

***Town of Sunderland, Vermont  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
November 11, 2019***

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**a. Chair called to order the regular meeting of Sunderland Select Board at 7 PM**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. INTRODUCTION of Board Members and speakers. Present were Jon French, chairperson, Rick Timmerman, Conor Stewart, Dixie Zens, Andrew McKeever. Colleen York, recording secretary.**

**Representative Kathleen James attended part of meeting.**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 10/28/19 meeting.**

**Moved by Dixie Zens    Seconded by Rick Timmerman                      Approved**

**5. ROAD LIASON REPORT**

**Bridge on Hill Rd. is progressing. Depending on weather could be wrapped up this week.**

**Town trucks are ready for winter.**

**Budget is being reviewed and looking into other companies for line painting.**

**Working on signs by town garage with hours for fire warden and permits.**

**Performance reviews will be started this week.**

**6. STATE LEGISLATURE UPDATE by Kathleen James**

**Legislators will reconvene January 7, 2020. Ms. James serves on Education Committee, Climate Solution Caucus and Tourism Caucus.**

**State will be reviewing Pre K and there will be changes on how Special Education is funded.**

**There is a Climate Action Forum, November 13, 6:30 to 8 PM at East Arlington Federated Church. An open discussion on climate priorities for next legislative session. Hosted by Rep Kathleen James and David Durfee and Sen Brian Campion.**

**Tourism Caucus will address state funding to increase funding to promote tourism.**

**Reviewed Broadband H.513. Following the November 8 meeting several actions were developed. A Task Force to explore possible next steps. Dixie Zens and Andrew McKeever from Sunderland are on the Task Force. Towns can apply for a grant for a feasibility study and to develop a business plan. Also an option is to form a Communications Union District(CUD) with other towns. The Task Force will address these two and will be scheduled to meet soon.**

#### **7. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

#### **8. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Dixie Zens noted there are more revisions being submitted to Casella for approval. This agreement will stand for 3 years with an option to extend 3 additional years once signed.**

#### **9. OLD BUSINESS**

**Ongoing budget discussions. Chair will request town clerk/treasurer to send data on current budget for board to work from.**

**Energy Committee will be scheduling meetings soon.**

**Chair noted that delinquent taxes owed are the lowest since 1991.**

#### **10. NEW BUSINESS**

**Reviewed upcoming meetings with holidays coming up. No conflicts.**

#### **11. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE and SIGNATURES**

**Claim was declined by the town's insurance for the line painting incidence. This will be ongoing issue to be resolved.**

**Letter from judges of Bennington County regarding December 5 meeting to discuss fiscal budget for upcoming year.**

**Letter from Comcast - Internet Essentials, a program for low income household to receive internet services at \$9.95 a month, and resources to purchase a desktop or laptop computer. For additional information households can call 1 855-846-8376 or at internetessential.com.**

**12. Dixie Zens moved to adjourn, Rick Timmerman seconded. Meeting adjourned 7:38 PM**

**Next meeting November 25, 2019 at 7 PM**