

Jamaica Select Board Meeting

February 23rd, 2026

Board Members Present: Jessican Pollack, Greg Meuelemans, Robert Brooks, Jason Kass(Appointed), Kate Ullman Remote.

Public Present: Karen Ameden, Paul Fraser, Chris Robbins.

Called to Order: 7:00pm

Call for any late additions to the agenda

Consider DV Fiber Remoter

2. Approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026, Regular Meeting

Jessica made motion. Robert Second – All in Favor

3. Vote to appoint Jason Kass, resident of Jamaica and former member of the Jamaica Planning Commission, to serve on the Selectboard to fill the seat of Christina Robinson until Town Meeting

Jessica made motion, Greg 2nd – All in Favor

4. DV Fiber Update

Discussed as board to leave the DV Fiber CUD and board decided to do so. Alternative from Chris is to become a non-voting affiliate. We would receive the same reports and could assign a person to attend the meetings. Leadership at DV Fiber thought it was great idea. May take a long time for DV Fiber to be able to install in our area. We should appoint someone from neighboring town be our affiliate representative. Chris said he would recruit someone to be this person and recommended a number of people.

Jessica made motion , Greg 2nd - All in Favor.

5. Announcement of request by the board of the West River Unified Education District for the Town of Jamaica to hold a vote whether to close Jamaica Village School (JVS) on April 8; consider warning an additional vote to buy the JVS property back from the school district for \$1; approve a date for an information session related to the vote; approve dates to issue warnings for both the vote and the information session; consider forming a committee of the Selectboard to prepare for the information session and the candidates comprising the committee

WRED Board did vote to ask town for a vote and date will be April 8th. We did agree to indicate to them that we would entertain vote. In order to have vote on 8th and have information session about uses of property vote need to be warned between 30-40 days before vote. We will be voting on the same day as the budget vote.

Jessica made motion to issue a warning of citizens on Town of Jamaica, to close the Jamaica Village School. Greg 2nd - All in Favor

Jessica made motion to approve adding to the ballot to buy JVS back from the WRED – Kate 2nd.

Robert said Marlboro is keeping the vote separate. Do we need to keep our vote separate? Jessica said she would recommend keeping them the same day. Last time they were not seen as linked. Discussion around this option. WRED would probably sell and we would have not control.

We do need to revote to close the school as last vote was linked

Karen would like to ask 3rd question. This would be a poll. This would be a survey.

All in favor

Robert brought up making a committee to look at uses for the school.

Jessica made a resolution to create subcommittee, with members of select board planning commission and other citizens to consider high level informative uses for school buildings.

Kate 2nd. -

Robert has volunteered. Reached out to Bryan Zieroff on JPC. Siobhan has volunteered from JPC, Jason volunteered and Jessica asked Chrissy Haskins to join. And to have one member of local business community.

Amended that the members of the committee have ability to invite as many people as they want to committee.

There has been study as UMASS to look at property for housing. Karen will provide to Robert.

All in favor.

Jessica is going to send around a draft of proposal.

Jessica made motion that the information meeting was set for March 30th at 7:00pm.
Greg 2nd – All in favor.

6. Discussion of fire alarm ordinance

Many false alarms of fire alarms. Discussion came up that we should be charging for excessive false alarms. VFD is an independent entity. Provides services on contractual basis. She researched and passing of ordinance to require registration and delegation to chief to collect fines would be ok in that situation. Jessica will send over a draft ordinance.

Selectboard does have authority to delegate other powers to fire chief.

Change date on school closing informational meeting on Tuesday March 31st at 7:00pm. 2nd by Greg. All in favor

7. Update on Ladd property FEMA buy-out and associated RFPs for demolition

Property was so severely damaged in July 2023 storm and had been in FEMA buyout programs. It will be torn down after closing which will be 2/24/26. RFPs will be then sent for demolition. 2165 VT Route 100.

8. Approve issuance of §1031 notices for three town owned properties

There will be 3 properties put on sale by the town. A tax sales town can bid and buy back property. 1 year recision and two year look back periods. Town is free to sell subject to restrictions.

If town bought property for 100 dollars which were what taxes were owned. The town gets 100 and the difference goes back to previous owner.

Section 1031 notice is necessary. Postings, Publications, and a period time. Karen said there are 5 properties. We will list all 5.

Karen would like done before April 1.

9. Review and approve overweight permit(s)

Greg has three permits:

Greg for Lynde Well Drilling - Jessica 2nd – All in favor

Greg for David Chaves Excavating– Jessica 2nd - all in favor

Greg for Law Family Companies – Jessica 2nd - all in favor

10. Review and approve time sheets for town office, listers, highway and transfer station

Jessica made motion Greg 2nd. All in favor.

11. Review and approve pay orders

Jessica made motion Greg 2nd. All in favor.

12. Public concerns

Talked to hours for Town Office – Karen wants board to figure out how todo this when Tom is out.

2/24 in Library

Wed night social is crafters

Thursday Walk Run Club

Friday Bingo

Sunday Yoga at Town Hall

Stitching circle at River and Rye at 5

Candidate meeting 6:00pm on Sunday at Town Office.

Town Meeting Tuesday March 3rd.

13. Executive Session, if needed

14. Adjourn

Greg made motion to adjourn – Robert 2nd – All in favor.