

Sutton Select Board Meeting
March 26, 2026

Joe Solinsky, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Attendance: Select Board Chair: Joe Solinsky; Select Board Members: Denis Royer II; Tim Simpson; Town Clerk/Treasurer: Patti McClure; Highway Foreman: Shane Heath; Planning/ DRB Board: Scott Cunningham; Public: Tara Lynn Scheidet, Mark Hoffman; Minutes Clerk: Mary Gray

Agenda Modifications: none

Denis Made a motion to accept the February 26, 2026 Select Board Meeting Minutes. Tim seconded the motion. Motion passed

Denis made a motion to accept the March 11, 2026 Special Annual Meeting with the VT Agency of Transportation and the Approval of the 2026 Annual Town Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2026. Tim seconded the motion. Motion passed

Denis Made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for March 26, 2026 as printed. Tim seconded the motion. Motion passed

Denis made a motion to appoint Tim be the Chair of Select Board. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed. (Note: this will be Tim's 30th year as a select board member)

Delinquent Tax Report handed out.

- Town Planning Commission/DRB Board member Scott Cunningham: Scott and the board are recommending Mark Hoffman to be a member of the Town Planning Commission/DRB Board. The board members felt Mark would be a good addition.

Joe made a motion to appoint Mark Hoffman to the Town Planning Commission/DRB Board. Denis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Act 181 was discussed. The Select Board and the Town Planning Commission/DRB Board will be writing to the Senators and Representatives with their opposition to ACT 181. This needs to be repealed and not amended.

- Tara Lynn Scheidet sent a letter of interest to be on the Sutton Conservation Commission. She asked to be appointed along with Erin Patoine who is also expressing an interest in service on Commission. Erin sent a letter of interest to the Select Board. Jeff Norris is already on the commission for Sutton. Tara Lynn stated Dona Nichol also expressed

interest, but the board did not receive any correspondence from her. If appointed, she would put together a plan, talk to the state forester, and contact other towns for their plans. Her strength is organizing a variety of individuals and encouraging youth involvement. Her past experiences are organizing litter pickups and cleaning up Willoughby State Forest plus recognizing invasive species.

Denis made a motion to appoint Tara Lynn Sheidet and Erin Patoine to the Sutton Conservation Committee. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed

Tara Lynn asked if the Town of Sutton has a Home Burial Plan in place for Sutton. Patti presented an e-mail to the board from Tara for consideration for being buried on your own property. She presented the policy for St. Johnsbury.

The board will review the St. Johnsbury policy and contact our town attorney for advice then will discuss this at a later meeting.

Adopt 2026 Town Road and Bridge Standards

Joe made a motion to adopt the 2026 Town Road and Bridge Standards. Denis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Joe made a motion to approve the Appointed Officers to include the appointments of Tara Lynn Scheidet and Erin Patoine to the Sutton Conservation Commission and Mark Hoffman to the Town Planning Commission/DRB Board. Denis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

| POSITION | APPOINTED OFFICERS | EXPIRATION |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| • Town Service Officer | Elaine Bandy | 2027 |
| • Town Environmental Officer | Jeff Norris | 2027 |
| • Fence Viewer | Norbert Patoine | 2027 |
| • Inspector of Wood, Shingles, Lumber | John Sylvester | 2027 |
| • Fire Warden | Norbert Patoine | 2027 |
| • Tree Warden | Shane Heath | 2027 |
| • Health Officer | Jeffrey "Joe" Solinsky | 2027 |
| • Zoning Administration Officer | Joe Witt | 2027 |
| • Town Planning Commission/DRB | Scott Cunningham | 2028 |
| • Town Planning Commission/DRB | Robert Simms (Chair) | 2029 |
| • Town Planning Commission/DRB | Adam Bruggeman | 2029 |
| • Town Planning Commission/DRB | Jamie Crooks | 2029 |
| • Town Planning Commission/DRB | Mark Hoffman | 2029 |
| • Town Planning Commission | VACANT | 2028 |
| • Zoning Clerk | VACANT | |
| • Budget Committee | Select Board | 2027 |
| • Budget Committee | Mary Gray | 2027 |

- **Budget Committee** Patricia Jackson 2027
- **Conservation Commission** Jeff Norris 2027
- **Conservation Commission** Tara Lynn Scheidet 2027
- **Conservation Commission** Erin Patoine 2027
- **Representative Lydon State Rescue** Marlin “Chip” Devenger 2027
- **NVDA Representative** Paul Brouha 2027
- **NVDA Representative** Adam Bruggeman 2027
- **NEK Broadband Governing Board** Evan Carlson 2027
- **NEK Broadband Governing Board** Robert Simms 2027
- **NEK Waste Management Supervisor** Adam Bruggeman 2027

Vermont Municipal Bond Loan information on the \$609,000 outstanding short term flood recovery debt that matures in August 2026 from the floods since there will be no FEMA money to help with these expenses. A possible MCRF loan to refinance the line of credit debt over a 5-year term at 1.3% interest. (Further details on this can be obtained in the Town Clerk’s Office)

Joe received a noise complaint from a resident about (Wesley Kidder) on Route 5 for playing music too loud. We do not have a noise ordinance. Joe will go down to Welsey Kidder’s residence and see if there is a resolution to keep the music down.

James Perry went to see Joe last weekend and he wants an extension date on his fine. Joe said he talked with James in November and at that time James asked for 3 weeks to clean it up and as of today nothing has been removed. Joe explained the only way to stop the fines is to remove all the tires from his property.

Gale and Lorraine Berry property on Pudding Hill Rd. Tim has been in contact with Jen Berry and there is nothing she can do. Gale Berry has moved back into Lyndonville and now has a guardian. Tim spoke to the guardian and said this property needs to be cleaned up; the fines will not stop until the place it cleaned up.

Highway: Shane said they have been able to grade the roads. Shane talked to various people about renting an excavator for 160 hours. Shane has received various prices and the lowest was \$18.75/hr. and Shane will run it for a total of \$3,000.00. Since we have it in our budget, this would be an expenditure.

Roadside mowing should be advertised with bids to be opened at the April 2026 meeting.

The sand bids should be advertised the first part of May with the bids to be opened at the May 2026 meeting.

The discussion to pave Underpass Road from the bottom of the road (at the cabin) to Evans Road. Shane will put in for a paving grant.

Vermont Digger and the Associated Press would like to interview a select board member on how the flooding and not receiving FEMA funds has affected the town. Tim will meet with the people at his home.

Patti put an ad in the paper for a part-time assistant for someone to learn the job. She hopes to have someone in by the end of April to start training. This will be 20 hours a week to start to train a new Town Clerk/Treasurer. Patti's goal is to have a person that can step in when Patti leaves. It will need to be a Sutton Resident.

Review Invoices and Signed Warrants

Correspondence

Denis made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 PM. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Submitted by,
Mary Gray
Minutes Clerk**

DRAFT