Town of Mercer
1015 Beech Hill Rd
Mercer ME 04957
(207)587-2911

Municipal Officer's Meeting Minutes -APPROVED 10/13/2026

Mercer Town Office, 1015 Beech Hill Road

September 22, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Present were Ricky Parlin, Dari Hurley, Joel Hooper, Nancy Gove, Gaylene Williams, Nancy Gilman, Donna Parlin, Faylene Geness, Brian Breton, Jane Wallace, Spencer Tracey.

1. Pledge of Allegiance. Done.

2. Call meeting to order. Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairman Parlin.

3. Citizen's Concerns. Faylene Geness asked when the town took ownership of the Brown Road property (map10, lot 18-03) as she's looking to see if the town ever accepted a right of way to it and wanted a starting date. Basically, she's looking for the Selectboard to issue a letter stating that the town never developed that road.

   Brian Breton discussed drought conditions as Nancy indicated that a few citizens have been in for bottled water. It was agreed that we would report the date, physical location and number of cases given out.

4. Public Hearings (starting at 6:15 p.m.)
   a. Conduct a public hearing to discuss the draft Data Center Moratorium Ordinance. Ricky called to public hearing to order at 6:08 p.m., closed it due to the time, then reopened the hearing at 6:15 p.m. The Planning Board revised the definition of a data center and the draft moratorium was available for public comment. Hearing no further comments, Ricky closed the public hearing at 6:25 p.m.
   b. Conduct a public hearing to discuss adoption of the General Assistance Appendices A-H. Ricky opened the public hearing at 6:25 p.m. Nancy explained that MMA has put out a new model GA Ordinance for towns to adopt should they choose to do so. Nancy also explained that the appendices for maximum levels of assistance and thresholds for basic type necessities. There being no questions regarding the GA ordinance nor the appendices, Ricky closed the public hearing.
   c. Conduct a public hearing to discuss adopting the MMA Model General Assistance Ordinance as updated on September 2026. This public hearing was conducted with b. above.

5. Old Business.
   a. Approve and sign Special Town Meeting Warrant of October 8, 2026. Joel made a motion to approve and sign the special town meeting warrant. Ricky seconded. Vote 3-0. The Board signed the warrant.

6. New business.
   a. Adopt the new 2026 General Assistance Ordinance with appendices in its entirety. Joel made a motion to adopt the 2026 General Assistance Ordinance in it's entirety (including 2026 appendices). Dari seconded. Vote 3-0.
   b. Adopt the General Assistance Ordinance maximums levels of assistance as defined in Appendices A through H. This item was passed over as it's no longer valid.
   c. Adopt a plan entitled "Municipal Resolution: Emergency Medical Services Transport Plan for the Town of Mercer, Maine". State law now requires medical transport providers to enact a plan explaining transport services of Mercer Rescue. Dari made a motion to adopt the plan as presented. Joel seconded. Vote 3-0.
   d. Discuss Tax Acquired Property located at 10 Bonfire Lane. Nancy has been in touch with one of the owners of 10 Bonfire Lane who indicated they cannot come up with the back taxes and advised us to start the foreclosure process which gives them a specific timeframe in which to pay those taxes before the town lists

the property for sale. Joel made a motion to start the 90-day Notice of Intent to Sell Property process. Ricky seconded. Vote 3-0.

e. Discuss kitchen rental. Home Baked has vacated the premises and have cleaned the kitchen. An inspection was conducted and there were a few minor items that still needed cleaning. September rent was collected and a final propane bill is now due to the town. Where they only used the kitchen for two weeks in September, a refund of half September rent was requested. The Board agreed not to refund a portion of September's rent, and will return the security deposit once a final inspection, payment of propane and return of building keys have been met.

f. Items from the Board/Administrator. Tax collection efforts are on track with 88% of the 2026 commitment being collected to date. Dari reported that the town has purchased road maintenance software and will start updating our road infrastructure (condition, repairs to date, etc). Ricky reported that Decker Road had 2,200' of new gravel (636 yards of crushed granite). Ricky also stated that Josh Meader will be grading again to get the roads pitched before winter. Road signs are missing again on Elm Street, including the new stop sign and the 35 mph sign that was recently put up at the Frederick's Corner end of Elm Street. Use of air tags was suggested.

g. Executive session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 MRSA §405 (6) (A). Dari made a motion to defer the executive session. Joel seconded. Vote 3-0. Nancy read Dexter Bridges letter of resignation giving September 30, 2026 as his last day. In his letter, he reported that he lost his certification as an ACO and would need to become re-certified again. Dari made a motion to accept Dexter Bridges resignation. Joel seconded. Vote 3-0. The town will advertise the position.

7. Discussion with Treasurer:
   a. Warrants #56-58. Joel made a motion to approve the warrants. Dari seconded. Vote 3-0.
   b. Other financial matters, if any. Dari asked for current financials at the end of September.

8. Approve the minutes of the September 8, 2026 meeting. Dari made a motion to accept the minutes. Joel seconded. Vote 3-0.

9. Adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on a motion by Ricky, seconded by Joel. Vote 3-0.