

Town & Village of Woodstock
Town Selectboard & Village Trustees Special Joint Meeting
December 22nd, 2025
8:15 AM
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present Selectboard: Chair Ray Bourgeois, Laura Powell, Keri Cole, Cliff Johnson

Present Trustees: Chair Seton Mcilroy, Vice Chair Jeffrey Kahn, Brenda Blakeman, Lisa Lawlor

Staff: Eric Duffy

Public: Roger Logan, Al Alessi

Call to order

1. Selectboard

- a. Chair Ray Bourgeois called the Selectboard Meeting of December 22nd to order at 8:15 AM

2. Trustees

- a. Chair Seton Mcilroy called the Trustee Meeting of December 22nd to order at 8:15 AM

B. Additions or Deletions from the posted Agenda

Letter from the Town Hall Staff – Regarding safety

C. Citizen Comments – Three Minutes per participant- None

D. Potential Executive Session 1 V.S.A 313

Motion: By Chair Seton McIlroy to enter Executive Session 1 V.S.A 313 After making a specific finding that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. The appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting; (8:17AM)

Seconded: By Vice Chair Jeffrey Kahn

Vote: 4-0-0 passed

Motion: By Laura Powell to enter Executive Session 1 V.S.A The appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting; (8:18AM)

Seconded: By Cliff Johnson

Vote: 4-0-0 passed

Motion: By Laura Powell to exit Executive Session 1 V.S.A

(8:48AM)

Seconded: By Cliff Johnson

Vote: 4-0-0 passed

Motion: By Chair Seton Mcilroy to Exit Executive Session 1 V.S.A

(8:48AM)

Seconded: By Vice Chair Jeffrey Kahn

Vote: 4-0-0 passed

No Decision were made

E. Letter From the Town Hall Staff

A letter dated December 19, 2025, was read into the record from concerned members of Town Hall Staff. The letter detailed ongoing intimidating behavior by an individual known to the Boards that was affecting staff well-being and creating workplace safety concerns. The letter requested immediate attention, clear expectations for public conduct, review of safety measures, and guidance for staff on how to respond to future incidents.

Board members acknowledged the seriousness of the situation and expressed concern for staff's well-being. They noted that some physical changes had already been made to the building to address safety concerns, but more needed to be done while balancing public accessibility.

Eric Duffy shared that Woodstock has exceptional staff who are professional and passionate about their work, noting that they provide extraordinary service despite these challenges. He expressed concern about normalizing inappropriate behavior and the potential impact on staff retention.

Roger Logan and Al Alessi expressed support for the Boards and the Staff. Board members discussed potential approaches including:

- Establishing rules of procedure for public meetings
- Continuing conversations with Staff to understand their concerns
- Consulting with VLCT and other Towns that have faced similar issues
- Investigating security camera options

F. Approval of Minutes

Motion: By Seton Mcilroy to approve the minutes 12.04.25 (8:59 AM)

Seconded: By Vice Chair Jeffrey Kahn

Vote: 4-0-0 passed

Motion: By Laura Powell to approve the minutes 12.04.25 (8:59 AM)

Seconded: By Cliff Johnson

Vote:4-0-0 passed

G. Adjournment

Motion: by Laura Powell to adjourn the meeting at (8:59 AM)

Seconded: by Cliff Johnson

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Motion: by Chair Seton Mcilroy to adjourn the meeting at (8:59 AM)

Seconded: by Vice Chair Jeffrey Kahn

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Mears Koar