

# Town of Mendon, Vermont

## Selectboard Meeting Minutes

**Date:** April 13, 2026

**Time Called to Order:** 5:36 p.m.

**Location:** Town Office with remote option available.

**Members Present:** Megan Smith, Chair and Seth Bridge

**Officers Present:** Sara Tully, Town Administrator

**Others Present:** Brian Gates, Carol Gates, Karl Acker

Rutland County Sheriff Deputy was present.

### 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the Selectboard meeting of April 13, 2026 to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### 3. Agenda Review

No additions or deletions to the agenda were noted.

### 4. Approval of Orders and Payroll

M. Smith moved to approve orders in the amount of \$9,787.26, additional orders in the amount of \$2,411.48, and payroll dated March 31, 2026 (gross \$14,588.75, net \$10,685.54). Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

### 5. Approval of Minutes

M. Smith moved to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of March 16, 2026 and March 23, 2026. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

**6. Announcements:** No announcements were made.

### 7. Public Comment

Brian Gates (In-Person)

B. Gates raised concerns regarding long-standing drainage and culvert issues allegedly causing damage to his property, questioned permitting practices, and alleged misconduct related to zoning and earth removal. The Chair warned Mr. Gates regarding decorum and time limits during public comment. After repeated disruptions and use of profanity, Mr. Gates was removed from the meeting.

Karl Acker (In-Person)

Mr. Acker discussed traffic safety and speeding concerns on Town Line Road, including installation of radar speed signs and additional speed limit signage placement. Mr. Acker requested coordination with Rutland Town law enforcement. M. Smith explained the Mendon Road Crew will be installing the radar speed feedback signs this Spring.

Carol Gates (Online)

C. Gates expressed concern regarding the handling of property damage issues and Selectboard conduct and stated intent to pursue legal action.

## **8. Business Items**

### **A. Award of Paving and Infrastructure Improvement Projects**

#### **1. Woodward Road and Journey's End Paving Projects**

- Lowest qualified bidder: Pike Industries
- Amounts:
  - Journey's End: \$105,570.60
  - Woodward Road: \$94,635.00

M. Smith moved to award both contracts to Pike Industries. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

#### **2. Woodward Road Dry Hybrid Project**

- Lowest qualified bidder: Slate Rock Timber – \$19,100.00

M. Smith moved to award the contract to Slate Rock Timber. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

#### **3. Speed Limit Radar Sign Project**

- Lowest qualified bidder: Lafayette Highway Specialties - \$10,700.00

M. Smith moved to award the contract to Lafayette Highway Specialties. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

### **B. Economic Development Small Grant Program**

The Chair presented the Mendon Economic Development Grant Program, funded through 50% of the 1% local option tax. Grants up to \$5,000, reimbursable upon project completion, will support blighted property remediation and housing expansion (excluding short-term rentals).

M. Smith moved to approve the Economic Development Grant Program. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

**C. Town Office Security Improvements**

Security upgrades to the town office vestibule by installing a camera were discussed, with costs to be paid from the Town Office Maintenance Fund.

M. Smith moved to approve the purchase and installation of the camera to be paid for out of the Town Office Maintenance Fund. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

**D. Policy Adoptions**

**Cash Receipts, Petty Cash, and Returned Check Policy**

C. Gates demanded the policy be read in its entirety. M. Smith declined the request. M. Smith moved to approve the Cash Receipts, Petty Cash, and Returned Check Policy. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried. After multiple disruptions, the Chair called Ms. Gates out of order and she was muted from comment online. The Selectboard instructed S. Tully to post the policy on the Town’s website after the meeting.

**Universal Fee Schedule Update**

M. Smith moved to approve the Universal Fee Schedule dated 4/16/26. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

**Highway Department Policies:**

**Building & Equipment Use and Security Policy**

M. Smith moved to approve the Building & Equipment Use and Security Policy. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

**Key Lock Control Policy**

M. Smith moved to approve the Key Lock Control Policy. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

**9. Adjournment:** M. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Motion seconded by S. Bridge and the motion carried.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Megan Smith

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Tully- Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seth Bridge