

**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY – JULY 29, 2026
HYBRID SPECIAL MEETING – 5:30 P.M.**

Item 1. Call to Order. Chairman Fellows called the regular meeting of the Scarborough Town Council to order at 5:30 p.m.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3. Roll Call. Roll was called by Yolande P. Justice, Clerk to the Council. Thomas J. Hall, Town Manager and Liam Gallagher, Assistant Town Manager, were present. Those Councilors present:

Councilor Scott W. Doherty	Councilor Jonathan E. Anderson
Councilor Lawrence W. Cain	Councilor William J. Donovan
Councilor Karin B. Shupe - Absent	Councilor Michelle T. Hayes – Joined after ES
Chairman Cory R. Fellows	

Item 4. NEW BUSINESS:

Order No. 26-065. Act on the request for an executive session pursuant to Title 1, M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E), in consultation with Legal Counsel regarding a legal matter; to return to public session at 6:00 p.m. [Town Manager] Motion by Councilor Donovan, seconded by Councilor Anderson, to move approval on the request for an executive session pursuant to Title 1, M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E), in consultation with Legal Counsel regarding a legal matter; to return to public session at 6:00 p.m.

Vote: 5 Yeas. Motion Carried.

The Town Council adjourned to executive session at 5:32 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 6:08 p.m.

Councilor Hayes joined the special meeting via zoom.

Item 5. RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation 26-004. Calling for Safe, Respectful Communities and Requesting Congressional Engagement Regarding Federal Immigration Processing Operations at 40 Manson Libby Road. [Town Council] Chairman Fellows a brief overview was given and read the Proclamation. The following individuals spoke on this item:

Present in the Room:

- Boni Kabongo, a Scarborough resident, stated the murder of Johan Sebastian Duran Guerrero was a tragedy that should not have occurred, reflecting broader issues felt across the state and country. Immigrants and people of color should not live in fear for their safety or rights. As an American citizen with immigrant parents, I relate to these fears. Many in our community have protested against ongoing injustices. Maine is known for its kindness and inclusivity, and the current situation contradicts that image. He urged the Council to consider a petition advocating for legally defensible policies, signed by over 375 Mainers, including 175 from Scarborough. Together, we can work towards a safer and more welcoming environment for all.
- Sophie Warren, who Represents Scarborough in Augusta, emphasized the need to acknowledge the community's grief after the death of Johan, a Biddeford resident. She called for ongoing dialogue at all government levels and highlights a residents' protest against ICE activities. She went on to recommend three actions for the Council: limit municipal resources for federal

immigration enforcement, investigate the local ICE facility for compliance with laws, and create clearer police response policies during demonstrations. These proposals are backed by precedents from other communities, reinforcing Scarborough's ability to manage local involvement in federal immigration issues.

- Molly LeCompte, a Scarborough resident, noted that throughout the past weeks students have not been attending school for fear that of something happening, highlighting their missed meals and educational projects due to ICE related issues. She raised concerns about local workforce shortages and the safety of families amidst police-ICE collaboration, calling for better vetting of ICE officers. She urged legislative action to restore community trust, emphasizing compassion and acknowledged the immigrant roots of the area.
- MaryEllen Galante, a resident of West Scarborough and a retired nurse midwife, voiced her outrage at Joan Sebastian Duran Guerrero's murder and ICE's violent practices. She criticized ICE's legal and ethical failures, noting that only 6% of arrests involved individuals with criminal convictions, and accused the agency of negligence. She called for an investigation into the local ICE facility, urging the use of the Freedom of Information Act to obtain relevant information went on to note a recent case of improper detention of a non-convicted individual and urged the community to resist federal injustices in immigration policy.
- Tophe Thorne from Presente! Maine, expressed his solidarity with the Johan Sebastian Duran Guerrero's family following his tragic shooting in Biddeford. He stated that legal statuses are irrelevant to human dignity and points to a systemic pattern of state-sanctioned violence against immigrant communities, emphasizing incidents involving ICE. He demanded the dismantling of ICE's presence in communities and called on local officials for immediate action rather than mere statements. He advocated for the closure of local ICE-supporting infrastructure to ensure community safety..
- Mufalo Chitam, Executive Director of the Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition, thanked the Town Council and the Scarborough community for their support during these challenging times, particularly for families affected by loss in the Angolan community. We are advocating for transparency in investigations and will introduce demands next week to collaborate with city officials and state organizations for justice, especially for Johan. We acknowledge the contributions of volunteers and have gathered nearly 90,000 signatures to present to the Attorney General soon. Thank you, for this Proclamation.
- Kristen Ritchie, a Scarborough resident and healthcare provider, spoke about the negative effects of ICE enforcement on community health. She noted that fear inhibits families from seeking necessary medical care, worsens food insecurity, and impacts children's health. This trauma extends beyond individuals to the whole community, potentially causing long-term health problems. She urged local leaders to oppose fear-based policies and advocate for dignity, safety, and justice for all residents, calling for unity to safeguard the community's health and humanity.
- A Scarborough resident noted that in light of recent violence in Biddeford, she urged the community to pass the proclamation aimed at enhancing safety. She emphasized that ICE's presence instills fear in immigrant communities and is characterized as racially motivated and violent. She called for action to protect the community and expressed hope that ICE's operations will ultimately be recognized as unjust. She asked the council to adopt the proclamation and take further steps to ensure community safety.
- Tristen Hellewell, a resident of Scarborough in the Dunstan area, reflected on living in the Dunstan area of Scarborough, historically known as Owascoag, and mentioned the environmental and cultural effects of colonization. She critiqued the application of contemporary legal frameworks in defining identity, expressing guilt over the historical treatment of immigrants. She

emphasized the shared responsibility and calls for action against systemic white supremacy, proposing community-centric solutions such as divesting from ICE, improving local safety initiatives, and restricting city employees from immigration enforcement. The moral obligation to learn from the past to foster a more dignified future for all.

- Chris, a resident of Scarborough, noted that he protest on Manson-Libby Road several times a week, carrying a sign advocating for due process. Contrary to claims, he does not support open borders. He opposed actions such as crashing into cars and shipping individuals to other states to evade legal counsel, which he believed violated due process. Shooting at people in moving cars is unacceptable. He supports law enforcement, but argued that ICE operates outside the law.
- Chris Lyon, a resident of Scarborough in the Maple Avenue area, argued that current federal policies undermine shared American values among immigrants in his community. He believed this issue transcends political beliefs and concerns federal efforts to intimidate residents. He called on the Council to proactively address ICE operations and emphasizes the need for residents to seek justice for their neighbors.
- Stephen Zamierowski, a resident of Scarborough, noted that he and his family lives in Scarborough, and appreciate the council's work. He supported law and order, but had significant concerns about ICE, seeing it as poorly managed and lacking due process. He advocated for policing principles like respect and accountability, which ICE does not embody. He urged stronger action, like contacting Susan Collins and the delegation to push for a permanent shutdown of ICE pending a bipartisan investigation into its abuses.
- Jacob Rochefort, a Scarborough resident, since 2020, reflected on his journey from Biddeford, emphasizing the strong sense of community in both places. He expressed his discontent with ICE's actions, particularly in light of a local tragedy involving Johan, which he believed contradicted the values of kindness and welcoming that Scarborough holds. He urged the Council to pass a proclamation as a first step toward using legal means to combat ICE and advocated for its abolishment, asserting that supporting ICE is incompatible with the community's image.
- Dirk Yetton, a Scarborough resident, on the significant contributions of Scarborough's immigrant workforce, particularly in culinary roles since 1987. He expressed gratitude for this recognition while criticizing ICE's presence as a threat to public safety and a legal issue. Mr. Yetton called for collective action to advocate for immigrants' rights, urging the council to take decisive measures against ICE.
- Kelley Kusnirak, a Scarborough resident, raised concerns about the town council's ability to compel property owners to evict tenants in connection with ICE activities. She cautioned that such measures may result in lawsuits against the town and warns that this could set a precedent for evicting other undocumented individuals. She advocates for informing undocumented residents about self-deportation options, which provide financial support for returning home, instead of creating conflicts with federal authorities.
- Kathleen Miller of Broadturn Road, expressed her experience working in a grieving community, reflecting on the ongoing memorials and the reminder of a lost life. She questioned her own contributions and thanked the audience for the proclamation. She hoped it sparks a conversation about improving the community, particularly regarding the Scarborough ice facility, and encourages everyone to consider their own actions to help and serve the town.
- Ashley, originally from Pennsylvania and now living in Scarborough, reflected on her journey and the community's challenges. Inspired by her neighbors, she shared her pride in living in Scarborough while acknowledging the community's issues with violence and unlawfulness. Despite ups and downs, she hoped for progress and expressed a desire to be an advocate for positive change as a proud resident raising a child in the area.

- Cynthia Nye a resident of Old Orchard Beach and Warden of St. Nicholas Episcopal Church read a letter written by our leadership on behalf of the congregation. They urge the Scarborough Town Council to support a proclamation to assess the necessity of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Facility on Manson-Libby Road after a recent fatal shooting by an ICE agent. We propose two actions: 1) File Freedom of Information Act requests to audit the facility's operations for compliance with local zoning laws. 2) Enact an ordinance to prohibit cooperation between town employees, law enforcement, and ICE, to safeguard community safety. We seek to collaborate with the Town Council to protect our community's integrity.
- Denise Hamilton, a Scarborough resident, expressed her sadness over the recent loss of life in Biddeford and supported professional law enforcement conduct. However, she questioned the appropriateness of a Town Council proclamation regarding a privately leased federal immigration processing facility at 40 Manson Libby Road. She argued the Council should focus on local municipal issues that affect Scarborough residents and taxpayers, thus stating her inability to support the proclamation.
- Tammy, a Scarborough resident, stated she appreciated the opportunity to discuss the proclamation and support it. She felt it was essential for us to share our opinions on federal government actions. While she opposed evicting any tenant, she favored opening a discussion about the appropriateness of certain tenants and their behaviors in our town.
- Rosemarie DeAngelis, a resident of South Portland and former mayor, actively supports opposition to ICE. She emphasized her identity as an immigrant and highlighted the immigrant foundation of the state. She advocated for limiting clapping at council meetings to maintain decorum and focus on meaningful change. Expressing concern for her family, particularly her son and granddaughters of color, she underscored the urgency of community action and support for marginalized voices.
- Sam Cofone, a Scarborough resident, voiced his skepticism about a town proclamation, arguing it fails to address immigration enforcement issues and believes ICE will merely relocate. Drawing on his background as a grandchild of Italian immigrants and a retired law enforcement officer, he stressed the importance of proper training in police procedures. He felt the town's actions as unnecessary and ineffective, ultimately expressing his willingness to move on from the issue.
- Sara Lunt of Winnocks Neck Road and an HR professional at Abbott Laboratories, advocated for workers' rights, particularly among immigrants and people of color. She raised concerns about deportation fears, referencing a specific kidnapping incident involving a colleague by ICE. She critiqued inadequate protections for residents during the COVID pandemic and calls for stronger accountability measures, encouraging community members to confront injustices despite potential personal risks.

Via Zoom:

- Matthew Keith, a Scarborough resident, thanked the Council for enabling public comments on immigration enforcement. He highlighted the need to consider the implications of deportation and urges Councilors to reflect on the legal boundaries of ICE's operations, referencing a recent incident involving the shooting of a legal resident. He called for support amid differing immigration policy views.
- Adara a third-generation resident of Scarborough, with Greek heritage, expressed her concern about changes in her community and urged action to remove ICE from Maine and the U.S. She felt that the current state of Scarborough did not reflect the values she and others cherish.

Present in the Room:

- Kathy Eliscu, a Scarborough resident and retired nurse, expressed her deep concern regarding the recent shooting in Biddeford, emphasizing that such tragedies can affect anyone. She supported a proposal as a necessary first step and mentioned her affiliation with the Sisters of Mercy, highlighting the importance of welcoming visitors while implementing reasonable immigration rules. She appreciates the ongoing efforts related to these issues.

Via Zoom:

- Lynn Sparling, a Scarborough resident, denounced armed, masked government personnel in Scarborough, labeled as fascism, with a demand for their removal.

Present in the Room:

- Don, a Scarborough resident in the Dunstan area, expressed sorrow over a recent tragic death, highlighting Maine's national focus. He suggested that, despite the sadness, there is an opportunity to promote love and democratic values over hatred. He noted issues of intolerance and gullibility among the population, and expressed appreciation for efforts to tackle these concerns, offering support for the initiative.

Via Zoom:

- Don Cushing, a Scarborough resident, thanked the Council for your contributions. He went to state that immigration was being exploited to create division and distract us from critical issues. As of now, 32 people have died in detention or on the street due to law enforcement policies. Additionally, over 100 people suspected of drug trafficking have been killed. He believed the current resolution is a start, but it's not strong enough and appreciated the council's awareness that political issues are rooted in local contexts.

Present in the room:

- Alex, a Scarborough resident, gave brief historical perspective on immigration law. He discussed the fiscal benefits that immigrants bring to Scarborough, emphasizing their contribution through taxes while often being denied social services due to their non-citizen status. He noted that during the rise of California governance from 1849 to 1882, local authorities could not aggressively enforce anti-immigrant sentiments because of the financial advantages provided by immigrant labor. He expressed a personal sentiment about citizenship rights being perceived based on appearance rather than legal status, underlining the fear many face regarding their safety and rights. He offers to share historical records related to local governance if interested.

Via Email:

- Steve Hanly of Old Colony Lane, emailed the following comments on July 28th and asked that they be made part of the public record:

"Dear Town Council Members,

For the public record, I would like to share some thoughts with respect to the proposed proclamation on tomorrow's Council agenda.

First, and most importantly, what are the policies and practices with respect to the Council's issuance of proclamations? I am not at all clear as to what the proposed proclamation is supposed to represent. Is it the personal opinion of the seven individual Councilors? Is it supposed to represent the opinions and desires of Town residents? If so, on what basis did the Council decide that this was the appropriate response?

I believe there are a significant number of Town residents who would not be in favor of the current proposal if asked. Are they not part of "the Town" that is issuing the proclamation? How are their opinions considered?

My impression from past proclamations is that they are usually addressing ceremonial and non-controversial matters. This matter, on the other hand, is of an important, complex and highly politicized nature. It is much different than honoring a successful sports team or noting a resident's hundredth birthday. I believe we need a much better understanding of what we're attempting to accomplish, as well as a policy to govern the issuance of proclamations, before the Council adopts the proposed proclamation.

Finally, the fact that a proclamation has no legal impact is not a basis for validating its purpose or content. Legal or not, it still purports to speak publicly for "the Town."

To summarize, I believe the proposed proclamation creates unnecessary tension on a matter that is not central to the Town Council's primary responsibilities.

Thank you for considering my perspective as well for your service to the Town.

Steve Hanly"

Motion by Councilor Anderson, seconded by Councilor Donovan, to move approval of Proclamation 26-004, Calling for Safe, Respectful Communities and Requesting Congressional Engagement Regarding Federal Immigration Processing Operations at 40 Manson Libby Road, as follows:

TOWN OF SCARBOROUGH, MAINE

PROCLAMATION 26-004

***Calling for Safe, Respectful Communities and Requesting Congressional Engagement
Regarding Federal Immigration Processing Operations at 40 Manson Libby Road***

BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Council of the Town of Scarborough, Maine in Town Council assembled that,

WHEREAS, the Town of Scarborough mourns the tragic and senseless loss of Johan Sebastian Guerrero, whose death in Biddeford has deeply affected families and communities throughout Southern Maine; and we extend our sincere condolences to Mr. Guerrero's family, friends, loved ones, and all those who are grieving during this difficult time; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Scarborough stands in solidarity with the residents of Biddeford as they process the grief, pain, and uncertainty resulting from this tragedy, and recognizes the profound emotional impact such events have on communities striving to remain places of safety, belonging, and mutual respect; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Scarborough is committed to fostering a safe, welcoming, and inclusive community where all residents are treated with dignity, respect, and fairness regardless of their background, origin, or immigration status; and,

WHEREAS, Scarborough values the many contributions of immigrant individuals and families who enrich our community, strengthen our economy, and help make our town a vibrant place to live, work, and raise a family; and,

WHEREAS, recent events in Biddeford involving a fatal encounter between federal immigration enforcement personnel and Johan Sebastian Guerrero have raised serious concerns regarding public safety, transparency, community trust, and the role of federal immigration enforcement within our region; and,

WHEREAS, Scarborough recognizes that investigations and official reviews related to the Biddeford incident may be ongoing and supports a full, fair, and transparent review of the circumstances surrounding this loss of life; and,

WHEREAS, Scarborough affirms that every human life possesses inherent dignity and worth, and that the loss of life under any circumstance should be approached with compassion, reflection, and a commitment to preventing future tragedies; and,

WHEREAS, Scarborough unequivocally condemns violence, loss of life, intimidation, threats, and acts of hatred in all forms, regardless of their source or target; and,

WHEREAS, the Town further affirms that individuals who engage in violence, promote fear, or act contrary to the values of respect, civility, and peaceful coexistence are not reflective of the character or aspirations of the Scarborough community; and,

WHEREAS, many residents have expressed concerns regarding the presence and operation of a federal immigration processing facility located at 40 Manson Libby Road and its impact on community trust, neighborhood character, and Scarborough's values of safety and inclusion; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

That the Town of Scarborough respectfully calls upon Maine's Congressional Delegation, including Senator Susan Collins, Senator Angus King, Representative Chellie Pingree, and Representative Jared Golden, to engage with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the General Services Administration, and other appropriate federal agencies to:

1. Review the existing facility and evaluate alternatives. Work with the relevant federal agencies to review the continued use of 40 Manson Libby Road as a federal immigration processing facility and evaluate alternatives, including the relocation or discontinuation of such operations at that location, in a manner that balances public safety, community trust, and the values of the Scarborough community;
2. Promote transparency and community engagement. Call for increased transparency, accountability, and meaningful community engagement regarding federal immigration enforcement activities affecting Maine communities;
3. Uphold standards for federal conduct in Maine. Ensure that federal actions conducted within Maine respect human dignity, civil rights, public trust, due process, and community safety and commit to raising concerns with federal officials should evidence emerge that these standards are not being upheld..

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Scarborough supports peaceful civic engagement and constructive dialogue and encourages all residents to express their views through lawful, respectful, and democratic means.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Scarborough expresses its heartfelt sympathy to the family of Mr. Guerrero, to the people of Biddeford, and to all those impacted by this loss, and reaffirms its commitment to fostering a community where differences are addressed through dialogue, understanding, and the peaceful rule of law rather than violence or fear.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this proclamation shall not be interpreted as opposition to lawful immigration enforcement; rather, it reflects the Town's expectation that such enforcement be conducted in a manner consistent with the values of safety, transparency, accountability, and respect for all people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this proclamation is hereby adopted this 29th day of July, 2026, by the Town Council of the Town of Scarborough, Maine. Signed by the full council.

Roll Call Vote: Councilor Scott W. Doherty - Yea	Councilor Jonathan E. Anderson - Yea
Councilor Lawrence W. Cain - Yea	Councilor William J. Donovan - Yea
Councilor Michelle T. Hayes - Yea	Chairman Cory R. Fellows - Yea

Chairman Fellows thanked everyone for their respectful comments. He acknowledge receipt of letters from Congresswoman Shelly Pingree, who is investigating ICE activities at the detention center, and state representatives Drew Gattine and Kelley Noonan Murphy, expressing support for this proclamation and potential actions. He then acknowledged State Senator Ann Carney for attending the meeting and that he had reached out to Biddeford Mayor LaFountain and State House Speaker Ryan Fecteau to share our condolences and support, which they appreciated, but were not able to be present.

Item 6. Adjournment. Motion by Councilor Anderson, seconded by Councilor Donovan, to move approval to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Scarborough Town Council.

Roll Call Vote: Councilor Scott W. Doherty - Yea	Councilor Jonathan E. Anderson - Yea
Councilor Lawrence W. Cain - Yea	Councilor William J. Donovan - Yea
Councilor Michelle T. Hayes - Yea	Chairman Cory R. Fellows - Yea

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yolande P. Justice
Clerk to the Council