

Selectboard Minutes

January 27, 2025

Selectboard Present: Jessica Pollack (chair), Andy Coyne (vice-chair), Greg Meulemans and Kate Ullman

Public Present: Paul Fraser, Meg Staloff (SEVEDS), Karen Ameden, Andrew Ghosh

Jessica called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. *Late Additions-*

A. Meg from SEVEDS

B. Discuss appoint a committee to identify a new Town Clerk

C. Transfer Station need of work on compactor

2. Andy made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 13th meeting, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

3. *Ethics Liaison-* Greg made a motion to appoint Jessica Pollack as the ethics liaison for the Town of Jamaica, seconded by Kate. 3 in favor, 1 abstained (Jessica).

4. Meg Staloff (SEVEDS)- There will be a link put on the website with the information she provides. SEVEDS does not have any staff, but they contract with other organizations, such as BDCC. Meg works for BDCC. SEVEDS works with regional planning. They ask for \$3 per person for funding. The municipal funding helps with programs and to match grants. They support businesses, workforce, community development and helping new people. They are going to have a municipal program again. The first meeting will be in June. They will help towns with difficult decisions. The full document is on their website along with their annual report. In Jamaica, the biggest impact was during the July 2023 flooding. Jessica asked about workforce housing. They might not have the answer but there are housing developments in the larger towns.

5. The Transfer Station compactor has been acting up, sometimes it reads full when it is not. Sometimes it shuts itself off. The regular electrician cannot do the work. Windham Solid Waste recommended someone in Massachusetts and would charge \$125 an hour, with a three-hour trip each way. The Selectboard will reach out and see if there is someone closer and make a decision.

6. The Town Clerk search needs committee members. Jessica Pollack and Pat Meulemans will be on the committee but four more people are needed. They will approve the job description that will be approved by the Selectboard. They present all resumes to the board but make recommendations to the Selectboard after conducting pre-interviews.

7. Overweight permits-

Greg made a motion to approve the overweight permit for Dead River Company, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Greg made a motion to approve the overweight permit for Carroll Concrete/Newport Sand and Gravel, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Greg made a motion to approve the overweight permit for Renaud Brothers, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Greg made a motion to approve the overweight permit for Valley Crane Services, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

8. MOU for Arts Council- Jessica made a motion to approve the MOU as revised by Andrew Ghosh and that Jessica is authorized to sign for the board, seconded by Kate. It allows the Arts Council to put on multiple events at the Town Hall, it extends through 2026. The Arts Council will pay the town \$250 a year. All in favor.

9. Town Meeting- we must hold off on signing the Town Meeting Warning. We are waiting for a dollar amount to have on the Warning. We will have a special meeting later in the week to sign off on it.

10. Jessica made a motion to approve the timesheets, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

11. Jessica made a motion to approve the pay orders, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

12. Public Concerns:

The Jamaica Democratic Committee usually hosts a candidate's night, it will be March 2nd at the Jamaica House.

There are many openings in the town including: Selectboard member, Lister, Planning Commission Member, Health Officer, and Flood Zone Administrator. Municipal government is not affiliated with any political party.

Karen brought up that we still need a liaison to the Town Hall.

Discussion on collecting taxes, Karen suggested making it twice a year. It needs to be decided at Town Meeting when discussing the article.

Greg made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Seconded by Jessica.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Wiswall

