

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Snowdon, Bill McGahie and Mark Terry

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by John Snowdon.
2. Approval of Minutes: January 20, 2026 Motion was made by Bill McGahie seconded by Mark Terry to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Mark Terry to approve Manifests for: General Fund \$288,220.32 Motion passed 3-0.
4. Old Business
 - A. IT Upgrade - State of NH update of firewall infrastructure required by March 6, 2026. If not compliant we will not be able to do motor vehicle registrations. As of 2026 the Town contracted Vermouth Computers for IT services. Estimated total for IT and electrical work needed to upgrade security infrastructure \$8,000. Selectmen agree upgrades are essential to maintain Town Clerk operations.

5. New Business

Signature Approval was given for the following

Payroll 2/3	LUCT (1)	HealthTrust \$5900.02
Payroll Taxes 2/3	Timber Intent (1)	Retirement \$ 3394.88
Abatement (1)	Timber Warrant (1)	USPS \$23.20

- A. Generator for Town Hall - Mark Terry - Generator is a requirement for continuity of operations. Emergency Management will be looking into grants, but will need to have someone determine the size that is needed.
- B. Letter to delegates and governor concerning for HB 1359 & HB 1360 (see attached)

6. Upcoming: February 6, 2026 Budget Hearing – Town 6:00pm (Town Hall)
Budget Hearing – School 7:00pm (Town Hall)
7. Correspondence - McKibben Environment - Landfill Sampling Report (on file)
8. Nonpublic Meeting

At 6:28 p.m., a motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Mark Terry, to enter nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c). Motion passed 3-0.

At 6:55 p.m., a motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Bill McGahie, to exit the nonpublic session. Motion passed 3-0.

A motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Mark Terry, to seal the minutes. Roll call vote to seal minutes: John Snowdon – Yes; Mark Terry – Yes; Bill McGahie – Yes. Motion passed.

9. 6:56p.m., Motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Mark Terry to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed 3-0

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Scanlan
Town Administrator

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2026 1:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

John Snowdon, Chairman

William McGahie

Mark Terry



TOWN OF WESTMORELAND

780 Route 63, PO Box 55, Westmoreland, NH 03467

Dear Members of Westmoreland's House Legislative Delegation,

We are writing to share the Town of Westmoreland's opposition to House Bill (HB) 1359 and HB 1360.

Unlike other recent bills seeking to make it more difficult for municipalities to have a collective voice at the State House, which affected multiple governmental affiliate groups, these two bills specifically single out the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA), a private, non-profit, member-governed organization comprised of all 234 New Hampshire municipalities. While the stated aim of these bills is to improve accountability and transparency, they jeopardize NHMA's ability to advocate and member municipalities' ability to govern the organization. Taxpayers do have a legitimate interest in ensuring funds are spent transparently, and NHMA membership dues are already debated and voted on annually in the course of the budget process. Additionally, anyone can currently review NHMA's lobbying activity through quarterly reports submitted to the Secretary of State (SOS) and on the NHMA website.

Key Concerns with HB 1359

- Creates an extremely high burden to join NHMA:
 - Requires roll call or ballot vote of legislative body to join NHMA.
 - Requires separate roll call or ballot vote of legislative body and a two-thirds majority to authorize participation in lobbying activities.
- Treats membership in NHMA differently than membership a municipality has in other organizations; also treats receiving services from NHMA differently than when a municipality purchases professional services (legal services, their own lobbyist, finance support, etc.) directly.
- Requires NHMA to split up the educational, legal and advocacy services it offers and bill for them separately, which would invariably cost more for members.
Creates a concerning precedent by allowing the legislature to micromanage a private organization.

Key Concerns with HB 1360

- Creates a legislative commission to review a private, member-run corporation, a heavy-handed big government approach that disregards the fact that NHMA is overseen by a Board of Directors comprised of local officials elected by member municipalities.
- Allows subjective and retaliatory action against NHMA; the commission can suspend the organization's lobbying activities if they believe "NHMA is acting in a manner contrary to the best interests of its member municipalities."
- Oversteps Secretary of State (SOS) authority by allowing the commission to regulate lobbyists.

Our Request

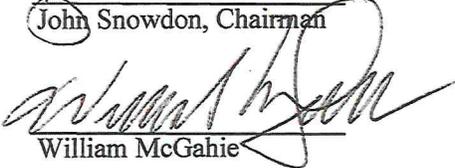
As local officials, we welcome transparency and accountability. But HB 1359 and HB 1360 do not improve accountability—they reduce local autonomy, create confusion, and jeopardize long-standing local/state partnerships that promote reasonable, effective solutions.

We respectfully ask that you vote both of these bills as inexpedient to legislate and oppose any further effort to restrict municipal participation in the legislative process.

Sincerely,
Westmoreland Selectboard



John Snowdon, Chairman



William McGahie



Mark Terry

cc. Office of the Speaker of the House; House Minority Office; NHMA