

Selectboard Minutes

September 14, 2026

Selectboard present: Greg Meulemans (vice-chair), Robert Brooks, Kate Ullman and Jason Kass

Public present: Paul Fraser, Karen Ameden, Heidi Pancake, Jason Rickles, Siobhan McDermott, Patricia Bursten

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Call for late additions

A. JAMBA discussion on JVS land use

2. Approve minutes from August 24th

Greg made a motion to approve the minutes from August 24th, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Greg made a motion to approve minutes from September 3rd, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

3. General update

Some of the town properties have closed.

Depot Street bridge, no updates.

The Town Plan hearing scheduled for Sunday, September 20th at 6:00 p.m. A step was missed and this will correct the mistake.

4. Approve sale of Town owned excavator

The boom broke off of the town excavator. A couple of people have looked at it and said it is not fixable. There has been an offer for \$2,500, which is more than we would get from trade in. Keith has proposed we sell it and thinks this would be the best offer.

Greg made a motion to approve the sale of the excavator and leave it up to Keith to determine the value, seconded by Kate. Robert asked if there is a policy for selling town owned equipment. **Greg retracted his motion, item tabled until the next meeting.**

5. JVS property- Jamaica Village School

a. The town now owns the building, the closing took place on September 3rd.

The committee has started the process of figuring out what needs to be done. The committee is identifying the issues and expenses.

They have toured the facilities with different people and agencies. They have made a rough list of what will need to be addressed. They are applying for certain grants but may not move quickly enough. Just because a source is available, it may not be the right fit for the process.

Greg Sochin was one of the people to tour the building with; he has extensive knowledge of the building. He would be willing to do the work but also provided a list of people who could help as well.

Greg Meulemans said the town wanted to take back ownership of the building, but no plans were made for the building.

Robert asked if the Selectboard would support the committee looking into the cost of the needs of the building.

The committee said that we did not anticipate the building being returned so neglected. JVS is not the emergency shelter for Jamaica, the Masonic Hall is the emergency shelter.

Robert made a motion to support the subcommittee to explore their A list items and the cost of these items. Jason offered to help with this process. Paul said they should really prioritize the winter preparation of the building. Greg seconded. All in favor.

Patricia asked if the committee were allowed to clean out the building? A clear answer was not given.

Discussion on volunteers working in the building.

Karen asked who has keys to the building. Tom and Robert both have one currently and there is one at the town office.

Jason suggested taking inventory of the building.

Robert made a motion that the committee will clean out the garbage and junk from the building, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

Robert requested that JVS be an agenda item on all meetings moving forward.

5A. JAMBA- Jamaica Area Mountain Bike Alliance

JAMBA has a land use agreement for the JVS property. They are asking the Selectboard if they are willing to modify the land use agreement to recognize the new landowner and afford the same permissions as previously.

Greg said we should take it to the next meeting after the town attorney has looked at it. Patricia asked about the easement of the property next door. The property has not closed yet.

6. Transfer station tipping fees-

A quick review of the rates at the transfer station was done. We are going to increase the rates of construction debris. We are going to raise the rates significantly to make it more in line with what we are paying. The start date would be November 1st, which would give time for discussion about the new rates. New rates will be posted within the next week.

7. Transfer Station improvements-

The damaged canopy has been removed. It has been discussed whether we need two construction canisters.

Where the recycling goes, there is a large gap. Ernie thinks that Hunter excavating needs to move the kick plate back. Greg said it was not in the proposal to put them back. We need to put out a proposal to do it.

Greg suggested having Ernie involved with the plan of what needs to be done to put them back.

Discussion on what has been done and what has not.

Greg said we should move forward with the existing bid from Hunter Excavating. He was awarded the bid, but it was never signed by the town, so the work was never scheduled.

The board will go look at the transfer station.

A special Selectboard meeting will take place on Friday, September 18th at 9:00 a.m.

8. Time sheets

Greg made a motion to approve the time sheets, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

9. Pay orders

Greg made a motion to approve the pay orders, seconded by Robert. All in favor.

10. Public Concern

Karen- The town hall looks great. Karen is concerned that they sprayed the windows first. They did break one pane of glass; she wants to make sure they are replaced with old glass.

The doors at the church are being redone.

Mountain bike Mondays are put on by JAMBA.

Jamaica for Democracy, tomorrow at 6 at Diane's house.

Wednesday night social is still going at 6 p.m.

Thursday-Jamaica run club

Thursday- Trivia 6-8

Friday- BINGO doors open at 6, start at 7. The next few weeks all proceeds go to Solaar.

This weekend- Dam release, White water supper on Saturday

Yoga at Bee well Farm on Saturday

Sunday Yoga at town hall

Jamaica Historical Society at 7 p.m. on September 24th

Greg made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. seconded by Robert. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Wiswall