

Town of Pittsford SELECT BOARD MEETING – July 15, 2026 - DRAFT

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alicia Malay, David Mills, Thomas Hooker, Dan Adams, Mark Winslow.

OTHERS PRESENT: Laurie Bertrand, Kevin White, Lisa McCarthy, Judi Tompkins, Joe Raptour, Stephen Rosato, Dave Wolk, Travis Redman, Donna Wilson, Ann Reed – Town Manager, Kelly Giard – Recording Secretary

The Select Board was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Malay

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Malay stated that there was no need to add to Executive Session. Chair Malay stated that there was no need to amend the agenda. Motion by T. Hooker and seconded by M. Winslow to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously 4 - 0.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the June 17, 2026 regular meeting were signed with no corrections and the July 1, 2026 regular meeting were signed with a minor correction.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

Town Manager Ann Reed reported the following:

- Met with Markowski and Wilk Paving 7/5/2026 for the various concerns on Plains Road. One of the driveways is going to have work done by Wilks to repair the apron and drop off, as it is substantial. Markowski is going to work on McCuin's lawn again. The other driveways, I am going to consult with Chad on for more minor repairs that may need to be done.
- I sent an email to our representative for the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District asking for more transparency on if they are unable to spray due to weather conditions after announcing a spraying event. I also asked the Town get sprayed, as Dolores and I are fielding multiple questions a day on the spraying for mosquitoes. Worked with several citizens on water billing concerns.
- I met with Will from Rutland Regional Planning Commission to work on the Town Plan revisions
- We have started interviews for the bookkeeper position.
- I will be out of the office this week, back on July 21.
- Scott Kaufman has started his zoning administrator duties and has issued several permits over the last week.
- We have warned two more Zoning Board of Adjustment hearings.

- Dolores and I met with Butch to schedule a Board of Abatement hearing for a water and sewer bill.
- Carolyn Cota has agreed to a special selectboard meeting July 22, 2026 to discuss the Bridge 108 project.

D. Adams inquired how many applications were received for the bookkeeper position. Ms. Reed stated that 6 were received and 2 were being interviewed.

D. Adams inquired if the driveway that was being repaired was having the radius added. Ms. Reed stated that Wilk was aware of the concern and stated that the standards were met. D. Adams inquired if the owners were present, which Ms. Reed stated they weren't and she met with 1 resident and spoke with another.

SELECTBOARD MEMBER REMARKS:

None presented at this meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steven Rosato was present to discuss the gap between the boards on the Depot Bridge. Mr. Rosato feels that the gap is dangerous and there have been motorcycles that have tipped over. Chair Malay stated that past research has shown that if there were boards that covered the entire deck that it would cause rotting. There are signs coming to be posted warning motorcyclists of the split boards.

OLD BUSINESS

Burditt Fund Request from OVUUSD Discussion and Possible Action:

Information regarding the Lothrop bathroom project was in the packets for review and Laurie Bertrand, Chair of the OVUUSD board was present to discuss the request. D. Adams inquired if the request was for a maximum of \$250,000. Ms. Bertrand stated that there was 1 bid for \$190,900 and there would be change orders forthcoming as they found asbestos in the piping, tiles and rugs and there has been no estimate received for this additional work. T. Hooker stated that there could be no action taken at this time due to the lack of a full board. D. Adams inquired about the commencement date for the project. Ms. Bertrand stated that this project has already started. This is how they know there is asbestos.

The OVUU Board approved moving forward with the Burditt Fund request on 04/28/2026. *From the OVUUSD minutes: Burditt Fund Request (Lothrop School Town Hall Bldg - Toilet Rm Modifications)*

A motion to request up to \$250,000 from the Burdett Fund for restroom accessibility improvements at the Lothrop School Town Hall building was made by Fernanda Canales and seconded by Lesley Bienvenue.

Discussion included the need for ADA compliance, scope of proposed upgrades, and the complexity of modifying an older facility. Board members also discussed the approval process, which requires both Board and Town Selectboard support, as well as the importance of providing detailed project information to local stakeholders. The administration confirmed that the project is necessary and that additional documentation, including specifications and cost estimates, will be made available as needed.

There was brief discussion on when a full selectboard would be available. A. Reed will reach out to L. Bertrand when a full board is available, likely the second meeting in August.

Ms. Bertrand and Mr. White exited at 6:42 PM.

Takeover of Route 7 Discussion and Possible Action:

Ethan Pepin from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission sent a list of the pros and cons for the takeover of Route 7 through town. D. Adams requested to invite Mr. Pepin to a future meeting and to talk with Rutland City and Brandon who own the section through their towns. Chad Eugair has stated that this action would require the addition of another staff member and the addition of an additional truck.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave Wolk:

Dave Wolk was present to discuss concerns with residents as he is planning to run for State Senate. Members of the Select Board stated that education, personal property tax relief, Act 250, housing crisis and affordability are concerns. In addition to these concerns, “catch and release”, bridges, culverts and health care were also discussed. The public is encouraged to contact Mr. Wolk at wolkforsenate@gmail.com with any additional concerns.

Mr. Wolk exited at 7:05 PM.

Judi Tompkins – Maclure Library Update:

Judi Tompkins was present to update the Select Board on the Library’s search for a new director. Ms. Tompkins stated that an offer has been made to a candidate and there is currently a background check being conducted. There was discussion that the offer was made before the background check. There was also discussion that the Library is violating their own by-laws and the Open Meeting Laws. The selectboard urged Judi to ensure that the quorum for meetings was being met to stay out of violation of the Maclure Library by-laws. Donna Wilson stated that the draft bylaws have been sent to members.

Ms. Tompkins exited at 7:25 PM.

Set FY 26-27 Tax Rate:

Motion by D. Adams and seconded by M. Winslow to approve the FY 26-27 tax rate as presented. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

TAX RATE SUMMARY W/EXEMPTIONS

PROPERTY TAX RATES FY26/27

		4 Digits TAX RATE 26/27
GENERAL FUND + APP	<u>1622430</u>	
MUNIC. GRAND LIST	3962801	\$0.4094

HIGHWAY FUND	<u>1097422</u>	
MUNIC. GRAND LIST	3962801	\$0.2769

TOTAL LOCAL AGREEMENT RATE (see calculation below)	\$0.0025
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TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAX RATE	\$0.6888
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VILLAGE FUND	<u>18000</u>	
VILLAGE GRAND LIST	601248	\$0.0299

TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAX RATE WITH VILLAGE	\$0.7188
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<u>16500</u> \$1.8698	<u>308.517</u>	
(Pitts Hist. Socie-Homestead F	3962801	0.0001

<u>480000</u> \$1.7510	<u>8404.8</u>	
et. Exempt (16 x \$Homestead Rai	3962801	0.0021

<u>60000</u> \$1.8698	<u>1121.88</u>	
et Exempt (2 x \$3-Homestead F	3962801	0.0003

TOTAL LOCAL AGREEMENT RATE	0.0025
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STATE EDUCATION PROPERTY TAX

FROM THE STATE'S NOTICE OF EDUCATION TAX RATES FOR FY 26/27

HOMESTEAD TAX RATE	1.7150
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NON-HOMESTEAD TAX RATE	1.8698
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Act on Orders \$115,111.52 Payroll \$18,949.80

The orders were signed with no discussion.

Motion by M. Winslow and seconded by D. Adams to recess as the Select Board and convene as the Liquor Board at 7:34 PM.

The Select Board reconvened at 7:35 PM.

Motion by T. Hooker and seconded by M. Winslow to enter into Executive Session at 7:40 PM.
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313(a) where premature general public knowledge would clearly place the municipality or person involved at a substantial disadvantage to discuss the appointment, employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that a public body must make the final hiring or appointment decision and explain its reason for the decision, in open meeting to include the Town Manager.

The Select Board exited Executive Session at 8:40 PM with a motion by T. Hooker and seconded by D. Mills to exit Executive Session at 8:40 PM. Motion passed 4 – 0 - 1.

Motion by M. Winslow and seconded by D. Adams to adjourn at 8:41 PM.

The next regular Select Board meeting will be held on August 5, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Giard
Recording Secretary

Alicia Malay, Chair

David Mills, Vice Chair

Thomas Hooker, Selectman

Dan Adams, Selectman

Mark Winslow, Selectman