

Minutes
Maidstone Selectboard Meeting
Monday, April 6, 2026 @ 7:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting: In-Person at Town Hall - 508 VT Rte 102 and via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82523445058?pwd=RktkcUlKaWdmWnNrMTMyL2JNdUhnUT09>

Members Present at Town Hall (in person): Scott Lovell, Brad McVetty, Bruno McKenzie

Town Officials and Staff Present at Town Hall (in person): Tammy Haas

Also Present at the Town Hall (in person): John Kascenska

Town Officials and Staff Present via Zoom: Amy Pear, Bob and Andy Champagn-Willis, Bruce Barker, Sandra Gray

Also Present via Zoom: Linwood Mixer, Burt Kline, Sam and Carol Gorham, Lisa and Paul Plourde, Neil Tullis, Sandy and JI Ireland

Town Clerk Amy Pear called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

SELECTBOARD:

- Elect a new Chair (One (1) year term) – Scott made a motion to appoint Bruno McKenzie as Chair of the Selectboard for a one-year term. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Elect a new Vice Chair (One (1) year term) – Scott made a motion to appoint Brad McVetty as Vice Chair of the Selectboard for a one-year term. Burno seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Discuss and approve a \$2,000 donation to the Guildhall/Maidstone Committee – Valerie Foy will speak regarding the 250th Celebration – Valerie stated that they are actually asking for \$1,500, the same as what the town of Guildhall approved. The Committee is currently looking for crafters and vendors. There will be a parade at 3:00 PM. There will be food trucks on site. The Committee also plans on raising money through a bake sale, raffle and/or a silent auction. There will be a DJ at a cost of \$500. There may be upfront money needed for a one-day insurance rider, Guildhall is looking into that. The other big expense will be the fireworks. Any money that is raised above the cost of the event will be split 50/50 and given back to the towns. The Committee is meeting every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Valerie left information and posters with the Selectboard. Scott made a motion to donate \$1,500 from the Reserve Fund to the 250th Celebration. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

John Kascenska spoke regarding budget and Act 181. Act 181 was passed in 2024, but there are issues with it. The goal was to make things easier in some of the high population areas for permitting under Act 250. The result was that it was not good for lower population areas. Act 181 was supposed to take effect this year, but they are looking to delay enactment of that so that towns and communities have more time to take a closer look, so it does not impede development in lower population areas. John also spoke about the education transformation

bill. That will be going through additional review. There is a new map. Part of the map is divided into seven (7) cooperative educational service areas. Each Supervisory Union will be assigned to one of these districts. Mergers of schools will not be mandatory. The timeline for this bill has been stretched out to 2030.

- Adopt and sign new January 21, 2026, Town Road and Bridge Standards - Brad made a motion to adopt the new January 1, 2026, Town Road and Bridge Standards. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried. Brad will leave the document on the signing desk.
- Cost of Mattresses for Bulky Waste Day (tabled in March) – It costs \$45 for any size mattress. We can set this up so that people have to pre-pay and bring a receipt to bulky waste day. We just have to get the word out. This can be brought up at the Maidstone Lake Association picnic.
- Bid for Garbage/Recycle Vendor – update – Hodgdon’s are interested in continuing to do the job. It was discussed to make them the sole provider and not putting this out to bid. There is no one else in the area that is willing to pick up garbage on Mondays and that is a necessity for Maidstone. We need to know the new Contract price before moving forward with this. This item was tabled until May.
- Mowing of Town Office and Cemeteries (tabled in March) – Jason McVetty submitted a bid of \$2,500. This is the same as last year. Brad suggested Jason be appointed as a sole provider. Scott made a motion to accept Jason’s bid for the town mowing. Bruno seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Choose a newspaper for posting – Tammy presented a comparison of pricing for the Colebrook Chronicle, the Caledonian Record and the Democrat. The Colebrook Chronicle had the better rate. There was discussion about whether we needed to choose two (2) papers. It was decided that there was no requirement to choose two (2). Scott made a motion to use the Colebrook Chronicle for newspaper posting. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Review and approve Town Policy – Individual Town Policies are listed further down on the agenda.
- Approve and sign contracts on signing desk – CAI, Groveton Ambulance, North Stratford Fire, and Riverside Rescue (Groveton Fire contract has not been received yet) – Brad made a motion to approve and sign the town contracts. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Review and approve W.B. Mason contract – There was discussion about renting at \$99.43 for sixty (60) months or renting for sixty (60) months with a one (1) dollar buy out at a cost of \$112.18. It was decided that it would be better to just rent it and not have to worry about printer/copier problems. Brad made a motion to do the sixty (60) month rental. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

- Appoint Town Council (Currently Tarrant, Gillies, and Shems) – Scott made a motion to appoint Tarrant, Gillies, and Shems for the town council. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Adopt LEMP – Brad made a motion to adopt the LEMP. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Adopt Rules of Participation – Scott made a motion to adopt the rules of participation. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES:

- Review and approve the draft minutes from the Selectboard Meeting on March 2, 2026 – Scott made a motion to approve the draft minutes from the March 2 2026 meeting. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS:

- Administrative Assistant to the Selectboard (One (1) year term, (Currently Tammy Haas)) – Brad made a motion to appoint Tammy Haas as the Selectboard Administrative Assistant. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Administrative Assistant to the Zoning Board and Planning Commission (One (1) year term, (Currently Bob Champagne-Willis) – This item was removed. It was decided that it was not a Selectboard decision.
- Emergency Management Director (One (1) year term, (Currently Brad McVetty)) – Bruno made a motion to appoint Brad McVetty as the Emergency Management Director. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- NEK Waste Management Rep (One (1) year term, (Currently Paulette Routhier)) – Brad made a motion to appoint Paulette Routhier as the NEK Waste Management Representative. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- NVDA Representative (One (1) year term, (Currently Vacant)) – This position remains vacant.
- Road Commissioner (One (1) year term, (Currently Brad McVetty)) – Scott made a motion to appoint Brad McVetty as the Road Commissioner. Bruno seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Town Agent (One (1) year term, (Currently James Mazonna)) – Scott made a motion to appoint James Mazonna as the Town Agent. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Town Services Officer (One (1) year term, (Currently Vacant)) – Brad asked Sandy Gray if she would be interested. Sandy agreed to be the Town Services Officer. Brad made a motion to appoint Sandy Gray as the Town Services Officer. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Tree Warden (One (1) year term, (Currently Bruno McKenzie)) – Scott made a motion to appoint Bruno as the Tree Warden. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

- Zoning Administrator (Three (3) year term, (Currently Bruno McKenzie – Temporary)) – Need letter of recommendation from the Zoning Board – There is no one currently interested. Bruno will remain the temporary Zoning Administrator.
- Planning Commission (Three (3) year term, (Currently Bruce Barker)) – Brad made a motion to appoint Bruce Barker to the Planning Commission for a three (3) year term. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Planning Commission (Three (3) year term, (Currently Raymond Lovell)) – It was discussed that this should actually be a one (1) year term. Brad made a motion to appoint Raymond Lovell to the Planning Commission for a one (1) year term. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Planning Commission Alternate (Three (3) year term, (Currently Vacant)) – This position remains vacant.
- Zoning Board of Adjustment (Three (3) year term, (Currently Bruce Barker)) – Scott made a motion to appoint Bruce Barker to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a three (3) term. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- Zoning Board of Adjustment (Three (3) year term, (Currently Ray Lovell)) – It was discussed that this should actually be a one (1) year term. Brad made a motion to appoint Raymond Lovell to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a one (1) year term. Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.
- NEKCV Representative (One (1) year term, (Currently vacant)) – Richard Chabot is interested in this position. Scott made a motion to appoint Richard Chabot to be the NEKCV Representative for a one (1) year term. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

REVIEW OF TOWN POLICIES:

- Review the following Town Policies and authorize renewal as needed:
 - Class 4 Road Policy
 - Town Road Maintenance Policy
 - Sexual Harassment Policy
 - Purchasing Policy
 - Late-Filed Homestead Declarations Policy
 - Conflict of Interest Policy Rev 1
 - Code of Ethics for VT Community Development Program Policy
 - Notary Policy - This is actually a procedure and does not need to be part of Town Policies.
 - Records Management Policy and Retention Plan – This is actually a procedure and does not need to be part of Town Policies
 - Rules of Procedure, Rev 1
 - Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

Scott made a motion to adopt all Town Policies except for the Notary and Records Management Policies. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE ROAD COMMISSIONER: The roads are drying up pretty well. There are a lot of potholes. If the weather cooperates, they will be graded soon. There are three (3) grants to be completed this year. We are still waiting for this year's Better Roads Grant.

REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK:

- Report on Town Meeting Actions as required by law, 24 VSA §1167 – A copy of the certification of the vote is on the signing desk.
- Update about activities of the Town Clerk's Office – Elections went well. The Town Report got out ok. Right now Amy is working on getting caught up after elections.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER:

- Budget to Actual – Bob provided the Selectboard with the first Budget to Actual of the year. There are a few reimbursable trainings have been attended. These are paid up front by the Town but will be reimbursed with grant money.
- Selectboard Warrant – Bob provided the Selectboard with the Warrant.
- Update on Education Tax Rates for 2026 – Bob presented a few slides from the slide show that is on the website. He presented the Homestead and non-Homestead tax rates compared to the last two (2) years in three (3) different scenarios, based on what the initial letter proposed, the governor's proposal and the proposal by the House Ways and Means. In all of the proposals the non-Homestead tax rates are going to dramatically increase.

REPORT FROM THE DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR:

- Delinquent Tax Collector Report – There are few names dropping off this list soon. After April 15th there will be more names added to this list.

REPORT FROM THE LISTERS: Bob and Sandy attended a conference last week. Listers will be visiting properties sometime in May.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business to discuss.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business to discuss

ADJOURN: The business of the meeting concluded. Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brad seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.