

Town of Sunderland Selectboard Meeting
Monday July 13, 2026, at 7:00 PM
104 Mountain View Road Sunderland, VT

<u>Members in Attendance:</u> Todd Lawrence Rick Timmerman Marty Nadler Michael Pugliese	<u>Others in Attendance:</u> Sam Liss Andrew McKeever Julie Hutchinson Smith Caroline Hartshorn Kim Knapp Jeff Dexter
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1. Call to order at 7:00 PM
2. Introduction of Board Members
3. Additions or deletions to the agenda - none
4. Approval of the minutes
 - Motion to approve the June 18th, 2026 and June 22, 2026 Selectboard Meeting Minutes
 - Mover: Rick
 - Second: Michael
 - Passed**
5. Public Comment
 - a. Andrew McKeever - Sunderland Shines feedback have mentioned a walking trail on the town office property and a garden for the community
 - b. Julie Hutchinson Smith - shares that a community garden would be beneficial for reducing the hunger need in the Sunderland community, educational purposes about growing produce, job opportunities; must first find out if the land is viable
 - i. The board would want to discuss it more
 - ii. Rick believes that the trail may not draw many people, however the garden may bring more community; wetlands may be an issue
6. MERP Grant
 - a. Discussion of June 22nd opened bid submitted for Town Garage Insulation and Roofing and Sunderland Town Garage Insulation and Roofing Project status and the potential next steps to complete MERP grant objectives
 - i. from Pro Builders Construction for \$172,374
 - ii. Time frame to complete: by end of September

Motion to approve the bid with the additions of bid alternate one and three for \$185,394 with the balance, outside of the MERP Grant, coming from the

municipal Special Projects Fund, also indicating that alternate three was not part of the initial bid but was negotiated by Centerline

Mover: Marty

Second: Rick

Passed

b. Potential Town Garage HVAC improvements

Motion to approve the updated MERP Grant agreement

Mover: Michael

Second: Rick

Passed

c. Other MERP project items

Motion to approve Brian or Rick to secure rental of a storage unit as needed for the project

Mover: Todd

Second: Marty

Passed

7. Emergency Management

a. Review of BCRC proposal for Hazard Mitigation Plan development and possible action

- i. The whole plan would take 156 hours at a cost of \$15,962 from the Town; BCRC is willing to pay up to 50% (\$8,000)

Motion to approve the BCRC proposal for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Development

Mover: Rick

Second: Marty

Passed

b. REMC meeting at Town Hall Tuesday August 18th at 6pm

8. Highway Liaison

a. Taken care of ditches and washouts on Sunderland Hill, Kelly Stand, and Flynn Hollow Roads

b. The Banner on the covered bridge is due in August

c. Footing put in for the sign

d. Paving expenses: \$70,000 approved for this budget cycle, however covering exact costs are still in discussion

- i. Grant from the state (80/20): they will give \$200,000 if the Town spends \$240,000 on paving

- ii. The Roadcrew would like to move forward with the paving; a bid package invitation set up and due by Monday July 27, at 1:00pm
- iii. Multiple people are interested in the project
- iv. New truck: it is in, and being worked on, getting pictures on it's progress; current truck: need to look at a couple different auction sites, will be cleaned up and tried for selling, if it does not sell, it may be used as a backup truck for certain road projects

Motion to authorize the paving bid post in the Bennington Banner

Mover: Marty

Second: Michael

Passed

9. Designating the third location for posting of Town Meeting notices and agendas

- a. Prior locations: Sunderland School, Town office, and Transfer station

Motion to approve continue putting Town Meeting agendas on the cork board at the community Transfer Station as a third location

Mover: Marty

Second: Rick

Passed

10. Old Business

- a. Lucy Terry Prince dedication - Sunday July 26 at 4:00pm by Hill Farm Road
- b. Bennington County Regional Plan hearing - August 16th available on zoom as well

11. Review of Correspondence and Signing of Warrants

- a. Review of the Audit report
- b. Insurance Coverage
- c. Homestead rate for upcoming taxes will be lower for the school

12. The next Selectboard meeting will be on Monday July 27 at 7:00pm

13. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:42pm

Mover: Marty

Second: Michael

Passed