

**TOWN OF RUTLAND SELECTBOARD OPEN MEETING
RUTLAND TOWN MUNICIPAL TOWN HALL
181 BUSINESS ROUTE 4, CENTER RUTLAND, VT 05736
JULY 14th, 2026**

- The meeting opened at 6:00 P.M. with the pledge of allegiance.
- Board members present Mary Ashcroft, Kurt Hathaway, and Matt Getty
- Members of the public present Rebekah Stephens, Eric Solsaa, Robyn Sweet

Approval of Selectboard Minutes for June 30th

Approval is being postponed until later in the meeting to talk with Fire Chief Chris Clark. In addition to clarify why a motion to carryover Cortina funds was withdrawn, it was because it was determined that it was addressed by motion in previous meeting.

Approval of Orders

Selectman Hathaway moved to approve the orders. Selectman Getty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Update from the Selectboard Chair

Thanked everyone for the work bringing together the July 3rd event at Northwood Park.

Question from the Floor / Public Comment

Rebekah Stephens and Eric Solsaa representing Habitat for Humanity were present. Ms. Stephens read a prepared statement regarding their denial of tax-exempt status. They are requesting the Selectboard place their tax-exempt request on the November ballot to allow voters to decide. The request made to the BCA was withdrawn.

Marie Fagnant Rutland Town Lister

1. A meeting to lodge the as billed Grand List is being held tomorrow so the tax rate can then be set.
2. NEMRC has agreed to add some language to the agreement covering the reappraisal work. This will all be included in the contract which will be presented to the Board for approval.
3. Habitat for Humanity has filed requesting a BCA meeting due to the denial of their business personal property tax exemption request.

Mike Rowe Rutland Town Recreation Director:

1. About 500 people attended the July 3rd Summer Jam event.
2. The next event is already in the planning process.
3. Due to the amount of rain this season, regular chemical purchases have been necessary.
4. The 2013 zero turn mower was being used on Friday and had an engine failure. The problem is more expensive to fix than it is worth. Rec committee members were contacted and told what a new mower would cost. A quote for a new Z950M mower from United Ag and Turf was reviewed for \$13353. Selectman Getty moved to approve the purchase, with funds to

come from the depreciation account. Selectman Hathaway seconded the motion. The old one can be used for parts or sold as is. Any proceeds will be put back into the depreciation account. The motion carried unanimously.

5. A new person for maintenance at Dewey has been hired.

Ted Washburn Rutland Town Police Chief:

1. Recent calls for service were provided and reviewed.
2. Discussed the July 3rd event. It was a lot of fun.

David Sears Rutland Town Road Commissioner:

1. All the culverts needing to be replaced in the neighborhoods with planned paving are done.
2. Checked the trash basket in the Route 7 South sewer line. No debris was found.
3. Completed some MS4 compliance work in the Wynnmore development.
4. Discussed the project planned for that area. Mr. Sweet will reach out to our vendor and request an update.
5. Reviewed a letter to go to VTrans asking for their support in moving forward with the reconfiguration of the Green Mountain Plaza exit. Selectman Hathaway moved to approve the letter. Selectman Getty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. Reviewed a letter of appreciation to go to Casella Construction for their work on the south end sewer project. Selectman Getty moved to approve the letter. Selectman Hathaway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
7. Reviewed a request from Key Honda for the Town to assume maintenance responsibility for the private fire hydrant located on their property. Selectman Hathaway moved to take over the fire hydrant in front of 211 US Route 7 South. Selectman Getty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Reviewed the minutes of June 30th. The cost of paving the Center Rutland Fire Station and the cost to repair the public safety building were very similar, but not the same. Selectman Hathaway moved to approve the minutes with the changes proposed by Selectman Getty earlier in the meeting. Selectman Getty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Kari Clark Rutland Town Clerk and Treasurer:

1. Discussed setting the tax rate at the next Selectboard meeting. The next regular Board meeting will be scheduled for 530PM to allow time for this to be done at the start of the meeting, and to accommodate an already warned public hearing.
2. The auditors are starting their testing for the annual town audit.
3. The next BCA meeting will also include scheduling for the upcoming elections.

Barbara Pulling Rutland Town Planning Commission Chair:

1. The Commission has been doing work on content for the signs at the Pocket Park. The content of the signs have been their focus. There are some historical photos which they would like to include. They will be brought to the committee meeting next week.
2. Work will start soon on updating the Town Plan. A survey to residents will be created.

Bill Sweet Town Administrator:

1. Provided the work order from Naylor and Breen for the repair work on the Public Safety Building. Selectman Getty moved to approve the work order and to authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. Selectman Hathaway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Reviewed a nomination request to send someone to the State Community Leadership conference.
3. Provided the Radio Tower agreement for the repeater at the City Fire Station. All the changes discussed are incorporated. Selectman Getty moved to approve the contract and to authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. Selectman Hathaway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. The first of 2 hearings on the revised subdivision by laws will be during the next meeting.
5. The new owner of the Cortina Inn property came in and reviewed the plans and timeline he has for the property.

Selectman Hathaway moved to adjourn. Selectman Denardo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Sweet, Town Administrator.

Mary Ashcroft, Chair

ABSENT

Joseph Denardo, Clerk

ABSENT

Sharon Russell

Kurt Hathaway

Matt Getty

Center Rutland, VT.