

**Town of Woodstock
Selectboard Meeting
January 29th, 2025
4:00PM
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes**

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Ray Bourgeois, Laura Powell, Susan Ford, Keri Cole

Staff: Eric Duffy

Public: Jill Davies, Jon Spector, Ben Brickner

Call to order

1. Chair Ray Bourgeois called the Selectboard meeting of January 29th to order at 4:00PM

B. Additions to & deletions from posted agenda -none

C. Citizen Comments – None

D. Vote

Pentangle – 1st Class Liquor License

Eric Duffy discussed the need for Pentangle to ensure proper insurance to avoid liability for the municipality.

Motion: by Susan Ford to approve Pentangle – 1st Class Liquor License provided they secure the appropriate insurance (4:02PM)

Seconded: by Keri Cole

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

FY26 Town Meeting Signing of Warning

Eric Duffy mentioned the need to sign and post the Town Meeting Warning by tomorrow

The board agreed to accept the FY 26 Town Meeting Warning without changes.

Motion: by Susan Ford to accept FY26 Town Meeting Warning (4:03PM)

Seconded: by Keri Cole

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Susan Ford mentioned the idea of having a few scheduled meetings to speak to the public regarding several articles. Ray Bourgeois agreed.

Housing Coordinator Contract

Eric Duffy mentioned that Jill Davies and John Spector are present to discuss the Housing Coordinator Contract.

Jill Davies explained that the \$52,000 budget includes legal and advertising costs.

Ray Bourgeois, Jill Davies, and Jon Spector discussed the difference between committed and encumbered funds.

Jill Davies clarified that \$200,000 is unencumbered and can be reallocated to housing.

Ray Bourgeois questioned the financial details and the success of the housing program.

Laura Powell suggested extending Trena's Tolliver's contract to the end of the fiscal year and revisiting the program's effectiveness.

Susan Ford agreed with Laura's Powells concern, and that it might be time to pause and evaluate the program.

Discussion of ongoing applications, and the need for clear materials for the Selectboard from the EDC.

Motion: by Keri Cole to extend the Housing Advisor Contact for 6 months (4:25PM)

Seconded: by Susan Ford

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Pomfret Ambulance Bill

Eric Duffy discussed the Pomfret ambulance bill and the options of a 25% abatement or a payment plan.

Ray Bourgeois suggested a payment plan over a discount, to avoid setting a precedent. Susan Ford, Keri Cole and Laura Powell, agreed with Ray Bourgeois.

The board agreed to a three-year payment plan for the Pomfret ambulance bill.

Motion: by Laura Powell to have Municipal manager Eric Duffy work out a payment plan with the Town of Pomfret for outstanding ambulance bills (4:29PM)

Seconded: by Susan Ford

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

E. Discussion

Water Ordinance

Eric Duffy discussed the urgency of the Water Ordinance to ensure liability coverage when taking ownership of the Aqueduct at the end of March

Ray Bourgeois and other board members agreed that the town should own the pipes up to the curb stops for better control and maintenance.

The board scheduled a quick meeting for Friday January 31st at 4PM to approve the Water Ordinance.

F. Approval of Minutes

Motion: by Susan Ford to approve the minutes of 11.19.24, 12.17.25, 12.30.24, 01.07.25, 01.13.25, 01.21.25 (4:36PM)

Seconded: by Laura Powell

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

G. Adjournment

Motion: by Susan Ford to adjourn the meeting at (6:37PM)

Seconded: by Keri Cole

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Mears Koar