

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday December 2, 2025, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

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AGENDA:

- Addition & Deletion
- SWIP Adoption decision
- More Budget Discussion
- Phone services discussion
- Hayfield bid discussion
- Discuss possible info meeting dates for special vote happening on December 19, 2025
- Sign Orders
- Review Minutes of November 18, 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 December 2, 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 in Training

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

Meeting called to order at 5:40 p.m.

Guest:

- Dottie Spoerl (Resident/Auditor)
- Brenda Wesolow (Resident/Zoning Member)
- Annie Riecke (Resident)
- Chris Collard (Resident)
- Brian Richardson (Resident)

Additions and Deletions: See additions and deletions below.

- **Rabid Animals:** The US Department of Agriculture is seeking permission to search for and dispose of rabid animals on town land. The board agreed to the use of town land for the USDA.
- **Ambulance Service Funding:** A new funding proposal for the ambulance service is presented, suggesting J Peak pay 25% off the top, with the remaining balance split between towns based on grand list and call volume. There's debate about the fairness of grand list vs. fixed rate vs. per capita, especially considering J Peak's seasonal population. Concerns are raised about budgeting difficulties with per-call rates and the impact of differing grand list reassessment schedules. The fairest way is to keep it at the same percentage we're at.

- **Snowmobile Trail:** Discussion about a snowmobile trail moving onto town park land. Concerns are raised about trash and enforcement, but the board agrees to try it and monitor the situation.
- **Donations:** During a previous meeting the Selectboard was questioning whether or not the Town was able to accept donations being that we are a nonprofit. Marie Busch, Town Treasurer, looked into it, and the town can accept donations, which should go into the general fund but can be tagged for a specific purpose.
- **Hayfield Bid:** A bid of \$400 from Darren and Wayne is accepted for a three-year rental of the hayfield, with the understanding that they maintain the field.

Phone services discussion:

- Phone Service: The town is looking into switching to an online phone service, tabled until information can be obtained.

SWIP Adoption Discussion:

SWIP Adoption: The board agrees to adopt the SWIP (Solid Waste Implementation Plan).

More Budget Discussions:

- The board reviews the road budget and the select board budget, adjusting various line items. Key topics include ambulance service costs, cemetery funding, appraisal fund, paving fund, building maintenance, dog license fees, and payroll.
- Personnel: The board discusses the possibility of raises for town employees.

Sign Orders:

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

Minutes from November 18, 2025:

- Minutes from November 18, 2025, were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Road Commissioner Updates (Levi Booska & Darren Pion):

- Discussion of plow parts, truck maintenance, and the use of salt in sand.

Other Business:

Special Vote on Solar Project Legal Representation: A special vote is scheduled for December 19th to authorize spending up to \$50,000 for legal representation against a solar project. The board discusses mailing information about the vote to residents and holding another informational meeting. A site visit for the solar project is tentatively scheduled for December 11th.

**** Overall Conclusions: ****

- The board is supportive of the USDA's request regarding rabid animals.
- The ambulance funding formula remains a point of contention, with no clear consensus reached. The Board will pitch their ideas, and if that doesn't work, they will try something else to come to a fair but suitable answer.
- The snowmobile trail will be allowed to use the park land, with monitoring for trash.
- The town can accept donations.
- The SWIP will be adopted.
- The hayfield bid is accepted.
- The town will continue to pursue an online phone service.
- A special vote will be held, and information will be mailed to residents.
- The road budget will be kept as is.

Board Warrants:

➤	General Order # 25	\$	61,502.91
➤	Payroll Order # 25	\$	<u>8,514.76</u>

Signed for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling -	\$	70,017.67
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* Note: Full discussion details of the minutes are available in the Clerk’s office. *

Meeting adjourned at 7:55p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Christy M. Pion

Next meeting date: December 17, 2025, at the Town Office Building.

Jennifer Blay – Chair

Christy M. Pion–Selectboard Clerk

Darren Pion-Select Person

Wayne Richardson-Select Person