

Town of Hartland  
Selectboard Meeting  
**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Selectboard Members present in-person: Phil Hobbie, Chair, Thomas Kennedy, Vice-Chair, Jim Rielly, and Trace Tancreti.

Others present in person: Tina Skehan, Michelle Rielly, Martin Dole, Helen Esmond, Tina Varney, Meredith Liben, Trischa Wass

Others present via Zoom: Kathleen Cross, Clyde Jenne, Amy Ashline and Chuck Fenton.

Present from CATV: Rayce Gilbert

The Hartland Selectboard Meeting was called to order by Phil Hobbie, Chair, to act on the warned agenda items.

**Selectboard's Minutes and Orders:** Tom Kennedy made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 8<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting and Executive Session. Trace seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Jim made a motion to approve the accounts payable through December 15<sup>th</sup>. Trace seconded the motion. There were questions from the Selectboard. All voted in favor.

- I) **Adjustment to Agenda:** None
- II) **Public Comments:** Helen Esmond made comments regarding the speed in the Three Corners Intersection and the Hartland Library. Tina Barney made comments regarding the Hartland Library.
- III) **Old Business:**
  1. **FY27 Budget Review:** John gave an update, noting we removed mileage reimbursement in the administrative side of the budget, the computer purchases budget reduced, as well as the reappraisal fund by \$5,000. The North Hartland School water is removed, therefore there is no need for a water budget. The repairs, maintenance and fuel budget were removed as well. In buildings and grounds, we took out the salt line as the salt is coming out of the Highway Budget. We are now at 4.6% total increase between the General Fund and Highway Fund. Tracy Joy, Hartland Library Director, gave an update. Library trustee, Meredith, explained that they removed the surplus funds. There was discussion of FICA. There was much discussion.

2. **Town Employee Complaint:** Phil gave an update on the complaint made by Town Employees at the last Selectboard meeting. The Selectboard investigated the legality of what was going on, as well as consulted with the Town Attorney. There was much discussion, with comments made from the public. Jim made a motion that we approve the letter that is on our packet to be sent from the Selectboard Chair to the Library Trustees. All voted in favor.

**New Business:**

1. **Town Highway Naming; Private Drive off Clay Hill Rd:** John gave information, noting that this private drive off Clay Hill Rd. Woods End Rd is proposed, although because we have other “wood” names, another name, Old Oak Lane was suggested. Jim made a motion that we approve the request to name the private road off Clay Hill to Old Oak Lane. Tom seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
2. **Town Meeting Articles:** John gave information, noting in the packet there is a draft of the town meeting articles, with some appropriations that we are still waiting on. We still have the article regarding selling the North Hartland School Building. There was discussion of the Library Reserve Fund and putting an intended use on the monies. There was discussion.
3. **Open Meeting Law Notification & Minutes:** John gave information noting that an email was sent to the Clerk and the Selectboard Chair regarding an Open Meeting Law violation, where minutes were not being posted to the town website within the window outlined. There is information regarding Open Meeting Law available to commissions. There is concern regarding the Planning Commission posting minutes in a timely manner.

**VI. Town Manager Update:** John gave the update. There have been water issues at the Library which is connected to the Recreation Center’s water system. A contractor will be coming to take a look tomorrow. The John Deere Tractor needs repair, hopefully John Deere will be covering much of the cost. For Christmas week, we are closed Thursday and the staff will be here every other day. John will be out starting Tuesday. We have no update on the Three Corner’s Intersection Lights.

Correspondence: We have two pieces of correspondence, one regarding an ACT250 Permit Extension and Information from the Vermont Covered Bridge Society.

Minutes taken and submitted by Cheyenne Latimer.