

Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting
3:00 PM

October 6, 2026

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

Others attending: N. Iselin, J. Filipi, G. Giannattasio, L. Giannattasio, J. Iselin, D. Iselin, J. Sarcione, M. Tarr,

Absent:

Brenna called the October 6, 2026 special meeting of the Nelson Select Board to order at 3:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting was for a round-table discussion, between interested parties, regarding the future of Lead Mine Road.

- M. Tarr reviewed a brief history of road wash-out in 1987 and again 2 years later. FEMA offered no hope of future recovery assistance without mitigation efforts. In 1989 or 1990 some blasting was done in the area and a new culvert placed. Tarr noted that this is a scenic highway and winter closing was in place until sometime around 1991.
- G. Giannattasio recounted many occurrences of his assistance to people who were stuck or had driven off the road. He notes that straightening out the road would just increase speed and further increase the risk on hills that would remain in place.
- D. Iselin raised concern over the cost to the Town if the layout of the road is changed. She may not be supportive of a large investment for that change.
- Brenna reminded everyone that public hearings and a town vote will be required if closing the road becomes the proposed option.
- G. Gannattasio reported that there is heavy snowmobile and 4-wheeler traffic all the time. While he would not deny help to someone in need, he notes his expense in time and equipment to offer this regular assistance has become excessive.
- J. Filipi reviewed the need for access to residents in that area as well as a possible evacuation route during a major event such as flooding or storm damage. He believes the response time from either direction holds no significant difference.
- M. Blaudschun suggests a road could be held as a town road but closed, subject to gates and bars.
- J. Sarcione discussed the Emergency access needed by the Fire Department as well as responders from other towns such as Keene and Sullivan. If a gate is placed the responders would need a key or code to open the gate. He spoke to the concerns over large equipment navigating the tight corners and road maintenance reliability. G. Gannattasio assured everyone that he would maintain access with his equipment.

- L. Gannattasio questioned liability and the possible need for an easement to the Town from the landowner. Liability and easement issues would be different depending how the road is closed or limited in use.
- D. Iselin brought forward her concern over the stone wall that is the corner of her barn and is right on the road on a sharp corner. She worries every time the road is plowed because it is very tight.
- Not plowing in the winter would be a savings for the Highway crew in time and money as well as reduce their risk from maintaining the ice and snow-covered roadway. Brenna suggests that perhaps Sullivan would consider a deal to plow to D. Iselin's at that end.
- J. Filipi recommended a road study. M. Blaudschun agreed and suggested contacting SWRPC to see what can be arranged. This would not come before the voters until 2028.
- While signage has proven to have a limited impact, additional large signs can be installed right away cautioning and/or restricting traffic.
- With nothing further, Brenna made a motion to adjourn.
Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.
Meeting adjourned 4:05 PM

Next meeting October 7, 2026 at 3:00 PM in the Nelson Town Office.

Minutes for October 6, 2026

Brenna Kucinski, Chair

Michael Blaudschun, Selectman

Don Carlisle, Selectman