

TOWN OF LUDLOW, VT

SELECT BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2025

6:00 P.M.

HEALD AUDITORIUM

[Select Board Meeting – August 4, 2025 ZOOM LINK](#)

Meeting ID: 963 5236 4337

Passcode: 411479

One tap mobile

+13126266799,96352364337#,,,,*411479# US (Chicago)

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Dial by your location

<https://zoom.us/j/96352364337?pwd=ZUJlR1grh212>

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brett Sanderson, Chair

Justin Hyjek

George Tucker, Jr.

Scott Baitz

Noah Schmidt

STAFF:

Brendan McNamara

Lisha Klaiber

Chief Jeff Warfle

Officer Marissa Foote

Sgt. Brendan Reilly

OTHERS PRESENT:

Eric Alden

Mark Foote

Sherry Tucker

Joanna Bombadil

Mary Foote

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

- A. Brett Sanderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All members present. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Consideration of any Changes, Additions or Removals to the Agenda

- A. Brendan McNamara said that no changes are needed

III. Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings

- A. July 7, 2025

1. **MOTION by Justin Hyjek and seconded by Scott Baitz to approve the minutes from July 7, 2025 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

IV. Comments from Citizens

- A. There were none

V. Department Head Reports

- A. Brendan McNamara said that all of the reports have been submitted.
B. Noah Schmidt asked Chief Warfle by Special Investigations Unit.
C. Chief Warfle said that it includes crimes against children and sexual abuse. We work with the Windsor County office.

VI. Review & Approve Liquor License

- A. Brendan McNamara said that that there is one license to be approved

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Class</u>
Tucker Ruel	CAJT Restaurant (Homestyle Restaurant	First Class Third Class

- A. Justin Hyjek recused himself from the vote.
B. **MOTION by Scott Baitz and seconded by George Tucker, Jr. to approve this liquor license. Motion passed unanimously.**

VII. Review & Approve Draft Agreement with LAST

- A. Brendan McNamara said that LAST needs to have this agreement in order to apply for grants. This agreement includes a framework for cooperation between the Town and LAST for planning,

design, construction, maintenance and management of the trails on designated town owned properties. The designated trails are listed. The agreement also includes responsibilities of LAST including: trail planning and design, construction, maintenance, signage, insurance, reporting, fundraising and volunteer management.

- B. Justin Hyjek said it looks great
- C. **MOTION by Justin Hyjek and seconded by Noah Schmidt to approve the proposed Draft Agreement with LAST.**
- D. Noah Schmidt asked who created the document because he wondered why it was only for 5 years.
- E. Brendan McNamara said we did.
- F. **Motion passed unanimously.**

VIII. Ludlow Police Department Officer Recognition

- A. Chief Warfle said that sometimes the police get paid for what they may have to do like chases and deaths. On June 22, 2025, at 3:44 p.m., a call came in about a possible suicide attempt at the railroad bridge. Officer Marissa Foote responded to the area and Sgt. Reilly was able to gather more information about the man on the bridge. Initially, Officer Foote could not get to the area, but moved. She was able to contact the man by telephone and spoke with him calmly and reassuringly. She was able to convince the man to come off the bridge and continue to talk with her. She was professional, caring, and understanding. She bought the man a bottle of Gatorade. He was having mood swings, getting agitated again and she would calm him again. She convinced him to go to Springfield Hospital and got agitated again. Officer Foote calmed him again and he was admitted. Officer Foote used sound judgement, she was brave and caring. Days later, after the man was released, he came into the station and thanked the Ludlow police, He would have committed suicide. This was despite the fact that he has previously been arrested by the Ludlow police.
- B. Justin Hyjek thanked all for their well-rounded efficiency.
- C. Brendan McNamara said we are thankful to Officer Foote and the great job the Ludlow Police are doing every day.
- D. A certificate was given to Officer Foote and she received a standing ovation from all present.

IX. Review Freedom Hill North Road Improvements – Action to Consider Acceptance as a Town Highway Class 3 Road

- A. Brendan McNamara said that this is more of a clerical item. The property owners of a ¼ mile section of Freedom Hill North Road have asked to have the town take over this portion of the road. It is currently a Class 4 Road. The owners have brought that portion of the road up to town highway specifications. They turn-around can now be plowed. The road now has the same guidelines as all other Class 3 roads in Town. We will update the town highway numbers that are provided in the state report.
- B. Noah Schmidt asked if the turn-around is easier.

- C. Brendan McNamara said yes.
- D. **MOTION by Noah Schmidt and seconded by Scott Baitz to accept the ¼ mile portion of Freedom Hill North Road as a Class 3 town highway. Motion passed unanimously.**

X. Review & Consider Approval of Updated Ambulance Billing Rates

- A. Brendan McNamara said that this is a carryover from the July Select Board meeting. Chief Whalen had proposed a rate increase but no action was listed on the agenda. The rates have not been adjusted in years.
- B. **MOTION by George Tucker, Jr. and seconded by Noah Schmidt to accept the rate increase proposed by Chief Whalen at the meeting on July 7, 2025 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

XI. Municipal Manager Updates

- A. Welcome Sign at north entrance to Town.
 - 1. Brendan McNamara said that the sign has been redone thanks to Kathy Burns, Mike O'Neil, Greg McGown and George Benson, Jr.
- B. Tennis Courts at Dorsey Park
 - 1. Brendan McNamara said the rehabilitation work on the tennis courts has been completed and will be opened tomorrow. Now all we need is benches.
- C. Upcoming Public Hearings
 - 1. Trustees' Public Hearing for Food Truck Ordinance tomorrow, August 5, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
 - 2. Trustees' meeting tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.
 - 3. Joint Select Board and Trustees' public hearing on the Rental Registry Ordinance next Tuesday, August 12, 2025
 - 4. September 3, 2025 – 1st (of 3) public hearings for the Charter for the Town and Village merger. He said that a copy of the Charter draft will be posted in town hall, on the website and hard copies will be available in town hall.
 - 5. Brendan McNamara said he will send board members an email listing all of the upcoming public hearings.
- D. Dams
 - 1. Brendan McNamara said that Sites 1 and 2 are approaching 60% engineering completion. West Hill – materials for the pad have been put in. This is a \$40,000,000 project and is completely funded by the Federal government. This is despite the hiccup of possible lost of funding. We kept working and did not lose funding. We hope to start construction on Sites 1 and 2 next year.
 - 2. Noah Schmidt asked what that means.

3. Brendan McNamara said the dams are cracked and will be fixed. The control towers will be replaced. Spillways will be repaired and will have larger rocks. New materials will prevent breaching. He said the pipes under are probably eroded and will be replaced. He said that the dams are in fairly good shape now, but will be in c=great shape once this is done.

XII. Other Business

- A. None

XIII. Possible Items for Next Meeting: September 1, 2025

- A. Brendan McNamara said that the next regular meeting would be scheduled for Monday, September 1, 2025. This year it is Labor Day. He said that changing it, means jockeying around other meetings.
- B. General consensus to have next regular meeting on September 1, 2025.

XIV. Sign Warrant Orders

- A. Brendan McNamara said they have been signed

XV. Possible Executive Session/Personnel/Contracts/Legal Issues

- A. Brendan McNamara said an Executive Session for personnel is needed. He said that Chief Warfle will be invited to attend.
- B. MOTION by Justin Hyjek and seconded by Noah Schmidt to enter into Executive Session for personnel and to invite Chief Warfle to attend. Motion passed unanimously.**
- C. The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:24 p.m.
- D. MOTION by Justin Hyjek and seconded by Scott Baitz to exit Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.**
- E. No action taken
- F. Board exited Executive Session at 6:49 p.m.

XVI. Adjourn

- A. MOTION by Scott Baitz and seconded by Noah Schmidt to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lisha Klaiber

Brett Sanderson, Chairman

Noah Schmidt

Scott Baitz

George Tucker, Jr.

Justin Hyjek