the train safer. Regarding double-stack trains, there are other bridges along this line that would have to be undercut or removed first.

Mr. Cronin said we're going to have a lot of questions before this work happens. We're concerned about aesthetics, impacts to utilities, how the road will be terminated, and impacts to abutting properties. In 2001, Boston & Maine executed a Memorandum of Understanding that ownership of the bridge would be transferred to DOT, with the intention that it would eventually go back to the town. The town sought voter authorization in 2003, received it, and sent a letter to Boston & Maine requesting the release deed, but it was never counter-signed and the transfer of title never happened. This is not unique to Exeter; there are a number of bridges along this corridor that are in a similar situation.

Mr. Moser said there were 11 bridges that were going to be transferred from B&M to the towns and the DOT would work with the towns to rehabilitate or replace those structures, but only three bridges were transferred at that time. Some were transferred later, but there are five that we feel are still owned by CSX, including the Park Street Bridge.

Mr. O'Connell said we want to work with the town and hear feedback. Mr. Papakonstantis asked if they would consider delaying the removal until next year. Mr. O'Connell said due to safety we'd like to get it down as soon as possible. It's in everyone's best interest.

Ms. Belanger said the only safety concern she's heard is that a conductor might have to stop and look at the bridge. Mr. Sliper said the bridge is failing and is structurally unsafe. Ms. Belanger said no one drives on it. We can't get through another winter while we look at how it will affect the area and the water pipes? Mr. Sliper said he believes the water pipe is redundant and removing it won't cause any issues. Are there other benefits to leaving the bridge? Ms. Belanger said it's about the restructuring of that intersection and how it will reflect on the town, as well as the cost. Who redesigns that intersection and who will approve it? Mr. O'Connell said when we recommended that bridge be closed, it was because there are serious issues. There are cracks in the deck and the clips that are holding the deck and pin plates. There are pedestrians using it but there shouldn't be. If there are three or four feet of snow on it over the winter, there could be a structural issue. Mr. O'Connell said there is freight traffic and passenger traffic running through there. Snow on that bridge could compromise their safety.

Ms. Belanger asked how quickly the Board could see the redesign plans. Mr. Sliper said fairly soon, but it will just be removal of the bridge and abutments with a guard rail at the end of the street. We're not looking to redesign the streetscape. It will be a slope so it will not be unsafe.

Ms. Belanger asked where the property line of the bridge is. Mr. Sliper said it's a little wider than the current span, around where the paving changes.

Mr. Chartrand asked if the Board can have a commitment from CSX to work with the Public Works Department on this. Mr. O'Connell said yes. If the town or DOT wanted to build a pedestrian overpass, we could work with the town on that, although we don't fund those kind of things.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked what it would look like to build a pedestrian bridge. Mr. Cronin said the grades are challenging. To meet ADA and the height requirements, you're probably looking at ramps with switchbacks. Mr. Moser said it would have to go up by at least five feet.

Ms. Gilman asked if the removal would require federal funding. Mr. Sliper said no, it would be internally funded by CSX.

Sally Ward of 72 Park Street said there are conflicting concerns between CSX and the community. The closure of the bridge has been detrimental to the community and created safety concerns because vehicles can't travel from the east to the west side. She's disappointed that this is a fait accompli for CSX. Why has CSX not considered replacing the bridge? Who owns the road, and who has the authority to sever Park Street? She also has concerns about how this process will unfold and how the public will be involved. She wants there to be a bridge there, and a full bridge, not just a pedestrian bridge.

Mr. O'Connell said safety is our first priority. We care about the community and want to hear from them, but we don't go out and build highway bridges. If DOT or the town has ideas that involve CSX, we're committed to having those conversations. Mr. Papakonstantis said public meetings are important in Exeter, and he's hoping these discussions can take place in public with input from the community.

Mr. Cronin said regarding the road, we'd have to work with Town Counsel. CSX has a right to cross that's identified in our deed, but he can't answer Ms. Ward's question fully.

Jackie Urquell said that bridge was not always there; there used to be a street-level crossing. Why can't we have that so that Park Street is still Park Street? It might be noisier, but the road won't be gone. We discovered that there were plans to rebuild the bridge in 2011, but some federal funding changes happened. Why can't it be done now?

Mr. Sliper said CSX and the Federal Government are against adding any new at-grade crossings. Any time there is a crossing, there's a chance for a train-vehicle or train-pedestrian encounter. Mr. O'Connell said safety is paramount. Putting an at-grade crossing there is not a safe alternative.

Mr. Moser said there was a preliminary look at the bridge in 2011, but based on the increased vertical requirements, it became problematic.

Commissioner Rodriguez made it clear that he wanted us to work with the town and CSX to get something that will work for both sides. The original agreement was that we would replace the structure with a 90/10 agreement, and we're open to looking at that again. We're currently in the process of finalizing projects for the next 10 years, and it will be two years before we get to that cycle again, so it would be 2037 or 2038 until it could be considered. There is a new funding bill coming through Congress, so there may be an opportunity through that which he's not yet aware of.

Rebecca Winter of 12 Locust Ave said she's happy to hear them talk about safety. She keeps hearing that this bridge serves no purpose, but for her neighbors it's her connection to the Hospital, emergency, and fire services. An ambulance's goal time is eight minutes, and it takes five miles north or southbound from any of the road-level crossings or the bridge in Exeter to cross the tracks and get to her house. If they get to that crossing and it's blocked by a train, their policy is to re-route, which means an additional 10 minutes. Passengers are under that bridge for a couple of seconds, but she lives in her house 24/7. What is CSX going to do for us? We're asking for the agency to control the bridge ourselves. Give us the deed and let the town take care of it. You want to take out the bridge because it's cheaper, but emergency access to that neighborhood must be addressed.

Megan Ramundo of 71 Park Street said she chose Exeter because she could walk everywhere. She loves her neighbors and her neighborhood. To take her daughter to kindergarten, she walked across that bridge. We don't want to see our bridge go away. This is a historic thoroughfare that is being cut off. The town is planned around the tracks. They're taking away the ability to walk to school and more traffic comes through narrow streets.

Mark Furlong of 20 Forrest Street said it was great to have an alternative to grade crossings with this bridge. When the Main Street and Salem Street crossings were closed, the only way to get through town was on Front Street, and traffic was very backed up. Having a bridge is a safety benefit to the town. That's a tough area, but lift bridges are used in many parts of the world. He did some research and found that the Select Board had signed the deed in 2003. Mr. Chartrand said it was signed by the town and sent off, but never completed. Mr. Furlong said folks from Oak Street and Park Street neighborhoods have a voice here and will keep showing up.

Eileen Flockhart of 7 Jacks Court said trains are magical. It would be a sad thing if that went away. A bridge or a pedestrian bridge will allow kids to see those trains go by.

Terrie Harmon of 6 Oak Street asked if CSX is willing to come back in person. Mr. Sliper said potentially. Ms. Harmon asked if she could get a copy of the report that CSX owns the bridge. Mr. Moser said there's no documentation it was ever transferred. Ms. Harmon asked if there was a memo or other report. Mr. Moser said the research is in draft form, but she can have a copy when it's finalized. Ms. Harmon asked if CSX is willing to stay the teardown until we can

work out the public's right to a public way and the railroad's right to tear down the bridge. Mr. O'Connell said this is a safety issue. The sooner we can get it done, the better for all of us. We don't want anything to happen to our employees or this community. The timing is very important. We're willing to work with the town, but it's got to be a process that moves quickly, likely within the next six months. Mr. Moser said the community can decide how that area is going to look along with NH DOT. We are going to remove the bridge.

Mr. Papakonstantis said he understands the concerns of CSX, but this is all coming very suddenly. We had a meeting a year ago where someone from DOT was here and there were unanswered questions as to who owns the bridge. We've been trying to get you to come and talk with us, and it's a reasonable request for us to talk with counsel and talk about our options. He's uncomfortable hearing the bridge has to be taken down in six months. Mr. O'Connell said he hopes those conversations can happen expeditiously. We're committed to the community and all the communities along their routes. We didn't have to be here, but we want to be here. What this area looks like going forward is out of our control. We'll share the plans and work with the town.

Ms. Cowan said she feels like she's being gaslit. This has been a trying conversation for everyone. What about emergency response times? This is our community. Staying this until we figure out what is going on is a reasonable request. Mr. O'Connell said if the town wants to put a bridge up there, it's fine.

Mr. Papakonstantis said we need to do our due diligence. The Board was elected to represent the legislative body which is our community. He can't sign onto doing anything expeditiously until we know more. Mr. O'Connell said he understands that the community has some concerns. We're willing to work with you and that will take some time. The commitment is to work with the town through the process. He's hoping they can go back and request a pause while we figure out what we need to do.

Mr. Sliper said the bridge is out of service, including for pedestrian traffic, so no one should be using that bridge. CSX will work with you to do something to get across the railroad tracks. The bridge can't be fixed. CSX is offering to take it down at no cost. People are still using this bridge while it is deemed unsafe. Regardless of what happens, this bridge cannot be repaired, it would have to be replaced.

William Murphy of 18 Oak Street said he's been stuck with tracks shut down and the highway shut down. This bridge is important. It allows fire trucks to pass. We need a safe way to get around. They want to remove the one thing that allows the town to have pedestrian crossing, because crossing at a road is unsafe. There's got to be something solid that says if they take the bridge down, we can put it back. The bridge was there for a purpose.

Silas Richards of 5 Locust Ave said the removal of this bridge will have profound impacts on pedestrian and cyclist movement in town.

Joel Shander of 93 Park Street said the road predates the railroad for hundreds of years. CSX is willing to work with the town to put in a new bridge

after this one is removed. It's always bothered him that there's only one bridge and it's only one way. There are other places that might make more sense for a bridge. Can CSX work with the town to have multiple crossings? At the meeting a year ago, the representative from the State said it was the town's fault that the deed had never been transferred, that the town always said it wasn't ready, but this is at odds with what was said tonight. It sounds like the town did everything it could have. Mr. Cronin said there have been a number of conversations over the years regarding maintenance and ownership. Mr. Moser said after the meeting, we realized things were different. The State signed an agreement with B&M regarding the 11 bridges, and signed an agreement with Exeter which you did follow through with, but it did not go through with B&M. We have more information than we had a year ago.

Mr. Chartrand asked if CSX's willingness is having a right-of-way at Park Street or just general benevolence. Mr. O'Connell said we would work with you in general. A bridge would have to be built by the town or DOT after we reviewed the plans. We do get approached with projects like this and we work with the communities.

Megan Ramundo of 71 Park Street said no one has documented what CSX has done historically to work with communities. She sees profits and expectations for the global trade markets of railways. She hopes they explain what work with communities means.

Mark Furlong of 20 Forrest Street said at the June 30 2025 Select Board meeting, they discussed that this bridge has historic significance and would require a historic and environmental study. Is that still required? Ms. Gilman said if no Federal money is involved, an archaeological study is not required. In 2003, a historical survey of that bridge was done, and the documented owner was the DOT. Was that survey part of the conversation? Mr. Moser said there was a lot of research done recently. The owner was listed as NH DOT in reports for the last 15 years. It was only seven or eight months ago that we became aware we didn't own it. The removal would not use Federal or State money so review is not required.

Jessica Lepler of 27 Park Street asked whether the owners have that right to close the road. Who is responsible for the maintenance of that bridge? Is it the owner's responsibility to maintain it? Mr. Moser said the DOT signed an agreement with B&M that we would accept maintenance responsibilities until the bridge was replaced or when 10 years expired. We had continued to maintain the bridge and have rehabilitated it a couple times, but it is at end of life.

Mr. Papakonstantis said it's called discontinuing a road, and it depends on the class of road. When we discontinued Swasey Parkway, it had to go through legal review. We'd have to work with counsel to figure out whether and how we could discontinue that road.

Gina Lahey of 80 Park Street asked we could build a pedestrian bridge with the ability to have an emergency bridge cross it if needed. Mr. Moser said pedestrian bridges are designed for vehicle loads but not fire trucks.

Mr. Chartrand said regarding the ambulance and emergency aspect, the voters funded a second Public Safety site on the other side of the tracks, so there will be access to the neighborhood. It doesn't give access to the Hospital but it will get emergency services there.

Joel Shander of 93 Park Street said it's not just Exeter residents who are impacted. If you come in via 111 or 111A, that bridge is your access to the hospital.

Mr. Papakonstantis said this will be a transparent and public process. We have a list of things to look into for due diligence. He will give Sally Ward as much advance notice of meetings and other information as possible.

f. Public Comment

Mr. Papakonstantis said he forgot to call for Public Comment at the beginning of the meeting. He asked for public comment, but there was none.

g. Town Offices Public Hours of Business –

Town Manager Paul Cohen asked the Board to modify the public hours the Town Offices are open. Currently, it's 8 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. He's asking to extend the hours on Tuesdays to 7 PM and close early on Fridays at 12:30 PM. Portsmouth, Stratham and Kingston all maintain extended hours at least one day a week and maintain early closures on Friday. Our Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Sewer Collections offices already have these hours. We are in a challenging labor market and the proposed schedule would be more attractive to potential employees. He recommends this become effective on July 6th. Employees will still be working a 40-hour work week. The public hours are different from the hours employees work. This would apply only to the Town Offices, not to Town buildings in general. Ms. Gilman asked if this has been discussed with the Union. Mr. Cohen said any Union employees in this building are already working this schedule. Mr. Papakonstantis asked that this change be advertised.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved that the Select Board approve the Town Manager's proposal to revise the Town Offices public hours to weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with extended hours until 7 PM on Tuesdays and early closure at 12:30 p.m. on Fridays, effective July 6, 2026. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

h. Tax Collector Appointment

Mr. Cohen said on September 2nd, the Board voted to appoint the Interim Town Manager Melissa Roy as Tax Collector, but now that he has been installed as Town Manager he would need to assume that role.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to appoint Paul Cohen, Town Manager, as Tax Collector for the Town of Exeter, NH, in accordance with Warrant Article 43 (March 1984) and upon the recommendation of legal counsel. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

3. Regular Business

a. Permits & Approvals

i. Contract Award – Front/Linden/Pine Streets Roundabout

Mr. Cronin said at the June 1 meeting, the Board opened two construction bids. Baillargeon Construction was the apparent low bidder at \$715,771.50. There were three alternates, including alternate 1 which was street lighting, with a bid of \$49,518.75. The base bid with the alternate is above the town bond authorization, so we've been looking at additional funding sources. There is money available in the 2022-2023 Highway Block Grant appropriation and the Sidewalk Improvement Fund.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to award the contract to Baillargeon Construction for the Front Street/Pine Street/Linden Street intersection improvements project in the amount of \$765,290.25, consisting of the base bid of \$715,771.50 and Additive Alternate No. 1 (Street Lighting) in the amount of \$49,518.75; and to appropriate \$96,000 of highway block grant aid and \$104,000 from the Sidewalk Capital Improvement Fund to supplement the remaining 2023 Article 5 bond authorization; and to further authorize the Town Manager or their designee to sign the associated contract documents. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Cronin said this includes a 15% contingency for construction and an additional \$20,000 for construction phase services. The next request is to award a contract to VHB for part-time on-site inspection and oversight.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to award a contract amendment to VHB for Construction Phase Engineering Services associated with the Front Street/Pine Street/Linden Street Intersection Improvements Project in the amount of \$20,000.00, and to further authorize the Town Manager or their designee to sign the associated contract documents. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

ii. Grant Acceptance – NH the Beautiful

Mr. Cohen said our Conservation and Sustainability Planner Kristin Murphy obtained an \$8,000 NH the Beautiful municipal recycling and storage equipment grant which funded the purchase of a large box container to provide storage for the polystyrene foam prior to processing, as well as a skid of large "supersacks." There is no town contribution.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to authorize the Town Manager, or his designee, to execute any and all related agreements for acceptance of the NH the Beautiful grant funding in the amount of \$8,000. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

iii. Dog Warrant

Mr. Papakonstantis said this is the annual dog warrant request.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved for the Select Board to sign the 2026 dog warrant as presented. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

iv. Donation Acceptance – Pairpoint Park

Finance Director Corey Stevens was present to discuss this item. Mr. Stevens said in May, the Pairpoint Park Committee raised \$2,985. They've raised \$38,460 in total. Mr. Papakonstantis said the RFQ is out and they interviewed the candidates last Thursday.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to accept the donations received during the month of May 2026 totaling \$2,985.00 for the design and construction of Pairpoint Park and direct that the funds be held by the Trustees of Trust Funds in the Pairpoint Park Fund. Disbursement of the funds shall be made by authorization of the Town Manager for the purpose of designing and/or constructing Pairpoint Park. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

v. Contract Award - Certified Local Government

Mr. Cohen said this is a request from Town Planner Dave Sharples for an exception to our purchasing policy to contract with the Barrett Planning Group for the continuation of the Exeter Historic District Survey. \$25,000 in funding would provide 55 surveys of historic properties.

Ms. Belanger said in the contract, there is a typo; under item 1, it says "serves" instead of "services." Mr. Cohen said he would address that.

Ms. Gilman said she did the application and got the award while Dave Sharples was out of office.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to authorize an exception to the purchasing policy to contract with Barrett Planning Group LLC for the continuation of the Exeter Historic District Survey. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

b. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits and Exemptions

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to approve an abatement for 64/48/11 in the amount of \$3,680.71 for tax year 2025. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to approve an abatement for 104/79/219 in the amount of \$1,445.55 for tax year 2025. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to approve a Jeopardy Bill for 103/10 in the amount of \$1,851 for tax year 2026. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to approve a Jeopardy Bill for 87/8/C-03 in the amount of \$746 for tax year 2026. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting: June 1, 2026

Corrections: Mr. Cohen said in the first paragraph, Interim Town Manager Melissa Roy should read Assistant Town Manager Melissa Roy.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to approve the Select Board regular meeting minutes of June 1, 2026 as amended. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

5. Appointments and Resignations

- a. Resignation – Communications Advisory Committee – David Kovar

MOTION: Ms. Cowan moved to accept the letter of resignation of David Kovar from the Communications Advisory Committee. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

- b. Conservation Commission – Alternate to Voting Member – Michelle Crepeau

Mr. Chartrand said we are moving an alternate to a voting position following a resignation. This leaves an alternate position open.

MOTION: Mr. Chartrand made a motion to appoint Michelle Crepeau to a voting member position on the Conservation Commission, term to end April 2029. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

6. Town Manager's Report

- a. Mr. Cohen said tomorrow at 7 PM, the Zoning Board of Appeals will be holding a Public Hearing for the proposed 34-unit townhouse complex and two apartment buildings containing 300 units off Holland Way
- b. House Bill 1491 regarding the insurance has still not been sent to the Governor's Office. The Board's request to send notice did go out.
- c. He and Melissa attended the NHMA conference, which they found to be very informative.
- d. He has continued his tour of board and committee meetings, and he will be here tomorrow night to attend the Zoning Board meeting.
- e. The employee appreciation lunch went well. He thanked Pam McElroy for organizing the event.
- f. He and Melissa met with the Exeter Hospital President and had a productive meeting.
- g. Ms. Cowan asked about HB 1300. Mr. Cohen said he reached out to the Superintendent of SAU 16, whom he will meet with next week. He's also reaching out to contacts in other communities. It's surprising that this is flying under the radar. The bill would provide a cap on the increase of school budgets to the inflation level, and there's a 6% cap for school administrative costs. It has to appear on the ballot for State and national elections in 2026 and 2028. There is a lot of ambiguity and inconsistent language. Ms. Gilman said it's going to be confusing to have a town question on a national ballot. Mr. Cohen said if 60% of NH Communities approve it, Exeter would be dragged into it. There's no alternate means of school funding to relieve this.

7. Select Board Committee Reports

- a. Ms. Gilman attended the Energy Committee and the Tax Exemption Committee. Tomorrow the Energy Committee is having their monthly "Power Hour" information session on CPCNH at the Library.
- b. Ms. Belanger attended Housing Advisory where there was a conversation about having co-Chairs. Only the 250 Committee is doing that, and it's very short-term.

If it's not possible, they're ok with being Chair and Vice-Chair. There were some proposed zoning amendments, but Mr. Sharples was not able to make it to the meeting until the end. We will revisit this conversation at the July meeting. We also discussed the Plan NH Charette. She attended a Planning Board meeting where two cases were tabled at the applicant's request: the proposed hotel on Portsmouth Ave and a minor site plan request for 73 Winter Street. There was a lot line adjustment that was very odd. We had a conditional use permit application which was approved; this project was discussed extensively at the Conservation Commission meeting.

- c. Ms. Cowan had no report.
- d. Mr. Chartrand attended the Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting and a Conservation Committee meeting. He also attended a Water/Sewer Advisory Committee meeting last week.
- e. Mr. Papakonstantis attended the Pairpoint Park Committee. He had to miss a Tree Committee meeting due to a conflict.

8. Correspondence

- a. A notice from NH DOT regarding use of public right-of-way for outdoor dining.
- b. The NHMA Legislative Bulletin
- c. An email from Silas Richards related to bicycle usage and signage on sidewalks.

9. Review Board Calendar

- a. The Board's goal-setting session is Monday June 22 at 5 PM. The next meetings are June 29, July 13, July 27, August 10, August 24, September 14, and September 28. September 1 will be reserved in case we need a meeting.

10. Non-Public Session

- a. There was no non-public session at this time.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to adjourn. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanna Bartell
Recording Secretary

1 **Select Board Goal Setting Meeting**

2 **June 22, 2026, 5:00 pm Exeter Public Library**

3 **Draft Minutes**

4

5 In attendance: Niko Papakonstantis, Molly Cowan, Nancy Belanger, Dan Chartrand, Julie
6 Gilman, Paul Cohen, Melissa Roy, Corey Stevens.

7

8 Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm.

9

10 Each Board Member reported their goals.

11

12 Nancy Belanger

- 13 1. Keegan Report: see what we can move forward with while remaining budget-aware.
- 14 2. Review Departments that may need restructuring, including Building and Planning.
15 Consider cross-training employees.
- 16 3. Approach the FY27 budget with caution and concern.
- 17 4. Reinstate an All-Boards Meeting.
 - 18 ○ Some boards and members of the public don't understand the roles they play,
19 and an all-boards meeting would help clarify those responsibilities.
- 20 5. Review policies and procedures, including the creation/update of a social media policy
21 for Boards and Committees.
- 22 6. Continue to move toward sunsetting the TIF District.
- 23 7. Review parking enforcement townwide. What is the plan, and how do we move forward?
- 24 8. Get a legal opinion on whether postcards could be sent out from Town Staff notifying
25 residents of the voting locations, dates, and times. And if so, how does the Town pay for
26 it?

27

28 Julie Gilman

- 29 1. Reinstate an All-Boards Meeting, including training and education. Julie felt the meeting
30 was originally intended for Board members to introduce themselves to the other boards
31 and committees.
- 32 2. Focus on personnel vacancies and ensure there is a succession plan for the Building
33 and Planning Departments. She mentioned that maybe the Town could consider a
34 Grants manager.
- 35 3. Begin to review options for the currently vacant 32 Court Street property formerly
36 occupied by the Parks and Recreation Department. Could it be used by another Town
37 department?
- 38 4. Plan for improvements for the Historic Town Hall Building. She would like to know what
39 the Town is doing next, whether we are renovating, and how the project gets funded.
- 40 5. Continue to implement the Keegan report.
- 41 6. Consider creating a grants manager.

42

43

44

45 Daniel Chartrand

- 46 1. Work to sunset the TIF District and distribute the funds this year.
- 47 2. Move forward with the results from the Parking and pedestrian study, which gave
- 48 recommendations for the downtown area.
- 49 3. Town staff and the Facilities Committee work to complete the facilities space needs
- 50 assessment.
- 51 4. Restore the usual spending in the FY27 budget, such as the Conservation Fund, Parks
- 52 Improvement Fund, and Paving Management Fund.
- 53 5. Work to improve how the transfer station is utilized and consider adding or improving on
- 54 programs such as composting, all of which would encourage usage while realizing cost
- 55 reductions in our solid waste management budget.
- 56 6. Research and report on how legislative decisions made by officials in Concord are
- 57 driving up our tax rate. Find a way to report those increases during the FY27 budget
- 58 season.

59

60 Molly Cowan

- 61 1. Molly agrees with her colleagues on their previously stated goals.
- 62 2. Her priority is to understand the effect of the legislative decisions made by officials in
- 63 Concord on our local tax rate.
- 64 3. She wants Exeter staff to have a stronger voice in Concord by advocating for or against
- 65 legislation that directly affects Exeter residents. She feels Exeter should be a local leader
- 66 for other communities.
- 67 4. Research ways to focus on the downtown to celebrate the River and treat that natural
- 68 resource as an important aspect rather than as something secondary and in the
- 69 background.
- 70 5. Sunset the TIF District.

71

72 Niko Papakonstantis

- 73 1. Sunset the TIF district in 2026.
- 74 2. For the FY27 Budget, return some previous annual spending that was cut in FY26. He
- 75 wants to see no layoffs or service cuts in the FY27 operating budget.
- 76 3. Continue to improve the Town's organizational structure and continue to utilize the
- 77 Keegan Report for such items as succession planning
- 78 4. Utilize DPW, Kristen Murphy, Energy Committee, and the Conservation Committee to
- 79 look for ways to be at the forefront of sustainability. Solid waste costs are a major issue
- 80 the Town is facing now and in the future.
- 81 5. Move forward with an update to the master plan in the FY27 budget. Focusing on
- 82 parking, pedestrian movement, complete street guidance, and housing issues.
- 83 6. Review the Planning Department and examine all aspects of building, planning, and
- 84 economic development to determine whether they are appropriately structured. Focusing
- 85 on where the Town goes with Economic Development, supporting the ZBA and possibly
- 86 improving communications with the Select Board.

87

88

89 Executive Team Goals - (Paul Cohen, Melissa Roy, Corey Stevens)

- 90 1. Growth is the biggest issue Exeter faces. We have a water supply constraint.
- 91 ○ How does the community want to handle that?
- 92 ○ At the end of a 10 Year Master Plan. Should it be funded in FY27?
- 93 ○ Where are we going as a community? Is there a vision?
- 94 2. Budgetary Constraints for FY27 and the future.
- 95 ○ Understanding the goals of the board is to reinstate previous funding, but also to
- 96 be concerned about budget. Those are opposing views.
- 97 ○ Dan Chartrand doesn't feel that we should limit the FY27 Budget. He feels we
- 98 should fund services.
- 99 3. Determine the future of town buildings. Are there buildings to be sold, repurposed, etc.
- 100 4. Review parking and plan for enforcement.
- 101 5. Bring the value of the TIF District onto the tax rolls for December 2026.
- 102 6. Restore the periodic inspection program for the assessment of properties to maintain
- 103 compliance with state laws and regulations.

104

105

106 Motion to Adjourn at 6:19 pm by Nancy Belanger

107 Seconded by Daniel Chartrand

108 Vote - 5-0

109

Appointments/Resignations



Town of Exeter
Town Manager's Office
10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833

2nd Interview not
necessary.
(April 2025)

Statement of Interest Boards and Committee Membership

Committee Selection: Exeter Housing Authority

New Re-Appointment Regular Alternate

Name: Megan Spencer Email: MASPENCE4516@gmail.com

Address: 38 PINE ST EXETER NH 03833 Phone: 610-620-4616

Registered Voter: Yes No

Statement of Interest/experience/background/qualification, etc. (resume can be attached).

I currently serve on the Housing Advisory and am interested in furthering my service in this area. I previously applied for the same position. I bring 20 years in research and analysis in corporate environments.

If this is re-appointment to a position, please list all training sessions you have attended relative to your appointed position.

I understand that: 1. this application will be presented to the Exeter Select Board only for the position specified above and not for subsequent vacancies on the same board; 2. The Town Manager and Select Board may nominate someone who has not filed a similar application; 3. this application will be available for public inspection.

After submitting this application for appointment to the Town Manager:

- The application will be reviewed and you will be scheduled for an interview with the Select Board
- Following the interview the Board will vote on your potential appointment at the next regular meeting
- If appointed, you will receive a letter from the Town Manager and will be required to complete paperwork with the Town Clerk prior to the start of your service on the committee or board.

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older:

Signature: Meg A. Spencer Date: 6/12/26

To be completed by Select Board upon appointment:

Date Appointed: _____ Term Ending: _____ Full: _____ Alternate: _____

Town Manager Report



TOWN OF EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

10 FRONT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 • (603) 778-0591 • FAX 777-1514

www.exeternh.gov

Town Manager Report June 29, 2026

- Master Patrol Office Designation
- New Town Offices Hours Open to the Public
- Assessing Office Changes



EXETER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Timothy J. McCain – Chief of Police



PO Box 127 · Exeter NH 03833-0127 · (603) 772-1212 · Fax (603) 778-7061
www.exeternh.gov/police

June 15, 2026

Today, the selection process for the Master Patrol Officer designation was completed. All four candidates participated in a 50-question general knowledge examination that assessed their knowledge of high-liability department policies, applicable State RSAs, and the provisions of their collective bargaining agreement. The minimum passing score for the examination was established at 80%. All candidates successfully met or exceeded this requirement, with the following results:

1. **Detective Bailey Teixeira** – 92%
2. **Detective Michael O'Connor** – 90%
3. **Officer Michael Ingenito** – 86%
4. **Officer John Suglia** – 82%

In addition to achieving passing examination scores, each candidate meets the minimum eligibility requirements for the Master Patrol Officer designation. Based on their successful completion of the testing process and verification of all required qualifications, I recommend that Detective Bailey Teixeira, Detective Michael O'Connor, Officer Michael Ingenito, and Officer John Suglia each be awarded the designation of Master Patrol Officer.

Timothy J. McCain

Chief of Police

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

THE TOWN OF EXETER

And

THE EXETER POLICE ASSOCIATION

affiliated with Teamsters Local 633 of NH

July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028

Severance shall not apply to any employee hired by the Town after the date of January 1, 2018.

Any accrued sick leave shall be forfeited to the Town.

- 10.9 The Town and the Association agree that all cost items of this Agreement must be approved by the Town at the Annual or Special Town Meeting, and the action taken as such meeting shall be final on all cost items. These cost items will be included by the Select Board in the annual Town Budget. Also, both parties agree that the cost items included in this Agreement shall not become effective unless and until appropriate action is taken by the Town, provided, however, that such provisions shall be retroactive to January 1st.

Until the cost items have been approved or until a revised agreement is reached which is consistent with the action taken at the Town Meeting, the compensation and fringe benefits of employees covered by this Agreement shall be continued in accordance with the previous contract, provided that sufficient funds have been made available by the most recent Town Meeting.


- 10.10 **Premium Instructor Incentive:** An annual premium instructor incentive of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) shall be paid to Department employees that conduct annual firearms instruction programs. This amount will be pro-rated based on the length of service and paid on the first pay period in November.

- 10.10.1 **Instructor Incentive:** An annual instructor incentive of five hundred (\$500) shall be paid to Department employees that actually teach Taser, Baton, OC spray, or defensive tactics classes for the Department. This amount will be pro-rated based on the length of service and paid on the first pay period in November.

- 10.12 **Field Training Officers:** Field Training Officers shall receive two hours of overtime per 8 hour shift when specifically assigned and worked in training a new officer.

- 10.12.1 **Training Supervisor Incentive:** An annual Training Supervisor Incentive will be paid to the Field Training Supervisor Sergeant and the Dispatch Communications Training Supervisor as an annual payment of \$500 to be paid in the first pay period in November.

- 10.13 **The Communications Training Officer:** The Communications Training Officer shall receive two hours of overtime per 8 hour shift when specifically assigned and training another officer.

- 
- 10.14 **Master Patrol Officer (MPO) Incentive Step:** Master Patrol Officer is a designation only and not a rank. It does however, come with a step raise in rate of pay. MPO's are expected to serve as positive role models and uphold the highest standards of excellence and professionalism within the organization. In the absence of a supervisor, the most senior Master Patrol Officer will be directed to take charge and direct the activities of all junior officers. The designation of Master Patrol Officer is not a requirement for future

promotional processes. MPO's do not lose or gain any seniority within their CBA for scheduling choices, etc.

- a. **Minimum Qualifications:** The designation of Master Patrol Officer is open for testing to any sworn member of the department under the rank of sergeant who have at least 7 years of experience with the Exeter Police Department from date of hire with no formal discipline (written warning or higher) within the last year. Candidates must pass a written test with a score of 80% or greater. The MPO test may be offered once a year in June, or as needed at the Chief's discretion. The MPO written test involves knowledge competency testing on NH State RSA's, Case Law, and EPD General Orders involving supervision and high liability areas. Additionally, candidates seeking the MPO designation must have competent or greater annual evaluations for a minimum of two years prior to designation.
- b. **Compensation:** Increase of one step above their current step per CBA Obtain designation of MPO as follows:
 - i. **Training:** Officers selected as MPO's may receive first line supervision training such as the FBI LEEDA Supervisory Institute, the Primex Supervisor's Academy, or other equivalent management training school(s).
 - ii. **Officer in Charge:** Officers (to include Detectives) who achieve Master Patrol Officer designation will have MPO patches affixed to their uniform. They also may be required to fill in as Officer in Charge (OIC) during their assigned shifts in the absence of a Patrol Sergeant. Absent exigent circumstances, The Patrol Lieutenant will be responsible for designating which shifts need an OIC. MPO's do not discipline other officers or approve reports. Incidents of concern, which may require these types of actions, will be forwarded to the Patrol Lieutenant by the end of their shift.

ARTICLE XI

Uniforms and Safety Equipment

11.1 The Town shall determine and provide such safety equipment as necessary for employees to safely carry out their duties.

ARTICLE XII

Leave Administration

12.1 **Annual Leave:**

Unit employees shall be entitled to annual leave with full pay on the basis of the following schedule:

After completion of Police Academy	five work days annually
After second year	ten work days annually
After fifth year	fifteen work days annually
After tenth year	twenty work days annually

Exeter Town Offices

Public Hours of Operation

As of July 6, 2026

Town Clerk, Tax Office, Water/Sewer Collections Office

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Tuesday 8:00 am – 7:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm

Assessing Office, Planning/Building Department,

Economic Development, Town Manager

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Tuesday 8:00 am – 7:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm

Welfare/Human Services

Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Select Board Committee Reports

Correspondence



Thank You

2 messages

Rebecca and BJ Winter <thewinters2454@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 16, 2026 at 3:09 PM

To: pmcelroy@exeternh.gov, selectboard@exeternh.gov, npapakonstantis@exeternh.gov, mcowan@exeternh.gov, nbelanger@exeternh.gov, jgilman@exeternh.gov, dchartrand@exeternh.gov

Dear members of the Selectboard:

I would like to express my thanks for your support at last night's meeting. I am spoke about emergency service access and greatly appreciate your affirmation of my concerns- particularly in direct comments to the CSX representatives. My blood boiled each time safety was given lip service and I appreciate you all telling CSX what the rest of us were thinking- especially Ms. Cowan and Mr. Papakonstantis.

Thank you again for your efforts on this issue. I'll see you all at the next meeting!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Winter

Pam McElroy <pmcelroy@exeternh.gov>

Tue, Jun 16, 2026 at 3:20 PM

To: Paul Cohen <pcohen@exeternh.gov>

FYI...

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Pam McElroy

Town of Exeter

Senior Executive Assistant, Town Manager's Office
603-773-6102

Good evening. My name is Kelley Richards and I am a resident of Exeter at 25 Cass Street.

I am again speaking on behalf of myself and my neighbors. We reiterate our position that the Cass and Park Street intersection is not unsafe as put forth by the petitioner. This is supported by the evidence submitted previously in these hearings including the 2022 Town of Exeter Intersection Evaluation and the Exeter Police Department records confirming zero accidents at this location.

Additionally, we find that the closure of the Park Street bridge has significantly reduced traffic in the neighborhood. Park Street is no longer used as a bypass to avoid Main Street traffic, and aside from the residents who live on that street, there are very few cars coming up Park Street and turning onto Cass Street. Given these factors, we dispute the significant safety hazard as put forth by the petitioner.

Therefore, we maintain that a No Parking zone is unnecessary and without precedent. Creating this exemption would pave the way for other residents to demand similar considerations, which could disrupt the lawful and established order of the town.

In response to the petitioner's request for a No Parking zone in front of their house, we have also requested that the Town of Exeter be aware of the petitioner's deliberate obstruction of the public roadway on Cass Street. We have respectfully requested that the impediments be immediately removed and the right of way restored.

In support of this, we have provided warranty deeds, tax maps, and surveyors plats that indicate the legal boundary of the property at 20 Cass Street. These are found in exhibits from the June 1 Town meeting.

In rebuttal, the petitioner has cited RSA 231:51 and posited that Cass Street is a 'public highway easement' rather than Town-owned property and

that they have the right to build out onto the roadway, since they pay taxes on the land.

We assert that the land encompassing the road and its accompanying sidewalks is not assessed or taxed to any private citizen, so it is not owned by private citizens.

Further, we have found evidence that the Town of Exeter does in fact hold title to the land.

In confirmation of this we provide the following information as noted on page 194 of the Second Book of Town Records of Exeter, NH.

These records are kept in the vault at the Town Clerk's Office and include early town surveys and transcripts of the first records of Exeter (1638–1730) which verify when streets were officially accepted by townspeople.

Please see **Exhibit A**. In it you will find two transcripts that reference modern day Cass Street. The first, at the top of the document, is an original quitclaim deed whereby Major John Gilman surrenders his rights to an acre of land (modern day Cass Street) for a public highway.

The second transcript, at the bottom of the document, details the length and width of his property, house and wharf, clearly delineating that his property boundary will run 66 feet from the Northwest side of his house bound by the public highway towards the Great Mill (towards Main Street), and the same breadth down to the river.

Even though the wording of these original transcripts are nearly 300 years old, the core meaning of the text remains remarkably unambiguous by contemporary standards. **Please see Exhibit A-1** which provides the

modern text that preserves the purpose of the original quitclaim agreement. It states:

This document certifies that Major John Gilman previously had a one-acre plot of land surveyed and assigned to him by the Kingston Lot Layers last March—which is the land where his wharf and house currently stand in Exeter. Major John Gilman now freely and willingly gives up and returns all of that specific land back to the town of Exeter. He surrenders all of his rights, ownership, and financial interest in that property, with the sole exception of a specific portion that a town-appointed committee explicitly agreed he could keep (as outlined in a separate written agreement signed by them today). To confirm this agreement, Major John Gilman has signed this document on August 9, 1725.

Please refer to **Exhibit A-2** for the modern text detailing the size of Major John Gilman's lot as it borders the new highway and descends to the river. The following excerpt delineates the layout of his property and his right to maintain a wall along the public highway to secure his house:

His property boundary will begin at the northwest side of the new wooden frame of his house (which is built next to his warehouse). From there, the property line will run 66 feet toward the great mill bordering the public highway. The property will maintain this exact same width all the way down to the lower end of his wharf, extending out toward the river's shipping channel.

And it continues:

Furthermore, it is agreed that Major Gilman is granted the right to use a 20-foot wide strip of town land on the northwest side of his house, bordering the public highway. He is permitted to use this space to build a stone or wooden retaining wall to protect and secure his house.

To wit, John Gilman began building the very first home on what was then known as Cross Street (now Cass Street) in 1723. In March of 1724 he had it surveyed by the Kingston Lot Layers (early town surveyors) and in

August of 1725 he officially deeded one acre of his land to the town of Exeter, free and clear, for a public highway, keeping only the portion of land where his house and wharf stood. He was then granted permission to build a wall along the new public highway to protect and secure his home.

Cross Street was an important public roadway for colonial Exeter. We have included a copy of the 1802 Phinehas Merrill Map in **Exhibit B**. This is regarded as the earliest reliable map of Exeter and documents the exact layouts of the town's oldest roads. It confirms the alignment of Cross Street as a core artery within the early town plan with Main Street and Lane's End (now Park Street). Situated at the intersection is the house erected by Major John Gilman, according to the historical records of contemporary property owner Deacon Odiorne.

Additionally, **Exhibit C-1** (Exeter Tax Map 63) and **Exhibit C-2** (Plat B-38808) depict the orientation of the Major John Gilman house abutting Cass and Park Streets. The directional arrows on both exhibits confirm that Cass Street runs northwest from the corner of Park Street toward Main Street.

In light of this evidence, we feel the Town of Exeter has fully satisfied the petitioner's request for proof of deed regarding the Cass Street land and that the petitioner's reliance on RSA 231:51 is legally groundless. Cass Street is an active, fully constructed Class V highway. Because this thoroughfare was dedicated, deeded, and heavily utilized as a public way for centuries, its public highway status cannot be terminated.

And although no further response is required, we address the petitioner's highway easement argument by stating the following:

1. The petitioner cannot use RSA 229:1 to claim private ownership. This statute strictly outlines how *public* roads are established (by layout, deed, acceptance, or 20 years of public use prior to 1968). Cass Street has been a heavily utilized public road for over a century, firmly

cementing its status as a public highway. This statute protects public use; it does not grant private land to abutters based on proximity.

2. The Irrelevance of RSA 231:8 (Layout Petitions): This statute dictates how a town *lays out* or *alters* a highway upon a formal petition. It does not give a resident the power to unilaterally claim a piece of a road.

3. The Irrelevance of RSA 231:48 (Discontinuance Appeals): This statute handles how citizens appeal a town's decision to *discontinue* or close a road. Because Exeter has never voted to discontinue Cass Street, this statute provides zero legal standing for an encroachment claim.

In conclusion, we maintain that the petitioner's repeated attempts to obstruct the right-of-way over Cass Street are both unlawful and legally invalid. Furthermore, we explicitly refute the petitioner's assertion that the Town of Exeter paved over their private lawn in 2017. According to official municipal records published on the Town of Exeter Paving Page, Cass Street has not undergone paving operations since 2009.

Since 2024, the petitioner has engaged in continuous self-help measures to seize control of the public roadway, bypassing the required petition and permitting processes. Because the Town of Exeter holds legitimate title to this right-of-way, any claim to acquire public land through adverse possession is strictly barred by law. Consequently, immediate enforcement action by the Board is required

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you on this matter.

For the record, please recognize the residents of the Cass and Park Street neighborhood who have signed this statement and are in attendance this evening.

Name (sign/print)	Address	# Years at address
Kelly Richards Kelly Richards	25 Cass St,	19 years
Robert G. Richards ROB RICHARDS	25 Cass St,	19 years
Chloe Richards Chloe Richards	25 Cass St,	19 years
Ella Victoria Richards Ella Victoria Richards	25 Cass St	19 years
Maryn C Page Maryn Page	18 Cass St	27 years
Richard Page Richard Page	18 Cass St.	27 years
Christine Page Christine Page	18 Cass St	27 years
Chris Thurber Chris Thurber	32 Park St.	27 yrs.
Simona Thurber Simo Thurber	32 Park St.	27 yrs
Patricia J. Henderson	10 Cass Street	20 years
W. Scott Carlisle W. Scott Carlisle	since 1947 on	14 Cass St.
Susan L Heald Susan L Heald	Since 1991 +	"
Tonya L News Tonya L News	" 1991 +	"
Alden Lewis	12 Cass Street	3 years
Natalie Wybranski Natalie Wybranski	5 Cass St	12 yrs
Ronald Wybranski Ronald Wybranski	5 Cass St.	12 yrs
Kayoko Tazawa Kayoko Tazawa	22 Cass St.	17 years
Barbara Rimkus Barbara Rimkus		30 years
Susan Kammell	11 CASS STREET	40 yr
Ann Fleming	11 CASS ST EXETER	40 yrs
Jacqueline Kockel Jacqueline Kockel	35 Park St. Exeter	43 yrs.
Liz Morse Liz Morse	4 Cass St	17 years

A

Page 194

These presents Witness that whareas Major John Gilman had an acre of Land Laid out by Kingstown Lot layers som time last march whare his worffe and house stands one in Exeter the said Major John Gilman Doth freely and willingly yeld and surrender upe all the said Land laid out by the said Kingstown Lot layers unto the said town of Exeter again to say all all his Right title and Intrest to the said Laying out Except what the Committee Chosen for that sarvis has agreed with the said major Gilman Shuld have as by a writing under their hands bearing Date Equal with thees In witness whare of the said major John Gilman hath set his hand this nineth Day of August annoque Domini 1725

Witness

John Gilman

Thomas Webster

Nath^l Healey

Whare as abraham foulsham had fifty acres of Land granted to him by the town of Exeter and laid out whare thair is thirty eight acres od said fifty taken away by Kingstown Late line we the subscribers have by vertue of a town act made by the town of Exeter at a town meeting March the 28th:1720 Laid out thirty Eight acres of Land for sd abraham fouslom in Lue of that which was taken away by Kingstown line and also ten acres which said fouslom hath taken up by vertue of a town order which was made in the year 1681 for the ~~producing~~ produceing of meadow ground and bounded it together as followeth viz begining at a hemlock tree Standing aboute Sixty rods to the South of lamperile river it being the north East Corner of Jacob Smiths Land which was Laid out by vertu of a grant granted to Joseph Rawlins which tree is marked with J S from thence runing South and byn East ninty Six rods and ~~then~~ then to run west and by South Eighty rods and then to run North and by west ninety Six rods and from thence to run East and by North Eighty rods to the tree first mentioned Laid out this Eleventh Day of Jenawary 1722-23 by us

Edward Gilman Town
Eliphelit Coffin Masuers

Whareas Wee the Subscribers being a Comitte Chosen by the town of Exeter to agree with Major John Gilman about the Land whare his ware hous Stands one andhis Dweling house being the said towns flats and Landing place which accordingly wee meet together and agree With theSaid Major John Gilman in the behalf of the Said town which is as followeth begining at the north west Side of his new frame of his house set by his Said ware house and so to run Sixty sixth foot toward the grat mill bounden upon the highway and so to run the same Breadth to the Lower End of his Said whorfe towards the Chanil and is in Consideration of his paying the Sume of ten pounds for the Use of Said Town--In witness whareof wee the Said parties have set our hands this ninth day of agust annoque Domn 1725

further it is to be understood that Major Gilman is to have the privelig of twenty foot of Land one the northwest Side of his house bound on by the Said highway to make a sten or wood Wall for the Security of his house the Said town is to have privelidge of the same for a landing place for Ever

Witness

Nicholas Gordon

Thomas Webster

John Robanson Committe

Nath^l Healey

Eliphelit Coffin

Caleb Gilman

EXHIBIT A-1 : original text as interpreted by modern standards (top)

Page 194

SECOND BOOK OF TOWN RECORDS OF EXETER, N.H.

Page 194

This document certifies that Major John Gilman previously had a one-acre plot of land surveyed and assigned to him by the Kingston Lot Layers last March—which is the land where his wharf and house currently stand in Exeter. Major John Gilman now freely and willingly gives up and returns all of that specific land back to the town of Exeter. He surrenders all of his rights, ownership, and financial interest in that property, with the sole exception of a specific portion that a town-appointed committee explicitly agreed he could keep (as outlined in a separate written agreement signed by them today). To confirm this agreement, Major John Gilman has signed this document on August 9, 1725.

Witness

Thomas Webster

Nath11 Healey

John Gilman

EXHIBIT A-2: original text as interpreted by modern standards (bottom)

Page 194

SECOND BOOK OF TOWN RECORDS OF EXETER, N.H.

Page 194

This document certifies that we, the undersigned committee members chosen by the town of Exeter, met to resolve a dispute with Major John Gilman. The issue concerned the land where his warehouse and dwelling house currently stand, which actually belongs to the town as part of its public waterfront flats and boat landing area.

We have successfully met and reached an agreement with Major John Gilman on behalf of the town, which is detailed as follows:

His property boundary will begin at the northwest side of the new wooden frame of his house (which is built next to his warehouse). From there, the property line will run 66 feet toward the great mill bordering the public highway. The property will maintain this exact same width all the way down to the lower end of his wharf, extending out toward the river's shipping channel.

In exchange for this specific boundary line, Major John Gilman will pay a sum of 10 pounds directly to the town treasury for the town's public use. To confirm this agreement, both parties have signed their names on August 9, 1725.

Furthermore, it is agreed that Major Gilman is granted the right to use a 20-foot wide strip of town land on the northwest side of his house, bordering the public highway. He is permitted to use this space to build a stone or wooden retaining wall to protect and secure his house. In exchange, the town of Exeter retains the permanent right to use that exact same area as a public boat landing place forever.

Witness

Thomas Webster

Nath11 Healey

Nicholas Gordan

John Robinson

Eliphelit Coffin

Caleb Gilman

Committee

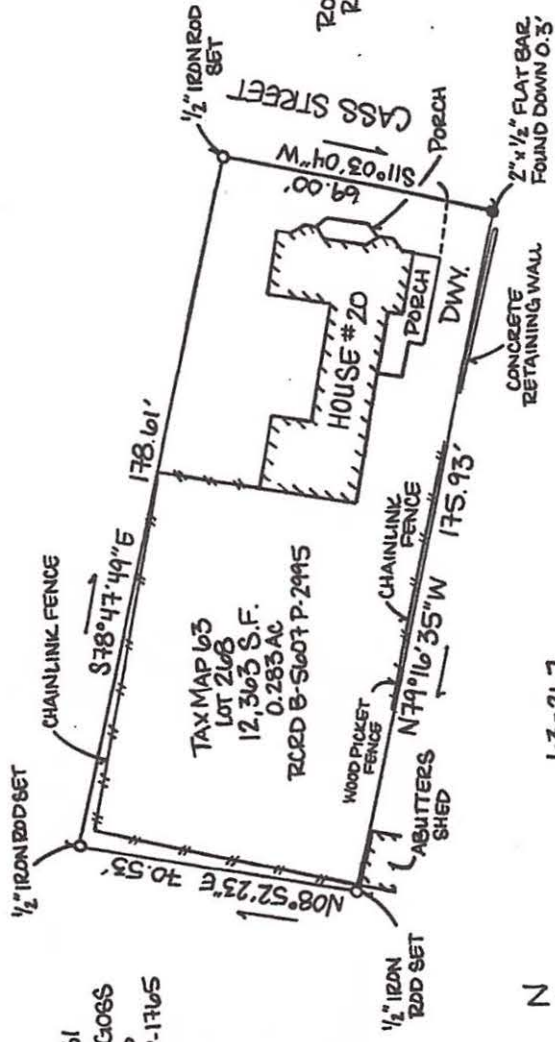
C-2

2015 MAY 19 Am 8:36 019595

C/H
L-CHIP
ROA281867

63-230
KAYOKO TAZAWA & ANDREW GOODCHILD
RD B-5013 P-569

1-231
W. GOSS
JRD
6 P-1765

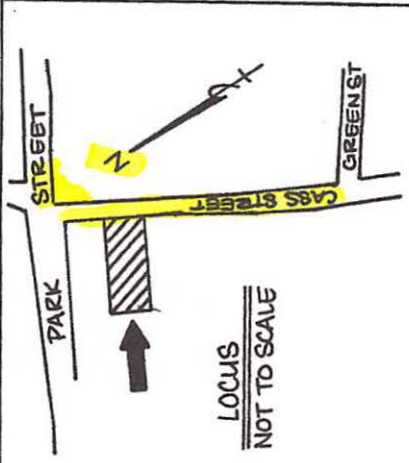


63-229
ROBERT & KEWEY RICHARDS
RD B-5046 P-1210

63-267
RICHARD & MARYNIA PAGE
RD B-3426 P-1281

I CERTIFY THAT THIS SURVEY PLAT IS NOT A SUB-DIVISION PURSUANT TO THIS TITLE AND THAT THE LINES OF STREETS OR WAYS SHOWN ARE THOSE OF PUBLIC OR PRIVATE STREETS OR WAYS ALREADY ESTABLISHED AND THAT NO NEW WAYS ARE SHOWN.

B-38808 *Thomas D. Page* 5/16/15



LOCUS
NOT TO SCALE

REFERENCE PLAN: LAND IN EXETER NH B & MRR
TO WALTER E. LANG JAN. 1961
SCALE: 1" = 40'

PLAT OF LAND ON CASS STREET EXETER N.H.

SCALE: 1" = 30' DATE: MAY 16, 2015
OWNER: ASIGAIL MATHES PITOU
110 RAYMOND ED DEERFIELD, NH 03039
PREPARED BY: T.D. BROUILLETTE LAND SURVEYING
29 PARK ST. EXETER, NH 05853
PHONE: 603-332-4394 DRAFTED BY: A. WALKER

For the Selectboard

From Herb Moyer

90 signatures from the Westside Drive Project

RECEIVED

JUN 16 2026

Town Manager's Office

We, the undersigned legal and voting residents of the Westside Drive Residential Complex, want to bring attention of our two major issues of concern for public safety to Town Officials:

1. Public Safety within the complex as it relates to some residents and visitors traveling at dangerously high/illegal rates of speed on Westside Drive. Some cars estimated to be travelling between 40-45 mph.
2. Public Safety that will be diminished by the currently planned engineering changes proposed for the Westside Drive complex by our Town.

Regarding Public Safety issue #1:

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Public Safety issue #2 is connected to the decrease in Public Safety created by the current plan to narrow Westside Drive from 42' to 28', and NOT include sidewalks around the Westside Drive perimeter. Everybody understands that without sidewalks and the planned narrowing of Westside Drive, our margin of safety has been reduced, with accidents and injury likely increased. Consider the additional narrowing pathway that would be created by two cars parked on opposite sides of the narrowed street...opposite each other !

We are hopeful that our Town Officials will give due consideration for our concerns about Public Safety in the Westside Drive Complex!

Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
Patricia Olivier	<i>Patricia Olivier</i>	4 Westside Dr.
ERIK ANDERSON	<i>Erik Anderson</i>	75 WESTSIDE DR.
Christine Sadowski	<i>Christine Sadowski</i>	4 Westside
Anne Steele	<i>Anne Steele</i>	5 Westside Dr
John Foley	<i>John Foley</i>	38 Westside Dr.
Joanne Pennington	<i>Joanne Pennington</i>	31 Westside Dr.
Andrew Gallagher	<i>Andrew Gallagher</i>	50 Westside Dr.

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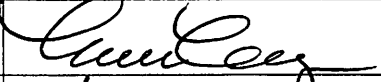

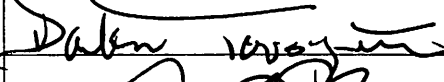

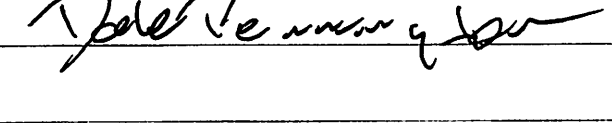
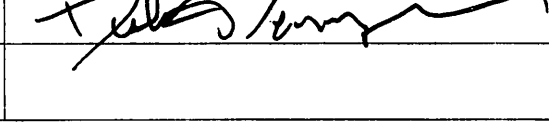
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We are hopeful that our Town Officials will give due consideration for our concerns about Public Safety in the Westside Drive Complex!

Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
KAREN K. MOYER		51 WESTSIDE DRIVE
HERBERT S. MOYER	Herbert S. Moyer	51 " "
Matthew Hayward		27 WESTSIDE DR
Dorlene Toussignant		1-3 Westside Drive
SCOTT BUTZER		73 Westside DR
		31 Westside Dr

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Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
Sharon Anderson	Sharon Anderson	49 Westside
Shannon Blais	[Signature]	7 Westside
Renee	[Signature]	41 Westside
MARSHAL STEPHEN	[Signature]	8 TILTON
Mr CHRIS WPAI	[Signature]	59 WESTSIDE DR
Melinda Lupoli	Melinda J Lupoli	59 westside Drive

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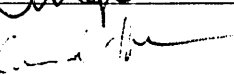
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Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
M. M. M. M.		11 Westside Dr.
Kate M. M.		9 Westside Dr.
Melissa Allen		8 Tilton Ave
Lisa H. H.		2 Blanche Ln.
Angela C. C.		5 Blanche Ln.
Adam H. H.		2 Blanche Ln

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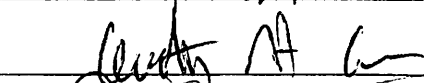
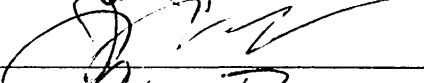
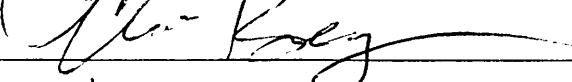
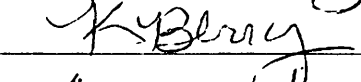

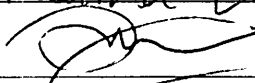
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Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
Legler Marston		76 Westside Dr.
Anthony Corcoran		77 Westside Dr.
Jouanna Bartoli		79 Westside Dr
Chris Berry		81 Westside Dr.
Kristin Berry		81 Westside Dr
Madina Lee		82 Westside Dr
	Paula B. Lee	82 Westside Dr.

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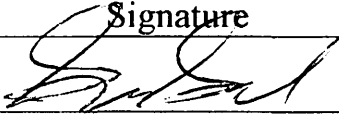
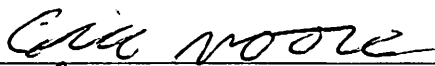



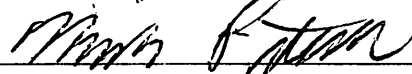
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If you wish to be notified of Selectman Meeting where this petition will be delivered; add your phone number _____

Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
Samuel Savel		33 Westside Drive Ex
Eric Moore		37 Westside Drive
Amy Moore		37 Westside Dr.
Brian Stowe		2 Laperle Ave
Matthew Pittendreigh		8 Silvio Drive
Mark Pittendreigh		4 Silvio Drive

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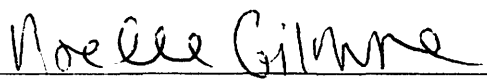
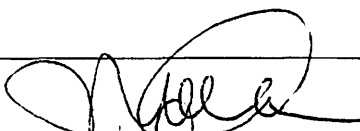
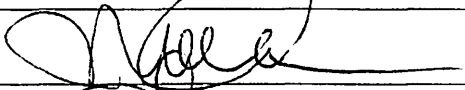


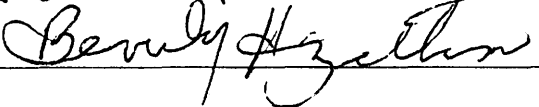
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Noelle Gilmore		4 Laperle Ave
SHELLAS SANTOS		1 LAPERLE AVE
Matt Curran		13 Westside
Diane Luczko		25 Westside Dr
Ashley Fedelski		33 Westside Drive
Beverly HAZETILL		39 Westside Dr

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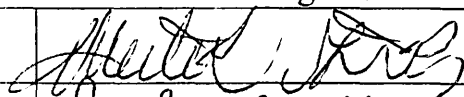
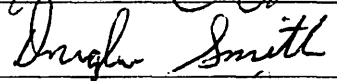

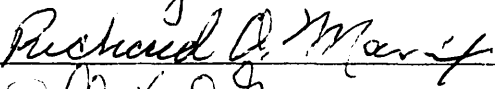
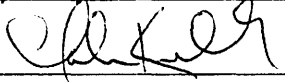
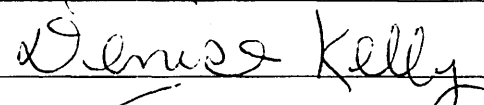
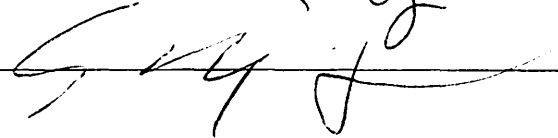
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Malina Giancy		6 Silvio Drive
Douglas Smith		4 Silvio Drive
Cheryl Smith		4 Silvio Drive
RICHARD O. MARIV		12 Westside Drive
John Kelly		3 Silvio DR
Denise Kelly		3 Silvio DR
G. Kelloway		65 Westside Dr.

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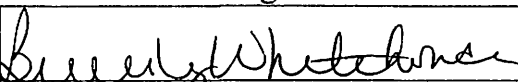
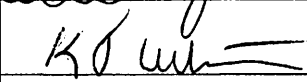
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Beverly Whitehouse		61 Westside Dr.
KEITH WHITEHOUSE		61 WESTSIDE DR.

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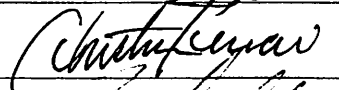


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Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
Christine Ferrari		Westside Dr.
Nicholas Metz		1 Tilton Ave
Danika Casellas		Black Ln

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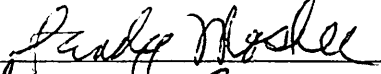

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Michael McKinstry		4 Blanche
MARSHAL STEPHEN		8 TILTON
Sandy Mosher		37 Westside
Sharon Anderson		49 Westside Dr.

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GERALD J PEARCE JR	<i>Gerald Pearce</i>	6 TILTON AVE
KAREN + PAUL WALKER	<i>Karen Walker</i>	5 Tilton Ave
Garrett King	<i>Garrett King</i>	4 Tilton Ave
Dan Gore	<i>Daniel Gore</i>	3 Tilton Ave.

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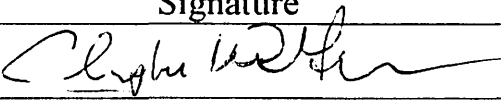
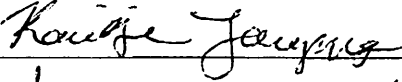

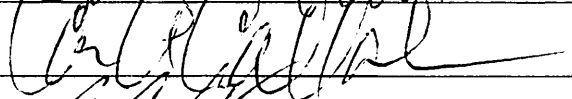

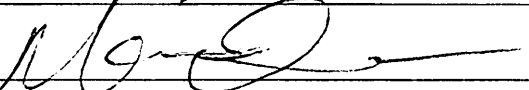
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CHRISTOPHER GURSHILL		19 Westside Dr
Kaitleigh Lazzaro		7 Tilton Ave
Morgan Woods		7 Tilton Ave
Caron Calderin		23 Westside Dr
Mark Sampson		47 Westside Dr.
Monica Sampson		47 Westside Dr.

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Signature

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Kevin Garofano	[Signature]	71 Exeter Westside Dr.
Kevin T. Garofano	[Signature]	71 westside Drive
Kathleen Garofano	Kathleen Garofano	71 Westside Drive
Laura Jones	Laura Jones	57 Westside Drive
Cam Dearborn	[Signature]	74 westside Drive
Elen Anderson	Elen Anderson	75 Westside Dr

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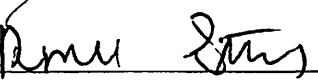
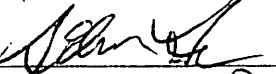
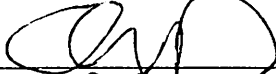
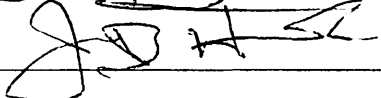
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Mark Stanchis		41 Westside Dr
Renee Stanchis		41 Westside Dr.
	Alan Trueman	43 Westside Dr
Garon Cristillanis		40 Westside Dr
Jim HERCER		

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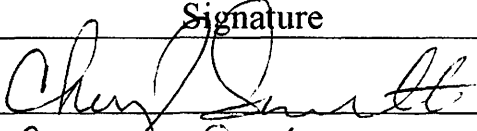


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Print Name	Signature	Street Address Only
Cheryl Smith		4 Silvio Dr
Douglas Smith		4 Silvio Drive
Kayla Smith		4 Silvio Drive



Select Board Meeting Packet Correspondence: Utility Supply Rates Have Fallen \$50 Million Short of Actual Costs. Why It Matters.

1 message

Paul Cohen <pcohen@exeternh.gov>
To: Pam McElroy <pmcelroy@exeternh.gov>

Thu, Jun 25, 2026 at 9:35 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jackson Kaspari** <Jackson.Kaspari@communitypowernh.gov>
Date: Mon, Jun 15, 2026 at 5:42 PM
Subject: Utility Supply Rates Have Fallen \$50 Million Short of Actual Costs. Why It Matters.
To:
CC: All Staff <allstaff@communitypowernh.gov>

Dear Members,

Attached for your review is a statement from CPCNH Executive Director Henry Herndon and Director of Regulatory & Legislative Affairs Deana Dennis regarding investor-owned utility supply rate outcomes and their implications for New Hampshire's electricity market.

The statement examines the gap between proxy utility default service rates and actual power supply costs, resulting in significant under-collections across the state's electric utilities. It also discusses how these developments may affect customer choice, competitive neutrality, future rate comparisons, and the implementation of House Bill 1733.

As Community Power continues to expand across New Hampshire, CPCNH remains focused on ensuring that customers can make informed energy decisions based on transparent and accurate price signals.

We encourage you to review the statement and share it with relevant staff and local officials as appropriate.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jackson

Jackson Kaspari, PhD | Director of Member Services
[Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire](http://communitypowernh.gov) (communitypowernh.gov)
PO Box 840, Concord, NH 03302
Jackson.Kaspari@CommunityPowerNH.gov | (603) 717-5272



June 15, 2026

Utility Supply Rates Have Fallen \$50 Million Short of Actual Costs. Why It Matters.

By Henry Herndon, Executive Director and Deana Dennis, Director of Regulatory & Legislative Affairs

The Brief

Over the past two years, New Hampshire's electric utilities have collectively under-collected nearly \$50 million in power supply costs. As of April 30, 2026:

- **Eversource:** approximately **\$38 million** in under-collections
- **Liberty:** approximately **\$9 million** in under-collections
- **Unitil:** approximately **\$3 million** in under-collections

These balances accumulated because utility default service rates have not consistently reflected the actual cost of purchasing electricity.

In some cases, regulators have also delayed recovery of these balances, pushing costs further into the future. Liberty's recent proposed residential default service rate of more than 21 ¢/kwh, up from ~13 ¢/kwh, illustrates how quickly deferred costs can accumulate when recovery is postponed.

Meanwhile, the Legislature recently passed House Bill (HB) 1733, reinforcing the principle that utility supply costs should be recovered from the customers who incurred them – not shifted onto customers served by Community Power or other competitive supply programs.

The NH Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is expected to continue examining these issues through a series of proceedings this month and later this year.

The Insight

New Hampshire's electric market has changed dramatically in recent years. More than 75 cities and towns have launched Community Power programs, serving over 200,000 customers and bringing meaningful competition and local choice to a market once dominated by utility default service.



Competition works best when customers can compare options using prices that accurately reflect costs. That is why the growing gap between utility supply rates and actual utility supply costs matters.

At the direction of the NH PUC, utilities have increasingly relied on "proxy pricing" to estimate future power costs when setting default supply rates. The goal was to reduce supplier risk premiums and lower costs for consumers. In practice, however, proxy rates have been set below actual market costs for much of the past year and a half, distorting the price signals customers rely on to compare energy options.

As of April 30, 2026, utility default supply rates have under-collected **more than \$50 million statewide over the past two years**: approximately **\$38 million at Eversource**, **\$9 million at Liberty**, and **\$3 million at Unital**. Because the PUC previously deferred one utility's (Liberty) requests to recover these balances, the problem has grown even bigger. Liberty's proposed default supply rate for the next period is now 21 ¢/kwh, up from roughly 13 ¢/kwh.

When utility rates are significantly below the actual cost of service, customers do not get a complete picture of competing supply options. Community Power and other competitive supply programs generally recover costs through current rates. Utility default service, by contrast, gets to defer some costs and recover them later through regulatory-approved reconciliation mechanisms. That means customers and communities may be making energy decisions based on comparisons that do not fully reflect actual costs.

The issue is larger than any one utility or Community Power program. It goes to the heart of competitive neutrality, customer choice, and the future of New Hampshire electricity marketplace. State law emphasizes competition, customer choice, and clear price signals. As Community Power has become a major part of New Hampshire's energy landscape, it is time to evaluate whether current utility default service pricing practices continue to support those goals.

Recent legislative action reflects growing recognition of this concern. In May 2026, the New Hampshire House and Senate approved HB 1733, which would reinforce the principle that utility supply costs should be recovered from the customers who incurred them – not shifted to customers served by competitive supply or Community Power programs. If signed into law by Governor Ayotte, CPCNH in coordination with its Members will remain vigilant in monitoring its implementation, including how the bill's "extraordinary circumstances" provision is interpreted.

Deferred utility supply balances will eventually be recovered through future rates, and we are actively working to ensure these under-collections are not subsidized by our customers. At the same time, CPCNH continues to reduce reserve-related rate adders as the organization matures financially. As these trends unfold, we anticipate rate comparisons among utility default service,



Community Power, and competitive suppliers will move closer to parity. We are also hopeful that our customers may have a clearer basis for evaluating their options.

New Hampshire's long-term success depends on advancing a fair and transparent energy market. Customers should be able to compare energy options based on rates that accurately reflect costs, allowing competition to drive innovation and lower prices. Expanding local control and enabling communities to develop their own energy resources will provide additional tools to improve energy independence, strengthen local economies, and help manage energy costs over the long term.

References

Media

- McMenemy, J. Seacoast Online (6/15/2026). *NH consumer advocate to Portsmouth: Don't give up on Community Power*. Available at: <https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/news/local/2026/06/15/nh-consumer-advocate-advises-portsmouth-community-power/90478668007/>
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- Kocher, F. WMUR Channel 9 (6/7/26). *NH Business: Community Power Programs*. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skM2sT5cqDE>
- Herndon, H. NH Journal (4/2/26). *Today's Savings, Tomorrow's Bill: The Real Stakes of HB 1733*. Available at: <https://nhjournal.com/herndon-todays-savings-tomorrows-bill-the-real-stakes-of-hb-1733/>
- Hoplamazian, M. NHPR (12/20/24). *NH electric bills could go down in February. But a new process to set rates attracts concern*. Available at: <https://www.nhpr.org/nh-news/2024-12-20/nh-electric-bills-could-go-down-in-february-but-a-new-process-to-set-rates-attracts-concern>

House Bill 1733

- HB1733 Relative to the reconciliation of default electric service rates: https://gc.nh.gov/bill_status/billinfo.aspx?id=1982&inflect=2

Utility Default Service Dockets

- DE 26-017 Eversource 2026 Energy Service Solicitations: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/VirtualFileRoom/Docket.aspx?DocketNumber=DE%2026-017>
- DE 26-023 Liberty 2026 Default Energy Service Solicitations: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/VirtualFileRoom/Docket.aspx?DocketNumber=DE%2026-023>
- DE 26-024 Unitil 2026 Default Energy Service Solicitations: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/VirtualFileRoom/Docket.aspx?DocketNumber=DE%2026-024>



Discontinuing We're On The Route in Newmarket and Exeter

May 2026

Dear Friends,

As you may have heard, COAST has changed the type of service we run in Newmarket and Exeter. The new service (called COAST Connector) allows people to schedule rides for any origin/destination within or between Newmarket and Exeter.

Since there is no longer a traditional "bus route" going through these communities, we have decided to end the "We're On The Route" marketing program for businesses in Newmarket and Exeter.

We are so grateful for your participation in the program over the years and for being willing to showcase your support of the local public transportation system.

Please know that COAST is still fully operational in your community and looks forward to continuing to transport your customers, clients, patients, and employees to and from your business.

More information about the COAST Connector is enclosed for your reference, but you can also learn more at www.coastbus.org/connector.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

All the best,

Your friends at COAST

About this Service

The Newmarket-Exeter Connector is an advance-reservation shared-ride service, operated by COAST. You must call in advance to schedule your trips, and you will likely be traveling with other passengers.

Who can use the service?

This service is open to the public. No application or eligibility process is required.

Service Days & Times

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday* & Saturday
9:30AM - 5:15PM

* With the generous support of a local foundation, COAST will offer an additional day of service on Fridays each week from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026. A successful pilot may result in a commitment of longer-term support.

COAST is closed on the following holidays:
New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr./Civil Rights Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve Day, Christmas Day

Service Area



Where does it go?

This service provides curb-to-curb transportation to and from any address within Newmarket and Exeter. There is no restriction on trip purpose.

Two locations in Stratham are also serviced: 1) The Market Basket area, and 2) The Rockingham County Aging & Disability Resource Center (Formerly Service Link).



How much does it cost to ride?

Each time you board the vehicle, you must pay a \$3 fare. The fare can be paid with cash, or a COAST Demand Response Ticket.

Tickets can be purchased from a COAST driver (with \$30 cash), online, or through COAST's Admin Office.

COAST drivers cannot make change; please bring exact change.

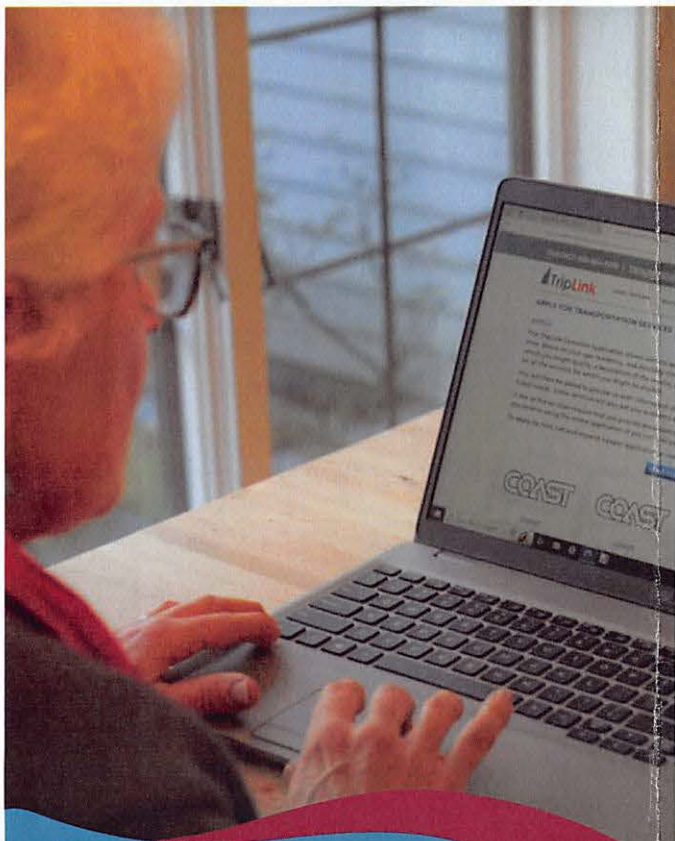
To order tickets online, please visit coastbus.org/store.

Learn more:
coastbus.org/connector



COAST

A NONPROFIT RESOURCE FOR ALL



Scheduling rides is easy!

All reservations must be made by 5:00PM the business day before the day you wish to ride. (Monday reservations must be made by 5:00PM on Fridays.)

You may set up standing orders for trips you take regularly (such as work, or physical therapy). Trips may be reserved up to 2 weeks in advance.

Actual pick up and drop off times may vary by up to an hour from the requested time to accommodate grouping customers on trips. Finalized times will be sent to you in advance by automated call or text.

Contact TripLink to schedule your ride!



603-834-6010 | TTY 711
TripLink@CommunityRides.org
coastbus.org/connector

This brochure is available in alternative formats upon request.

YOUR RIGHTS

COAST adheres to all Federal regulations regarding Civil Rights. If you need to request an ADA Reasonable Modification/ Accommodation, or if you believe you have been discriminated against or would like to file a complaint under the ADA or Title VI, please contact COAST's Civil Rights Officer at 603-516-0788 (TTY 711), or email CivilRights@coastbus.org.

Newmarket-Exeter



Effective
10.1.25



Select Board Meeting Packet Correspondence: Legislative Alert: Contact Governor's Office on Risk Pool Bill

1 message

Paul Cohen <pcohen@exeternh.gov>
To: Pam McElroy <pmcelroy@exeternh.gov>

Thu, Jun 25, 2026 at 9:34 AM



Legislative Alert: Contact Governor's Office on Risk Pool Bill

Dear Member Cities and Towns,

House Bill 1491 may reach the governor's desk by early next week, and NHMA is asking members to **express their support for the bill now**.

HB 1491 establishes the legal framework needed for non-assessable health insurance risk pools to continue operating in New Hampshire. Another bill heading to the governor, **SB 661**, introduces assessable risk pools into the NH statutory scheme. If **HB 1491** is vetoed and **SB 661** becomes law, **current and future risk pools would not be able to utilize the non-assessable model**.

This distinction has significant financial implications. Under an assessable model, participating members may be subject to **additional, unplanned assessments** to cover losses. This is **not** a hypothetical concern. **Just last year, many municipalities experienced this firsthand when two pools were required to issue mid-year, multi-million-dollar assessments** to their members. The non-assessable structure helps municipalities avoid this risk and **supports more predictable, stable budgeting for employee health benefits**.

Reasons to support **HB 1491** include:

- **Preserves municipal choice** between assessable, non-assessable, and other health insurance options.
- **Helps maintain stable, cost-effective health insurance coverage** for municipalities and public employees.
- **Strengthens the overall municipal insurance marketplace** by sustaining multiple risk pool models.
- **Establishes a clear state framework** allowing non-assessable risk pools to operate under NH Department of Insurance oversight.
- **Enables long-term financial planning** and stability for local governments.

Your outreach will demonstrate **the importance of preserving local choice** and maintaining viable, cost-effective risk management options for municipalities statewide. If **SB 661** is signed and **HB 1491** is vetoed, **every political subdivision in New Hampshire that participates in a risk pool faces the prospect of unbudgeted cost assessments at any point in any fiscal year, with no legal recourse** because assessments will be enshrined in state law! These bills must rise or fall together.

Please email your correspondence to the [governor's public email and her senior advisors](#).

Thank you for your consideration and continued engagement.

Sincerely,
NHMA Advocacy Team

New Hampshire Municipal Association
25 Triangle Park Drive
Concord, NH 03301
603.224.7447



This email was sent to pcohen@exeternh.gov
Don't want to receive emails for this account anymore? [Unsubscribe](#)

EXETER TRAIN STATION COMMITTEE

Shaping the Future of Exeter's Train Station



Our train station is an important part of daily life in Exeter, and it has the potential to do even more for our community.

It should be **safe, welcoming, and easy to use** for everyone who depends on it.



Exeter is one of the busiest stops on the entire Downeaster line, **ranking third in ridership** behind only Boston and Portland.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION



<https://bit.ly/exetertrain>

BE PART OF THE VISION

A better station supports:

- Local businesses and restaurants
- Tourism and visitor spending
- Workforce attraction and retention
- Property values and downtown vitality
- Regional connectivity

Attend one of two public listening sessions @ Lincoln Street School

Fri, Aug 7th, 2026

Session 1: 3:00- 4:30 PM

Session 2: 6:00-7:30 PM

Come back on Saturday @ 3:00PM to hear the results

Review Board Calendar

Non-Public Session