

1 **TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT**
2 **Selectboard Meeting Minutes**
3 **Monday, January 27, 2025**
4 **Draft**

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

7 **Staff Present:** None

8 **Others Present:** Alice Peal
9

10 **I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Brian Shupe. The meeting was
11 held in person at the Waitsfield Town Office and remotely via Zoom.

12
13 **1. Review agenda for addition, removal, or adjustment of any items per 1 VSA 312(d)(3)(A).**

14 An item related to a grant opportunity for Meadow Road bridge work was added; approval of
15 the Minutes was removed from the Consent Agenda.
16

17 **2. Public Forum.**

18 Nobody present requested time to address the Board.
19

20 **II. Regular Business.**

21 **1A. Meadow Road Bridge Grant Opportunity**

22 Ms. Peal explained that she has been working with Keith Cubbin (CVRPC) to identify grant
23 opportunities for Meadow Road bridge repair needs; the first step in this process will be a study
24 and design work, determining if repair or replacement is the most suitable option. Two quotes
25 had been received for the study work, one of \$210K and one for \$235K. Other bid requests are
26 outstanding, and it is unknown if further quotes will be provided. Ms. Peal indicated that there
27 is a federal Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program for which the Town would qualify; the
28 grant is designed to provide assistance for this type of infrastructure repair work, and has no
29 match requirement. The application period opens in February, and grants are awarded on a
30 first come, first served basis. She and Mr. Cubbin are suggesting that the RPC apply for the
31 grant on the Town's behalf, and include administrative costs in the expenses to provide for the
32 RCP serving as the grant manager. They propose requesting a total of \$235K.
33

34 **MOTION:** *Mr. Messer made a motion to authorize Mr. Cubbin to move forward with the grant*
35 *application to the Tribal Assistance program in the amount of \$235K. The motion was seconded*
36 *by Mr. Curtis, and passed unanimously.*
37

38 **1. Approve TMD Budget Warning and Articles.**

39 Mr. Shupe outlined the Budget Warning and other Articles included in the Town Meeting
40 Warning, all of which had been discussed and agreed upon during previous meetings.

41 **MOTION:** *Mr. Messer made a motion to approve the Warning as presented. The motion was*
42 *seconded by Mr. Curtis, and passed unanimously.*

43 **2. Selectboard report Planning.**

44 Mr. Shupe noted that the Town Report is coming together, and that most of the staff and
45 various committees have submitted their individual updates. He indicated that he has begun to

46 work on the Selectboard report, and that the budget report will likely not include as much
47 detail this year as it has in the past. Mr. Curtis will review the budget slide presentation from
48 last year and update that for use during Town Meeting. JB Weir has been asked to provide
49 some photos for the report.

50 The Report's dedication was discussed, and it was agreed that a recognition and thank you to
51 several individuals would be appropriate.

52 **3. Town Meeting Day Planning.**

53 As noted during the preceding discussion, the budget report and slide presentation will be
54 updated for the FY26 budget; Mr. Shupe will also review the talking points presented by the
55 Town Administrator in past years and get those updates.

56

57 **4A. Approval of Minutes**

58 The minutes of January 13, 2025 were amended and approved.

59

60 **4. Consent Agenda.**

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

62

- 63 • Approve Warrants and Bills Payable

64

65 **5. Selectboard Roundtable**

66 Ms. Ursprung reported that the Selectboard had received information regarding a survey being
67 conducted by CVMC regarding local health services; she will post the link on Front Porch Forum
68 for others to access.

69 **6. Executive Session.**

70 **MOTION:** *A motion to enter Executive Session pursuant 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a) (3) [Personnel] passed*
71 *unanimously.*

72 The meeting entered Executive Session at 7:14 pm and returned to open session at 8:11 pm.

73

74 Upon exiting Executive Session, the Board took the following action:

75 **MOTION:** *Mr. Messer made a motion to authorize Town Road Foreman Josh Rogers to make an*
76 *offer to Conner Bilodeau for the available Road Crew position. The motion was seconded by Ms.*
77 *Ursprung, and passed unanimously.*

78

79 **III. Other Business**

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

81 **IV. Adjourn**

82 The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

83 Respectfully submitted,

84 Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary