

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday April 8, 2025, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

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AGENDA:

- Addition & Deletions
- Review the Rules of Order
- Fuel book discussion
- Public participation discussion
- Public Comment after each Discussion
- Personnel Policy
- Appointment of Forest Fire Warden & Deputy Forest Fire Warden
- Sign Orders
- Review Minute from March 25, 2025
- Road Commissioner Updates
- Approval of Municipal Weight Permits
- Discussion with 2nd Constable
- Other Business

Selectboard:
Jennifer Blay-Chm
Darren Pion
Wayne Richardson

MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF LOWELL
Meeting held on April 8, 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

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

Meeting called to order at 5:30p.m.

GUEST:

- Dotty Spoerl- Auditor
- Chad Falconer-Road Crew
- Brenda Wesolow-Zoning Board Member
- Seth Pierce-Recycling
- Jason Richardson-Camera System upgrade
- Courtney Richardson-Baseball Coordinator
- Matthew Wilson- The Chronicle
- Camellia Morrison-Resident
- Joshua King-2nd ACO

Additions and Deletions: See additions and deletions below.

Camera System Upgrade:

- Proposal: Install a new camera system with a radio link to cover the shed, shop, and town buildings, replacing the old system at the shop.
- Benefits: Enhanced security, potential cost savings by eliminating separate internet bills, and comprehensive coverage.
- Discussion: Concerns about monthly fees, storage capacity, and motion detection capabilities.

- Conclusion: The Select Board unanimously approves the camera system upgrade.

Recycling Coverage:

- Issue: Ensuring consistent coverage for recycling duties, especially with potential absences.
- Discussion: Concerns about multiple people having access to the town garage and potential security issues.
- Conclusion: The Selectboard is going to manage the security and access. Keeping the coverage as simple as possible, and Doug and Seth working it out the schedule between themselves with Marie's oversight.

Second Constable Position (Josh):

- Issue: Josh's eligibility for the second constable position due to his past record and the duties associated with the role.
- Discussion: Clarification from VLCT (Vermont League of Cities and Towns) stating that constables with criminal records can hold the position if they don't perform law enforcement duties, but this must be approved by voters.
- Conclusion: Josh will be appointed as animal control officer, with the title of constable, but limited duties. The board will put an article in for next year's town meeting to change the title to animal control officer.

Appointment of Forest Fire Warden & Deputy Forest Fire Warden:

- Discussion: Appointing the Forest Fire Warden & Deputy.
- Conclusion: Gerry Nick and Marc Sicotte will continue as Forest fire Warden & Deputy Forest Fire Warden.

Personnel Policy:

- Discussion: Review of personnel policy, including comp time, vacation, sick time, and holidays.
- Conclusion: Table the personnel policy until next meeting to allow all Board members to review the current personnel policy.

Sign Orders:

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

Minutes from March 25, 2025:

- Minutes from March 25, 2025, were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Road Commissioner Updates:

- Road Conditions: Discussed potholes, culvert issues, and a dangerous section of Irish Road.
- Abandoned Vehicles: Two abandoned cars on the Diette Road, one blocking the road.
- Road Posting: Roads to be posted in March need to be posted on the DOT's website by February 10th.
- Road Commissioner Position: Still advertising for the position. Chad is leaving but may come back when fall gets here.
- FEMA Meeting: Discussed the FEMA meeting that The Board was unable to attend but were sent the minutes so that they still know what the meeting was about.

Approval of Municipal Weight Permits:

- Municipal Weight permits were approved and signed for the following: **Matt McAllister Logging, LLC**

Review the Rules of Order & Public Comment after each Discussion:

- Discussion: Review of rules of order to adjust for public participation and change the amount of time people have for speaking.

- Conclusion: The board will add a bullet to the agenda as a standing order that says public comment is welcome on any agenda item if hand raised.

Other Business:

Tire Event:

- Discussion: Tire event to be held May 10th from 8 to noon.
- Conclusion: The Clerk will get the flyers ready and post them on the sign when it gets closer.

Broadband Expansion Initiative:

- Discussion: Letter of support for a broadband equity access and deployment.
- Conclusion: The Clerk will put it on letterhead and the Board will sign it.
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Allegiance:

- The board discussed the issues with the truck that was fixed at Allegiance.

Shipping Container:

- Discussed a resident's complaint about a shipping container and other items being built on her property.

E-Newsletter:

- Discussed the e-newsletter to improve communications.

FEMA Money and Bridge Money:

- Discussed the FEMA money had finally been received.
- Marie told the Board about the detective from the state police calling to make sure that the town was okay and was glad that we had finally received the money that was intercepted, and that Lowell was made whole.

Board Warrants:

➤ General Order # 8	\$	88,489.81
➤ Payroll Order # 8	\$	<u>5,195.91</u>

Signed for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling -	\$	93,685.72
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** Note: Full discussion details of the minutes are available in the Clerks office.**
Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Christy M. Pion
Next meeting date: April 8, 2025, at the Town Office Building.

<hr/> Jennifer Blay – Chair	<hr/> Christy M. Pion–Selectboard Clerk
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<hr/> Darren Pion-Select Person	<hr/> Wayne Richardson-Select Person
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