

**Town of Danby
Select Board Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2026**

Town Office, Danby, VT 6:30pm

<https://www.danbyvt.org/government-information>

ZOOM MEETING ID: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/813 2851 1750](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81328511750) (Passcode: YNc5S5)

Recording accessible at www.peg.tv.com

Public Present: Bill Payne, Hilda Haines, Kim Corey, Tracey Porter, Rick Porter, Matt Blouin

Virtually Present: Annette Smith, Gary Derr, Lauren Dever, Bill Richardson, Michael, Renata Aylward, Sharon White

Call to order at 6:32pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: (Haines, Fuller, Abbott, Heaton, Bender): All Present

Procedure for Remote Access and Public Comment Statement not read with no objections?

Motion to Set Agenda

- ***Motion by Steve Haines, seconded by Brad Bender.***
- Agenda set with the addition of the Annual Financial Plan for Town Highways under the Road Commissioner's Report.
- ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Public Comment

- No public comments made by in-person attendees or virtual attendees.

Motion to adopt Minutes of Select Board Meeting of March 12, 2026

- ***Motion by Tom Fuller, seconded by Steve Haines.***
- ***Motion passed unanimously.***

71 Abbott Road – Dog Complaint

- The Board reviewed a nuisance dog complaint at 71 Abbott Road. The Rutland County Sheriff responded on March 26, 2026, and issued a written warning for excessive barking occurring multiple times daily for one to two hours at a time. Future violations may result in fines of up to \$500 per day.
- ***Information item only; no Board action taken.***

Employee HSA Concerns – Hilda Haines

- The Board discussed ongoing employee difficulties accessing Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) funds through HealthEquity. Concerns stemmed from prior account deactivation and challenges with reimbursement access. The Treasurer confirmed that Town contributions have been made and accounts are active. The Board agreed that follow-up with HealthEquity is required to resolve employee access and reimbursement delays.
- *Action / Outcome:* Treasurer to continue follow-up with HealthEquity and assist employees in restoring access.

Motion to accept resignation of Auditor Sarah Wilde

- **The Board accepted the resignation of Auditor Sarah Wilde, effective March 17, 2026.**
- ***Motion by Tom Fuller, seconded by Steve Haines.***
- ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Review and Motion to Appoint Auditors (to serve until Town Meeting 2027)

- The Board reviewed letters of interest for the vacant auditor positions.
- **Motion to appoint Bill Payne and Tom Johnston as Town Auditors until Town Meeting 2027.**
- ***Motion by Tom Fuller, seconded by Steve Haines.***
- ***Motion passed unanimously.***

External Audit – Discussion and Approval to Issue RFP

- The Board discussed the status of Town financial reconciliation and the timing of an external audit. After review, the Board agreed to proceed with issuing Requests for Proposals (RFPs).
- **Motion to issue RFPs to four accounting firms and post notice through the Vermont League of Cities & Towns newsletter.**
- ***Motion by Tom Fuller, seconded by Brad Bender.***
- ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Outstanding BROCC Loans Held by the Town of Danby

- The Select Board reviewed the status of the Town's Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council (BROC) loan program. The Board noted that the program was established

through a grant to provide low-interest loans for residents who may not qualify for traditional financing. At the time of the meeting, four loans remained outstanding with a combined balance of approximately \$27,416, and additional funds remain available in the BROOC account subject to program restrictions. The Board discussed that monthly loan statements to borrowers had lapsed during the previous treasurer's term and should be reinstated. The Treasurer confirmed that records exist but require updating and confirmation before letters can be sent.

- *No formal action was taken; the Board agreed the matter should return to a future agenda after updated records are reviewed.*

Treasurer's Report – Katlyn Parker

- The Treasurer reported that bank reconciliations are current and informed residents that property tax credit refund elections must be returned by April 15, 2026, to determine whether credits are refunded or applied to future taxes.
- Marvin Gates was noted as Assistant Treasurer.
- *No motions made.*

RRPC Public Hearing – Board Letter Next Steps

- The Select Board discussed concerns with the RRPC public hearing process and proposed Act 181 land use maps, citing lack of clear implementation rules, impacts to local control, and potential effects on protected areas such as water supplies. The Board approved sending a follow-up letter to state and regional officials to formally document Danby's concerns.
- **Motion to draft and send a letter to Sandy Pinsonault, RRPC, LURB and Legislative leaders expressing Select Board concerns regarding Act 181, land use mapping and Act 250 rule changes**
- ***Motion by Steve Haines, seconded by Ken Abbott.***
- ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Rutland Community Health Partners – Mobile Health Clinic

- The Board discussed a request from Rutland Community Health Partners to host a mobile health clinic in Danby during July 2026. Services include basic health screenings and other basic medical services to residents who are eligible. The Board expressed support, contingent on insurance coverage and scheduling outside Transfer Station operations.
- **Motion to approve use of Town property for the Mobile Health Clinic, pending confirmation of insurance coverage and scheduling coordination**
- ***Motion by Steve Haines, seconded by Ken Abbott.***

- ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Transfer Station Committee Update

- Steve Haines reported difficulty receiving responses from the Solid Waste District regarding permitting questions. Bill Payne offered assistance to follow up directly.
- Transfer Station Reporting Requirement Changes (Effective January 1, 2026)
- The Board reviewed revised State reporting requirements, noting a reduction from quarterly to annual reporting. Casella is expected to provide tonnage data, Tom will confirm Casella is aware of reporting changes.

Road Commissioner's Report – T. Fuller, Jr.

- The Road Commissioner reported on:
 - Completion and signing of the Annual Financial Plan for Town Highways
 - Planned 2026 paving projects, including Timothy Road and Crafts Hill bridge rehabilitation
 - Submission of Municipal Roads GIA letter of intent
- Review and sign VTRANS Bridge Contract (Amended) – Signed by members present.
- Review and sign Fleet Permits for the following applicants:
 - Consolidated Communications
 - Hermann Construction, Inc.
 - Miles Lumber Co., Inc. DBA Miles Fuels
 - Fuller Sand & Gravel, Inc.
 - AmeriGas
 - Engineer's Construction, Inc.
 - Hop Energy, LLC DBA Keyser Energy
 - Cota & Cota
 - Pike Industries
 - Camp Precast
 - Barrett Trucking
 - Wind River Environmental
 - QXO Inc.
 - Driscoll Brothers Excavating, LLC
- **Motion to approve and sign the fleet permits**
- ***Motion by Steve Haines, seconded by Ken Abbott.***

- ***Motion passed unanimously.***
- MRGP Roads Roundtable / Watershed Management Training opportunities were noted.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Motion to Adjourn Meeting

- ***Motion by Brad Bender, seconded by Tom Fuller.***
- ***Motion passed unanimously.***
- **Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM**

Respectfully,
Matthew Blouin
Meeting Facilitator