

Selectboard Minutes

October 14, 2025

Selectboard Present: Jessica Pollack (chair), Greg Meulemans, Kate Ullman and Christina Robinson

Public Present: Greg Lakis, Paul Fraser, Nelson Coleman, Vera Shoaff, Madeline Helser

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

1. Late additions

Approve time sheets, Thank you to Andy Coyne

2. Approve minutes

Jessica made a motion to approve the Sept. 22nd regular meeting minutes, seconded by Christina. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to approve the Sept. 16th special minutes, Worden Rd, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the Oct. 6th special meeting, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

3. Nelson Coleman, sexton of Rawsonville Cemetery

Shrubs and flowers have been planted, and they have not been maintained. Plastic planters are placed in the cemetery but never picked up. It makes mowing more difficult, and people throw the plastic planters over the bank.

Jessica made a resolution that the board consider what Nelson has brought today, and that we will act before the winter to give him the authority to do what he needs to do pre-winter and potentially during mud season.

Nelson said other towns put it in their town report.

There is still a tree in Rawsonville cemetery that needs to be cut down.

4. Town Plan

The Planning Commission had a hearing to update the town plan. A couple of people attended, and there was good discussion. There were minor revisions.

Now that the Planning Commission has put it forward to the Selectboard, and the Selectboard has reviewed it, the next step is we need to hold a hearing either Oct. 27th or November 10th to hear any public comments on the plan. The Oct 27th date is too soon to warn it for 15 days.

Greg made a motion to schedule the town plan hearing on Nov. 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Greg revised his motion to hold the hearing on Wednesday, November 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Seconded by Kate. All in favor.

5. Discussion of alternatives for transfer station fee collection including moving from bags to tokens or punch cards

We are getting lower on the supply of yellow bags. Some other towns use bags, some use stickers and some use punch cards.

Kate had some prices from other towns for what they pay for these supplies:

2000 punch cards \$161

12,500 stickers \$3,000

50,000 stickers \$5,366

One place purchased a punch card vending machine.

The stickers are put on the bag. It goes by volume to determine how many stickers or what size stickers you would need.

Discussion on using tokens. They are reusable.

The last time it was discussed at many meetings, people still felt blindsided.

They will make a flyer with the information to approve at the next meeting.

Jessica made a motion to create a flyer; it will have information on bags vs tokens.

6. Discuss and act on resolution to seek a Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) to complete the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)

The LHMP needs to be updated every 5 years. Our town LHMP expired in July. It is a community involved process. Windham Regional will support the process. It cost \$10,000-\$12,000. The grant for it was axed earlier this year. We are seeking grant funding for this through the FEMA project from July 2023.

We could seek the municipal planning grant. The Planning Commission supports this.

We need a resolution that we are seeking this grant.

Greg made a motion that the Town of Jamaica to approve the municipal planning grant to complete our Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Seconded by Jessica, all in favor.

7. Approve acceptance of the Bike/Ped Grant

The board decided to seek the grant, and it has been awarded. Greg would like to approve the acceptance of this grant. The grant is for \$48,000 for a scoping study. It does not include Route 30. It is for Depot Street and Water Street.

Greg made a motion that the town accepts the VTRANS bicycle grant for \$48,000, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

8. Update: There are several RFP's that will be getting posted.

Water Street buyout: demolition funded by FEMA. Needs to be completed by December.

Greg wants to get this done this week and posted. This property is going through buyout, with FEMA funds. The town will own the property after.

We have received a structures grant for \$200,000 for the culvert of Goodaleville.

The other is our last project from the July 2023 storm. It is for the Goodaleville Bridge. It is roughly \$300,000.

This is being put out to bid this fall to get put on the list for next summer.

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

10. Jessica made a motion to approve the time sheets for the town office, listers, transfer station and road crew. All in favor.

11. Public concerns

Madeline emailed the Selectboard about the signs at the old coffee shop. They seem like personal attacks but there are not any names on them. Today one went up with profanity that was censored out. It affects the businesses nearby. They are also posting on telephone poles.

Greg Lakis said a week from tomorrow, the state is having an exercise. It will be until noon. We will check the generators. Greg will put word out on Front Porch Forum.

After careful consideration, Andy Coyne, a long-term member of the Selectboard, has stepped down from his role as a Selectboard member. He will be missed. It leaves the board with an open position. The board can temporarily fill the seat until town meeting. He was the vice-chair and liaison to the Sheriff's department. Andy also served on the Windham regional commission and always gave detailed reports. A heartfelt thank you to Andy for all his years.

Jessica, "I move to find that premature general public knowledge of Personal compensation matter would clearly place the individual at a substantial disadvantage, because if the Selectboard discusses personal information in public." 2nd Kate. All in favor.

Jessica, "I move that we enter into executive session to discuss a personal compensation matter under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes." 2nd Kate. All in favor.

Minutes will need to be updated with the time executive session ended.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Wiswall