

Town of Otis
Select Board/ Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall Conference Room

1 North Main Road, Otis, MA 01253

Friday, Mar 06, 2026, at 9:00 AM

This meeting will be held in person at the location provided on this notice. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Attendance: Gary Thomas-Chair, Larry Southard, Terry Gould, Brandi Page, Lisa D’Orazio and Sue Brofman.

Call to Order: 9:07 AM

Appointments: The agenda had been amended to include two appointments. First was per diem, Shane Hope. The Board was in agreement and unanimously appointed Shane. Second was Laurie McArthur stepping in as the Assistant Collector. The Board appointed Laurie.

Budget Discussion: Brandi asked the Board to think about when they will be available to meet to discuss the Library borrowing. We need to decide if it will be a debt exclusion or override ballot question. Terry stated there had been misinformation at the School Committee meeting. It was misstated that the EMS budget was larger than the education budget. Brandi will do a clarification for the Observer. Brandi updated the Board on our annual audits. We are hoping to move into Fy25 soon. One of the first steps in the budget is adjusting the compensation chart by a COLA. The Board was good with the 2.8% adjustment. This is in line with the Social Security. The group reviewed and discussed department budgets including individual requests. The majority were level funded except for salary increase requests. After some discussion Brandi was asked to put a tentative 4% in the salary lines. There was discussion on increased hours for COA and the Treasurer as well as stipends for the management of Short Term Rentals. Both the Select Board and Fin Com were in preliminary agreement on all budgets except Conservation, Police, Fire & Rescue, Animal Control, Education, Highway, Snow & Ice, WWTP and Health Insurance. These were held until the next meeting.

Adjournment: 1:52 PM