TOWN OF RUTLAND SELECTBOARD OPEN MEETING
RUTLAND TOWN MUNICIPAL TOWN HALL
181 BUSINESS ROUTE 4, CENTER RUTLAND, VT 05736
NOVEMBER 17th, 2026

- The meeting opened at 6:00 P.M. with the pledge of allegiance.
- Board members present Mary Ashcroft, Joe Denardo, Sharon Russell, Kurt Hathaway, and Matt Getty
- Members of the public present Chris Howe, Robyn Sweet, Joe Anthony, Michael Miller

Approval of Selectboard Minutes for November 2nd

Selectman Getty moved to approve the minutes. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Orders

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

Announcements

Selectwoman Russell thanked Mike Rowe for his great job organizing the Town Senior's meal today and wished him well on his upcoming surgery.

Update from the Selectboard Chair

The Finance Committee met yesterday and a vote on the audit will take place at the next Board meeting

Board to meet with Attorney David Grayck to discuss the upcoming Act 250 Walmart hearing

1. Discussed some of the details for the upcoming hearing.
2. The hearing is on December 1st at 9AM.
3. Several Board members are already planning to attend.
4. Joe Anthony spoke about Walmart's business model and store opening focus over the years.
5. Selectman Denardo moved to authorize the Board Chair to attend the meeting. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. Other Board members may and will plan to attend as well. The motion carried unanimously.

David Sears Rutland Town Road Commissioner:

1. Trucks are being prepped for winter maintenance.
2. The sewer line repair project will begin in the morning.
3. Work on the design for the permanent East Mountain View culvert has started based on the hydraulic study being completed. The temporary repair work is done and came in less than expected.
4. The reimbursement process for the Stratton Road culvert grant is underway. We expect to receive up to $200,000.

5. A budget meeting is needed and can be scheduled for next week.
6. Discussed putting caution tape up at Portage Park at the Center Rutland Falls to alert people to the work going on. This will be up soon.

Chris Clark Rutland Town Fire Chief:

1. Presented a new member application for the Board to review. Selectman Denardo moved to approve the application. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
2. The department recently took a tour of the hotel which was most recently named the Cortina Inn. The owner has done a significant amount of work, and it looks good. Every room has been remodeled.
3. A tour of the National Guard armory is planned for this week.
4. The process to replace engine 2 is starting. By the time it will be spec'd, designed, bid and built, it will be a the end of the life cycle of the truck.
5. Engione 1 is out to be painted. It is not known when it will be back.

Marie Faignant Rutland Town Lister

1. Presented the contract with NEMRC for town reappraisal.
   a. The version given to the Board represents all the changes previously discussed.
   b. Selectman Getty moved to approve the contract. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mike Rowe Rutland Town Recreation Director:

1. Reported on the recent senior lunch and the future schedule.
2. The Rec committee met recently and reviewed the draft budget.
3. The tennis courts at Dewey Field and Northwood Park need to be resurfaced. The committee is recommending approval to the full Board. Selectman Getty moved to approve the proposals totaling $48,192 with the cost to come from depreciation and to authorize the Board Chair and the Rec Director to sign the proposal on behalf of the Town. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Discussed the 2 Rec depreciation balances. They are for general Rec depreciation and replacement of the pool. Selectman Getty moved to swap the account designations, giving the pool replacement fund a much larger balance which is appropriate for the intent. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Discussed how depreciation funds are added to the pool fund. There was a past intent to have 75% of the annual contribution moved into the pool replacement and 25% into general Rec depreciation. Selectman Denardo moved to make this our practice. Selectman Getty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. The pool replacement committee needs to meet to discuss the design and cost proposals for the new pool.

Barbara Pulling Rutland Town Planning Commission Chair:

1. The kiosk for the park is expected to be done by the end of the year. It will go into storage and be installed in 2027.
2. Town plan update surveys were offered to residents on election day. Over 200 responses were received. The survey will remain open for a little longer.

Kari Clark Rutland Town Clerk and Treasurer:

1. Reported on the recent election. We had about 64% voter participation.
2. Reviewed the latest local option tax amount received. Our latest installment is similar to November of last year.
3. Discussed recent timesheets for meeting stipends which were received. Some were from the last fiscal year. Paying them from the current year skews the compensation budget lines.
4. Discussed some topics from the recent Finance Committee meeting.

Ted Washburn Rutland Town Police Chief:

1. A summary of recent calls for service were provided.
2. Discussed the recent Police Committee meeting.
   a. A new contract with Motorola for body cameras was provided. After review Selectman Getty moved to approve the contract. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
   b. Discussed authorizing up to $8000 in overtime for holiday patrols. Selectman Getty moved to approve this cost, with the funds to come from the Cortina Settlement account. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Discussed certifying the amended Vehicle and Traffic ordinance. Selectman Denardo moved to certify the Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance. Selectwoman Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Discussed how to notice and enforce the parking ban included in Town ordinances now. Signes around town would be needed. This will be discussed during budget work.
5. Discussed the recent accident which damaged our speed detection sign on Post Road. The person that hit it has come forward and work to replace the sign is underway.

Joe Denardo Rutland Town Public Safety Building Clerk

1. Work has started to repair the damaged siding at the public safety building.
2. It should wrap up this week.

Bill Sweet Town Administrator:

1. Provided a letter for the Board to support our MS4 technical assistance grant application. Selectwoman Russell moved to approve the letter. Selectman Hathaway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
2. No bids were received for the work to connect the McKinley Ave sewer pump station to our backup generator. Requests will be sent out again, with requests being mailed directly to some contractors.
3. Provided a grant reimbursement request for the Route 7 north sidewalk expenses. Selectwoman Russell moved to approve the request and to authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. Selectman Getty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussed the results of the recent Rutland Emergency Management Committee meeting. There were a lot of great topics that were discussed and will need some future discussions with the Town Emergency management Director.
5. Reviewed a meeting recently held with a representative from the Killington Chamber of Commerce regarding The Bus, its routes and funding. They are looking to us for support above the annual appropriation voters approved. There is a regional committee for input into the way The Bus operates. We do not have a rep currently. The Board encouraged anyone interested to come talk about being appointed.
6. Discussed the recent visit to the former Holiday Inn / Cortina Inn site. The extent of the renovations done is massive. Virtually every aspect of the building has been replaced and improved. The owner is enthusiastic to have the Board come for a site visit. The owner will be contacted about coordinating the visit and this information will be discussed at the December 1st meeting.
7. Regular meetings have been happening regarding updating the town website for its accessibility requirements. Some examples of sites each vendor has done will be sent to Board members so they can see real world examples. Proposals will be brought to the next Board meeting.

Selectman Hathaway moved to adjourn. Selectman Denardo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Sweet, Town Administrator.

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Mary Ashcroft, Chair

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Joseph Denardo, Clerk

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Sharon Russell

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Kurt Hathaway

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Matt Getty

Center Rutland, VT.