REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING – THURSDAY, JULY 10TH, 2025 AT 5:30 PM

Present: Jerry Waterman, Rick Gosselin, Steve Barrup, Hannah Roberts, Ernest Choquette, Cody Duckless, Steve Edgerly, Bob Best, Dennis DeLaBruere, Cameron Thompson, Jill Raymond, Renee Fontaine, Glenn Foster, Matt Wilson

Rick called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Steve made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5th, 2025 meeting. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Dennis DeLaBruere and Glenn Foster, Conservation Committee, discussed their meeting with Jared Nunnery, County Forester, regarding the town land on Vance Hill. After some discussion, the Selectboard encouraged the committee to ask Jared Nunnery to write a forest management plan for the Vance Hill property, and to ask Luke Hardt to do the same for the Poginy Hill property.

Cameron Thomas and Jill Raymond discussed plans to build an addition to the Newport Town School comprising a multi-purpose community room, and daycare, and other facilities. Some discussion followed, no action was taken.

Steve and Hannah reviewed tax rate calculations. After some discussion, Steve made a motion to set the tax rate as follows:

Total Homestead Tax Rate: 2.1680

Total Non-Homestead Tax Rate: 2.3334

Motion passed on a voice vote.

Selectboard reviewed and signed the 2025 Local Emergency Management Plan. Hannah will solicit signature of Jason Willis, Fire Chief.

Hannah Roberts discussed hiring of an assistant town clerk/assessor’s clerk. Selectboard encouraged her to offer the job at a pay rate of $19.23/hour.

Steve Edgerly informed the Selectboard that he attended Animal Control Officer Training in South Royalton. He discussed recent issues with loose dogs in the town.

Road Commissioner’s Report – there was none.

Water & Sewer report – there was none.

Solar & Recycling Report – Solar panels appear to be working correctly. Jerry reiterated that trees in the vicinity should be trimmed. Steve reported that the current executive director of the waste management district is retiring and the position has been offered to Christian Thompson. Steve briefly discussed the waste district’s financial outlook.

Rick reviewed the Sherriff’s Report.

Steve made a motion to approve warrants, bank statement, and journal entries. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Unfinished/New Business – Bob Best asked if the selectboard could do anything about unaffiliated vehicles parking in the Town Clerk’s Office parking lot. Hannah and Jerry will attempt to speak to the driver of the offending car and ask that he park in an alternate location.

Steve made a motion to enter executive session at 6:56pm for a personnel issue. Motion was made to come out of executive session at 7:13pm. No action was taken.

Voted to adjourn at 7:19pm.