



Notice of Public Hearing: Vicious Dog/Domestic Pet Complaint Meeting Minutes DRAFT
February 24, 2025

Present:

Jim Haff
Chris Karr
Robert Hecker

Tom Yannerell, Interim Town Manager

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Sign Loan Documents for Flood Damage Repair Expenses
4. Executive Session
5. Adjourn

The Selectboard of the Town of Killington, Vermont, held a Public Hearing pursuant to 20 V.S.A § 3546 on Friday, April 5th at 6:00pm at the Public Safety Building, 800 Killington Road, VT and via Zoom to hear evidence and receive testimony on a complaint of a “vicious dog(s)” owned by Leigh Isaacs.

The Selectboard opened the Public Hearing at 6:01 pm. SB Haff began the hearing by reading the victim’s full complaint which occurred on February 12, 2025 when an off-leash dog, Zeus, killed another dog, Aslan, and bit the dog’s owner, Richard Palmer on Terrace Drive. The Selectboard then allowed the victim to provide any additional information to add to his testimony. Palmer’s Counsel provided a supplemental statement from Richard Palmer, a behavioral consultation, and a police report from Bedford, NY which is Isaacs’ primary residence. Palmer voiced his supplemental statement during the hearing and requested that Zeus be humanely euthanized.

Leigh Isaacs requested an adjournment so that he may provide his statement with counsel. Counsel is not required during Vicious Dog/Domestic Pet Hearings. An adjournment was not provided. Isaacs provided additional information to his testimony. Isaacs stated that he walked Zeus that morning on leash and, due to the lack of lights in the house and no car in the

driveway, did not believe anyone was in the Palmers' residence. On the way back home from their walk, Isaacs unleashed Zeus to run home faster due to the cold weather, believing he would run straight home. Isaacs stated that Zeus thought Aslan was an unattended and possibly wild animal and believes Zeus would not have attacked Aslan if Palmer was with Aslan. Isaacs also stated that, as Palmer admitted to attempting to free Aslan from Zeus's mouth, Palmer assumed the risk of being bitten. Isaacs stated that Palmer did not have the standing to file a written complaint to the Town as a Vicious Dog/Domestic Pet Hearing is called when a domestic pet has attacked an individual who later requires medical attention. Isaacs claims that Palmer did not require stitches and was diagnosed with a superficial dog bite.

Sergeant Hoffman stated that the Rutland Veterinary Clinic provided him with consultation notes where Zeus was previously consulted for his aggressive behavior as well as a list of things Zeus was known to chase or attack.

The Selectboard ended the Public Hearing for Vicious Dog/Domestic Pet at 6:50 pm. The Selectboard will first hold a regularly scheduled Selectboard Meeting and then enter into a deliberative session to discuss the material presented in the Public Hearing before making a decision.