

## Minutes

### Select Board Meeting

### Town of Coventry

Wednesday October 23, 2024

*This meeting was recorded on Zoom and then posted to YouTube. The link to the Town's YouTube channel is at [www.coventryvt.org](http://www.coventryvt.org).*

#### **Board Members Present**

Scott Morley  
Kerry Keement  
Dan I Webster

#### **Town Officials Present**

Matt Maxwell, Town Administrator  
David Barlow, Treasurer  
Matt Krajewski, Assessor

#### **Public Present**

##### **1. Order**

Matt called the meeting to order at 3:59 pm. Persons present introduced themselves.

##### **2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda**

Switch agenda items 4 and 5

##### **3. Allow for public comment**

None

##### **4. Casella Tax Bill**

Scott M gave those gathered a history of the tax bill issue with Casella and the need for today's Special Meeting. Casella felt that there was an error in the tax bill that they were given for 2024. The previous year the tax bill was 26 million and this year it came in at 28,223,000. Assessor Matt Krajewski explained that the previous years bill was for the landfill parcel only and did not include the other pieces of property that Casella owns. Matt K spoke with town Attorney Brian Monaghan and they agreed that the tax bill sent this year was for the correct amount. Matt K will break out the Casella parcels in future tax bills in order

to avoid this type of confusion. Scott M spoke with John Casella about how to resolve the issue for this year and John suggested splitting the difference between the two amounts, putting the assessed value for this year at \$27,206,350. The Select Board discussed this figure amongst themselves and agreed that it was a fair deal based on what had occurred. There was also some discussion by the Select Board about what would be the course of action if they do not accept the proposal from Casella, which most likely would-be legal action and the expenditure of town money to reach a resolution. The board agreed that the proposal from Casella of a split of the money difference would be acceptable. Dave Barlow reminded the board that all tax money Coventry receives in for education tax and we are only collecting for the state. After some further board discussion, it was decided to accept the Casella proposal with two caveats. One was a refreshed indemnification in writing and the second was a new amended settlement agreement. Matt K and Brian M will construct the document containing both. Dan W made the motion to accept the Casella proposal with indemnification and a new agreement. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous.

## **5. Adjourn**

The Meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:00pm.