

Special Combined Selectboard Meeting
Troy, Jay, Westfield, Lowell re: ambulance budget.
December 3, 2025
Jay Municipal Building
Minutes

Board Members Present:

Jay: Dave Sanders, Tara Morse, Le-Ann Tetrault

Troy: Robert Langlands, Anne Quirion, Gaston Bathalon (near end of meeting)

Westfield: Jacques Couture, Richard Degre, Dennis Vincent

Lowell: Jenn Blay, Wayne Richardson

Others Present: Pat Sanders, Jan Degre, Patty Spoerl, Jeff Johansen

Dave called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Additions or Deletions to the agenda – None
2. Newport Ambulance Service - Dave opened the discussion with a brief recap of the last meeting and an explanation of the handouts with optional payment scenarios and one with a proposal from Jenn Blay.
 - A. Jenn clarified her proposal in which Jay Peak (Jay) would pay 25% of the total request and the remaining 3/4 would be paid by percentages of the grand list and call volume. Pat mentioned that if the Grand list were being considered and Jay Peak was expected to pay paying 25% of the total, than Jay Peak's portion of the Grand List should be removed when calculating Jay's percentage left to pay.
 - B. Discussion of all of the options followed with the following being highlights of the discussion.
 - Dave and the other Jay Board members feel strongly that there should be a fixed cost (%) of the total request that all towns should play for having the service available to their towns and the remainder distributed either by call volume or a combination of Grand List and call volume.
 - Tara mentioned that when the Boards originally went into this agreement, they agreed that they would use the Grand List payment schedule that was currently being used only until they had accurate figures for calls and actual costs at which time the payment proportions would be revisited. We now have almost 2 years of statistics and there needs to be a more equitable way of paying for the service that does not penalize any town.
 - Wayne & Jacques felt that using the Grand list to base cost distributions was the fairest. However, some felt the 1/3 Fixed, 1/3 grand List and 1/3 call volume might be the most stable.
 - Two of the Towns have recently undergone reassessment (Troy, Lowell) but the other two will be doing that next year.

- Patty mentioned that the Boards might want to use the State's Common Level of Appraisal calculation instead of the actual grand list. That is how the State equalizes expenditures.
- C. Wayne made a motion to use the original grand list calculations for determining the distribution of expenses. Motion was not seconded.
- D. Robert made a motion seconded by Jacques to use the current Grand List figures reported by the Town Clerks in December of this year to determine the distribution of expenses. Motion passed by a majority of a voice vote.
- E Jacques complimented the Newport Ambulance Service for the service they have provided the Towns and wanted them to know that the disagreements around how to pay for the service has nothing to do with the quality of service they are being provided. All expressed their support for the NAS and thanked Jeff for all his work.

3. Executive Session – None needed

4. To Adjourn

- A. Wayne made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Pat Sanders