Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting
3:00 PM

October 28, 2026

Executive Board Attending: Brenna Kucinski, Michael Blaudschun, Don Carlisle, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending: J. Sarcione, M. Sebert, M. Collins, M. Nunnemaker

Absent:

Brenna called the October 28, 2026 meeting of the Nelson Select Board to order at 3:00 PM.

- Fire Chief, J. Sarcione came before the Board with a review of several pending items for the Fire Department.

  - Bids are being sought for in-house vehicle service of the Fire Trucks as time and distance to deliver all trucks has proven difficult to arrange.
  - The occupancy limit for the Town Office meeting room is 18 with tables and chairs or 38 if the room is empty of furnishings.
  - The annual flow testing for the "air-packs" is due at a cost of $514.50. Following a brief discussion, Mike made a motion to approve the flow testing as requested.
    Brenna seconded.
    The motion carried 3-0.
  - Sarcione reported that all public town buildings have been inspected including the Church, school, and all municipal buildings. He will meet with M. Tarr to complete all required posting for hazardous materials.
  - The Fire Department will hold the Christmas coloring contest for school children again this year and the Selectmen will continue as judges.
  - Brenna advised that all town buildings are being assessed for any needed work and asked that Sarcione check the chimney situation once again at the Granite Lake Station as the Selectmen are developing a list of all needed repairs for 2027 budget planning. Sarcione inquired about the servicing of the heating equipment for the buildings. They discussed a few vendor options.
  - Sarcione reported that the Fire Department is beginning to work on grant applications in November.
  - Edie reported that, for years, the oil/propane company, Allen Mathewson has always worked on the systems. They will be contacted for appointments for all heating units.

- Mike made a motion to approve the Select Board minutes for October 21, 2026, as recorded.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Mike made a motion to approve the manifest for October 28, 2026 as presented.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● Following a review of a request for 2027 budget funding from Hundred Nights it was noted that several Nelson residents have needed to make use of the shelter this past year. The request has increased from $500 last year to $800 for 2027. With little further discussion Mike made a motion to approve $800 to Hundred Nights for 2027.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● Eversource has contracted Asplundh to prune hazardous trees in Gilsum in the area of the Nelson Gravel Pit. They are requesting permission from the town to cut some of the trees along the road abutting the town property. Mike made a motion to approve the tree pruning along Nelson's gravel pit property in Gilsum.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● Brenna reported on her last communication with L. Kenderski from Revize website designs. He indicated to her that he is looking into getting some of the money back for the unfinished website.

●Brenna also reported that Betsy Street spoke to Marc Stretch (he carved the last weathervane fish) and he offered to remake a new fish. The Board was grateful for his offer but feel they have already committed the job to T. McEachern and they stand by that decision.

● B. Roeder brought forward questions on the location, number, and status of all culverts in town that could pose a flooding hazard. He is particularly interested in the availability of Federal Flood insurance and how it could relate to grant awards for the Granite Lake Dam. The Emergency Management Director is also interested in this information. The Board requested that B. Roeder, J. Pfister, and M. Tarr schedule a meeting with the Select Board for further discussion.

● At Don's suggestion, a local website designer, Matthew Sebert, has been contacted to review the current website, make suggestions, and plan a new website. Sebert came before the Board today to gather more information on what the Town is looking for and to report that he has done a preliminary review of the current website.
Brenna explained the unfortunate experience with Revize website designers.
Sebert suggested that the Board might benefit from hearing what residents would like to see on the site and what they have a problem with.
Brenna explained that several people have difficulty finding the minutes. She would like to see drop down menus at the top. She would also like to see the Hours and phone numbers right at the top. Don said that he would like the whole thing redone.
Sebert suggested that things should be condensed into about 5 primary buckets for the most sought topics. He went on to suggest asking 20 residents to test navigation for items they would likely be looking for and to offer feedback or additional information they would like to see. (Don suggests only 5) This should include items such as Residents, Government, Meetings & Notices, Permits & Documents, and About-History. Each bucket would hold forms, maps, documents, etc. that are pertinent to the category. Sebert would build the structure anew but reuse some of the content. He said the "backside" of the current site is likely complex so he would improve how to add info. Adding new things should be straight forward and easy. The Town Clerk and Administrative Assistant would both have access to load documents or minutes pertaining to their area of work.

Sebert developed his own “backside” for his client’s sites and reviewed the type of work he has done for other clients who have multiple image changes, such as for sale of items. He asks for their input as to the ease of use to better suit their task.
Don requested that the site be mobile friendly so the content can be easily viewed on a cell phone. Mike agreed. The new site should automatically resize to each devise. Sebert stated that the site would be made to meet ADA compliance which will be required within a year. All national and international laws must apply but high-risk countries can be blocked. The budget projection is $6,720 to rework the current site and maintenance packages that should be sufficient for Nelson are $75, $135, (or an upper option at $350) per month and adding a new page would be $90-100.
Time line is about a month. This would be developed in phases including Town logo, typography, site map, (this would be proofed), and content collection/written copy. There will be a daily backup overnight. The Board agreed that hosting should also switch to M. Sebert to keep everything cohesive. Due to budget constraints this project would need to begin in January 2027. Sebert will submit a proposal for review by the Board.

● Contractor, M. Wilber came before the Board to discuss performing site inspections for code compliance of Building Permits. This would not include a building inspection for occupancy. This inspection is just to verify that the submitted plans and setbacks are as presented and compliant with the zoning ordinances. The inspection should take place only after the footings have been established so changes cannot take place once viewed. New language will be added to the permit to indicate this requirement before final building can take place. Wilber agreed to accept a stipend of $100 per inspection. If the inspection requires two visits there will be another $100 fee. This cost will be covered by offsetting revenue paid by the applicant.

● Edie informed the Board of some serious health issues that may cause a sudden change in her daily schedule from time to time. She agrees to adjust by adding weekend time if necessary to complete all necessary work.

● With nothing further, Mike made a motion to adjourn.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.
Meeting adjourned 5:06 PM

Next meeting November 3, 2026 at 3:00 PM in the Library.

Minutes for October 28, 2026

Brenna Kucinski, Chair

Michael Blaudschun, Selectman

Don Carlisle, Selectman