

Town of Danby  
DRAFT Select Board Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2024  
Town Office, Danby, VT 7:00pm  
<https://www.danbyvt.org/government-information>  
**ZOOM MEETING ID: 813 2851 1750**

Public Present – D. Stoddard, M. Bushee, B. Payne, T. Porter, R. Porter, M. Gasperetti,

Virtual Present – L. Lawson, L. Dever, B. Richardson, G. Derr, A. Smith, S. White, D.R. White, C. Hardaway, T. Parker, M. Lees,

- Call to order at 7:00pm
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
  - Heaton, Abbott, Haines, Bender – present
    - Absent - Fuller
- Procedure for Remote Access and Public Comment Statement
  - Brad Bender
- Motion to set agenda
  - Motion by Haines, Seconded by Heaton
    - Motion passes unanimously
- Public Comment
  - Lauren Dever
    - State ethics liaison question
    - Wondering what the process is and are letters of interest welcome
      - Statement read that was sent to the Select Board
      - Either a town employee or select board member
  - Annette Smith
    - Wondering about transfer station discussion
    - Wondering about any other new or old business
  - Bill Payne
    - Comment regarding appointing or electing treasurer
      - Thinks it is a good idea to vote on it
- Motion to adopt minutes of Select Board Meeting of November 14, 2024
  - Motion by Haines, seconded by Abbott
    - Motion passes unanimously
- Transfer station Relocation Discussion – Matt Gasperetti – Mt. Tabor SB Chair
  - Danby and Mt. Tabor combining transfer station
  - Select Board met last week and discussed
  - Danby would like to move transfer station to reduce potential hazards
    - Gets very congested
    - Dangerous when loading trucks in the winter with sand
    - Limited room and space in the current area
  - Mt. Tabor would ideally like Danby to take over completely and run as they see fit
    - Mt. Tabor still has use
    - No cost lease for the land
    - Renewable lease for the purpose of transfer station
    - Concerns
      - What liabilities Mt. Tabor would still have
        - Hold harmless agreement?
      - Would allow Danby to do whatever would work best
      - No permanent structures put up without prior approval

- How long would the lease be?
  - Something in writing outlining time of lease
  - Minimum of a 3 year lease
- There is no power currently available at the transfer station
  - Danby would need to take care of that expense
- 5 or 10 year lease
- It is a major move
- Mt. Tabor residents would still pay for garbage the same way Danby residents would
- The current dump attendant has been great, do not need to keep him on
  - Hours can be set by Danby
  - Tuesday 3-5pm Saturday 10-2pm are current hours
- Current dumpster turn around
  - Can get answered
- Current configuration would need to be changed to handle the larger volume
- Danby would like to put up a structure and add power
  - For dump attendants, lights etc
  - Could potentially move current building
- Any animal issues?
  - None that Mt. Tabor is aware of
  - Currently has electric fence around concerned areas
- Room to have areas for other disposal
- Does Mt. Tabor use VLCT
  - Yes they do
- Would probably need to look into permit use
- Rutland County Waste District
  - Currently use Hubbards for containers
- Asked Mt. Tabor to bring information back to their board
- Can reconnect next month
- **Treasurer's Report - Michelle Bushee**
  - Report on tax collection/delinquencies
    - 95% have been collected in a timely manner
  - BROC loans
    - \$75,567.31
    - 5 loans out for \$35,xxx
  - With current budget adjustments it would raise it approximately by 8% \$90,000
    - Approximately a .035 tax increase
  - Should there be another budget workshop before the January meeting
    - January 9, 2025 at 6pm finalize the budget before select board meeting
- **Appoint State Ethics Committee Liaison**
  - Motion to Appoint Tom Fuller
    - Motion by Haines Seconded by Heaton
      - Motion passes unanimously
- **Road Commissioners Report: T. Fuller Jr. – Absent**
  - Steve Haines to give report
  - Pike 5% increase
  - Grants in Aid reimbursement deadline 12/31
    - Did not do any of those projects this year
  - Dealing with some snow
  - Worked on a few washouts that took president
    - Plugged culvert caused water to jump and take a section of the road out
    - Repaired and should be good until next year when it is adjusted
  - How are the new guys working out
    - They are working out well

- Utilizing them as much as needed
- Old Business
  - Status of Taconic & Green closing CMS
    - Spoke to them a few days ago
    - Nothing is happening currently for the '25-'26 school year
    - No decision at this point
    - Not sure about contributing funds for additional play structures
      - Up to the trustees of public funds
- New Business
  - Discuss possible questions for Town Meeting ballot
    - Elected vs Appointed Treasurer
    - Not the first time this has been discussed
    - Title 17 read outlining options
      - Revolving door of treasurers
      - It is hard to find someone qualified
    - Concerns around hours of the treasurer
      - Hours don't necessarily work with regular business hours
    - If it is an appointed position the select board can set the hours and they will be an employee of the town and not an elected official
      - Would it affect employee benefits?
    - Officially here 2 days a week, does come after hours to do additional work
      - Offers to make appointments if people need
    - It is a difficult job to step into green
      - There is a lot more going on than it appears
    - What comes when someone is appointed
      - Do they become a union member, other benefits
    - Voters would have to vote on whether or not they would like an appointed Treasurer or an elected treasurer
    - It is valid to ask the town what they want to do
    - Motion to put the question on the ballot to ask the voters to have the select board appoint a treasurer
      - Motion by Abbott Seconded by Haines
        - Motion passed unanimously
- Motion to adjourn 8:07pm by Haines, Seconded by Abbott
  - motion passes unanimously

Respectfully Submitted by:  
 Drea Stoddard  
 Minute Taker