

**Select Board Meeting, Thursday, January 25th, 2024, at 5:00pm**  
**Location: Town Office Meeting Room: 37 High Street Cavendish Vermont**

**Present:** Bob Glidden (Chairman), Mike Ripley, George Timko, Shannon Devereux, Dave Norton, Rick Chambers (Town Manager), Jen Leak (Recording Secretary) and citizens as listed on the attached sheet.

**1. Call the meeting to order**

Bob Glidden, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**2. Adjust agenda**

There were no adjustments.

**3. Public Comment**

Wendy Regier was present. Wendy said that she wanted to talk about the budgeted amount for the Ludlow Ambulance. She said that she had needed emergency care in September. She said that all of her doctors are at Mt Ascutney Hospital but the ambulance refused to take her there. She said that they told her they were under contract to transport to Springfield Hospital because it was the closest. Wendy said that since all of her care is at Mt Ascutney she felt that it would have been the most appropriate place for her to go.

Wendy said that she has spoken to other people in town and many do not choose to go to Springfield. She said that she thought it was inappropriate for us to not have a choice where the ambulance transports us to and wanted to express her concern about spending that much money for Ludlow Ambulance.

George said that the Board had looked at other options, but Golden Cross was the only other ambulance service. He said that they are farther from town than Ludlow is and it would take longer for them to get here.

Wendy added that she felt strongly about keeping Town Meeting as it is.

George asked Rick if he had gotten an updated amount for the ambulance service for FY25. Rick said that he hadn't.

**4. Approve Town Meeting Warning**

Rick handed out a draft of the Town Meeting warning. The Board reviewed the proposed articles and suggested a few edits: change the tax-exempt period from 10 to 5 for the two fire districts, write out the number of years with the numeral in parentheses. Rick made these changes.

*George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to adopt the Town Meeting warning as amended. All voted in favor.*

**5. Discussion on Selectboard Annual Report**

Rick said that he had emailed a draft report to the Board. The Board reviewed the draft and made several corrections.

**6. Executive Session- Personnel**

*Mike Ripley moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to enter executive session at 5:30 pm. All voted in favor.*

*Mike Ripley moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to exit executive session at 5:38 pm. All voted in favor.*

Mike said that the Board reviewed the Town Manager’s first 6 months and agreed to the raise outlined in his contract. George asked whether that raise was included in the FY25 budget. Rick said that it was not. He said that he was undecided whether he wanted to accept the raise. The Board discussed that the Town Manager’s contract would be renewed in June for one year, so the FY25 salary could be figured then. Rick thanked the Board. He asked if the Board had any suggestions for him. The Board said they did not.

**7. Adjourn**

Rick said that he would like to have an informational meeting for the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan before the next regular Select Board meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The Board agreed.

*Dave Norton moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to adjourn at 5:46 pm. All voted in favor.*

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_