

Town of Westmore VT
Municipal Building
54 Hinton Hill Road
December 29th 2025
6 pm.

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance in person: David Stevens (Chair), Bill Perkins, Miriam Simonds, Isaiah Casey, Elaine Cashin, John Zimmer

Attendance on Zoom: Carol Casey, Carol Davis, Art Zweil, Ed Barber, Katie Anderson

Call to order:

David called a meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Additions to the agenda:

Isaiah motioned to add 2026 wages and budget update to agenda. Bill seconded. Motion passed

Newport Mayor Rick Ufford-Chase (didn't show up in-person or on zoom)
Tabled.

Ethan swift report draft of town forest management plan for town forest located at 1121 long pond road

Ethan was not able to make it to meeting should be brought up in soon meeting, but also , Bill made a motion to add a draft link to the Front Porch Forum, and to the Westmore Association as well as the Town website. Miriam seconded. Motion passed.

NEMRC payroll system employee pay rates to begin January 1st 2026.

Isaiah made a motion to approve employee wage increases to start January 1st 2026. Miriam seconded, motion passed.

Stipend for 2025 select board meeting minutes

Bill made a motion to pay a \$500 stipend for the meeting minutes Isaiah did in 2025. Miriam seconded. Motion passed. Isaiah didn't vote as a conflict of interest.

Begin process of select board clerk

This will be discussed in executive session later in the evening.

USDA wildlife damage management signature needed

Isaiah motioned to have David sign the document for USDA wildlife damage management. Bill seconded motion passed.

Jody Gonyaw class 4 road maintenance permit for plowing Mad Brook

Bill motioned to approve application to let Jody Gonyaw plow Mad Brook Town of Westmore class 4 road. Miriam seconded motion passed.

2026 Municipal Development Plan for Barton town, Barton village, and Orleans village info. Copy of plan at Westmore town clerks office.

Public hearings January 7th at 10am and 5pm, February 18th at Selectboard meeting, and then vote March 3rd.

Section 125 Cafeteria Plan - final approval needed

Miriam made a motion to adopt the section 125 Plan, and 2026 opt out schedule. Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Addendum C to Personnel Policy about vacation time rollover

Isaiah motioned to approve to adopt addendum c to personnel policy. Miriam seconded. Motion passed.

Annual town meeting warnings:

Discussion and info only

Amended curb cut policy

Bill motioned to approve and accept amended curb cut policy. Isaiah seconded motion passed.

TH 5 not meeting class 3 standards

Isaiah informed the board from Hinton hill road to end of th 5 is not meeting class 3 road standards. The state noticed that, talking to Dan the culverts would need to be upgraded, and road ditched and regravell parts, it would cost upwards of 50k and there are no houses on it; the current owner of the old Wilson farm would like it down graded. Dan Sicard, and Isaiah both agree it would be best to downgrade to legal trail. Dan Lussier the land owner had asked, if town downgrades to legal trail can he gate the bottom, but not lock it, just keep in needed traffic off the unmaintained road and out of his fields. David and Bill said we can look into that part.

Isaiah motioned to start the process of downgrading th 5 to legal trail. Bill seconded motion passed.

Farmway as account for boots

In discussion with the board Elaine had mentioned it's hard with all the accounts we have and where now to keep adding when there are other ways. Ex. Pay for them and get reimbursed or put on accounts etc. Isaiah had said most places if you call would email an invoice and then town could pay for invoiced boots.

Isaiah made a motion to allow guys to purchase and get reimbursed and buy boots other places than pick and shovel or farmyard store.

Bill seconded, motion passed

ADDITION to agenda:

2026 wage budget

Bill made a motion to accept the 2026 wage budget. Miriam seconded motion passed.

John Zimmer budget 2026 discussion, and John to work on filling in numbers on town warning.

Local citizens and visitors:

Art Zweil has concerns on boards for lake level in Willoughby for the summer of 2026. The board told him he needs to contact the state as the state owns the water, not the town.

Katie Anderson said at last meetings about ATVs, that the people speaking on the ATVs were all very "heart felt" but the minutes didn't reflect how very "heart felt" they were.

Correspondence: available at Town Clerks for review

NEKWMD 2026 budget

American Red Cross 2025 Appropriation thank you note

NVDA correspondence

Picture of town of Westmore kiosk town forest Peene Hill Road

Warning of county meeting Jan 20th 8am.

Executive Session per VSA 1 313 a1 (b) personnel

Executive session per VSA 1 313 a1 (e) civil litigation

Bill motioned to go into executive session VSA 1 313a1(b) and VSA 1 313 a1 (e) at 7:38pm. Miriam seconded. Motion passed.

Bill motioned to come out of executive session at 8:17pm, David seconded. Motion passed.

Isaiah motioned to remove Jeff Leland from town payroll. Miriam seconded. Motion passed

Civil litigation no action taken.

Isaiah motioned to advertise a part time per diem worker for the transfer station. Miriam seconded. Motion passed.

Bill motioned to advertise for Selectboard clerk for meeting minutes at a rate of \$50/meeting. Isaiah seconded, motion passed.

Minutes

Isaiah motioned to approve minutes from 12/15/25 with corrections, Bill seconded, motion passed.

Review Bills, Sign select orders and payroll #26:

Bill made a motion to review, approve, and sign select orders and payroll #26. Isaiah seconded, motion passed.

Adjourn:

Isaiah motioned to adjourn at 8:44pm. Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes Prepared by Isaiah Casey:

X David Stevens. David Stevens (Board chair)

X Peter Hyslop. _____ (vice chair)

X Bill Perkins. Bill Perkins

X Miriam Simonds. Miriam Simonds

X Isaiah Casey. Isaiah Casey