

Town of Hancock, Maine

MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2026 PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Board Members: Ken Emerson, Scott Dyer, Deb Foster, Ant Blasi; CEO Kevin Brodie, Asst. CEO Nick Branca

Others attending: Selectpersons Carol Lowrie and Robin Stratton, Road Commissioner George Moon, Steve Salsbury and Mike Deyling (representing Harold MacQuinn), Ruth Franzius

Ant Blasi, presiding (and voting) in the absence of Chairman Doug Kimmel, called the meeting to order at 6:00.

I. Approval of Minutes of Planning Board Regular Meeting Feb. 11, 2026

Deb Foster moved to approve, Scott Dyer seconded, and the motion passed, 4-0.

II. Approval of Minutes of Planning Board Special Meeting & Workshop Feb. 19, 2025

Deb moved to approve, Scott seconded, and the motion passed, 4-0.

III. Discussion of Harold MacQuinn's Joy Road Quarry

Steve Salsbury and Mike Deyling, a licensed geologist and the president at Lewiston-based Summit Environmental Consultants, Inc., outlined MacQuinn's proposal to excavate below the seasonal high water table. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection granted MacQuinn a variance permitting such excavation on May 6, 2013. They said that in 2025 they conducted a 72-hour pumping test using four monitoring wells installed for that purpose and found that seepage rates were not excessive and commercial quarrying would be feasible with a pumping system and an adequate discharge area to temporarily lower the local groundwater level.

Although the DEP and other local jurisdictions allow quarrying below the seasonal high water table, Hancock's current Mineral Extraction Ordinance does not permit it.

Ken Emerson asked what the DEP, local jurisdictions, and excavators had learned about such projects in the 13 years since the DEP issued MacQuinn a variance. Have technological progress and good or bad experiences led them to revise and update requirements and procedures? How many variances has the DEP issued, and what have been the results? Mr. Deyling said he has worked directly with the

V. CEO Report

Kevin Brodie reported building permits for 1 structure, 1 sign, 1 driveway, and 1 solar installation, for a total \$1,032.65, and plumbing permits for two internal installations and 1 septic system, totaling \$690.

VI. Public Comment

George Moon inquired about excavating a pond on his residential property on Pomroy Road that could serve as a renewable water source for the Hancock Volunteer Fire Company. The board said it foresaw few difficulties and asked Kevin to investigate and report back if he discovered any problems.

VII. Adjourn

Ant moved to adjourn, Scott seconded, the motion passed, 4-0, and the meeting adjourned at 7:35.