

Town of Westmore VT

Municipal Building

54 Hinton Hill Road

Sept. 8, 2025

6 pm.

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance in person: David Stevens (Board Chair), Bill Perkins, Miriam Simonds, Isaiah Casey, Elaine Cashin, Katherine Busby, Carole Davis, Carmen Anderson, Ellie Maychryak, Bob Kennedy, Diane Lieder, Andrew Goldman, Linda Michnewicz, Pam, Kennedy, Elizabeth Tucker

Attendance on zoom: Art Zweil, Maree Bushey

Call to order.

David called a meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Additions to Agenda:

None

Vermont DMV renewal request 2014 international truck:

Bill made a motion to allow Elaine to sign and return renewal request for registration on 2014 International truck when it comes in from DMV.

Isaiah seconded, motion passed.

Town Forest new kiosk use of town logo request:

Isaiah made a motion to allow Northwoods Stewardship Center to use the town logo on the new town forest kiosk. Bill seconded, motion passed.

Excess weight permit Consolidated Communications & Beacon Sales Assoc.:

Bill made a motion to approve both of the overweight permits for Consolidated Communications and Beacon Sales Associated. Miriam seconded, motion passed.

Grants in Aid FY2026 1168:

Isaiah made a motion to have David sign the grants in aid FY2026 1168 Miriam seconded, motion passed.

Fred's Energy proposal to hook up both municipal building and cottage(MERP grant to cover cost):

Miriam made a motion to accept and sign a quote of \$1074 for Fred's Energy to hook up heat for both municipal building and cottage. Bill seconded, motion passed.

B's Welding Custom Fabrication new vendor contract:

Bill made a motion to add B's Welding and Fabrication as a vendor for the town of Westmore for welding and custom fabrication. Isaiah seconded. Motion passed.

Sealed bid from Piece Construction for overhang at transfer station:

Opened and tabled.

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Long Pond Road Berm:

Isaiah had explained that he was made aware of a berm in a road ROW on Long Pond on property of Liz Tucker. He explained the concern that it could affect pushing snow banks back in winter and as berm sits is too close to traveled road with being narrow and leggy on other side of road. Also with materials there now and warmer winters if we get a rain then flash freeze it could puddle or pool in the road causing hazardous conditions with nowhere for water to drain, also limits ditching etc. The lawyer has been in contact on the issue and agrees it needs to be looked into and agreed upon by the board of what to do. The lawyer said she should have gone to town for a berm or ROW permit. Mrs Tucker was not aware of such a permit she states. She states that she is willing to work with the town but only believes the bottom 10ish feet are the issue. Isaiah said the bigger issue is a bit further up as it will pool water during heavy rain which could lead to washouts as well.

Selectboard will meet at Mrs. Tucker's residence to look at the berm next board meeting on Sept 22 at 5:30 then will reconvene at Town Clerks office for meeting at 6pm.

Decontamination wash station at boat launch:

David brought to the meeting that we need to start a committee to get together and help the Selectboard to look into a decontamination station, as other lakes and some ponds have, as we have zebra mussels about 20 miles away. They are an invasive mussel that are hard to get rid of and can take over fast. A decontamination station will need a proper site as well the committee would look into recommending a site, with costs, cost of a system and assistance if they have any grants in mind to help pay for it. We would need to figure out the staffing, and how to make sure boats use it before they can enter Lake Willoughby. It will be a process that may take a year, year and a half to get all set but we have to start it sooner than later. When given the information, Elaine will add to the website that we are looking for committee members to assist. Diane Lehder mentioned she can send some contacts and some info to help but is too busy with other commitments to be on committee but happy to help with what she can. Reaching out to legislation would also be a help. Miriam Simmonds said she would like to join as well as Carmen Anderson. Diane said Jenny Austin, head of VT Lakes and Ponds at Dept of Parks and Rec, is a good resource for this as well. Update in about a month.

Transfer Station Certificate of Performance Care Maintenance of a Non Operational Landfill due to expire in December:

Elaine reported that per Dennis Fekert of Solid Waste Program, DEC the Town does not need to renew but do have to continue to maintain mowing etc as we have.

Use of VT Alert:

Look into the VT Alert, not having only 1 person from Westmore as a person of contact , Isaiah recommended Elaine, Ray Pike, Dan, or Isaiah, and the emergency manager. It would be used for situations like example, roads closed for maintenance or for storm issues, reminders to clean out vent pipes in heavy snowfall, check on your neighbors elderly etc. in fridges temperatures, or emergency situations. Residents would need to sign up to receive alerts either by email, text, or phone, if they don't want it they don't have to sign up but if they want to be informed they can sign up. The board seemed to agree to look into it, and we can go from there.

Trash/ Recycle Curbside Pickup:

David brought up we have had some emails about the discontinued trash and recycle pick up service. He spoke to Mr Barlow, the town attorney. Mr Barlow said that what the Select Board has done is completely legal. Also said if the town petitions this the board can decide to still discontinue pick up service. In talking to Mr Barlow David said when we had our first meeting it was supposed to be about just recycling, but during the meeting it was brought to our attention by Mr Paul Tomasi from NEKWMD, if we discontinued recycling pickup we legally must discontinue trash pickup. So it turned into a very informational meeting, not just from the financial side but also from the waste district. Mr Barlow said well you don't have to but to be political fair a second meeting could be had to discuss trash and recycling and give people another chance to hear out from the Select Board, and the financial side of why we made the decision we had, and hear the towns response of what the towns people have. We are hoping to have Paul Tomasi back and will reach out to see if a few private trash and recycle haulers will come as well. The Special Select Board meeting to talk about trash and recycling will be held, September 25th at 6 pm at Fellowship Hall.

Isaiah made a motion to hold a Special Select Board meeting at Fellowship Hall September 25 at 6 pm. Bill seconded, motion passed.

Cancel Oct 1st Special Town Meeting scheduled:

Miriam made a motion to cancel a Special Town Meeting that was previously scheduled for Oct 1st at 6pm at Fellowship Hall. Bill seconded. Motion passed. Meeting Canceled.

Pursuing ANR permit for native species in Lake Willoughby:

So the possibility of receiving a permit this year does not look good. Elaine explained her schedule does not allow her to work on permit application with sense of urgency conveyed to her and asked that the Selectboard decide how to move forward. Olin Reed from the State sent her the link to the correct Permit Application for a Municipality. The Board would like Olin to come to a select board meeting to talk about the pond weed. Also a concern about lake level being low. But we are in a drought. It was brought up again about the boards on the outlet of lake Willoughby; the outlet is naturally flowing. Isaiah mentioned about the bridge when it was looked at last time they couldn't see the footings. It should be low enough now. David asked Isaiah to have Dan touch base with the guy that came, or contact Eric Pope so we can get a full scope of how long we had before needing replacement.

Town Cottage, Policies, Agreements, Cleaning, Internet, Multi-user lock,:

Internet: Elaine said they would like to try the booster to buy the booster for \$95.00 and use the current Municipal building guest network to try to get internet access to the town cottage. Bill made a motion to purchase a booster and try to use guest internet access for the cottage. Miriam seconded. Motion passed.

Elaine looking at keyless entry lock multi user with possibility of tracking with WiFi.

Isaiah made a motion to approve Elaine to find and order a keyless entry lock for cottage up to \$200.00. bill seconded. Motion passed.

Policies are a work in progress. Ellie said she would let the Board know when/if cleaning is needed.

MERP Grant ADA compliance requirement : Bill to look into concrete walk to cottage or pavement walk to make ADA compliant for MERP grant. Isaiah to ask when Pike is returning to finish the paving cost to pave walk to cottage.

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Updated cottage paint estimate:

Tabled

Town Garage Chimney:

Isaiah made a motion to accept 802 Masonry's estimate including the stainless steel liner for \$9800.00 with 50% down upon receipt of formal contract outlining job and costs, other 50% at time of work completion. Hope to have a contract for the 9/22/25 meeting. Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Second large table use:

Tabled.

Trash Ordinance Illegal Dumping:

Tabled

Local citizens and visitors:

Carmen Anderson had offered to be on the committee for the boat decontamination wash station, and had said she feels it is a very important thing to do. She mentioned if the Board would like her to get some preliminary spots looked at, she could; mentioning 5 sites- the old state salt shed, town garage, across road at Mr French's old house, the lot above Fellowship Hall, and the Transfer Station. The board said if she had the time to get some information to start that would be great.

Correspondence:

Emails from residents regarding trash and recycling curbside pickup
NEK Broadband Technician Training

Approval of Minutes Aug 25th meeting

Miriam made a motion to approve August 25th Selectboard meeting minutes. Bill seconded, motion passed.

Review Bills, Sign select orders and payroll #18:

Bill made a motion to review, approve, and sign select orders and payroll #18. Isaiah seconded, motion passed.

Adjourn:

Bill motioned to adjourn at 8:30pm. Isaiah seconded.

Minutes Prepared by Isaiah Casey:



X David Stevens. (Board chair) 2027

X Peter Hyslop. (vice chair) 2026

X Bill Perkins. 2026

X Miriam Simmonds. 2028

X Isaiah Casey. 2027

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