

Town & Village of Woodstock
Town Selectboard & Board of Trustees Joint Meeting
January 7th, 2025
5:00PM
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present Selectboard: Chair Ray Bourgeois, Greg Fullerton, Keri Cole, Laura Powell

Present Trustees: Chair Seton McIlroy, Jeffrey Kahn, Brenda Blakeman, Frank Horneck, Lisa Lawlor

Public: Harry Falconer, Rogar Logan, Jill Davies

Staff: Eric Duffy

Call to order

1. Selectboard

- a. Chair Ray Bourgeois called the Selectboard meeting of January 7th to order at 5:00PM

2. Trustees

- a. Chair Seton McIlroy called the Trustee meeting January 7th to order at 5:00PM

B. Citizen Comments- None

C. Additions or Deletions from the Agenda

1. Executive Session for the Board of Trustee

D. Discussion

**Two River – Ottawaquechee Regional Commission – Harry Falconer
Municipal Planning Grant**

Seton McIlroy introduces Harry Falconer, the shared energy coordinator for a consortium of six towns, including Woodstock.

Harry Falconer explained the need for the Town and Village to apply for the Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) program to update the Town plan and Bylaws.

Harry Falconer emphasized the importance of updating the Town Plan's future land use chapter to align with best planning practices.

The MPG application could request up to \$30,000, with a 10% match requirement from the town, totaling \$3,000 match.

The application process involves preparing an RFP and bidding out the project, with Two Rivers likely to bid on the project.

The timeline for the application includes preparing the application by the end of February and submitting it by the end of March, with two years to do all the work.

Seton McIlroy inquired about the cost of the project, and Harry Falconer explained that the final cost will be determined after a work plan is written.

Laura emphasized that the project aligns with joint goals for housing and development, and the changes will not affect Town or Village boundaries.

The grant will need to be approved by the Selectboard, Trustees and Planning Commission.

FY 26 Budget Discussion

Eric Duffy opened the budget discussion, noting that the Selectboard has not made any changes affecting the village budget.

Jeffrey Kahn mentioned increasing the endowment fund allocation from 4.2% to 5% and a 2% increase in the budget.

Roger Logan suggested looking at the town and village police budget and questions the efficiency of having a separate police force.

E. Vote

Vermont Endowment Trust Fund

Seton Mclroy introduced the next item on the agenda, a vote about the Vermont Endowment Trust Fund.

Eric Duffy and Jill Davies discussed the history and current policy of the fund, which is managed together by the town and village.

Jill Davies recommended increasing the disbursement from the fund from 4.2% to 5% to ensure sustainability.

Motion: by Seton Mclroy for FY26 budget for the village, change the allocation for the Woodstock Vermont Endowment Trust Fund to 5%

Seconded: by Jeffrey Kahn

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Motion: by Keri Cole for FY26 budget for the town, change the allocation for the Woodstock Vermont Endowment Trust Fund to 5%

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Eric Duffy thanked Jill Davies for all her hard work.

F. Other Business - None

G. Adjournment

1. Selectboard

Motion: by Greg Fullerton to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 PM

Seconded: by Laura Powell

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

H. Executive Session 1 V.S.A 313

Motion: By Chair Seton Mclroy to enter Executive Session 1 V.S.A 313 (5:31PM)

After finding that premature general public knowledge clearly places the public body for a person involved at a disadvantage

Seconded: Jeffrey Kahn

Vote: 4-0-0 passed
Returned at 6:19PM

I. Adjournment

1. Trustees

Motion: by Seton McIlroy to adjourn the meeting at 6:19PM

Seconded: by Jeffrey Kahn

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

*Respectfully submitted,
Kitty Mears Koar*