

**Town of Sunderland Selectboard Meeting
Monday September 28, 2026, at 7:00 PM
104 Mountain View Road Sunderland, VT**

<u>Members in Attendance:</u> Todd Lawrence Anthony Thompson Michael Pugliese	<u>Others in Attendance:</u> Julie Hutchinson-Smith Sam Cathy White Shane White Kim Knapp
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1. Call to order at 7:00 PM
2. Introduction of Board Members
3. Additions or deletions to the agenda
 - a. Discussion and approval of new phone plan (9.5)
 - b. Discussion and approval of CV truck being added to the auction and Brian selling it (highway liaison update)
 - c. Approval of the salt estimate (correspondence)
4. Approval of the minutes

Motion to approve the September 14, 2026 Selectboard meeting minutes

Motion: Anthony

Second: Michael

Passed
5. Public Comment - none
6. Discussion and possible action on Sunderland Shines proposed walking trail around Town Hall field
 - a. There is a desire for connection, especially because the school is gone
 - b. Mention of benches on the trail, liability sign for any safety concerns, and historical signs if desired, doggy bags and sign
 - c. This path is unique because its purpose is community connection, compared to personal land space to walk
 - d. In the case of any debris, it should be cleared as soon as possible, to avoid any unnecessary liability concerns
 - e. Logistics of initial help with mowing the path
 - f. Michael Fernandez from the Bennington County Conservation District walked the land and approved it for a trail
 - g. After being mowed, the path would be checked for stumps and wet spot to be filled in for stability

- h. The Office parking lot would be used for parking, as well as the WiFi
 - i. May need to fundraise for the general long-term maintenance of the trail and everything on it
 - j. This would be used year-round, stakes for winter
 - k. Todd will keep in touch with those in attendance tonight, and will bring this up to the board for a more formal motion next meeting
7. MERP and Town Garage Renovation Project
- a. Renovation update
 - i. Plumbing work was done today, ducted heating system has been done (\$19,000+)
 - ii. Incentive from Green Mountain power: a little over \$17,000
 - iii. Inspection for propane and old heat tube coming October 8th
 - iv. Electrical inspector may be there next week
 - v. Two damp spots found on the roof, sealant is being applied
8. Highway Liaison update
- a. Dirt roads are still being graded, regular mowing is going well
 - b. Truck going to auction

Motion to accept the online auction contract for the international CV truck with Auctions International and with the proposed start date for auction on October 12th

Mover: Michael

Second: Anthony

Passed

Motion to approve Brian Hawley as the authorized seller for the auction

Mover: Anthony

Second: Michael

Passed

c. Salt Estimate

- i. Current price for salt: \$103.12/ton

Motion to approve Brian to submit the Eastern Salt Company's quote for \$103.12/ton as needed

Mover: Anthony

Second: Michael

Passed

9. Emergency Management Update

- a. Vermont Emergency Management Conference was last week
- b. Hazard mitigation plan update: there was a meeting the past Tuesday, there will be survey to fill out, Dara and Callie (BCRC) will come to do a public presentation at the October 12th meeting

9.5 Ring Central Contract

- a. Two year commitment, \$25/phone line
- b. New phones have been ordered from Amazon

Motion to establish phone service with Ring Central at \$35/month/user and not to sign any long-term contract (anything beyond one month)

Mover: Anthony

Second: Michael

Passed

10. Old Business

- a. VT RT 7 culvert replacement is scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd at 7am
- b. Next town plan public hearing Monday 10/26 7pm
- c. School property update
 - i. The school board (Taconic & Green) will vote for Patick Layton to own the property for \$50,000, voting November 3rd
 - ii. The building would be demolished and the land made ready for housing development in the far future
- d. VLCT Town Fair 10/07
- e. BCRC adopted the regional plan for Commission

11. New Business - none

12. Review of Correspondence/Signing of warrants

Motion for Anthony to be the designated individual to complete and submit ballots for passive and verb

Mover: Todd

Second: Michael

Passed

13. The next business meeting for the Sunderland Selectboard will be Monday October 12th, 2026 at 7:00pm

14. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:27pm

Mover: Anthony

Second: Michael

Passed