

Minutes of December 2, 2025 Meeting

Warren Select Board

6:30 PM

Members Present: Camilla Behn, Harvey Blake, Joel Taplin, Kalee Whitehouse

Staff Present: Sandra Brodeur, Lister; Julie Burns, Lister; Jeff Campbell, Fire Chief; Rebecca Campbell, Town Administrator; Dayna Lisaius, Town Treasurer

Others Present: Laura Arnesen, Jito Coleman, Jim Crafts, Matt, Kevin Losty, Jon Rickard

Ms. Behn called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. The meeting was held online via Zoom.

Public Comment

Nobody requested time to address the Board.

Agenda Changes

Consideration of a payment to Laura Gorsky was added to the agenda.

Fire Department Budget

Mr. Campbell presented a draft budget indicating a 3.4% increase, noting that repairs and maintenance, radio dispatching, and utilities were categories that were calling for larger expense amounts. He answered some questions from Board members, explaining the need for hose and hydrant testing in the coming year. It was clarified that the diesel fuel line should be populated once the Road Department does annual allocations. Mr. Campbell expressed that a level funded budget was likely not possible, but that he would look into where some decreases might be appropriate.

Mad River Recreation District

Ms. Arnesen had provided a report and a budget for the Board's review; she noted that the Recreation District is seeking level funding, and that Moretown has joined the District. She outlined plans for the future, including enhancements to Mad River Park and an exploration of indoor recreation space. The CRV work will also continue. Accomplishments, programs, and other items of note from the past year were reviewed, as well as plans for 2026 initiatives.

Conservation Committee (CC)

Mr. Coleman reported that the CC is now contracting for annual blueberry work at Blueberry Lake, as it is no longer possible to accomplish this solely with volunteers.

He reviewed the ongoing knotweed removal program, noting that some grant receipts for this year's expenses will not be received until 2026. The interns who help with the removal also spend time on education and outreach activities. Mr. Coleman also outlined the progress seen due to the goat herding that has taken place for two years, and indicated that the CC would like an amount in the upcoming budget to pay for a small herd to be solely based in Warren, being situated from Riverside Park to the snowmaking pond.

It was determined that the incoming grant receipts of \$9K would be able to cover the cost of retaining a small goat herd for the summer of 2026, estimated to be \$6 - \$7K. It was agreed that Mr. Coleman would work with Ms. Campbell to develop a CC budget with a net total expense under \$23K.

Ms. Lisaius noted that the Workers' Comp line in the General Budget had increased by \$6700, and while the Workers' Comp amount does not get broken down by Department, this is primarily to cover the interns who are working with the CC.

Mr. Coleman indicated that he and members of the Conservation Committee are available to help with an upcoming property acquisition as well as planning for maintenance and repair work at the East Warren Schoolhouse.

Treasurer Budget

Ms. Lisaius reviewed the current year's Treasurer expenses, and noted that NEMRC will be performing reconciliations in the coming year, the expense for that is included on the Audit line. In discussing the Delinquent Tax Collector budget, she explained that an amount should be included for professional fees to be paid for the time involved in Alpine Village tax sales. These sales do not generate an adequate amount to pay for legal services as appropriate, as the back taxes are customarily quite minimal.

There was some discussion of engaging with local legislators to address the issue of requiring tax sales on properties for which the tax due is minimal; Mr. Crafts noted that he had reached out to several representatives, and that they are aware of this matter.

The Board requested that the engagement letter required from Laura Gorsky, the attorney engaged by the Town for tax sales, should be provided. They agreed to pay her the balance due on the invoice she had presented.

Lister Budget

Ms. Brodeur and Ms. Burns outlined that they continue to digitize the land records, and make updates to the Alpine Village map. They presented a level funded budget for review, noting that this year reflects an office supply overage due to the reappraisal work. Ms. Lisaius pointed out that if Ms. Burns' hours increase to be full time, there will be an increase in the draft budget's benefits line.

Executive Session

MOTION: *A motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(3) [personnel], inviting Rebecca Campbell, Sandra Brodeur and Julie Burns to join, passed unanimously.*

The meeting entered Executive Session at 8:11 pm and returned to open session at 8:29 pm.

Adjournment

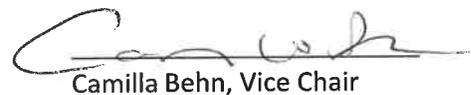
The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Chamberlin

The Warren Selectboard



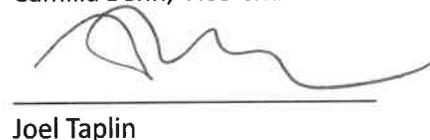
Devin Klein Corrigan, Chair



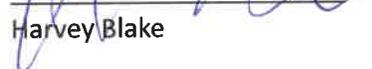
Camilla Behn, Vice Chair



Kalee Whitehouse



Joel Taplin



Harvey Blake