

Selectboard Meeting - September 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Attendance: Joe Nolan, Linda Schmidt, Jessica Pendleton, John Phelps. Also in attendance: Jessica Lewis, GNAT-TV. Minute taker: Jessica Lewis

Citizen Concerns

No citizen concerns raised.

Ongoing Business

- **Drinking water at Town Hall**

John had a follow-up conversation with FW Webb regarding maintenance of the water filtration system. He was told there would need to be testing for arsenic levels and possibly filter changes every 6-9 months depending on water usage. The UV bulb needs to be replaced annually at \$61.05. The water softener needs to be monitored and salt needs to be added depending on the amount of water being circulated through the system. All maintenance can be performed by us as opposed to needing to bring in a specialist or a plumber after the time of professional installation.

Linda motions to move forward with the water filtration system purchase, John seconds; all in favor. John will call Webb Tuesday to put the order together.

The Board discusses how to go forward with having the system installed. It is not a big enough job to require a bid, so we will first ask the plumber we have been working with if he is interested in installing.

- **MERP Grant Update**

The window installation will begin tomorrow September 22 at Town Hall and should take a few days.

- **October Green-Up Day**

Due to interest in a second Green-Up Day effort, Linda and Julie have been planning another Green-Up weekend for October 17 & 18. Jay is willing to do a run to the transfer station with the garbage, and Casella told us there would be no charge for the drop-off. Linda and Julie will run the second Green-Up Day in the same way as the one in May, and bags will be available at the Town Hall.

Road Report

The large culverts near the pull-off are going up Southeast Corners Road.

Sandgate Road will be closed starting at 7667 between 7:30 and 4:30pm on September 22 as they work on stream redirection and culvert installation. Linda will contact Jay to make sure anyone who would need access beyond that point is notified.

There was another bid on the truck at the second round of auction, but it was for lower than the amount desired. Jay may or may not accept the bid depending on the final amount.

Office Copier Repair/Purchase

Jessica L. presents the Board with two quotes for a replacement copier for the Town Office due to the current machine's under-performance. Based on the quotes, the Board determines it would be more cost effective to lease a refurbished machine on a 4-year lease contract.

John asks if it would be smarter to go with the 3-year lease and get a new machine sooner in the event that we get a machine that requires frequent repairs. Jessica L. will follow up to ask if the leased machines are exchanged if that turns out to be the case.

Linda motions to go with \$77/month 4-year lease pending the answer to the question, Joe seconds; all in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Linda asks what is accounted for in the high spending in the Legal and Professional Fees line item, and Jessica L. clarifies this is the MERP Grant consulting costs.

No other issues are discussed.

Other Business

Town Garage cameras are installed.

There is a **PACIF grant** available to cover safety and protective equipment for the Road Crew. Jay is putting together a list of things they could use. Jay is also looking into prices on the heated power washer.

There will be an initial meeting on November 7 for those who are interested in being a part of the **School House committee**.

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The **Regional Emergency Management Committee** is convening again and includes emergency management personnel from around the county. They would like to meet in Sandgate at a potential future date for one of their quarterly meetings.

Letters should go out to the **organizations who receive appropriations** requesting reports on how funds were used and what to anticipate for next year's requests. Jessica L. will work on this.

The last day for the **hazardous waste facility** in Bennington to be open is October 5.

Regarding making the **Town Clerk and Treasurer** position appointed as opposed to elected, Linda spoke to VLCT who informed us that this change would need to be voted on in an article at a Town Meeting before any changes can be made.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/7 meeting

Joe motions to pass, Jessica P. seconds; all in favor.

Orders Signed

Joe motions to adjourn, Linda seconds; all in favor.

Meeting adjourned: 6:35 pm

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Lewis