

Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Monday, April 13th, 2026
5:30 pm

Present: John Harvey, Chet Brown, John Center, Dave Webster and Bob Bach.

Others Present: Mary Ann Goulette, Mike Moser, Jeff Yates from Carving Studio and Lisa Wright

VIA ZOOM: Craig Jewett, MSK Engineering, Chloe Hulsizer, VT Dept of Environmental Conservation

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by John Harvey with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing - The board held a public hearing on the upgrade of the wastewater treatment facility NEPA finding of no significant impact. The hearing is required because the facility is located within the flood hazard area. Craig Jewett summarized the project; there were no public objections. The contract for the control portion of the project should be starting soon. John Harvey closed the hearing.

Agenda Approval: Motion made by Bob seconded by John to approve the agenda as presented. All in Favor. Motion approved.

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Chet seconded by Dave to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2026 with the correction John Center was not present. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: Mike Moser indicated the street sweeper left debris near the crosswalk in front of Westway Mall.

Discussion Items:

- a) **Carving Studio Update** – Jeff Yates, is the board president and updated the Selectboard with the Studio’s most recent changes. They hired a new director that will start in July. They are offering 20 workshops this summer, installed new canopies for work stations and continually look for temporary housing options. They would like to partner with the Town on more events such as the Ice Carving Event.
- b) **Town Manager Report** – Mr. Parkman experienced dirty water because of the water main break at Westside Court. Can we install a blow off or loop? We were unable to install the slip line at the recreation center because there is a Y under the kitchen area. John Center suggested to camera and saw cut the floor. Possibly wait until after baseball season. The new dilapidated building ordinance is active. Mary Ann and Jeff to begin inspections in the new few weeks.

Action Items:

- a. **Award Reappraisal Bid** – We received two bids: Vision at \$151.39 per parcel for 2029

and Tyler at \$168.03 per parcel for 2028-30. Discussion on in home inspections vs aerial imagery. Lisa to check with the State on requirements and possible statistical evaluation. Our reserve fund balance is \$35,000 so we will need to add to our budgets. Recommendation to table our decision until next meeting after Lisa gathers more information.

- b. Adopt PM-1 for VCDP Grant** – Motion made by Chet seconded by Bob to adopt the PM-1 as presented. Motion approved unanimously.
- c. Annual Highway Financial Plan** - Motion by Chet seconded by John to adopt the 2026-27 Annual Highway Financial Plan as presented. Motion approved unanimously.
- d. Grants-in-Aid Letter of Intent** - Motion made by John seconded by Chet to sign the letter of intent for the 26 Grants in Aid program. Grant amount is TBD. Motion approved unanimously.
- e. Approve Liquor Licenses** – The applicant applies online and the selectboard approves them. Motion made by Chet seconded by Dave to approve the following licenses: Sweet Caroline’s, Westside Tavern and American Legion for liquor licenses. Jiffy Mart – Tobacco Substitute, Tobacco, 2nd class liquor licenses; Motion approved unanimously as presented.
- f. Approve and Adopt 2026 LEMP** - The plan is similar to last year with some updates on contact information. The Local Emergency Management Plan is part of the Vermont Emergency Management requirements and is updated every year. Motion made by Chet seconded by Dave to adopt the 2026 LEMP Plan. Motion approved unanimously.
- g. Approve and Adopt 2026 NIMS** - The plan is to administer a National Incident Management Systems to prevent, prepare and respond and recover from a domestic incident. Motion made by Bob seconded by Chet to adopt the 2026 NIMS. All in Favor. Motion approved unanimously.
- h. Municipal Resolution for Tier 1B** – As part of the Regional Plan Update, we recognize our Village Areas and Planned Growth Areas as qualifying for Tier 1B consideration and corresponding Act 250 exemptions. The plan represents years of thoughtful municipal and regional coordination, ensuring that development occurs where it is both appropriate and supported by infrastructure and policy. Motion made by Chet seconded by Bob to adopt and sign the Tier 1B resolution as presented. Motion approved unanimously.
- i. Executive Session** – Chet moved that the Select Board enter into executive session at 6:30pm to discuss the negotiation of a real estate purchase under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(2) of the Vermont Statutes, and he further moved to find that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by John.

Motion to exit executive session at 6:40pm by Bob seconded by Chet. Motion approved.
Motion by Chet seconded by Dave to authorize Mary Ann to further negotiate the terms of the real estate transaction. Motion approved.

Board Member Concerns:

John Center – Did we ever order the radar signs? Mary Ann will check. John will try to get another price to test the soil.

Chet – are we installing signage for the parking lot?

Adjournment: John made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:46pm and Dave seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette