

1 **TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT**

2 **Selectboard Meeting Minutes**

3 **Monday, February 10, 2025**

4 **Draft**

5
6 **Members Present:** Chach Curtis, Fred Messer, Christine Parisi, Brian Shupe, Larissa Ursprung

7 **Staff Present:** York Haverkamp, Town Administrator; JB Weir, Planning and Zoning

8 Administrator

9 **Others Present:** David Babbott-Klein (NOW), Jenn Grant, Moie Moulton (NOW), MRVTV, Alice
10 Peal, Bobbi Rood (HUUSD Board), JB Weir (HUUSD Board, NOW)

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12 **I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Christine Parisi. The meeting
13 was held in person at the Waitsfield Town Office and remotely via Zoom.

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15 **1. Review agenda for addition, removal, or adjustment of any items per 1 VSA 312(d)(3)(A).**

16 No changes were made to the agenda.

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18 **2. Public Forum.**

19 Nobody requested time to address the Board.

20
21 **II. Regular Business.**

22
23 **1. Appoint York Haverkamp as Waitsfield Town Administrator.**

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25 **MOTION:** *Mr. Shupe made a motion to appoint York Haverkamp as the Waitsfield Town*
26 *Administrator effective February 10, 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Messer, and*
27 *passed unanimously.*

28 **2. HUUSD presentation.**

29 Ms. Rood and Mr. Weir provided an update on the School Board's budget work and the
30 upcoming potential building configurations to be considered by the Board and community.

31 **3. Emergency Watershed Protection Grant.**

32 Mr. Weir explained the EWP Program, and indicated that funding has been offered for stream
33 bank stabilization work in Shephard Brook at the site of Jenn Grant's property. He noted that
34 the Program covers engineering costs, and also covers 75% of associated construction costs,
35 with the other 25% being covered by a match requirement. The cost of the work at Ms. Grant's
36 site has been estimated by the Program to be \$132K. Because the Town is the sponsor for
37 grants awarded through this Program, Mr. Weir was seeking approval to move forward with an
38 application and having the engineering work completed; he noted that the share amount will
39 need to be worked out before any construction work is completed.

40 **MOTION:** *Mr. Curtis made a motion to authorize Mr. Weir to submit the application to the EWP*
41 *Program as discussed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shupe, and passed unanimously.*

42

43 **4. Route 100 speed limit concerns.**

44 Mr. Babbott-Klein and Mr. Weir presented concerns regarding the access to Neck of the Woods
45 (NOW), awareness of which has been heightened following an accident at the site on January
46 30, 2025. They asked if the Town would support a school zone flashing sign at the NOW
47 entrance road. It was explained that some investigation would be needed regarding what
48 qualifies as a school zone for this type of sign, and that a caution sign related to traffic turning
49 might be more suitable. Either way, it was noted that VTrans requires traffic studies before
50 strategies such as these, or the lowering of speed limits, are implemented.

51 Mr. Messer expressed that the increased traffic is more of an enforcement-oriented challenge,
52 and advocated for increased speed patrol in the area.

53 Mr. Weir also explained that the area near the Madbush Falls would benefit from a reduced
54 speed limit, as there is increased traffic entering and exiting the site, including bicycle traffic, at
55 that access point.

56 **5. Mad River Path request re: storage penalty fee.**

57 It was explained that the Mad River Path Association and Friends of the Mad River have agreed
58 that sharing storage space and paying the associated rent is fair and reasonable. Related to this
59 arrangement, Misha Golfman has requested that the penalty fee imposed for the storage of
60 canoes and canoe trailer be waived. He had indicated in his correspondence that the trailer is
61 currently snowed in, as well as noting that he plans to have weekend storage of the canoes on
62 site for the summer season, although they will generally be in use off site.

63 Board members discussed the request, noting that the penalty had previously been agreed to
64 by the Board, but that the rollout was not smooth, and that the parameters to be set and
65 process to be followed are being developed as all the implications are better understood.
66 There was agreement that the canoes and trailer may stay in place until the snow is gone, and
67 that the weekend storage proposed during summer camp sessions (June 23 – August 27) is
68 acceptable, although logistics related to mowing the property need to be confirmed with Josh
69 Rogers.

70 It was also noted during the discussion that the Path has not yet signed the new lease for their
71 space, nor the addendum for leasing the shared storage space. There was general agreement
72 that if the lease is signed, and the difference in rent since the beginning of 2025 is paid, as well
73 as the storage space rent, the penalty for the canoe/trailer storage will be waived. As part of
74 these conditions, it was agreed that a date of April 15 should be set as a deadline for the canoes
75 and trailer to be taken off site.

76 **MOTION:** *Mr. Shupe made a motion to waive the penalty under the terms agreed to, which will*
77 *be written up by the Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. Curtis, and passed unanimously.*

78 **6. Town Meeting Day Planning.**

79 It was agreed to remove the February 24, 2025 meeting from the Selectboard schedule, and to
80 meet on March 3, 2025, as the Board typically does on the evening of Town Meeting.

81 **7. Consent Agenda.**

82 **APPROVAL:** *The Consent Agenda was approved with no objections or concerns raised.*

83

- 84 • Approve Warrants and Bills Payable
- 85 • Approve Minutes of 1-20-2025 and 1-27-2025

86

87 **III. Other Business**

88 **1. Correspondence/reports received** were reviewed.

89 Responses were outlined for both an email received regarding tire damage possibly resulting
90 from construction materials on the covered bridge as well as an email from Wood and Wood
91 regarding new signage for Town entry points.

92 **IV. Adjourn**

93 The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

94 Respectfully submitted,
95 Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary