

## **JAMAICA SELECTBOARD — Minutes**

Jamaica Town Office

Monday, May 11, 2026

7:00 p.m.

**Selectboard Members Present:** Jessica Pollack, Greg Meulemans, Robert Brooks

**Members of the Public Present:** Paul Fraser, Karen Ameden, Elisha Underwood, Emily Gibbs, Michael Maisch

**Call to Order:** 7:09 p.m.

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda  
No late additions were made to the agenda.
2. Approve the minutes of the April 27, 2026 Regular Meeting and May 4, 2026 Special Meeting  
Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2026 Regular Meeting.  
Second: Greg Meulemans. Vote: Approved unanimously.  
Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2026 Special Meeting.  
Second: Greg Meulemans. Vote: Approved unanimously.
3. Emily Gibbs, Outreach and Intake Coordinator for the Windham County Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Capacity Building Program, and Program Manager, Elisha Underwood, to discuss the Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Capacity Building Grant  
Emily Gibbs and Elisha Underwood joined via Zoom to discuss the Windham County Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Capacity Building Program. Windham County received a \$1 million grant to support lead hazard reduction and related capacity building.  
The program is funding Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) training and expanding the pool of certified contractors and supervisors who can complete lead-safe work.  
They are establishing a waiting list for eligible homeowners and rental properties seeking lead hazard inspection and abatement services.  
They noted mandatory testing for children ages 1–2 and reported that Windham County’s testing rates are below the state average; the program is supporting outreach to improve participation. Funding may be available for qualifying low-income households, including up to \$3,500 for inspections and up to \$24,000 for lead hazard abatement.  
Program staff are building administrative structures and policies, convening a steering committee, and developing a public-facing website with program details and training schedules. Overall goals include: (1) lead hazard abatement for eligible households, (2) contractor training and certification expansion, and (3) increased testing and outreach for young children. They are interested in connecting with local/town-area contractors to expand capacity for lead-safe work.  
Elisha Underwood noted that one requirement for HUB units is that a child under age 6 resides in the property.  
Through the training efforts, the number of certified contractors in Windham County has increased from 2 to 14.  
The grant term runs through fall 2027.  
Eligibility/training notes: Participants must be at least 16 years old for RRP training. For lead abatement supervisor/contractor training, participants must be at least 18 years old (or be a contractor). Training is typically 3–4 days; classes are offered monthly. Program

information will be posted on the program website.

4. Sale of town-owned properties; review and approval of listing agreement  
The Board tabled this item.
5. Review and approve Windham County Humane Society contract

No changes were noted from the prior year. The Town contracts with the Windham County Humane Society to accept animals and provide basic veterinary care.

Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to approve the Windham County Humane Society contract.

Second: Robert Brooks. Vote: Approved unanimously.

6. Approval of the transfer of \$173,738.46 from the Town's Highway Reserve Account to fund the purchase of a new truck in FY 2024–2025

Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to approve the transfer of \$173,738.46 from the Town's Highway Reserve Account to fund the purchase of a new truck in FY 2024–2025. Second: Robert Brooks.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

7. Discuss Library Code of Conduct

A request was presented to approve a Library Code of Conduct update to allow a dog in the library for up to one hour, provided the animal is under control and well-behaved.

The Board discussed liability considerations given that the library is a Town entity.

The discussion distinguished between ad hoc visits (unassociated with library programs) and structured programs involving animals. The current policy prohibits dogs in public buildings.

Robert Brooks noted the school system reviewed a similar issue and emphasized that liability is a key concern; he did not want responsibility placed on staff who are not qualified to evaluate animals.

Greg Meulemans concurred.

Jessica Pollack expressed interest in promoting animal-related programs but shared concerns about allowing animals in the library outside of formal programming.

The Board referred the matter back to the Library Board for further review.

**Overweight Permit:** Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to consider an overweight permit application.

Motion: Greg Meulemans moved to approve an overweight permit for McDowell. Second: Jessica Pollack. Vote: Approved unanimously.

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

Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to approve the timesheets for the Town Office, Listers, Highway, and Transfer Station. Second: Robert Brooks. Vote: Approved unanimously.

9. Review and approve pay orders

Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to approve pay orders. Second: Robert Brooks. Vote: Approved unanimously.

10. Public concerns

Michael Maisch (Sage Hill) raised concerns regarding a large property that is protected under Act 250 and enrolled in Current Use. He asked that the Board be aware of recent clearing/logging activity and whether it is permitted under the management plan.

The Board noted that the Current Use plan must be valid and that activities such as logging occur in coordination with the forester. Mr. Maisch reported that approximately six plots appear to have been cut and noted the presence of a barn on the property.

Karen Ameden read upcoming community events for the next several weeks; residents are encouraged to refer to the Town calendar for details.

Hours for the History Museum were announced.

Joe and Greg repaired the church organ.

An update was noted regarding Act 181 road rule and that the Tier was struck down.

11. Executive Session, if needed

12. Adjourn

No executive session was held.

Motion: Jessica Pollack moved to adjourn. Second: Robert Brooks. Vote: Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.