

TOWN OF BRIGHTON

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Minutes of the special meeting of the Selectboard on February 6, 2018, held in the town hall in Island Pond at 2:00 PM, for the purpose of discussing ambulance service in Brighton and the area.

Attending were Doug Niles, Jim Cross, Dan Batsie and Ray Walker from VT EMS, Rick Hannux, Walt Driscoll, Anita Gervais, Melinda Gervais, Mike Strait, Elisabeth Moore, Denise Russell, Frank Mahoney, Katie Mientka, Marty Frizzell and Joel Cope.

1. Chair Doug Niles called the meeting to order.
2. Mr. Batsie talked about ambulance services, and said the problem is statewide due to a lack of volunteers who are willing to be on call for a very low wage. Rural areas have it tough because revenues come from calls and transports, and yet they still need ambulance service with a rapid response time. Mr. Batsie spoke of several different ways other towns have retained service, and he will provide us with some examples. Any service is going to be expensive. There are not enough calls in the area for a service to break even. He explained the different levels of EMS staff, and the training involved with each.
3. Brighton now has \$144,000 in the 2018 budget to pay the LRI contract, if Morgan continues to contract with LRI. If Morgan contracts with Newport, LRI will not be able to sustain operations in Brighton, Norton and the UTG.
4. All interested persons should go to the Derby meeting on ambulance service, scheduled for February 12.
5. Meeting adjourned .