

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday October 21, 2025, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

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AGENDA:

- Addition & Deletion
- Sign Orders
- Review Minutes of October 7, 2025
- Road Commissioner Updates
- 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 October 21, 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 (Absent)
Levi Booska-Road Foreman/ Commissioner

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

Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.

Guest:

- Dottie Spoerl (Resident/Auditor)
- Brenda Wesolow (Resident/Zoning Member)
- Larry Lacross (Resident)
- Matthew Wilson (the Chronicle)
- Wenzday Jane (Zoning Board Member)
- Annie Riecke (Resident)
- Chris Collard (Resident)

Additions and Deletions: See additions and deletions below.

Northland Solar Project:

- A proposed comment to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regarding the Northland Solar Project was discussed. The comment aims to state facts without explicitly supporting or opposing the project.
- Concerns were raised about the project's alignment with the town plan, zoning bylaws (agricultural/rural designation), and opposition from abutting property owners and residents.
- The Select Board and Zoning Board are trying to balance the potential benefits of the project with the town's vision and regulations.
- The town is considering how to assess the property taxes if the land is converted to commercial use for solar panels.
- The Select Board and Zoning Board agreed to submit a letter to the PUC, signed by both Board Chairs, expressing the Town's concerns.

Ambulance Budget Meeting:

- The Town of Jay requested a meeting to discuss the ambulance budget for 2026.
- The Select Board agreed to attend a meeting on November 19, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Jay Town Office.

Mobile Primary Care Unit:

- A mobile primary care unit is seeking to use the town's address for Medicare and Medicaid billing purposes.
- The Select Board has questions about insurance, mailing address, liability, and electricity.
- The board invited the representative to the next meeting to address these concerns.

Sign Orders:

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

Minutes from October 7, 2025:

- Minutes from October 7, 2025, were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Road Commissioner Updates (Levi Booska & Darren Pion):

- Carter Road project is complete, but the state recommends guide rails. The board will consider this based on remaining project funds.
- Valley Road was also inspected.
- Paving options for roads were discussed.
- A new winter roads person, A.J. Sicotte, has been hired.
- The bridge on Potter Road needs work.

Sanding Churches:

- The board discussed whether the town should provide sanding services to churches. The consensus was that they had previously agreed not to provide this service.

Grant Work:

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- The board discussed the status of grant-funded projects and the process for submitting paperwork.
- There are no funds available for structures grants for next year.

Other Business:

****Treasurer's Report (Marie Busch): ****

****Tax Sales: ****

- Marie asked Jenn to provided information on tax sales she had left for the meeting in her absence, including costs and procedures. The town is considering pursuing tax sales for delinquent properties.

****Town Internet and Phone: ****

- The town switched to broadband for internet service, resulting in cost savings.
- The board discussed whether to eliminate landlines at the town office, library, and garage.
- The library may still be getting charged for long distance.

**** Conclusions: ****

- * ****Solar Project:**** Submit a letter to the PUC expressing the town's concerns.
- * ****Ambulance Budget:**** Attend the meeting with the Town of Jay.
- * ****Mobile Primary Care Unit:**** Await the representative's attendance at the next meeting to address questions.
- * ****Town Roads:**** Obtain a quote for guardrails on Carter Road.
- * ****Tax Sales:**** Review the information provided by Marie and consider pursuing tax sales.
- * ****Town Internet and Phone:**** Investigate the library's phone service and consider eliminating landlines.
- * ****Grant Work:**** Compile paperwork for grant-funded projects and submit it to the state.
- * ****Budget:**** Marie to start preparing budget information for review at the next meeting.

In essence, the meeting covered a range of topics, from large-scale projects like the solar farm to routine town maintenance and administrative matters. The board is actively gathering information, considering options, and making decisions to address the town's needs and priorities.

Board Warrants:

➤	General Order # 22	\$	40,969.92
➤	Payroll Order # 22	\$	<u>7,648.41</u>

Signed for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling - \$ 48,618.33

* Note: Full discussion details of the minutes are available in the Clerk’s office. *

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Christy M. Pion

Next meeting date: November 4, 2025, at the Town Office Building.

Jennifer Blay – Chair

Christy M. Pion–Selectboard Clerk

Darren Pion-Select Person

Wayne Richardson-Select Person