



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

March 4, 2024

IN ATTENDANCE:

Zoom:

Peggy Neisner
Patti Mielcarek
Linda Goode
Vito Rasenas
Gerrie Russell
Curt Peterson
Bill Petrics
Lucrecia Wonsor
Jeanne Karlbuber
Jay Hickory
Krista Mosher
Debbie LeBlond
Beth Sarandrea
Paul Eberly
Ken Kolano
Craig Mosher
Jessica Ralston
Laury Gilliam
Rick Cohen
Karen Dalury
Greg Becker
Heidi Bomengen
Nan Salamon

In Person:

Patrick Cushing
Michael Clifford
Jan Rich
Jim Rich
Steve Dushane
Jo McDonald
Charles Feitnor
Jane Demetriou
Connie Barbash
Howard
Noreen Binder
Sharon Van Niel
Judith Evans
Merisa Sherman
Polly Lynn Mikula
Anne Karl
George Krantz
Whit Montgomery
Katie Reed
Warren Kimattia
Vince Wynn
Risa Hutner
Beth Clark
Rick Hacket
Otto Iannantuoni
Logan Paluch
Andy Paluch
Paul Buhler

Selectboard:

Jim Haff
Chris Karr
Steve Finneran

Town Manager:

Michael Ramsey

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE MODERATOR, PAUL BUHLER AT 7:02 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS RECITED

THE MODERATOR GAVE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE MEETING RULES



MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by Jim Haff. Seconded by Chris Karr. Motion approved unanimously.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

SELECTBOARD MEMBER CONCERNS

No member concerns.

THE MODERATOR PRESENTED THE ARTICLES ON THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARNING AS PRESENTED

Article 1:

No discussion

Article 2:

No discussion

Article 3:

No discussion

Article 4:

Howard Barbash: Will retail cannabis be restricted along Rt. 4? Jim Haff said that cannabis retail is restricted to the Killington Commercial Basin District for now.

Article 5:

Steve Dushane: What does the impact study look like and is there a particular district we would like to join? Jim Haff and Michael Ramsey responded that the study will most likely be performed in-house to look at the pros, cons, and procedures of leaving the MVSU.

CITIZEN INPUT

Connie Barbash: Could Mr. Ramsey go over the budget? In response, Michael Ramsey gave an overview of the FY25 budget as presented in the annual report.

Andrew Guida: Who is on the blacklist for the fire department and when will they be allowed back on? Michael Ramsey responded that there is not a blacklist and that the Fire Chief is responsible for onboarding volunteers.



Howard Barbash: Why do some tax delinquencies in the Town Report go back to 2014? Michael Ramsey stated that Rickev LLC was acquired by the town at a tax sale in 2023 and would be removed from the list in the next annual report.

Connie Barbash: Why can't we have informational meetings at the school? Jim Haff responded that the change was made during Covid. A member of the Little White church said that they make a great deal more money doing the drive-thru here at the Public Safety Building.

REPRESENTATIVE JIM HARRISON'S LEGISLATIVE REPORT

House Representative Harrison presented an overview of proposed bills that include housing, land use, and education.

Vito Rasenas: When will the moratorium be lifted? Harrison did not have an answer now but stated that revenue for schools will most likely need to be raised through new fees instead of taxes.

Paul Buhler: Which committees are you on and will you take our concerns regarding the education tax rate increase back to the legislature, especially concerning the liquidation of some schools? Harrison stated he was part of many committees and would be a voice for the town on these issues.

Jim Haff: How long have you served as an elected official on the state level? Harrison said he was first elected in 2017 and has served 3 terms.

Marisa Sherman: Will the state increase the cap for owners that receive property tax credit? Harrison stated that he is working on raising the cap to \$500,000, but the deficit will have to be made up somewhere else if passed.

THE MODERATOR ALLOWED CANDIDATES TO SPEAK BRIEFLY

Andrew Geida, Jim Haff, Merisa Sherman, and Patrick Cushing took the opportunity to speak. Each person received 5 minutes and stayed within the allotted time.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business.

ADJOURN

Jim Haff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM. Seconded by Chris Karr. Motion passed unanimously.