

DRAFT
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Jul 25, 2024
Town Office, 227 Justin Morrill Highway, Strafford, 05072

Selectboard Participants in Person: Toni Pippy, Jeff Solsaa, Kelly Harman

Participants in Person: Lisa Bragg, Art Hatchett

Participants via Zoom: Judie Englander, Stephen Willbanks, John Frietag, William Turnbow (FEMA), Jahna Magee (FEMA)

Meeting called to Order 6pm

1. Public Concerns: none
2. FEMA Mitigation Team: Trenbow and Magee presented outline of coverage and requirements for FEMA submission.
 - a. Van Dyke and Ward Roads: estimates prepared at \$356K and \$278,700K respectively. These will be submitted to FEMA. Work should be completed by Jan 14, 2025, but extensions can be applied for through the state.
 - b. \$231K available for mitigation work on Miller Pond Road. Scope of work to be prepared and submitted.
 - c. \$15K available for mitigation on several roads throughout the villages and scope of work to be prepared for that as well.
 - d. Art Hatchett presented concerns on Ward Road bridge. He believes that the bridge is currently too small for him to cross with lumber and asks for further investigation regarding the full bridge replacement. Jeff Solsaa to discuss with the contractor.
3. Highway:
 - a. Freeman Bridge: project engineer has submitted the first set of drawings but they were rejected due to several omissions. They are currently redrating and final proposal should be prepared and ready to send to FEMA within a week.
 - b. Damaged windshield – driver's windshield was damaged by a town truck. Town will submit claim to VLCT to cover the cost to repair
 - c. Fence installation in South Strafford. Due to road setbacks, the resident will be asked to apply for a permit to install the fence along his property. Solsaa moves to approve motion to send letter to the resident. Toni Pippy seconded the motion.
4. Tax Rate:
 - a. Lisa Bragg presented the new tax rate to go into effect this year. A .9668 tax rate will be imposed on all residents. School tax rate is 1.6473 for Homestead residences and 1.6808 for non- Homestead residences. Tax bills will be mailed Jul 31, 2024. First tax bill due Sept 4, 2024, second bill due December 4, 2024. Toni Pippy moves to approve the tax hike, [Jeff Solsaa](#) seconded the motion.
5. Justice of the Peace:

- a. Lisa Bragg suggests that the vote for the Justices of the Peace should go on the general election ballot. Jeff Solsaa moves to approve and Toni Pippy seconds the motion.
6. Winter Parking Ban:
 - a. Solsaa to send to the attorney to have the ban in proper form to become an ordinance in the town. Publication and notice will go out after.
7. Previous Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Toni Pippy makes motion to approve the minutes with minor editing. Solsaa seconds the motion. Harman to make edits and get to the Town Clerk.
8. Selectboard to do List:
 - a. OSHA changes– meet with fire department and EMS to understand impacts
 - b. Delinquent Dog Licenses– still in progress
 - c. Selectboard Assistant Manager – draft of job description in progress
 - d. VLCT Town Hall : Oct 1 in Killington– several board members to attend
9. Town Office Updates:
 - a. Energy audit to be updated – original audit performed in 2009.
Recommendations will be made subsequent to that update.
10. Acknowledgement of Correspondence:
 - a. Emerald Ash Borer– invite Bob Wilson to discuss if there can be an effort to treat some of the trees.
11. Motion made to adjourn by Jeff Solsaa at 8:10 PM. [Toni Pippy](#)seconds the motion and the meeting is adjourned.