



**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES  
OF MAY 18, 2026**

Members: Don McDowell, Richard Craig, George Cormier, Leah Hollenberger, Rose Belanger

Absent:

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Brent Raymond, Town Manager; Judi Alberi, Executive Assistant; Jordan St.Onge, Highway Superintendent

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS: Jamie Jaret, Martin Green, Steven Lawrence, Dan McLaughlin, Laura Green, Susan Wickart

*\*participating via Zoom*

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**5:30PM - CALL SELECTBOARD MEETING TO ORDER**

Don McDowell called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 5:33 PM at the Tegu Building.

**5:31PM - AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS**

Addition under section IX Other business - Confidential Attorney/Client Communications

**5:33PM - COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

None

**5:47PM - APPROVE MINUTES**

**1. Approve minutes 4-27-26 Public hearing**

*Motion made by Richard Craig to approve the minutes of 4/27/26. Motion seconded by Rose Belanger. Motion carried (5/0).*

**2. Approve minutes 5-4-26 Public Hearing**

*Motion made by Richard Craig to approve the minutes of 5/4/26 Public Hearing. Motion seconded by Leah Hollenberger. Motion carried (5/0).*

**3. Approve minutes 5-4-26 SB Meeting**

*Motion made by Richard Craig to approve the minutes of 5/4/26. Motion seconded by Rose Belanger. Motion carried. (5/0)*

**5:50PM - NEW BUSINESS**

**1. UVM Intern Presentation - (Gabriella Coutts)**

Gabriella Coutts, a UVM intern to the Planning Commission, presented the Town Plan Citizen Outreach Questionnaire, which was designed to gauge attitudes toward the town plan and the town plan process, as well as to gather preliminary information on community priorities. The anonymous survey was released for two weeks. During this time, 100 citizens completed the survey. The questionnaire was shared virtually through multiple sources, including a Front Porch Forum post, emails to constituents for whom the town had contact information, and a post on the Town of Morrystown

Facebook page. A poster including a QR code was also shared through each of these sources, and posted in the Town of Morristown Office, Morristown Centennial Library, and the Morristown post office. Paper copies of the survey were printed and advertised at the Town of Morristown Office and the Morristown Centennial Library. Of the 100 survey responses, 56 community members had not read the town plan, while 44 had. The top priorities were: Environmental Issues (protection, floodplain resilience, parks and trails, green space, etc.) • Transportation (walkability, public transport, roads & traffic, parking, boardwalk, etc.) • Housing Market Expansion • Small Business Development • Large Commercial Growth • Public Schools & Higher Education, and • Energy. Moving forward, an ideal outreach plan would include a variety of efforts to educate citizens about the town plan and request their input.

Don thanked Gabby for her presentation and noted the need to raise public awareness of the Town Plan. George complimented her on her design of the survey, the presentation, and the content of the report. Tyler commented that it was a pleasure working with Gabriella.

## **2. 2026 Morristown Police Officer of Year - Officer Jackson Schroeder**

The Selectboard was pleased to announce that the 2026 Morristown Police Officer of the Year is Officer Jackson Schroeder. Don read the commendation, noting that Officer Schroeder has demonstrated a strong commitment to proactive law enforcement and roadway safety since joining the force in 2023. He became certified as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), one of two in Lamoille County in 2025. He is known for his strong work ethic, positive attitude, and willingness to assist his fellow officers whenever needed. The department is proud to grant him this distinction.

## **3. Review bids and select a contractor for the painting of Favreau Bridge - Jordan St.Onge**

Jordan St. Onge informed the board that the Favreau Bridge is a Pony Truss Bridge made of A588 weathering steel. This steel is not well-suited for Vermont's climate and is rusting badly, which is leading to material loss. He recommends media blasting and painting the bridge to prolong its life. Deferring maintenance on this bridge will lead to significantly higher repair costs and potentially require a full replacement in the near future. He reviewed the scope of work needed on the bridge. There were two bids for the work. He recommended that the Board award the contract to Modern Protective Coatings at \$286,080. Funding for the Bridge will be provided by the Infrastructure fund, a Structures Grant from Vtrans for \$200,000 for this project, covering 70% of the total costs. The cost to the taxpayer is \$86,080. Brent thanked Jordan for his initiative in procuring grant funds.

***Motion made by Richard Craig to select Modern Protective Coatings, Inc. as the contractor for the painting of the Favreau Bridge for a total price of \$286,080, as recommended by the Highway Superintendent, and to authorize the Town Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the Town of Morristown. Motion seconded by Leah Hollenberger. Motion carried (5/0).***

## **4. 3-Acre Stormwater Project-Jersey Heights Subdivision - Appoint Duly Authorized agent for temporary easements**

***Motion made by Richard Craig to appoint Town Manager Brent Raymond as the duly authorized agent to sign on behalf of the Town of Morristown on temporary easements for the 3-Acre Stormwater Project – Jersey Heights Subdivision, as needed. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).***

Leah stated that although she is a resident of the area, she feels no conflict of interest exists.

**5. Stowe Land Trust - Muddy Moose Conservation Easement and revised proposal review**

The selectboard discussed a conservation easement proposal from Stowe Land Trust for a property that may eventually be gifted to the town. Key concerns were raised about potential ambiguities in the easement language regarding trails and cost reimbursement provisions. The board agreed to have Brent review Stowe Land Trust's responses to these concerns before making a final decision on whether to proceed with the easement placement within the next month.

**6. Development Review Board – Recommendation for Vacant Seat**

The Development Review Board has had a vacancy since March 2026 and interviewed 4 candidates last month. All the applicants are qualified to serve on the DRB, and Brent commented that it was a pleasure to have so many interested candidates. The Selectboard thanked all the candidates and decided to discuss this selection during the Executive Session.

**7:00PM - OLD BUSINESS**

None

**7:00PM - APPROVE WARRANTS**

*Motion made by Richard Craig to approve the warrants. Motion seconded by Leah Hollenberger. Motion carried. (5/0)*

**7:05PM - SCHEDULE**

1. **Monday, June 1, 2026 - SB Meeting - 5:30PM**  
**Tuesday, June 2, 2026- Site Visit - 4:30PM - Lyle McKee Farm Rd**  
**Tuesday, June 2, 2026 - Public Hearing - 5:30PM - Lyle McKee Farm Rd**  
**Monday, June 15, 2026 - SB Meeting - 5:30PM**  
**Monday, June 22, 2026 - Site Visit - 4:30PM - Sand Ridge Rd**  
**Monday, June 22, 2026 - Public Hearing - 5:30PM - Sand Ridge Rd**

**7:10PM - OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Possible Executive Session - Discuss Appointment of a Public Officer and Confidential Attorney/Client Communications**  
*Motion made by Richard Craig that the Selectboard find that premature general public knowledge regarding certain confidential communications with the Town's attorney would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage because it would disclose the Town's legal strategy and undermine the effectiveness of the representation. Motion seconded by Leah Hollenberger. Motion carried (5/0).*  
*Motion made by Richard Craig that the Selectboard enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(F) for the purpose of discussing confidential attorney client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the Selectboard to include Attorney Kevin Lumpkin, Town Manager, Brent Raymond, and Judi Alberi. Motion seconded by Leah Hollenberger. Motion carried (5/0)*  
*Motion made by Richard Craig that the Selectboard enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a public officer, to include Town Manager Brent Raymond and Judi Alberi. Motion seconded by Leah Hollenberger. Motion carried (5/0).*  
*Motion made by Richard Craig to come out of the Executive Session at 8:28 PM. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).*

***Motion made by Richard Craig to appoint Susan Wickart to the Development Review Board for the remainder of a 4-year term that expires March 5, 2030. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).***

**7:30PM - ADJOURN**

***Motion made by Richard Craig to adjourn. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried. (5/0)***

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm  
Submitted and filed this 5/19/26.  
Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

*Please note all minutes are in Draft form and are subject to approval at the next Selectboard meeting.*