Town of Alexander Selectmen's Meeting

2 July 2026

Attendance:
Skip Colson
David Davis
Beth Johnson
Carl Oakes
David Sanford

Julie Burgess

Foster Carlow Jr.
Joe Manza
Jane Manza

[The upcoming meeting of the Assessors will be cancelled because yesterday morning, Merle Knowles Jr. passed away.
Lesliann can buy a card to send condolences.]

Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM.
Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting
Motion to approve the minutes of the selectmen's meeting of 4 June 2026, as amended, by Carl and 2nd by David D.
Voting: Unanimous

Roads
[Larry Hill not here]

Downeast Broadband Utility
Skip said that Roger called him and that there is not new information to share.

Clerk
Julie gave a rundown of the 2025-2026 fiscal year finances.

Julie has been contacted about the FEMA funds that are to be used for the Crawford Arm Road and the Pokey Road. One set of funds will expire on September 30th. If the town still wants the funds, there needs to be a clear plan for extending the time, or else lose the funds.
Will anything be done for the Pokey Road? A man complained about it.
Foster said that the road needs to be fixed between the big culverts and Marie Dudley's, and even down to Willow Owen's (almost down to the lake).
Skip said he will get a hold of Larry about the Pokey Road.

Opening Municipal Lot Plowing Bids
2 bids were received for snow removal for the parking lots of the Alexander School and the Town Municipal Building for the 2026-2027 season.

First bid opened [See "A1"]:
$11,800 by Michael Howell. [The name was unclear, but Foster said that the phone number is Mike's]

Second bid opened [See "A2"]:
$11,000 by Kenny Mercier.

David D. said that the plowing was only $7000 last year.

He said that both of them can do the job, but Kenny is "stretched right out to the end" with many plowing jobs.
Skip said that the plow guy can't be late, between the school and the firehouse. They have to be done by 7 AM.
Carl said that Kenny, didn't plow during school vacation, but the janitor still wanted to come in to the school.
David D. said that Kenny brought in his Bobcat® [skid-steer loader] to clear out the snow that time. That is the problem: time frame.
Julie noted that it is very clearly stated in the contract that the plowing has to be done by a certain time.
Skip said that it only takes being late once to cause real trouble. He said that it's a one year contract. Do you want to give him a chance?
Carl asked what the contract says.
Julie read from the tentative contract: "This snow removal [at these two locations] to be The Contractor's number 1 priority for the Snow Season…"
Carl noted that Mike hasn't really done this before.
Skip said he has had 3 roofs done by Mike. He has always been prompt and professional, and none of the roofs leak.
David D. said that he plowed Crawford.
Carl said that he had shoveled for Kenny when Kenny had been contracted to plow the border crossings. When Kenny had been late taking care of the snow there, the border people were very unhappy about that.
Skip said that he would rather have someone prompt every time.
David D. said that Mike doesn't have much plowing to do.

Motion to accept Michael Howell's bid for snow removal of the Alexander Elementary School and the Alexander Fire Hall parking lots for $11,800 during the 2026-2027 snow season by Skip and 2nd by Carl.
Voting: Unanimous

New Business
David D. said he has been mowing the roadsides in town. Have there been any complaints?
[No one had heard of any.]
Then David D. had a complaint...that people drive too fast on the Arm Road.

Jane brought up a letter from Maine Municipal Association or a similar entity. It said that the ARPA funds needed to be closed out or the town could get fined.
Julie assured her that that has been all taken care of.

Beth asked how many local tax abatements have been filed?
Jane said that 22 were approved. In contrast, they had hardly any last year. This year, the assessors have reached their planned budget for abatements. Taxpayers have maybe 2 more months to file an abatement, before it has to go before the selectmen instead of the assessors.

Julie said that she had given to Jane a copy of the warrant from the County requesting the annual tax from the town.
Jane said she got that back in April.
Julie explained that the County warrant supersedes the town, and does not have to be voted on in the town meeting, but does have to be included by the assessors in the total taxes that need to be raised by the town.

Skip complained that during the recent town meeting, not one question was asked about the school budget, although quite a few people voted against it.
Beth asked if there will be no more school board meetings until September? She thought so.
Skip was asked if the other drafts of the Alexander School budget had been brought up, might that have made a difference?
Skip said he didn't know. He had made sure that those other lower totals were in the newspaper. He also said that, as the moderator, he couldn't speak his mind. It seemed to him that, generally, the younger people were for the budget, and the more mature people were against the budget.
Beth said that it was a hot summer night, and nobody wanted to debate.

David S. pointed out that it was 9:20 PM when the meeting got done. That makes for a long night.

Beth said that she thought the municipal budget should be voted on before the school budget in the June town meetings.
David D. explained that the reason why the school budget was considered first was as a favor to Mr. [Kenneth] Johnson, former superintendent, not to have to hang around, since he had to travel a long distance home.

Motion to adjourn by David D. at 6:25 PM
Voting: Unanimous

A1

TOWN OF ALEXANDER

BID FORM

SNOW REMOVAL AT MUNICIPAL & SCHOOL LOTS

We, the undersigned, submit a bid of :

$ 11,800.00 for 2026/2027 snow season.

Contract shall be for snow removal only (no sanding) of the Municipal Building and Alexander Elementary School lots in the Town of Alexander for the upcoming snow seasons. Snow Season is defined as ***"from the time of the first snowfall or ice accumulation on roadways in the fall of each year to the last snowfall or ice accumulation on roadways in the spring of the following year."*** Equipment shall be provided by me/us along with General Liability, Automobile Liability and Workers Compensation and employers' Liability Certificate of Insurances naming the Town of Alexander as additional insured OR provide an approved Predetermination of Independent Contractor Status form instead of Worker's Compensation certificate. Please review the provided sample contract for other **requirements**. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Signed: Michael E Howell

Name: Michael Howell

Company: _____

Address: _____

_____

Telephone: 214-3410

Date: 7-02-2026

Bids must be submitted on this form.

Place completed bid form in sealed envelope labeled, **"MUNICIPAL/SCHOOL LOTS SNOW REMOVAL BID"** and return to:

Town of Alexander Selectboard
50 Cooper Road
Alexander, ME 04694

On or before 6pm, Thursday July 2, 2026. Bids received after this date and time will not be considered.

If you have any questions, please call Skip Colson at 207-214-5836.

A2

TOWN OF ALEXANDER

BID FORM

SNOW REMOVAL AT MUNICIPAL & SCHOOL LOTS

We, the undersigned, submit a bid of :

$ 11000.00 for 2026/2027 snow season.

Contract shall be for snow removal only (no sanding) of the Municipal Building and Alexander Elementary School lots in the Town of Alexander for the upcoming snow seasons. Snow Season is defined as ***"from the time of the first snowfall or ice accumulation on roadways in the fall of each year to the last snowfall or ice accumulation on roadways in the spring of the following year."*** Equipment shall be provided by me/us along with General Liability, Automobile Liability and Workers Compensation and employers' Liability Certificate of Insurances naming the Town of Alexander as additional insured OR provide an approved Predetermination of Independent Contractor Status form instead of Worker's Compensation certificate. Please review the provided sample contract for other **requirements**. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Signed: Kenneth Mercier

Name: KENNETH MERCIER

Company: MERCIER LAWN CARE / Snow Plowing SERVICES

Address: 66 Davis Rd.
ALEXANDER, ME 04694

Telephone: 207-214-2510

Date: 07/01/2026

Bids must be submitted on this form.

Place completed bid form in sealed envelope labeled, **"MUNICIPAL/SCHOOL LOTS SNOW REMOVAL BID"** and return to:

Town of Alexander Selectboard
50 Cooper Road
Alexander, ME 04694

On or before 6pm, Thursday July 2, 2026. Bids received after this date and time will not be considered.

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