

Selectboard Minutes

March 24, 2025

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

Public Present: Paul Fraser, Greg Lakis, Wade Hamilton, Karen Ameden, Andrew Pfau, Alyssa Sabetto, Ben Matthews

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

1. Late additions

- A. Discuss the replacing the flagpole
- B. Jamaica Planning Commission
- C. Improvements to Transfer Station

2. Minutes

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10th meeting, seconded by Christina. All in favor.

3. Town Meeting Minutes

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from Town Meeting 2025, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

4. RIVERS Presentation

There were two projects that were looked at in Jamaica. One was in the Wilkins mobile home park but the modeling did not show enough of an impact.

The project on Pikes Falls is to replace two culverts (#47 and #49). It has been a trouble spot for the town.

Culvert 47: It would be a nine-foot culvert with a foot and a half buried. The cost is \$400,000 with design it is \$480,000 to \$650,000.

Culvert 49: There would be some resloping. An excavator will need to get in the stream. There would need to be some slope stabilization.

It is the only project that Jamaica will be submitting to RIVERS.

If we do not get the grant, WRC would work to put us in contact with other funding sources.

Projects will be submitted in July 2025, and we should know by Spring of 2026.

Jessica made a motion that the board supports both projects in entirety (both culverts), but would open to revising the approval to be based on one culvert (#49) if the consensus of the Windham Regional Commission and Jamaica Selectboard potentially approve a modified project, seconded by Greg.

If there is a change, the Selectboard will call a special meeting to approve.

All in favor.

5. Deputy Emergency Management Director

Greg Lakis introduced Andy Pfau who is a new resident but owns Peacock Outfitters.

There are new people on the committee. Greg said he needs someone else with signature authority when he is not in town. Jessica made a motion to appoint Andy Pfau as Deputy Emergency Management Director, seconded by Christina. All in favor.

6. Tax Sale

We have 2 or 3 properties that are going to tax sale on April 10th. The town is eligible to make a bid if there is no bid. The town can bid on the property if no one else does. Greg made a motion to appoint Jessica to represent the town at the tax sale, seconded by Christina.

Greg made a motion to appoint Andy Coyne to represent the town at the tax sale, seconded by Kate. 4 in favor, 1 abstained.

7. Vermont Bond Bank Loan

We received a loan from the Vermont Bond Bank after the 2023 Floods. We have been paying it down, but it is not zero. We are now voting to approve a one-year extension on the loan. Jessica made a motion to approve the Vermont Bond Bank extension for a year, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

8. Vermont TA60 Annual Financial Plan

It is how we get funded from the state for our roads. It is \$300 per mile. Greg made a motion to approve Vermont TA60 for the state of Vermont, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

9. Certificate of Compliance

Greg made a motion to approve the Certificate of Compliance, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

10. Appraiser

The property on Water Street is going through the buyout process. We need to find the appraiser. We have received three bids. The stipulation is that the property be accessed at what it was pre-flood and have it done by October 30, 2025.

There were three bids. Greg made a motion to contract with Ryan Bull for \$900 for the appraisal of the property on Water Street, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

11. Discussion RFP for Road Crew

Keith will reach out to the two providers to get the process started. Jessica made a motion to approve the seeking of bids, not in a formal RFP, but at least as many as can be obtained to replace the dump truck which is next up in schedule. Seconded by Kate, all in favor.

12. Depot Street Bridge

We received notice last week from the engineer for the bridge, they need to do some testing for the abutment. They were done on the state park side last year. April 7-9th from 7am to 5 pm, the bridge will be closed. A letter was sent out to the residents that live on the other side of the bridge.

13. Overweight permits

Greg made a motion to approve the overweight permit for BSP Trans. Inc., AmeriGas Propane, A.S. Clark & Sons, Barrett Trucking Co. Inc., Plimpton Excavating LLC, and Structural Wood Corp. Seconded by Jessica, all in favor.

14. Greg made a motion to approve the liquor license for West River Provisions, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

Greg made a motion to approve the tobacco license for West River Provisions, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

Greg made a motion to approve the liquor license for Blue Dot Beverage, seconded by Jessica. 4 in favor, 1 abstained.

15. Flagpole

Andy spoke with Sean O'Brien and Sean is good with the town replacing the flagpole. Do we want a 20-foot pole which is what is there? Do we want an internal rope or an external rope? Do we want a commercial flagpole? The commercial can sustain winds up to 105 MPH. Jessica made a motion to approve Andy solicit bids for a commercial flagpole, seconded by Greg. Karen would like to coordinate with Andy, possibly move where the flagpole is for the new monument. All in favor.

16. RFP for work at Transfer Station

Kate and Greg have been working on this Request for Proposal (RFP). It is around the construction container and the recycling container at the Transfer Station. The bins have shifted over time. The thought is to move them a little closer to the compactor. The wall would need to be redone. In the construction area, the canopies have damage to them. The idea is to keep the elements out, but they are over 30 feet in the air. The RFP would be to remove the canopy. Lay new stone and the wall would be redone. Jessica made a motion to approve the development of the RFP for the two projects, due in a month to 6 weeks. It will include some investigation into the permit and if it needs to be amended. Seconded by Christina, all in favor.

17. Planning Commission

Jessica made a motion to approve Bryan Zieroff, Patrick McQuillan and Jon Van Hosen to the Planning Commission, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

18. Jessica made a motion to approve the times sheets, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

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

20. Public Concerns

Jamaica Day is August 16th

Pi Day was on March 14th and it was a lot of fun.

Bills Lumber movie was on Saturday, it was successful and fun.

Vote for school budget- Informational meeting tomorrow night and voting at the Town Office on Wednesday.

Bids for cemetery and roadside mowing are due at the next meeting. April 14, 2025.

The Rawsonville Committee has a bid for \$500 to cut a few trees around the building.
This exceeds the budget.

Andy made a motion to adjourn at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Wiswall