

Town of West Haven Selectboard
Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting
August 11, 2026 8:00am

Selectboard Members Present:

John Garrison
Kerry Ellis

Selectboard Members Absent

Elaine McDevitt

Others Participating:

Jennifer Book - Treasurer
Jeff Noble - Road Foreman
Gavin Brough
Tyler Ellis

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Kerry Ellis at 8:10 am.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: None

Citizens Concerns: None

Proposal to Allow ATV's To Ride Legally on Town Roads:

Gavin and Tyler attended this part of the meeting. Gavin had previously written a letter to the Selectboard requesting to discuss this topic. They would like to see ATV riders able to access other towns by legally riding on West Haven roads. All ATV's have to be registered with the state and be insured. They have to follow all traffic regulations that apply to all other motor vehicles. Most of the riders will be locals and will be respectful of the rules of the road. If anyone has any problems or issues with riders, Gavin and Tyler will be the point of contact to address the issue with the rider(s). Anyone can contact the town clerk or selectboard and we will pass the information on to them. Gavin will work with Jeff on signage letting ATV riders know where they cannot ride. Signs will be posted at all entry points to NY stating ATV's can go no further as well.

The benefits to the town of allowing this is possible increased revenue to those with farm stands, and also to the corn maze in the fall. They are also willing to be added to our Local Emergency Management Plan as available during any type of emergency to help move people, supplies, emergency equipment and personnel to areas that may not be otherwise accessible. They are willing to coordinate with the fire department and rescue squad at any time their help is needed. Contact people will again be Gavin and Tyler.

A motion was made and seconded to move forward with an ordinance allowing this. The vote was unanimously in favor. The ordinance will be drafted listing out the roads that can and cannot be ridden on, along with specifications regarding operating requirements and will be voted on at the next Selectboard meeting on August 25, 2026.

Treasurers Report:

- The invoices were reviewed and discussed.
- Selectmen's budget and Highway budget were reviewed.
- The municipal tax rate was set at 1.0757. Tax bills will go out within the next two weeks.

Pay the Bills:

The warrants were reviewed and signed.

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Road Forman's Report:

- Bay Road has a place that is falling away and needs 10-12 loads of stone. It will be dumped at the place where the shale gets dumped and then they will truck it to where it's needed. This work is weather dependent.
- A culvert will be installed at Tim Cummings tomorrow. Then two will be done on Best Road and the big one on Galick Road.
- Jeff is looking into a chain saw attachment for the loader to be able to cut high branches.
- Midnight Express will now also haul sand and gravel in addition to The Gun Runner.

Executive Session - Personnel:

The board entered into executive session at 9:50 am and came out of executive session at 10:00 am.

Approval of minutes:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 14, 2026 as written. So voted.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the reconvened meeting of July 28, 2026 as written. So voted.

Select Board Concerns:

None

Correspondence and Other Business:

- Mail received was reviewed.

Recess to Tuesday August 25, 2026 at 8:00 am.

The meeting was recessed at 10:45 am.