

Town of Sunderland Selectboard Meeting
Monday Jan 6, 2024, at 7:00 PM

Members in Attendance:

Dixie Zens - Selectboard Chair
Todd Lawrence
Andrew McKeever
Marty Nadler
Bruce Mattison

Others in Attendance:

Bennington County Sheriff James Gulley
Bennington County Sheriff Lieutenant Harrington
Bennington County Sheriff Deputy Praoft
Town Clerk & Treasurer Susan Whitney
Kim Knapp
Maria Timmerman
Rick Timmerman

1. Call to Order by Dixie Zens at 7:00 pm.

2. Introduction of Board Members: Dixie Zens, Marty Nadler, Todd Lawrence, Andrew McKeever, Bruce Mattison

3. Approval of the minutes for December 23th, Selectboard Meeting

Mover: Marty
2nd: Andrew
Result: Pass

4. Public Comment: None

5. Kelley Stand Winter Road Access – Bruce
 - Individuals scheduled for the agenda item not present
 - Topic not discussed further

6. Sheriff Department Budget Review – Sheriff James Gulley
 - Open discussion with Sheriff department regarding policing and status of Sunderland
 - Board discussed Sheriff budget allocation and will keep level service hours in FY25t
 - Sheriff Department hourly rate is increasing from \$72 to \$80 per hour in FY25
 - To keep same level of service, budget will need to increase
 - Board and public present discussed. Budget line item will increase to \$38,605 up from \$35,000

7. Budget Review for 2025

- Review of Warning and Reserve Funds for Town Meeting
- Continued discussion on possibilities for any savings in the FY25 General Fund

8. Old Business

- Bennington 250th update from Andrew
 - 1st weekend in May will be start of events throughout the region
 - Events will be held throughout Vermont over the next two years

9. New Business

- Marty requested the Town look at the light timer setting for the parking lot. Safety issue
 - Dixie will look into panel
 - Discussion on the use of solar powered motion activated lights

10. Executive session if needed - None

11. Review of Correspondence/Signing of warrants

- Review of Common Level of Appraisal
 - Change from 62.79 to 86.77%
 - Reappraisal is ongoing in Sunderland
- Signatures for Certificate of Highway Mileage
- Appropriation level funding request from Arlington Community Public Nursing Service \$1500
- Appropriation request from Martha Canfield Library increasing by \$900 to \$10,010
- Correspondence from Arlington Town Manager Nick Zaiac
 - Arlington Fire Department increase of \$1484. \$72,882 increasing to \$74,336
 - Arlington Parks and Recreation requesting level funding appropriation from previous year
- VLCT hosting Town Meeting webinar and moderator tune-up
- VLCT hosting grant funding webinar January 14th

12. Next Business Meeting for the Sunderland Selectboard will be January 27, 2025, 7PM

- Special Meeting to sign Town Meeting Warning at Tuesday 10am January the 21st

13. Adjourn: 8:19pm

Mover: Marty
2nd: Andrew
Result: Pass