

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday September 23, 2025, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

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AGENDA:

- Addition & Deletion
- Sign Orders
- Review Minutes of September 9, 2025
- Road Commissioner Updates
- VLT farm project Letter of Support
- ACO Badge number follow-up
- Discussion of Ad for winter driver of Town truck
- Other Business
- Public Comment on any agenda line if hand is raised

Selectboard:
Jennifer Blay-Chm
Darren Pion
Wayne Richardson

MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF LOWELL
Meeting held on September 23, 2025.

Board members present:

Jennifer Blay-Chm, Darren Pion, Wayne Richardson
Christy M. Pion -Town Clerk/Selectboard Clerk/Ass't Treasurer
Marie A. Busch-Town Treasurer/Ass't Clerk
Levi Booska-Road Foreman/ Commissioner

***Note: All meetings are recorded on a handheld recording device. ***

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.

GUEST:

- BRENDA WESOLOW- RESIDENT/ZONING BOARD MEMBER
- DOTTIE SPOERL-RESIDENT/AUDITOR
- MEGAN GEOFFROY-RESIDENT/FOLK
- WILLIAM HERERARA-RESIDENT/JP
- GORDON SPENCER-RESIDENT/AUDITOR/JP/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Additions and Deletions: See additions and deletions below.

****Junior Hoops Basketball: ****

- Discussion about reviving a junior basketball program (grades 3-5) in Lowell.
- Previous attempts to join leagues in Newport and Orleans were unsuccessful.
- Exploring options for skills and drills if a team can't be formed.
- Need to determine student interest, insurance costs, and school involvement (Talk to Principal Rhoda).
- Conclusion: Tabled the decision until more information is gathered on insurance and potential participation.

. **Snack Shack Shed Cleanout: **

- A sign and other items in the snack shack shed may belong to the town.

- Conclusion: Board members will inspect the items before disposal.

Sign Orders:

- Financials for the Treasurer were approved and signed by the Board.

Minutes from September 9, 2025:

- Minutes from September 9, 2025, were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Road Commissioner Updates (and other road related issues) (Levi Booska & Darren Pion):

****Valley Road Project: ****

- Stone lining is nearly complete, with seeding and mulching remaining.
- The project has exceeded the initial budget due to additional culverts.
- Conclusion: Continue with the project but monitor costs closely.

****Winter Driver Position: ****

- AJ is likely to fill the winter driver position.
- He is expected to request \$25/hour.
- Conclusion: Schedule an interview with AJ for the next meeting to discuss pay and paperwork.

****Dust Complaints: ****

- The town has received numerous dust complaints.
- The road crew has been applying chloride and watering roads.
- Conclusion: Continue dust control efforts.

****Potter Road Bridge: ****

- The bridge needs repair, specifically replacing the six-by-sixes.
- Waiting on a load analysis from the state.
- Conclusion: Order pressure-treated six-by-sixes and related materials to complete the repairs before winter.

****Robtoy Road: ****

- Discussion about adding stone to Robtoy Road after the Carter Road project is complete.
- Conclusion: Add stones to Robtoy Road after the Carter Road project is complete.

****Tailings and J.A. McDonald: ****

- Discussion about hauling tailings from the town pit for various residents.
- J.A. McDonald used the town's screen and did not pay for it.
- Conclusion: Send an invoice to J.A. McDonald for the use of the screen. Monitor tailings more closely when tailings are available.

VLT farm project Letter of Support:

****Vermont Land Trust (VLT) Farm Project: ****

- VLT is seeking a letter of support for a project to purchase and improve farm property.
- Concerns were raised about the state being able to do things that private landowners cannot.
- Conclusion: The Select Board voted *not* to sign the letter of support. They will invite a representative from VLT to the next meeting to discuss the project further.

Other Business:

****Animal Control Officer (ACO) Badge Numbers: ****

- Ashley, the ACO, needs a badge number to perform her duties, after the application is processed the Town will receive her badge number and station number.
- The Select Board members are also added to the list of authorized signers to receive badge numbers to help the ACO when needed.
- Conclusion: The paperwork has been submitted, and the badge numbers are expected soon.

****Tax Sales: ****

- Discussion about initiating tax sales for delinquent properties.
- The state requires a minimum of \$1,500 in taxes owed to initiate a tax sale.
- Conclusion: Consult with a lawyer to determine the best course of action and associated costs.

****Road Paving: ****

- Discussion about paving options for a section of road, including shimming and milling.
- Concerns about the longevity of shimming without a topcoat.
- Conclusion: The Road Commissioner will obtain a quote for milling and shimming a section of road.

****General Tones & Themes Conclusions: ****

- * The meeting focused on addressing immediate needs and planning for the upcoming winter.
- * There was a strong emphasis on fiscal responsibility and ensuring that town resources are used effectively.
- * The Select Board members expressed a desire to support community initiatives but also voiced concerns about state overreach and fairness.

Board Warrants:

➤ General Order # 20	\$	11,551.06
➤ Payroll Order # 20	\$	<u>6,321.51</u>

Signed for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling - \$ 17,872.57

* **Note:** Full discussion details of the minutes are available in the Clerk’s office. *
Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by: Christy M. Pion
Next meeting date: October 7, 2025, at the Town Office Building.

Jennifer Blay – Chair

Christy M. Pion–Selectboard Clerk

Darren Pion-Select Person

Wayne Richardson-Select Person