

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2026

Present: Pat Harvey, Chad Richardson, and Mike Teetsel

Guests Present: Julie Smith, Kristen LaPell, Orca Media, Nancy Woolley, Steve Cummins, Asia Kennett Vic Ribaud, Mickaela Richardson, Tara Murray

Guests Present on Microsoft Teams: Orca, Martha Slater, Troy LaPell, Asia Kennett, Melody Balczon, Deb Moore

Pat called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Pat confirmed the meeting conformed to the Vermont Open Meeting Law requirements.

Prior Meeting Minutes:

- January 26, 2026-approved & accepted, small typo correction
- February 9, 2026-approved & accepted, small typo correction

Departmental Reports:

VHI Management Updates: Covered in previous Pre-Town Meeting. Pat moved to sign the VHI Management Agreement & Rider Contract. Mike seconded. All in favor. So, approved. (attached)

Selectboard Updates: Pat shared the dog incident on Kennedy Drive has made progress. The board hopes there is a resolution and the neighborhood is quiet.

Pat shared information on the Community Housing Infrastructure Program (CHIP). It is designed to support affordable housing and housing development in the state. She shared the board will review this program in hopes there is a potential avenue to do some town updates to the systems already in place. There is a tax credit incentive for borrowing money with this program and repaying the money later with new tax dollars with the housing you build. This program is making money available for development. If town water, septic, telecommunications, internet is needed for the development it would be a good time for upgrades to our systems in place. She said she will review this for the town but feels there isn't a 10-acre lot available for development to receive the upgrades the town systems would need.

Form PVR-4155 Certificate- Selectboard signatures required: Pat read the document, noting it is a formality for the board to sign stating there are no pending appeals with actions of the listers or suits pending to recover taxes paid under protest related to April 1, 2025, Grand List in Rochester Vermont. This is part of the process for lodging the grand list.

Nancy asked if there is any news on the Reevaluation of the Grand List. Pat said no news as of yet. Julie shared in the fall, the lead appraiser mentioned they will begin the process in the Spring as they are finishing other towns.

January Treasurer's Report: The board would like to table the approval to the next meeting.

Contract with Town Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Commission supporting the Town will implementing Municipal Energy Resiliency Program (MERP) Grant: The MERP grant is going to be used for upgrading the Town Office for Energy Efficiency. The money we received was awarded for upgrades to the Town Office and the Town Garage buildings. Mike shared the Scope of Work for that grant will be amended and the focus with these funds will be directed at the Town Office building. He said the Town Garage building has other issues besides weatherization. He said the money can be used to go towards Two Rivers for grant administration and ultimately free up money to potentially hire a professional project manager. He said it's a lot to take on with this building as well as keeping the office operating. It's not complicated but will have its own issues. Pat moved to sign the contract with Two Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Planners. Mike seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith