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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN & BOARD OF FINANCE  
FEBRUARY 9, 2026  
6:30 P.M.

REC'D BY: EWB

83 Mountain Road, Suffield CT  
Hybrid Meeting

**Selectmen present:** Colin Moll, Klaire Bielonko (via Zoom), Kathy Dunai, Kathleen Harrington and Pete Hill

**Board of Finance Commissioners present:** Eric Harrington, Mike Haines, Brad Belcher, Glen Garrity (via Zoom), Candace Forsman, Chris Childs, Brian Kost (via Zoom), Mark Sinopoli (via Zoom) and Tom Frenaye

**Also in attendance:** Eric Remington – BOE Business Manager, Larry Plano – BOE Facilities Director, Amanda Moore – Director of Finance, Lee Corbert – Director of Public Works and Sandra Dawson – Bond Counsel, Pullman & Comley LLC

First Selectman Moll called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Public Comment**

None

**Discussion and approval by the Board of Selectmen to adopt each of the following resolutions for the respective appropriations and bond authorizations, and recommend to the Board of Finance**

- a) Road Improvements Project 2026, as provided in Exhibit A
- b) Suffield High School Shingle Roof Replacement Project, as provided in Exhibit B
- c) Suffield High School VCT Flooring Project, as provided in Exhibit C
- d) Spaulding School Exterior Project, as provided in Exhibit D
- e) Spaulding School Bathroom Renovations Project, as provided in Exhibit E

First Selectman Moll opened the discussion regarding the proposed projects and noted that the labeling of exhibits had been mixed up: Exhibit E applies to the Spaulding School Exterior Project, and Exhibit D applies to the Spaulding School Bathroom Renovations Project.

The town discussed adding two projects to the bond authorization, with Chairman Harrington explaining that after reviewing the ACCE list and discussing options with ACCE Chairman Brad Belcher, the Suffield High School bathroom renovations and exterior projects were identified as potential additions to the bond. He noted that bonding all projects together would be more cost-effective than piecemeal funding over multiple years, as it would result in a lower effective interest rate due to more favorable borrowing terms.

The selectmen and commissioners held an in-depth discussion that included an analysis of the town's debt policy metrics, which showed that the proposed projects would keep the town within

acceptable debt levels. Sandra Dawson, Bond Counsel, explained the available bonding options, including information regarding front-loading principal payments on shorter-life projects. Eric Remington provided information pertaining to expected pricing, grant funding and reimbursement expectations for the various school projects.

Sandra Dawson also detailed bond spending requirements, explaining that to comply with federal tax regulations and avoid arbitrage rebates, 10% of bond proceeds must be spent within the first six months, 45% within one year, 75% within 18 months, and 100% within two years.

Lee Corbert addressed the group and outlined the strategy for funding road projects. He explained the potential availability of grant funds but noted that there are no guarantees of award and that the road work will be necessary regardless of grant approvals. He also provided detailed information on the steps taken prior to road work implementation.

Selectman Harrington MOTIONED to approve the adoption of each of the resolutions for the respective appropriations and bond authorizations as presented, and recommend to the Board of Finance. Vote: 5-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion and approval by the Board of Finance as to each of the resolutions set forth in Exhibits A-E and recommendation of each resolution to be voted at a Town Meeting and referred to the Board of Selectmen**

Chairman Harrington asked for a motion to waive reading the full text of the resolutions.

Commissioner Haines MOTIONED and Commissioner Childs seconded to waive reading the full text of the resolutions. Vote: 6-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Brief discussion ensued regarding concerns about the proposed road work and the costs involved should grant funds not be awarded to the town.

Commissioner Childs MOTIONED and Commissioner Haines seconded to approve each of the resolutions set forth in Exhibits A-E and recommend each resolution to be voted at a Town Meeting and referred to the Board of Selectmen. Vote: 6-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion and approval by the Board of Selectmen to (i) accept the Board of Finance recommendations to have some or all of the resolutions set forth in Exhibits A-E voted on at a Town Meeting, and (ii) call the Town Meeting for Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Suffield Middle School, 350 Mountain Road, which will be preceded by a Public Information Session on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Suffield Middle School, 350 Mountain Road. A form of the Warning/Notice of special Town Meeting to be published is provided in Exhibit F. In addition to the project resolutions, the call of the Town Meeting also includes the approval of the expenditure of \$95,268 (subject to any adjustment due to final survey acreage) from the Town of Suffield Open Space Fund to purchase the development rights to the 47.3 +/- acre Kaplan Farm located at 714 North Street.**

Selectman Harrington MOTIONED to (i) accept the Board of Finance recommendations to have some or all of the resolutions set forth in Exhibits A-E voted on at a Town Meeting, and (ii) call the Town Meeting for Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Suffield Middle School, 350 Mountain Road, which will be preceded by a Public Information Session on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at

the Suffield Middle School, 350 Mountain Road. A form of the Warning/Notice of special Town Meeting to be published is provided in Exhibit F. In addition to the project resolutions, the call of the Town Meeting also includes the approval of the expenditure of \$95,268 (subject to any adjustment due to final survey acreage) from the Town of Suffield Open Space Fund to purchase the development rights to the 47.3 +/- acre Kaplan Farm located at 714 North Street. Vote: 5-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Selectman Hill MOTIONED to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristen O. Lambert  
Recording Secretary

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