

Minutes
Select Board Meeting
Town of Coventry
Monday May 04, 2026

This meeting was recorded on Zoom and then posted to YouTube. The link to the Town's YouTube channel is at www.coventryvt.org.

Board Members Present

Kerry Keement
Dan Webster
Matt Maxwell

Town Officials Present

Ed Fournier, Town Administrator
Deb Tanguay, Town Clerk
David Barlow, Town Treasurer

Public Present

Chuck Newton, City of Newport Fire Department
Melanie Rodjenski, Town Accountant

1. Order

Ed Fournier called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. Persons present introduced themselves.

2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

None.

3. Allow for public comment

Chuck Newton of the Newport Fire Department updated the Select Board about dry hydrants. He added information about repairs to be made and gave service updates for the dry hydrants.

4. New Town Garage Updates

Ed Fournier explained to the Board that he, David Barlow and Melanie Rodjenski had a meeting to discuss timeline and finance of the new town garage. Ed discussed searching for grants and financial planning for the garage. Melanie discussed funding and Select Board decision making for finance and elaborated on loan options. Melanie also discussed the timeline and when the Town would need the first amount of funding. Ed asked the Board their thoughts on bidding. The Board noted that fall would be a good time to get a bid package together. Ed also discussed using the new garage as an emergency shelter.

Ed discussed project management for the building of the new garage. Dan Rondeau suggested using the General Contractor as the project manager. David Barlow explained that whatever contract the town signs, should be very clear about who the project manager is and what the duties are. Melanie added that AIA contracts contain

progress reports and certification. Dan Webster discussed the importance of project management.

Ed explained that he and David thought a Select Board liaison would be good for finance and general town garage meetings and decision making. Dan made a motion to appoint Matt Maxwell to be the finance liaison for the town garage project.

David discussed the importance of completing a Capital Management Plan. Dan added that he has information and this could be further discussed. Matt made a motion for the Town Administrator to work with the Treasurer to put together a Capital Management Plan. Dan made the second and the vote was unanimous.

5. Speed Ordinance

Ed presented the Board with documents from the Town lawyer about an updated Speed Ordinance and process information. The Board discussed the ordinance and the detailed road information. The Board made notes for Ed about moving forward with this.

6. LEMP Attachments

Ed presented the Board with LEMP attachments with the correct updates to the documents. Matt made a motion to approve the updates and have Kerry sign on behalf of the Select Board. Dan made the second and the vote was unanimous.

7. MERP Amended Documentation

Ed provided an amended version of the MERP grant with Community Center work additions under the grant. Matt made a motion to approve Kerry to sign the amended document. Dan made the second and the vote was unanimous.

8. Town Road and Bridge Standards Document

Ed explained that there is an additional document that needs to be filled out for the State in regards to standards. Matt made a motion to approve the document. Dan made the second and the vote was unanimous.

9. Delinquent Tax Collector Transition

Ed noted that he would be giving the town lawyer information for creating a letter to send to the former Delinquent Tax Collector about returning town equipment and data.

10. Other Business

Kerry explained that she talked to Road Foreman Nathan Standish about culvert replacement. Kerry noted that Nathan is looking for guidance on budgeting and when to replace. Matt made a motion to allow the Road Foreman to purchase the requested culverts. Dan made the second and the vote was unanimous.

Ed discussed an email about ash borer presence in town. The Board discussed getting more information in regards to this.

Ed let the Board know that the town backhoe will be returned and

that Nathan thinks it is going to be under warranty.

Ed discussed the fence process at 89 Main St. The Board thought that a different approach may be better such as boulders.

11. Approval of Minutes – 04/20/2026

Matt made a motion to approve the minutes of 04/20/2026. Dan made the second and the vote was unanimous.

12. Warrants

Dan made a motion to approve the warrants. Matt made the second and the vote was unanimous.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:02 p.m.