

**Sharon Selectboard  
Special Meeting Minutes  
FINAL**

Participants attending via Zoom: Nicola Shipman, Selectboard Assistant; Lucy Pierpont, Finance Manager; Galen Mudgett, Head Lister; Mary Gavin, Selectboard Vice Chair; Kevin Gish, Selectboard Chair.

Not Present: Sarah Pfeiffer, Selectboard Clerk

**Call to Order:**

Kevin Gish called the meeting to order at 4:15PM

**1. Review/Approve Agenda**

**Mary Gavin made a motion to accept the agenda. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**2. Public Comments**

No public comment.

**3. Approve Warrants**

**Mary Gavin made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1509 in the amount of \$4,981.21 with payments to Andrea Morgan \$286.86, James Armbruster \$20.56, Aubuchon Hardware \$43.66, Blue Cross Blue Shield \$3,962.57, Casella Waste Systems \$104.26, Chase Site Services \$430.00, Consolidated Communication \$133.30. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Mary Gavin made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1510 in the amount of \$7,060.57 with payments to Cott Systems \$170.00, CVC Paging \$105.44, D&D Excavating \$6,000.00, De Lage Landen \$94.53, NE Delta Dental \$539.60, EC Fiber \$151.00. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1511 in the amount of \$6,290.21 with payments to Evans Motor Fuels \$3,371.21, Eyemed Vision \$53.12, Ferguson Waterworks \$2,078.40, Fifield Electric \$743.50, Foggs Hardware \$43.98. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Mary Gavin made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1512 in the amount of \$2,430.93 with payments to Foley Services \$163.20, Green Mountain Power \$599.40, Green Mountain Mowing \$503.33, Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste \$1,065.00, Health Care Rehabilitation Services \$100.00. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Mary Gavin made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1513 in the amount of \$28,528.98 with payments to Key Communications \$135.00, Lane Enterprises \$5,417.00, Madison National Life \$193.37, Magee Office products \$143.68, Community Bank NA \$12,769.88, New England Truck Tire \$4,120.00, Pine Hill Cemetery \$5,750.00. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1514 in the amount of \$3,104.06 with payments to Pike Industries \$1,022.03, Frank Rogers \$118.75, Sabil and Sons \$1,034.05, Sanel Auto Parts \$9.30, Suburban Propane \$10.00, Twin State Sand & Gravel \$928.53. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Mary Gavin made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1515 in the amount of \$10,242.54 with payments to U.S.P.S \$528.00, US Treasury \$21.00, Valley News \$124.20, VLCT \$605.00, VMERS \$3,504.34, Windsor County Sheriffs \$5,460.00. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1516 in the amount of \$5,669 with payment to Reynolds and Son \$5,669.00. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Mary Gavin made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1517 from the Old School House Fund in the amount of \$283.86 with payment to La Valley Building Supplies \$283.86. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish made a motion to ratify payroll for the period 7/16/2023 – 7/29/2023 with a cash draw of \$15,632.67. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion rescinded for correction on Thursday 8/10/2023.**

#### **4. Set Tax Rate for FY24**

Galen Mudgett joined the meeting at this point.

Galen said the biggest change he saw was reflected in the non-homestead education rate which he said is 13.6 cents higher than it was in 2022.\*

Galen said it wouldn't hurt to bring this increase to the attention of the State Legislature since the education tax rate is out of municipal control. Galen said that while it is possible to assume that out-of-state property owners would be the group most affected by this education tax rate change, that assumption is not accurate. Galen noted that many in-state property owners, including those who have rental properties, for example, will also be affected by this increase in the tax rate which may ultimately have a negative effect on rental prices in the State.

Mary Gavin asked if the 13 cent and 15 cent increase is largely driven by the education tax increases.

Galen responded that, yes, on the non-homestead side, the increase is driven almost exclusively by the education tax increase. Galen highlighted that the municipal tax rate increase is only 3.20 cents in FY2024

**Kevin Gish made a motion to set the FY24 Municipal Tax Rate to \$0.8170 and the Veteran's Offset to \$0.0024 as recommended by the Town Listers. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

\*Rates for FY23 were set in 2022, so the increase refers to FY2023 rates as compared to FY2024 rates.

Sharon Non-Homestead Education Property Tax Rates: FY2024 = \$1.781; FY2023 = 1.6556; FY2022 = 1.6981; FY2021 = \$1.59

Source: <https://tax.vermont.gov/property/education-property-tax-rates>

Galen thanked the board for their approval of the municipal tax rate, and he said that tax bills will be mailed in time for Thursday's deadline.

5. **Other business**

No other business

6. **Adjourn**

**Kevin Gish made a motion to adjourn at 4:30PM. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted by: Nicola Shipman