Select Board Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2026

Present: Michael Testut, Heather McElroy, Bill Hawkins, Michael Strait, and Teresa DeBonville.

Attending Virtually: Ed Barber

Michael Testut called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Update Agenda: The agenda was updated to include NBRC Authorized Official Resolution, and Health Insurance rates for 2027.

NBRC Authorized Official Resolution: Heather McElroy motions to empower Town Manager, Michael Strait, to act on behalf of the town in order to submit a $1 million dollar grant application and authorize the select board chair, Michael Testut to sign the official resolution. Bill Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Public comment: None.

Brighton Community Forum/USDA: Michael Strait informed the board that the forum has received the RBDG grant this year. In the past, this grant would be for events and economic development. The grant will again cover this, but the reporting on the expenditures will be a bit different due to changes in the stipulations. These changes will require the forum and the town to collaborate with each other. Michael Strait explained to the board that the changes will just be an internal reporting thing, and that the grant will cover the same things that it did before.

Economic Development Position: Michael Strait gave the board a job description to review for the Economic Development position. Michael explained to the board that this position will have to have a certain skill level, and that the office in which this employee will work out will be at the welcome center. Michael will post this job opening around town, on social media, and the newspaper of record, with the deadline for interviews being the week of November 2, 2026.

Project Updates: Michael Strait gave the board the following updates on the projects:

1. The Waste Water Treatment Facility is fully operational, and the crew has moved into it today. The old plant will be de-commissioned within the next couple of weeks.
2. Michael will submit the NBRC Grant for $1 million dollars tonight after the meeting for the Water treatment plant upgrade.

3. Michael informed the board that he has approved the stamped pattern for the concrete for the Lakeside Park Project. Due to the weather, this project may not be finished this year, but Michael will talk to the state about an extension to this.
4. The town hall painting is nearly finished, and weather permitting will be done in the next couple of weeks. The painter was having a problem matching up the trim and will custom make this. The awnings have been ordered for this building and are in production.
5. The Railroad Depot will probably not be painted this year, and Michael informed the board that the roof over at the depot is leaking and will need to be repaired.
6. The MERP projects are at the final stage, and Michael will do a walk through with the heating and air conditioning company to sign off on this project and wrap this up.
7. The engineering for the downtown project is moving forward.

Pay Orders: The board reviewed and signed the pay orders for the road expense account and the general expense account.

Approve minutes of the previous meeting: The board reviewed the minutes of the September 23, 2026, meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as printed was made by Heather McElroy. Bill Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other business: none.

Executive session: Heather McElroy motions to go into executive session in order to discuss personnel matters, and health insurance premiums for 2027 under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313 of the Vermont Statutes finding that premature public knowledge would substantially disadvantage the town. Bill Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried. The board entered Executive session at 6:40 PM.

Heather McElroy motions to exit executive session. Bill Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Mike Testut announced that executive session was exited at 7:48 PM with no action taken.

Heather McElroy motions to adjourn the meeting. Bill Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM