

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Chaplin, Connecticut
Thursday, April 2, 2026**

Members Present: James Harrington, First Selectman; Juan Roman, Selectman; Leslie Ricklin, Selectman

Others Present: Jordan Lumpkins, Shared Town Administrator; Dick Weingart, BOF Chair, Diana Alvarez, Treasurer; Jim Randall, EMD.

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **First Audience of Citizens:** None
3. **Approval of Minutes:** *J Roman made a MOTION to accept the Minutes of the January 7, 2026 BOS Regular Meeting. L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried. L Ricklin made a MOTION to accept the minutes of the March 5, 2026 Regular Meeting. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried. Juan Roman made a MOTION to accept the Minutes of the March 12, 2026 Special BOS meeting. L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.*
4. **Communications and Reports**
 - A. Board Members Reports: None
 - B. Board of Finance Discussion: D Weingart, Chair of the BOF, reported that the Board of Finance has adopted a FY 2026-27 Preliminary Proposed Budget to be presented at a Public Hearing on Monday, April 13, 2026 @ 7 PM in the Chaplin Senior Center.
 - C. Shared Town Administrator Report: Town Administrator Jordan Lumpkins shared his monthly report with the Board. Please see attached.
 - D. Correspondence: None
 - E. Building/Infrastructure: None
 - F. Department Reports: Monthly reports were received from the Chaplin Senior Center and the Chaplin Public Library. Please see attached. Treasurer Diana Alvarez reported that she continues to work with Beacon Bank to rectify compromised account issues. Jim Randall, EMD, reported on repairs done to the regional animal trailer (leaking roof), new Region 4 director appointments and attendance at a seminar addressing the dangers of lithium batteries.
5. **New Business**
 - A. Tax Collector Refunds: None
 - B. All Pending and New FOI requests: None
 - C. Appointments and Resignations: Appointments: *J Roman made a MOTION to approve the appointment of Amie Kraemer to the Recreation Commission for a term beginning 7/1/2024 and ending 6/30/2026. L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried. L Ricklin made a MOTION to approve a change in term for Recreation Commission member Patrick Morse from 7/1/2024-6/30/2026 to*

7/1/2025 -6/30/2027. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried. J Roman made a MOTION to change the wording of the term for Board of Assessment Appeals member Iwona Lanham from a 'term ending on 11/6/2029' to a term ending at the next election (11/2027). L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.

- D. Discussion and possible action on a Mansfield-Chaplin Interlocal Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection Services. **J Roman made a MOTION to approve the agreement between the Town of Mansfield and the Town of Chaplin for Tax Assessment and Collection Services contingent upon the Chaplin Town Attorney's language approval. L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.**
- E. Discussion of the sale of Town owned real estate. J Harrington explained that there are two pieces of property which the Town owns which could be sold as building lots. They are currently empty and not generating any tax revenue. One lot is located on the corner of Cedar Swamp Road and Goshen Road. The other lot, which is larger, is located across the street from Parish Hill High School. J Lumpkins suggested that it is too early to send the sale of the properties to a Town Meeting and that further research should be carried out first. He added that it is usual protocol in municipal property sales for there to be a buyer prior to taking it to Town Meeting. J Harrington will continue to explore these options as all Selectmen agree that the sale of these properties could be beneficial to the Town.
- F. Update on Financial Advisory Services Request for Proposals (RFP). J Harrington explained that one bid was received from Munistat Services, Inc., which is an independent municipal advisor. He explained that the Town finds itself in need of lending/bonding advice especially as it pertains to upcoming bridge replacement costs. He will be speaking to the company as to what the next steps in the process are.
- G. Discussion and possible action on a Procurement Ordinance. J Harrington and J Lumpkins explained that the town's current procurement ordinance is outdated. The draft procurement ordinance was discussed and found to be better in line with State Statutes. **J Roman made a MOTION to send the Draft Procurement Ordinance to the Annual Town Meeting on Monday, April 27, 2026 for a vote by the Town. L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.**
- H. Discussion and possible action on sidewalk/parking lot construction bids. J Harrington reported that 5 bids were received and opened on April 1, 2026. Town engineer Syl Pauley of NECCOG will review the submissions and bid tabulation sheets. He will report back with his findings and recommendation. **J Roman made a MOTION to authorize the First Selectman to endorse Town Engineer Syl Pauley's bid recommendation upon review. L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.**

6. Old Business

- A. American Rescue Plan Funds: No updates.
- B. Update for the construction of fire pond and dry hydrant: No update.
- C. Discuss/update on Bedlam Road Bridge: Final design is in progress with funding options being explored.
- D. Update on IT Services: J Harrington is still waiting for final numbers from Novus Insight.
- E. Discussion and possible action on the Eastern Highlands Health District opioid fund contribution: Tabled until next month's meeting.
- F. Discussion and possible action on the SAM Eversource Beneficial Account Agreement: ***J Roman made a MOTION allowing First Selectman James Harrington to sign a Municipal Beneficial Accounts Services Agreement between TRITEC Energy Development LLC and the Town of Chaplin. L Ricklin seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.***
- G. Discussion of Town entity contributions to the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence: L Ricklin shared various activities currently being planned including a scheduled May 20, 2026 presentation about the Benjamin Chaplin Cupboard located in the Town Hall, a showing of Hamilton at Garrison Park, displays at the Public Library and many more. J Harrington reported that the America 250 flags ordered for Chaplin Street and the Town Hall are currently on backorder.
- H. Discussion on the submittal of Board Reports: J Harrington is developing a report template to be presented at next month's meeting.
- I. Discussion of education in Chaplin: J Roman suggested that the BOS and audience recite the Pledge of Allegiance before all BOS meetings going forward. L Ricklin led a discussion about how best the Board of Selectmen can work with the Boards of Education in the three regional towns focusing on the words "Trust" and "Respect".

7. Second Audience of Citizens - Note: Comments are limited to agenda items and subject to Chair discretion: Diana Alvarez asked about STEM schools being an option for local education as it is in Windham. Jim Randall asked about the use of Eastern Highlands Health District Opioid funds being used to purchase AEDs.

8. Agenda Suggestions for next meeting: None

9. Date, Time and Place of next meeting: May 7, 2026 at 7 PM, Chaplin Town Hall.

10. Adjourn: Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Susan Welshman, Recording Secretary



To: Chaplin Board of Selectmen

From: Regional Town Administrators – Mary Calorio and Jordan Lumpkins

Date: April 1, 2026

Re: March 2026 Administrator's Update

Budget

Administrator Calorio has continued working with staff on the FY27 budget. The BOF has approved a budget to send to Public Hearing.

Tax Assessment and Collection Services

The Town Administrators have been working with the First Selectman, Town Attorney and the Town of Mansfield to negotiate an Interlocal Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection Services. A Town Meeting was held Authorizing the BOS to approve an agreement with Mansfield. The Agreement is in the process of being finalized. NECCOG has applied for a Regional Performance Incentive Program Grant to support the transition.

IT Support

Town Administrators have continued working with the First Selectman to investigate IT support solutions. A contractor is preparing a proposal for consideration.

Community Connectivity Project

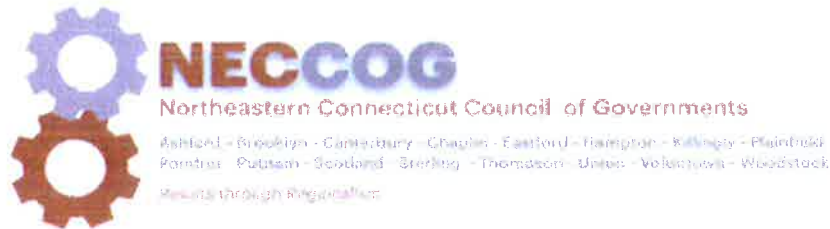
Plans have been authorized to go out to bid. Procurement was initiated on March 2nd, and closed on April 1st. Bid review may take up to 30 days. Construction will be required to begin within 60 days of the contract's execution. The previously referenced driveway issue has been incorporated in new plans to be added as a formal driveway.

Arboretum Extension Project

The Arboretum Commission has contracted a landscape professional to draft a conceptual design for the Arboretum Extension Project. Administrator Lumpkins worked with the Commission and the contractor to develop a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Urban Green and Community Garden (UGCG) Grant application that was submitted on December 17th. The Town's application has made it through the first round of vetting. Decisions are expected in Spring 2026.

Helen Garrison Open Space Project

A DEEP Recreational Trails Grant application to support planning and construction activities was submitted on December 18th. Lumpkins also met with the CT Resource Conservation and Development Area to initiate a partnership in evaluating the property. They will work with the Town to conduct an



environmental assessment of the property and provide a report free of charge. Administrator Lumpkins is working on an application for this service. Additionally, Administrator Lumpkins will begin meeting with the newly formed Helen Garrison Open Space Advisory Committee once fully established.

Ordinance Review

Administrator Lumpkins worked with the Town Attorney to develop a Veteran's Exemption Ordinance. The ordinance was approved at a Special Town Meeting in March.

Administrator Lumpkins has drafted of a Procurement Ordinance that has been provided in your meeting packet. The Town Attorney has reviewed and made no recommendations for alteration.

Former Post Office

A Brownfield Assessment Grant has been awarded. The Financial Assistance Proposal has been finalized, and a formal contract is in the process of being approved. The Request for Proposal is being prepared. A Licensed Environmental professional will be procured, and assessment should begin by Summer 2026. As part of the process, Administrator Lumpkins will work with the Town and contractor to evaluate future use of the property.

Bedlam Road Bridge Project

The Request for proposal was posted and closed on February 19th. An interview with Munistat (the sole proposer) was conducted in March.

Lynch Road

Administrator Lumpkins has been preparing a Transportation Rural Infrastructure Project (TRIP) Grant to support the full reclamation of Lynch Road. The Application is due April 27th.

Meetings attended

Calorio

BOF Meetings

Lumpkins

Board of Selectmen

Special Town Meeting

Air Line State Park and Trail Alliance Meeting

ERTD Executive Board Meeting

Senior Center Monthly Report

Date March 2026

Total number of guests for the month 937

Total lunches served for the month 509

Activities:

Breakfast 62

Fit & Fun 132

Mexican Train 3

Bingo 35

Mahjongg 72

Pickleball 56

Yoga 31

Memoir Group 10

Walking Club —

Haircuts 12

Massage 14

Light Therapy 26

Foot Reflexology 16

Special Activities

Chili Challenge - 19 contestants 81 guests

Entertainment w/ Bruce John 52

Foot Care 11

Chaplin Public Library

Monthly Report for ___ March _____, 2026

February Statistics:

Number of days open ___ 13 ___ (closed 3 days in Feb due to holidays and snow)_

Number of patrons _____ 390 _____

Attendance at Events ___ 155 _____

Circulation of Physical Materials _____ 576 _____

Number of Chaplin Users checking out physical materials ___ 83 ___

(Please note that a family of 4 checking out books might only use 1 library card and therefore only count as 1 user, even though multiple people in the family are reading the checked-out books.)

Out-of-Town Users checking out physical materials ___ 20 _____

New Library cards: _____ 7 _____

March Events: Weekly Storytime

Weekly Ukulele

Monthly Book Chat

Other: Goodbye Irene Band

Waking Up the Garden with Will Hooper

Submitted,

Sandra Horning, Library Director