Selectboard Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2026

Present: Jim Haff, Selectboard Chair
Jon Wysocki, Selectboard Vice Chair
Ricky Bowen
Vito Rasenas

Patrick Cushing, Town Manager

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Citizen's Comments and Concerns
5. Killington Forward Update Schedule
6. Board of Liquor Control
7. Listers – Reappraisal Update
8. RRPC Tier 1B Resolution
9. Warrant – Alpine Drive Sewer
10. Treasurer's Report/Financials
11. Executive Session – Legal Union
12. FY 2027 Budget Discussion
13. Town Manager's Report
14. Citizen's Comments and Concerns
15. Selectboard Member Concerns
16. Executive Session – Personnel
17. Adjourn

1. **Call to Order**
   The Meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**
   - CH Haff made a motion to approve the Agenda for the April 27th Selectboard Meeting with a request to push Art. 5 (Executive Session – Legal Union) to Art. 11, so this Meeting's speakers will avoid any delays. SB Wysocki seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

3. **Approval of Minutes**
   - The Selectboard reviewed the April 6th Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes. SB Rasenas made a motion to accept the April 6th Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes. SB Wysocki seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.
   - The Selectboard reviewed the April 13th Selectboard Meeting Minutes. TM Cushing stated that under Art. 5 (Board of Liquor Control), the motion to approve the Sherburne Golf Services' application for a 1st class and 3rd class liquor license and outside consumption permit should have also included a tobacco license. SB Rasenas made a motion to accept the amended April 13th Selectboard Meeting Minutes. SB Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.
   - The Selectboard reviewed the April 16th Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes. SB Rasenas made a motion to accept the April 16th Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes. SB Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

4. **Citizen Comments / Concerns**
   - John Ralston, Town Resident, stated he read in the newspaper that the Town would be diverting funds for the Town Pool to be used to pay for bus services. Ralston voiced his concern that the pool had problems that needed to be fixed and didn't want to see money being diverted from a Town resource. CH Haff clarified that the funds would be diverted to road repairs and not bus services. A discussion would be held in future budget discussions about replenishing the diversion of the funds for the pool.
   - Andrew Gieda, Town Resident, asked if there was any update available concerning the Water Pump House from Casella. The Selectboard and TM Cushing stated that Casella was on a work stop order until May when they would resume work. The Selectboard will speak further about this during Art. 6 (Killington Forward Update Schedule).
   - Steve Finer, Town Resident, stated that the current Selectboard has begun scheduling Executive Sessions at the beginning and middle of Selectboard Meetings which has not previously happened with past Selectboards. Finer stated he believed this was poor manners to the community. Finer also commented on the diversion of funds from the Rec Department's new pool to the

road repairs. Finer stated he did not disagree with repairing the roads however, he believed that the Selectboard had spent a large amount of time discussing this diversion which did not affect the overall line number of the budget, which he finds inappropriate.

- Linda Prine, speaking as a Town Employee, read out a statement. Prine said that several Selectboard Members have stated they have spent a considerable amount of personal time and energy researching potential cost savings in regards to changing or reducing employee benefits. However, she stated that cutting employee benefits without first exploring all other cost-saving strategies is not responsible and places the burden of the budget challenges on those who can least absorb it and who have the least control over the decisions that created the financial pressure. Prine stated the re-examination of the budget was not fiscally responsible as the Selectboard has not discussed other options such as re-examining operation efficiencies, structural adjustments, shared services, long-term planning adjustments, or targeted reductions in non-essential spending. Prine asked the Selectboard to directly explain and specifically name what non-benefit, cost-saving options they have considered, how they have gone about evaluating these options, and why employee benefit reductions were prioritized over other alternatives.

5. Killington Forward Update Schedule

- The Selectboard reviewed updated information regarding the Killington Forward initiative. CH Haff stated that moving forward, the Selectboard would plan to receive monthly updates from Stephanie Clarke, Sub-Contractor with White and Burke. CH Haff stated that Clark planned to meet with the Selectboard to discuss Water Contract 1 through 3A regarding the construction status and completion timeline; Water Contract 4 on East Mountain Road; and Water Contracts 5 through 7, excluding Water Contract 6B which is already placed from Anthony Way to Route 4.

6. Board of Liquor Control

- CH Haff presented a list of applications to the Board of Liquor Control, provided by Peggy Neisner, Town Clerk. They included:
  i. Glaze, Inc.'s renewal application for a 1st class and 3rd class restaurant bar license, a tobacco license, and an outside consumption permit at Dominic's.
  ii. B&J Ventures LLC's renewal application for 1st and 3rd class restaurant bar license and outside consumption permit at Liquid Art Coffee House.
- SB Wysocki made a motion for the Town Clerk to move forward with the above applications. SB Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. **Listers – Reappraisal Update**
    - The Listers stated that Vision Government Solutions completed their evaluation and the updated values which were posted to their online database as of Friday, April 24th. Vision meetings have concluded and the first step of the appeals process is done. With the values now publicized, the second phase of the appeals process, the pre-grievance phase, has begun and property owners may now appeal their property values directly to the listers. Property owners can schedule a pre-grievance hearing through the Killington Town website by clicking a link at the top of the website for the 2026 Reappraisal site. Hearings can be in-person, by phone, or in writing, at the choice of the property owner. An application form must be completed before the appointment.
    - The Listers are currently working with Vision and NIMRIC, the State program, to fully upload the property values to the State. This would allow the Grand List to be officially lodged. Fourteen days after the Grand List is officially lodged, the pre-grievance phase will transition into the grievance phase and will continue until May 28th, 2026. The Listers encourage Town Residents to schedule their pre-grievance hearings early.
    - TM Cushing stated that commercial notifications were sent out April 6th, 2026 with US First Class, which should have taken 1-5 days. There were some delays with the US Post Office delivering the mail, which is why property owners received the notifications late.
    - TM Cushing also stated if a property owner had met with Vision concerning their residential property, they may have been told they would receive an update within two weeks of the meeting. TM Cushing stated property owners were told this in error and Vision had been sending out updated notifications in batches. The final batch was just mailed. TM Cushing stated if residential property owners did not receive a further notification and they were concerned, they could reach out to the Listers. However, the Listers' recommendation was to submit a request for a pre-grievance hearing.

8. **RRPC Tier 1B Resolution**
    - TM Cushing presented the RRPC Tier 1B Resolution which the Selectboard previously signed in June/July 2025. The Rutland Regional Planning Commission has since updated the map requiring a re-signature of the resolution.
    - CH Haff acknowledged that there were items addressed in this resolution that would later be repealed. CH Haff stated the Selectboard would need to be comfortable signing the resolution with the understanding that some items may be repealed at the State level.
    - SB Rasenas made a motion to re-sign the Rutland Regional Planning Commission future land-use map with the proposed changes in Killington, including the Tier 1B designation. SB Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. **Warrant – Alpine Drive Sewer**
    - TM Cushing presented the Alpine Drive Sewer Warrant with the requested changes from the Selectboard from the previous Meeting.
    - SB Wysocki requested that TM Cushing present a list of all recipients to the warrant. CH Haff agreed that a list should be provided.
    - CH Haff made a motion to accept the presented warrant for the Alpine Drive Sewer with Selectboard Members signing the warrant in two days with the attached recipient list. SB Rasenas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. **Treasurer's Report/Financials**
    - The Selectboard reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the Restricted Funds Report.
    - SB Rasenas made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2026. SB Wysocki seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
    - The Selectboard held a discussion on line item 114 of the Restricted Funds Report which previously listed the ARPA funds the Town received. The total funds originally allocated to the ARPA funds line item was over $247,000 dollars. There was $147,000 dollars remaining before the line item was removed. The Selectboard asked for a breakdown on where all funds, including the remaining funds, were allocated to. A portion of the funds was committed towards employee retention and training. Kirsten Hathaway, Finance Director, cautioned the Selectboard from re-committing the funds to another line item as the federal government was informed the funds were being used for workforce retention. CH Haff stated there was no conversation around re-committing the funds from workforce retention but the Town will seek legal advice.
    - SB Rasenas made a motion to accept the Restricted Funds Report as of March 31, 2026. SB Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
    - The Selectboard reviewed the Restricted Funds for GMNGC. Monika Legayada, Town Treasurer, spoke to the Selectboard about a conversation she had with GMNGC regarding their Restricted Fund.
    - CH Haff made a motion for GMNGC to transfer $50,000 dollars from the Golf Pro Shop to the Sherburne Golf Service Company Restaurant. The motion was unanimously approved.
    - SB Rasenas made a motion to accept the GMNGC Restricted Funds. SB Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
    - CH Haff asked for a Comparative Report to be included with the Treasurer's Report for future discussions.

11. **Executive Session – Legal Union**
    - The Selectboard entered into Executive Session for the Legal Union discussion at 7:38pm. The Selectboard invited in TM Cushing and Roger Rivera, Town

Resident and member of the Collective Bargaining Committee. The Selectboard exited at 8:34pm. No action was taken.

12. FY 2027 Budget Discussion

- TM Cushing reviewed the FY 2027 Budget, including new changes to the budget.
- TM Cushing stated the Town's FY 2027 Budget currently has a 4% increase to the municipal tax amount, equal to $220,000 dollars. The Forensic Audit was removed, with the understanding that it would not be voted on during the re-vote for the FY 2027 Budget however, it would still be reflected in the tax rate. The stipend for the Legal Union Meetings was also included in the FY 2027 Budget.
- The Selectboard requested to remove a 10 hour per week Grant Manager position.
- The Selectboard discussed the Employee Benefits line items which TM Cushing stated had increased by $18,000 dollars. TM Cushing stated this adjustment was to account for vacant positions, which had not previously been done.
- TM Cushing informed the Selectboard that the Fire Chief would be resigning with his final day on May 3, 2026. The salary for the position was set at $65,000 dollars, from a previously set $85,000 dollar salary, with a contract agreement that the Town would provide the use of a vehicle. This salary would be raised to $85,000 dollars. The Selectboard thanked Fire Chief Billy Austin for his time and service to the Town.
- SB Rasenas made a motion to allow the Town Manager to hire a new Highway Department employee as soon as possible. SB Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.
- CH Haff stated that previous Selectboards had concerns over too many staff members handling the Town's finances. CH Haff stated that previously the Town had a Town Manager, a Treasurer, and a Bookkeeper/Assistant Treasurer. The Town currently has a Town Manager, a Finance Director, a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer, a Bookkeeper, and an Assistant Administrator. CH Haff discussed eliminating a staff position. Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer can not be considered as they are elected positions. TM Cushing stated that if they reduced the staff by a position, there would be a drop-in services and an increase in errors while the Town would still be handling a $47 million dollar project and the $25 million dollar RAISE Grant. SB Wysocki stated he believed it was time to modernize how the Town handles business and processes transactions in order to become more efficient and better organized.
- SB Wysocki made a motion to instruct the Town Manager to lower the total number from 6 to 5 staff positions. SB Rasenas seconded the motion. SB Wysocki, SB Rasenas, and CH Haff voted for the motion. SB Bowen voted against the motion. The motion passed.
- SB Wysocki made a motion to freeze the Police Department's FY 2027 budget to three Police Officers, plus the Police Chief, at this time due to the Collective Bargaining Agreement. SB Rasenas seconded the motion. SB Wysocki, SB

Rasenas, and CH Haff voted for the motion. SB Bowen voted against the motion. The motion passed.

- SB Wysocki proposed using some of the remaining ARPA funds for employee retention to be provided as $5,000 dollar retention bonuses for each of the three Police Officers on staff. CH Haff stated he agreed with SB Wysocki for retention bonuses for the Police Department however, he would like the Town Manager to come back to the Selectboard with a retention plan for all Town Employees.
- SB Wysocki made a motion to allow the Town Manager to determine how to best use Fund #114, Workforce Retention Grant. SB Rasenas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

13. Town Manager's Report

- TM Cushing congratulated Monika Legayada, Town Treasurer, for being awarded a grant from the New England Association City and Town Clerks to go towards future trainings.
- TM Cushing stated one of the ways the Town was looking to offset the revenue gap from the FY 2026 Budget was to offload some assets. The Town has already sold a truck and will be looking to sell the River Road Firehouse. TM Cushing asked for permission from the Selectboard to work with Judy Storch, who has previously worked with the Town, to list the property at an assessed value of $101,200 dollars. CH Haff stated he did not believe that the Town needed a Real Estate agent to sell the property and instead, the Town should post the sale in the Mountain Times and on the Town's website. SB Wysocki stated he was against selling the Firehouse as he believed the long-term benefit to the Town was greater than the short-term benefit of the cash flow. CH Haff stated he agreed with SB Wysocki.
- CH Haff made a motion to announce in the Mountain Times and post online that the Town is putting the Firehouse, as-is, up for sale for $101,200 dollars, with the sale going to the highest bidder. SB Rasenas seconded the motion. SB Rasenas and SB Bowen voted for the motion. CH Haff and SB Wysocki voted against the motion. The motion ended in a tie. No decision could be made.

14. Citizen's Comments and Concerns

- Andrew Gieda, Town Resident, stated he believed the Selectboard was setting up the Town Manager to fail by reducing the number of staff. Gieda stated as a business owner, it was important to keep employees who were the number one asset, even if it meant you were losing money. Gieda stated that the Selectboard got the Town into the current situation with Town Employees working with Unions. Gieda stated he believed TM Cushing knew best about how many people he needed to have on staff.
- Whit Montgomery, Police Chief, stated he was surprised, shocked, and disappointed about the elimination of the fourth Police Officer position. Montgomery stated it was an officer safety issue. He stated the Police Department's call volume has increased and they have an Officer out on medical

leave. Montgomery stated this decision would impact Officer safety, the morale of the Police Department, and public safety.

- Rob Kovalesky, Town Resident, asked if there was another output to use Fund #114 for Employee Retention, that would benefit the safety of the Town and its workflow. CH Haff stated the Selectboard requested that TM Cushing come back with potential ideas on how to best utilize the fund.
- Josh Eckler, Town Resident, asked if a hiring committee would be put together to hire a new Fire Chief. CH Haff stated the Selectboard was just informed during an Executive Session at this Meeting that the Fire Chief was resigning. The Selectboard approved the salary to be set at $85,000 dollars for the next Fire Chief however, the Selectboard was not putting together a hiring committee for a new Fire Chief at this time.
- Kirsten Hathaway, Finance Director, stated that every position the Town cut was a Union position. CH Haff stated that the Selectboard could not engage in a direct conversation with Town Employees. Town Employees would need to speak with their Union Representatives about their concerns. The Union Representatives would then contact the Town's Legal Counsel and inform the Selectboard.

15. Selectboard Member Concerns

- SB Bowen stated he still stands by the letter he read at a previous Selectboard Meeting and believed nothing had changed since then.
- CH Haff asked TM Cushing to confirm if there was a $650,000 dollar change order put in for Water Contracts 1 through 3A related to the wells to the storage tanks. TM Cushing confirmed this was true.
- CH Haff asked if the Town had provided Great Gulf with a document showing how much money had been spent and how much money was still owed. TM Cushing stated the Town was still working on this document. CH Haff stated he believed this document was supposed to be provided by April 1, 2026 as per the Development Agreement. This document would be provided to the developer and to the Selectboard.
- CH Haff asked to hold a discussion on the future of the Town's committees and several positions' terms were coming to an end and the Selectboard would need to confirm who would be returning and who would be resigning.

16. Executive Session – Personnel

- No Executive Session was held.

17. Adjourn

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:22pm.