

SELECT BOARD MEETING

Town Office, 50 School Street

Mount Holly, VT 05758

April 8, 2025

MINUTES

Attendance: Mark Turco, Diana Garrow, Jeff Chase, William Notte, Carol A Garrow Woolley, Dennis Devereux, Zena Gates, Christine Pratt, James Seward, Stephen Michel, Elizabeth Karle, David Johnson, Clinton Woolley, Philippe Crane. (All attendees in person, no attendees via Zoom.)

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Consideration of any changes and/or additions to the agenda –

- Report from Conservation Commission added to Reports
- Letter from Chris Schneider added to New Business

4. Approval of March 11 Minutes - Diana Garrow moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mark Turco seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Reports

A. Highways & Transfer Station Report - Clinton Woolley – There is still a lot to clean up from recent storm. The town crew has not had success finding extra help and is working to clean up from storm and grade roads as circumstances allow.

Town is going to have to order some culverts, which will come out of the Summer Materials line item, four culverts total at \$500 apiece.

Household Hazardous Waste collection will take place at the Transfer Station on Saturday, April 10.

B. Treasurer Monthly Income & Expense Report - Elizabeth Karle – Not much activity to report, the month of March is mostly quiet. One CD matured, funds to go towards the Education Fund. The town continues to chip away at delinquent property taxes.

A bound copy of the town audit is available at the town office. It is also available as a digital copy.

C. Listers' Report - David Johnson – Site visits started this day. These will be completed by the first week in May.

D. Mount Holly Planning Commission Report - Jon McCann – There was no report. This item was added to the agenda by clerk's error.

E. Conservation Commission – An application is in process to do some selective mowing, creating pathways for people to get canoes and kayaks on the lake. The apparatus for mowing is available from a local property owner. Board approval was requested for this application. Discussion followed during which concern was expressed that mowing could leave behind the debris that will clog grating, but it was also noted grating could very well clog anyway. Mark Turco made motion to give board approval of application. Diana Garrow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The ash borer mitigation program is about to restart. Commission sought clarification on process of ordering materials. Have until July to do this work and might need more injectors and chemicals to complete it. Mark Turco requested the commission put together a list of expenses that the board can review at its next meeting and it was confirmed this will be delivered in time.

The Commission has an opening. Notice will be put in ChitChat and in the Newsflash.

6. New Business

A. Beaver Baffle for Hortonville Road – Property owners prefer a baffle to trapping and question has been raised as to whether the town would help with the cost of the baffles. Discussion followed, during which Clinton Woolley expressed opinion that baffles would not prevent dams and water rising. Baffle would prevent beavers from stopping up culvert, but not prevent them from building dam on either side of culvert. It was also pointed out that the state owns the actual waterway. In regards to this, Mark Turco will reach out to warden about potential state responsibility.

B - Town credit card limit – Request from Town Clerk to raise credit card amount. Card currently has \$2,500 limit. Town has had trouble recently with purchasing when card was at limit. Clerk's office, listers, and road crew all use the same card. Bank suggests a \$4,000 limit. Mark Turco made motion to increase credit card limit to \$4,000. Diana Garrow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Reappoint Emergency Management Director (EMD) – Mark Turco made a motion to reappoint Jeff Chase. Diana Garrow seconded. Motion passed.

D. Reappoint Rutland Regional Transportation Advisory Committee Rep & Alternate – Jeff Chase made a motion to appoint Clinton Woolley as representative and Mark Turco as alternate. Diana Garrow seconded. Motion passed.

E. Reappoint Rutland Regional Planning Commission Commissioner & Alternate – Mark Turco made a motion to reappoint Jessica Metcalf as commissioner and Jon McCann as alternate, pending their agreement to continuing in these roles. Jeff Chase seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

F. Review and Sign Rutland Regional Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement – Jeff Chase made motion to sign. Diana Garrow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Readopt Town Alcohol and Drug Testing Policy – Mark Turco made motion to approve readopting the policy. Diana Garrow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

H. Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory Diana Garrow moved to approve certification. Jeff Chase seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

I. Volunteers for Zoom recording of Public Meetings – Town needs person(s) to help with running Zoom because of requirement from the state to include Zoom component for so many different meetings. Notice to be put in Chit Chat and Newsflash. Board clerk will reach out to various committees for list of meeting times to give potential volunteers an idea of the scope of commitment.

J. Letter from Chris Schneider. Mark Turco read letter from Chris Schneider. Letter writer claims ownership of a Class 4 road. Mark Turco stated for public record and clarification that the town owns all Class 4 roads located in the municipality.

7. Ongoing & Old Business

A. Approve easement deed for Green Mountain Power – Diana Garrow made motion to approve. Jeff Chase seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Veterans Monument Repair Update - Dennis Devereux – Over \$2,000 was raised for this \$1,500 job. Dennis Devereaux suggested that perhaps additional funds could be used to clean up grounds around monument and have plaque cleaned up. A question had been raised about moving monument because of closeness of winter plowing to it. Funds on hand would not cover movement of monument and necessity of doing so was questioned. Dennis Devereux suggests adding orange markers in season for more visibility when plowing occurs.

C. EndeavourOps town .gov domain update - Elizabeth Karle – Questions were raised about potential double billing for town internet domains (.gov and .org). Elizabeth Karle confirmed that town only pays one domain fee. Second invoice that caused confusion was not valid.

8. Citizen Comments – No one spoke.

9. Announcements/Other Business

A. School Budget Revote is April 22, 2025, from 10am to 7pm. The Town Clerk has absentee ballots available.

10. Review & Sign Orders

11. Executive Session: Title 1 V .S.A. S 313(a)(3) – Mark Turco made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Diana Garrow seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The board took no additional actions after executive session concluded. Respectfully Submitted By William Notte

All regular Select Board meetings can be joined via Zoom at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89818026866?pwd=xwibjwtsQRZ5LraGbAcMCOMFesA1fP.1>