

**Minutes of Town Meeting
Monday March 2, 2026 6:00pm
VTRANS Building
(virtual option available)**

Selectboard Members Present: Megan Smith, chair, Seth Bridge, Sarah Buxton

Others present: Chris Corsones, Moderator; Jesse Bridge, Town Clerk & Treasurer; Joy Hatfield, Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer; Sara Tully, Town Administrator (virtual); Ethan Sweet, Rutland County Deputy Sheriff; Val Taylor, State Representative; Mark Fiore, Mendon Constable; Chris Baird, Mendon Road Commissioner, 5 virtual participants; 37 Checked in Voters

Moderator Chris Corsones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, Chris went over the rules for the meeting including that remote attendees are allowed to participate for informational purposes only. Chris asked everyone to please acknowledge and recognize Jack Kennelly for his 30 years on the ZBA.

Chris asked for permission to move the legislative report up on the agenda, all were in favor. State Representative Val Taylor updated the voters on what is being discussed in Montpelier.

Article 1 - Shall the Town vote to approve the 2026-2027 Municipal Budget at \$1,440,733?

Larry Courcelle made the **motion** to approve, Irene Gold seconded, **motion carried**.

Article 2 - Shall the Town vote to adopt all budget articles by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. §2680(c)?

Nicole Kesselring made the **motion** to approve article 2, Rebecca Claffey seconded. **11 in favor 20 opposed – motions failed**.

Article 3 - Shall the Town assess a one percent (1%) tax on sales pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 138(b)?

Jennifer Bagley made the **motion** to approve article 3, Greg Smith seconded. **21 in favor, 10 opposed, motion carried**.

Article 4 - Shall the Town assess a one percent (1%) tax on meals and alcoholic beverages pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 138(b)?

Fred Bagley made the **motion** to approve article 4, Greg Smith seconded, **motion carried**.

Article 5 - Shall the Town assess a one percent (1%) tax on rooms pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 138(b)?

Tom Soriano made the **motion** to approve article 5, Jack Kennelly seconded, **motion carried.**

Article 6 - Shall the Town vote to have all taxes on real property paid to the Treasurer under the provisions of Title 32 VSA Chapter 133 in two installments and with the due dates as September 14, 2026 and March 8, 2027 and to require payment to be physically delivered or received by the Town Office, whether online, in-person, or by telephone, by close of business on those dates with postmarks not accepted as proof of timely payment?

Greg Smith made the **motion** to approve article 6, Tom Soriano seconded.

Discussion followed

John VanSciver made the **motion** to amend the article to add a 10-day grace period to the date, Nicole Kesselring seconded, **motion failed.**

Original article 6 as written carried.

Article 7 - Shall the Town appropriate \$700 for the support of the RSVP Retired Senior Volunteer Program which allows older Americans the opportunity to apply their life experience to help meet community needs?

Article 8 - Shall the Town appropriate \$2,600 for the support of VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region to provide services when in-home care is needed?

Chris made the request to vote on Article 7 & 8 together, all were in favor

Gary Bannister made the **motion** to approve Articles 7 & 8, Irene Gold seconded, **motion carried.**

Article 9 - Shall the Town approve the adoption of the amended Zoning Regulations as approved by the Town Selectboard on January 26, 2026 and the Town Planning Commission on November 20, 2025?

Article 10- To elect the following town officers:

Town Moderator for a 1 year term.

Selectboard Member for a 3 year term.

Article 9 & 10 to be voted on by Australian Ballot March 3 2026.

The meeting **adjourned** at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesse Bridge, Town Clerk

Megan Smith, Selectboard Chair

Chris Corsones, Moderator