### Brandon Select Board Meeting November 25, 2024 7:00 p.m.

The Brandon Select Board will meet Monday, November 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brandon Town Hall located at 1 Conant Square expecting to consider the items on this agenda.

Zoom Meeting ID 253 279 4161

Zoom Link https://zoom.us/j/2532794161

Dial-in only (929) 205-6099; Enter Meeting ID 253 279 4161 #; # again

- 1) Call to Order
  - a) Adopt Agenda (posted or as amended)
- 2) Select Board Members' Remarks
- 3) Recurring Matters
  - a) Select Board Meeting Minutes November 11, 2024
  - b) Select Board & Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes November 18, 2024
  - c) Warrant November 25, 2024 \$1,340,163.00
- 4) Town Manager's Report
- 5) Community Development Report
- 6) Designate Representatives to the Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee
- 7) Discuss Charging Station Rate Alignment with GMP Increases
- 8) Lower Carver Street Reclassification: Schedule Site Visit & Hearing
- 9) Brandon Planning Commission Adoption of BLUO Update
- 10) Public Comment and Participation
- 11) Executive Session

Regarding the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee per 1 V.S.A. § 313(3)(a)(3) to include the Town Management Team

12) Executive Session

Regarding the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee per 1 V.S.A. § 313(3)(a)(3) to include the Town Management Team

13) Adjournment

### Brandon Select Board Meeting November 11, 2024

NOTE: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and/or approval at the subsequent board meeting.

Board Members in Attendance: Doug Bailey, Heather Nelson, Brian Coolidge, Ralph Ethier, Tim Guiles

Others In Attendance: Seth Hopkins, Bill Moore, Jan Coolidge, Steven Jupiter, Dorthea Langevin, Jack Schneider, Cecil Reniche-Smith, Helyn Anderson, Tricia Welch, Todd Nielson, Chris Kent, Barry Varian, Thomas Kilpeck, Vicki Disorda, Nita Hanson

Others by Zoom: Keith Whitcomb, Bruce Jensen

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM by Doug Bailey – Board Chair.

### a. Agenda Adoption

Motion by Heather Nelson/Tim Guiles to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 2. Select Board Remarks

Doug Bailey thanked all for attending the meeting and advised a week from tonight will be the next budget meeting, and the public is welcome to attend. Heather Nelson stated the Brandon Talent Show was very good and she is looking forward to Brandon Idol. Bill Moore advised that it was one of the last events that the Friends of the Town Hall will be hosting. He has reached out to Dennis Marden to ask if he would be willing to host a similar event if the Town were to continue this event going forward. Mr. Bailey also reminded that anyone who wished to speak would need to come to the podium for the Zoom participants to be able to hear.

### 3. Recurring Matters

### a. Approval of Select Board Hearing Minutes - October 28, 2024

Motion by Brian Coolidge/Ralph Ethier to approve the Select Board minutes of October 28, 2024, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Seth Hopkins advised a request was made to insert "preservation" between tree and plan on the second page.

### b. Approval of Select Board Meeting Minutes - October 28, 2024

Motion by Brian Coolidge/Ralph Ethier to approve the Select Board minutes of October 28, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

### c. Select Board & Budget Advisory Committee Minutes - November 4, 2024

Motion by Tim Guiles/Heather Nelson to approve the Select Board & Budget Advisory Committee minutes of November 4, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

### d. Warrant - November 11, 2024 - \$217,341.03

Motion by Tim Guiles/Brian Coolidge to approve the warrants of November 11, 2024, in the amount of \$217,341.03. The motion passed unanimously.

Brandon Select Board Meeting November 11, 2024

### 4. Town Manager's Report

A Town Manager's report was provided by Seth Hopkins and is available for viewing in the Board packet on the Town's website.

Seth Hopkins advised he submitted the report and updates. Mr. Hopkins noted there was a successful Scout salute to the Veterans on Saturday and he received many compliments on the state of the Town as many had indicated they had not been in Town for a while and thought the Town looked great. This morning there was a Town observance at the monument. The milling and paving on North Street and patching on River Street were done. Mr. Hopkins wished to thank the State for striping the lanes. They had already completed the normal striping, but due to the Town paving late, they were accommodating in completing this striping. Mr. Hopkins reported he has received about 10 different suggestions from people regarding the traffic ordinance that he will collate and send to the Traffic Ordinance Working Group. Mr. Hopkins will schedule the next meeting of the Traffic Ordinance group to meet with the Police Chief and Highway Chief.

Doug Bailey asked if the striping was completed on Union Street and Mr. Hopkins noted that Jeremy Disorda had advised that it had been done.

Barry Varian asked if, in addition to the Traffic Ordinance group, whether there are any efforts being made to alleviate the traffic jams. Seth Hopkins advised this is due to the timing of the traffic signals and the company is aware of the concerns and he has done follow-up. Their technician understood the problem, but they need to ensure that the signals coordinate with each other and this will have to be done in their office. Mr. Hopkins has provided photos of this issue to the vendor. Mr. Varian stated it is difficult to get off Seminary Hill as well. Mr. Hopkins noted efforts are underway but he is not aware of the time frame.

### 5. Community Development Report

- "A Community Development Manager's report was provided by Bill Moore and is available in the Board packet on the Town's Website. Mr. Moore reviewed the report:
- . The majority of the youth winter programming is upon the website for registration. New programming for this winter includes a K-2 cheering offering. This will be a once-per-week offering on Sundays.
- . Speaking of Sundays, Neshobe Sunday Skating will return Sunday, November 5 with Jill Doody.
- . We are working again with the Otter Valley varsity basketball teams and the Pittsford Rec to have weekly student-led inseason basketball clinics. Area youths from grades K-6 will be working with current boys and girls varsity players/coaches to refine their skills on Sundays starting December  $8^{th}$  and running through February  $9^{th}$ .
- . Only 18 tickets remain for the Brandon Rec bus trip to see the Celtics play on December 19th."

### 6. Public Comment and Participation

Tricia Welch noted she worked at the polls and she was very happy with the voter turnout, and whether one agrees or not with the results, she was glad that so many exercised their right to vote. Doug Bailey stated it was the largest voter turnout he has seen.

The Select Board recessed at 7:13PM.

The Select Board reconvened at 7:24PM.

Motion by Tim Guiles/Heather Nelson to enter into executive session at 7:24PM regarding the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee per 1 V.S.A.313(3)(a)(3) to include the Town Management Team. **The motion passed unanimously.** 

#### 7. Executive Session

The Board came out of executive session at 7:39PM.

Motion by Brian Coolidge/Tim Guiles to appoint Vicki Disorda to the Historic Preservation Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Heather Nelson/Tim Guiles to enter into executive session at 7:39PM regarding the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee per 1 V.S.A.313(3)(a)(3) to include the Town Management Team. The motion passed unanimously.

### 8. Executive Session

The Board came out of executive session at 7:59PM. There was no action required.

### 9. Adjournment

Motion by Brian Coolidge/Tim Guiles to adjourn the Select Board meeting at 7:59PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bryant Recording Secretary





### Minutes of Joint Meeting of Brandon Selectboard and Budget Advisory Committee 18 November 2024, Brandon Town Hall

### Attendance

Selectboard present: Doug Bailey, Heather Nelson, Tim Guiles, Ralph Ethier, Brian Coolidge. Budget committee present: Janet Coolidge, Gabe McGuigan, Karen Rhodes, Barry Varian, Tricia Welch. Public present: Seth Hopkins, Bill Moore, Tom Kilpeck, Jackie Savela, Andy Jackson, Steven Jupiter, David Kachajian, Pam Douglass, Faith Daya, Jeff Cohen, Cynthia Cohen, Cecil Reniche-Smith. By Zoom: Todd Nielsen, Brian Kilpeck, Jordan Martin.

Selectboard Chair Doug Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:02PM. On motion of Ralph Ethier and second by Brian Coolidge, the posted agenda was adopted by the selectboard 3-0 (other two selectboard members not yet present).

## Remarks

Doug Bailey advised this workshop would be dedicated to consideration of the police department Selectboard budget. Brian Coolidge conveyed his assessment that the current FY25 police budget of \$864,000 was not accurate as the department has exceeded its budget in FY24 and FY23 and early on in FY25 set itself on pace to exceed its FY25 budget by greatly overspending its overtime allotment.

### **Police** Department **Budget**

Seth Hopkins brought to the meeting three of seven different staffing scenarios Chief Kachajian had developed. These represented an option cutting \$100,000 from the FY25 police line which would provide service by a Chief plus three full-time officers and one part-time officer, requiring significant on-call (not on-duty) hours; an option with level funding which would provide service by a Chief plus four full-time officers and one part-time officer facilitating increased coverage; and an option adding \$150,000 to the FY25 police line which would provide level service at 24-hours on-duty coverage by a Chief and six full-time plus two part-time officers.

Several members of the selectboard and budget advisory committee as well as several members of the public present offered input. A message of affordability being a primary concern expressed by voters in the March and April Town and school budget rejections in Brandon and in the November legislative elections in Vermont generally was highlighted. The fact that during nocoverage hours the Vermont State Police would be unable, due to their own staffing level, to offer a degree of response that would be acceptable to community expectations was discussed. The current level of service is not supported by the current budget, nor is the prior level of service supported by the current budget as implemented. A budget advisory committee member stated she was shocked that a cut was under consideration given the advisory ballot question result last year. The mixed-message of the voters in simultaneously voting in favor of the advisory article regarding additional police coverage while rejecting the budget led to consideration of separating out the police budget in some way for additional voter control of the matter. A base level within the budget plus option(s) in appropriations article(s) was discussed as it was consensus that it would not do to have the police budget on its own rejected and then have to conduct another election(s) to get to voter approval. The chief fielded questions regarding when it was safe and appropriate to have one officer rather than two on duty / on call.

In the second hour, the chief of the rescue squad and the fire chief and others spoke to the interdependent way in which emergency services personnel work to respond to calls for service

and called attention to the rising incidence of mental health situations. Rescue calls in general are up 40% over recent years. A community member echoed by a budget advisory committee member and a selectboard member encouraged education of the public regarding the actual facts of emergency response, what is required, and how the budget addressed those needs. Selectboard members explored the concept of triage as it might be applied to police response as well as learning from mistakes and learning from the community. Chief Kachajian related current prioritization/triage practices in the department and his commitment to holding to the voter approved allocation for his department. A community member asked the town manager to give a sense of how the Town budget has been stable or has grown in recent years; the town manager read from tonight's budget draft rollup sheets (distributed) that the amount raised by taxes was \$2.712M in FY23, \$2.737M in FY24, and \$2.737M in FY25. Inflation across those years was (uncompounded) greater than 18%. Last year's online "tax estimator" was held up as a useful tool in hopes it could be redeployed for this year. The town manager estimated that the three police department budget options under consideration tonight, for a household in an averagevalue assessed home [~\$186,000] would result in approximately a decrease of \$50, a flat figure, or an increase of \$75, respectively. A community member recommended pre-Town meetings to gain broad community input while the budget process remains open, and the board chair indicated that is his intent. Two different selectboard members offered their recommendations for a base level of police funding within the budget plus one or more options beyond that to achieve actual incontrovertible community input.

Executive Session The meeting was recessed at 9:03. On motion of Heather Nelson seconded by Ralph Ethier and voted unanimously, at 9:13 the selectboard entered executive session per 1 VSA § 313 (a) (3) regarding the evaluation of an employee. The board returned to public session at 9:58. No action was required.

On motion of Brian Coolidge seconded by Tim Guiles and voted unanimously, the board adjourned at 9:58PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sech M. Hopkins

Seth M Hopkins, town manager

Jacolyn

## TOWN OF BRANDON Accounts Payable

## Check Warrant Report # 63811 Current Prior Next FY Invoices All Invoices For Check Acct 01(10 General Fund) 11/25/24 To 11/25/24

		Invoice	Invoice Description		Amount	Check Check
Vendor		Date	Invoice Number	Account	Paid	Number Date
301005	AIRGAS USA, LLC	11/01/24	cylinder lease renewal	10-5-15-41160	276.00	2404 11/25/24
			5512193909	HW Maint. Supplies-Vehicl		
310590	AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANING	11/21/24	nov windows	10-5-22-43100	65.00	2405 11/25/24
			8454	Town Office		
311175	BABYAK-SCHICK, CLARE	11/14/24	election	10-5-13-10160	92.27	2406 11/25/24
			NOV 2024	Election Workers		
311044	BERK LINDSEY	11/14/24	election	10-5-13-10160	40.00	2407 11/25/24
			NOV 2024	Election Workers		
311218	BLAIS, MARIELLE	11/14/24	election	10-5-13-10160	40.00	2408 11/25/24
			NOV 2024	Election Workers		
310699	BRANDON GLC SOLAR, LLC	12/01/24	monthly electric	20-5-55-42130	1935.00	2409 11/25/24
			215 B	Electric		
310699	BRANDON GLC SOLAR, LLC	12/01/24	monthly electric	10-5-22-42130	2365.00	2409 11/25/24
			215 B	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
100280	BRANDON LUMBER & MILLWORK	11/12/24	drain unclogger	10-5-22-43080	16.99	2410 11/25/24
			66799/3	Highway Bldg Maint		
100280	BRANDON LUMBER & MILLWORK	11/12/24	anti-freeze for fountains	10-5-22-43160	29.94	2410 11/25/24
			66801/3	Parks Maint.		
100280	BRANDON LUMBER & MILLWORK	11/15/24	items for fountains	10-5-22-43160	83.72	2410 11/25/24
			67339/3	Parks Maint.		
100280	BRANDON LUMBER & MILLWORK	11/15/24	plug for fountain	10-5-22-43160	1.07	2410 11/25/24
			67345/3	Parks Maint.		
200218	BRANDON REPORTER	10/23/24	ad - Oct & Nov Rec events	10-5-18-10330	45.50	2411 11/25/24
			122396	Advertising/Recruitment		
100198	CARGILL, INCORPORATED	11/13/24	salt	10-5-15-47110	5680.85	2412 11/25/24
			2910228269	Road Salt		
100051	CARR, BERNIE	11/14/24	election	10-5-13-10160	40.00	2413 11/25/24
			NOV 2024	Election Workers		
100860	CARROLL, BOE, PELL & KITE	11/13/24	misc legal	10-5-10-21110	22.50	2414 11/25/24
			39276	Legal Services		
100462	CASELLA WASTE MANAGEMENT	11/01/24	Oct trucking of sludge	20-5-55-50170	2580.00	2415 11/25/24
			3077170	Trucking		
300604	CHAMPLAIN CONSTRUCTION CO	10/31/24	winter sand	10-5-15-47120	1567.10	2416 11/25/24
			BRAN-OCT2024	Winter Sand		
301503	CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FUELS	11/13/24	diesel fuel	10-5-15-41130	130.70	2417 11/25/24
			544101	Fuel - Vehicles HW		
310703	CITY HALL SYSTEMS, INC.	11/08/24	October charges	10-5-18-60010	165.41	2418 11/25/24
			20737	Bus Trips		
310097	COMCAST	11/09/24	service: Nov 16 to Dec 15	10-5-10-42100	96.65	2419 11/25/24
			TH 11/09/24	Telephone Exp. Admin.		
310037	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIO	11/06/24	service: Oct 06 to Nov 05	10-5-15-42100	130.68	2420 11/25/24
			HWY 11/06/24	HW Telephone		
310037	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIO	11/06/24	service: Oct 06 to Nov 05	10-5-14-42100	55.46	2420 11/25/24
			PD 11/06/24	PD Telephone Service		
311245	CORELOGIC TAX SERVICES LL	11/14/24	PAID IN ERROR	10-2-00-02120	321.88	2421 11/25/24
			21705721	Anticipated Tax Credits		
100494	ENDYNE INC	11/19/24	testing	20-5-55-22120	270.00	2422 11/25/24
			512413	Testing		
100494	ENDYNE INC	11/21/24	testing	20-5-55-22120	95.00	2422 11/25/24
			512748	Testing		

## TOWN OF BRANDON Accounts Payable Check Warrant Report # 63811 Current Prior Next FY Invoices

All Invoices For Check Acct 01(10 General Fund) 11/25/24 To 11/25/24

Name			Invoice	Invoice Description		Amount	Check Check
1,00187   PLOMENCE CROSSING STORE   1,00742   qravel for union Street   1,00742   qravel for union S	Vendor		Date	Invoice Number	Account	Paid	Number Date
1908   PLOMERIC CRUSHED STONE   1904   Syrwal for Union Streem   1904-11-4640   2482.1   2424   11/23/2   235452   132	330422	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES #576	11/04/24	pipe	20-5-55-43160	389.49	2423 11/25/24
251452   Crave   Cra				1249494	Maint. Supplies - General		
STATE   STAT	300187	FLORENCE CRUSHED STONE	11/09/24	gravel for Union Street	10-5-15-46140	2482.51	2424 11/25/24
10235   GREEN MOUNTAIN FOWER   11/64/24 Commant of 1/64/24   11/24				235452	Gravel.		
1742   1742	300187	FLORENCE CRUSHED STONE	11/16/24	gravel, rock fines	10-5-15-46140	4135.46	2424 11/25/24
1/24 047928   Bidgs & Grounds Electric   1/24 047928   Bidgs & Grounds Electric   1/24 079168   Electric   1/24 079268				235495	Gravel		
Section   Sect	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/04/24	7 Conant Sq lighting	10-5-22-42130	45.08	2425 11/25/24
11/24 079168   RICENT MOUNTAIN FOWER   11/05/24 Centreal Ps/traffic 11ght   05-22-42130   633.55   2425 11/25/24				11/24 047828	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
Second Montain Power   1705/24   Central Pictraffic lights   10-5-22-42130   63:35   2425 11/25/24   11/24 170028   180ga & Grounde Electric   11/24 171702   180ga & Grounde Electric   11/24 17170	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	WWTF 480 volt service	20-5-55-42130	3361.58	2425 11/25/24
11/24 170028   11/26/24 Estabrook Park   10-3-22-42130   10.5 13.9   2425   11/25/24				11/24 079168	Electric		
STATE   STAT	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	Central Pk/traffic lights	10-5-22-42130	833.55	2425 11/25/24
1/24 240302   1/26 240302   1/26 240302   1/26 240302   24.5 1 1/25 1/26 240303   24.5 1 1/25 1/25 1/25 1/25 1/25 1/25 1/25 1				11/24 170028	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
Street Mountain Force   1/05/24 Carver St pump station   20-5-55-42130   45.61   2425 11/25/24   1/25/24	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	Estabrook Park	10-5-22-42130	53.99	2425 11/25/24
11/24 290502   Electric				11/24 240302	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
STATE   STAT	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	Carver St pump station	20-5-55-42130	45.61	2425 11/25/24
11/24 317702   Sidge & Grounds Electric   11/24 318702   Sidge & Grounds Electric   20-5-5-242130   24.25 11/25/24   24.25 11/25/24   24.25 11/25/24   24.25 11/25/24   24.25 11/25/24   24.25 11/24 318602   Sidertic EV Car Stations   191.90   24.25 11/25/24   24.25 11/24 318940   Sidertic EV Car Stations   11/24 318940   Sidertic EV Car Stations   11/24 451302   Sidertic EV Car Stations   11/24 467102   Sidertic EV Car Stations   11/24 467102   Sidertic EV Car Stations   11/24 467102   Sidertic   11/24 467102   Sidertic   11/24 467102   Sidertic   11/24 467103   Sidertic   11/24 467103   Sidertic   11/24 467103   Sidertic   11/24 467103   Sidertic   11/24 47103   Sider				11/24 290502	Electric		
STATE   STAT	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	Green Park	10-5-22-42130	24.93	2425 11/25/24
11/24 338602   Electric   11/24 338602   Electric   13/24 338604   Electric   13/24 451302   Electric   13/24 451304   Electric   13/24 451302   E				11/24 317702	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
11/24   11/2	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	Country Club pump station	20-5-55-42130	28.47	2425 11/25/24
11/24 339840   Section EV Car Stations   11/26/24 700m Ball   10-5-22-42130   332.49   2425 11/25/24   11/24 451302   11/24 451702   11/24 467702   11/24				11/24 338602	Electric		
11/05/24   Town Hell	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/04/24	7 Conant Sq car chargers	10-5-22-42500	191.90	2425 11/25/24
11/24 451302   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 451302   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 467702   Bldctric   11/24 467702   Bldctric   11/24 467702   Bldctric   11/24 467702   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 4737937   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 737937   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 737937   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 737937   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 822212   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 822212   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 851302   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/25/24 Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 851302   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/25/24				11/24 339840	Electric EV Car Stations		
10233   GREEN MOUNTAIN FOWER   11/05/24 Brookdale pump station   2-55-42130   33.36   2425 11/25/24   21023   210233   210234   211/25/2	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/06/24	Town Hall	10-5-22-42130	332.49	2425 11/25/24
11/24 467702   Electric				11/24 451302	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
110233   REEN MOUNTAIN FOWER   11/08/24 Cescent Fark   10-5-22-42130   287.49   2425 11/25/24   11/24 737937   11/24 737937   11/24 737937   11/25/24	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	Brookdale pump station	20-5-55-42130	33.36	2425 11/25/24
1/24 737937   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   2   2425 11/25/24				11/24 467702	Electric		
11/23   REEN MOUNTAIN FOWER   11/05/24 Folice Station   10-5-22-42130   121.17   2425 11/25/24   11/25/24	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/04/24	Crescent Park	10-5-22-42130	287.49	2425 11/25/24
11/24 82212   11/25/24   11/25/				11/24 737937	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
310233   GREEN MOUNTAIN FOWER   11/05/24 Street lights   10-5-22-42130   3100.90   2425 11/25/24   11/24 851302   51dgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 851302   51dgs & Grounds Electric   11/24 850302   51detric   11/25/24   51detric   11/24 850302   51detric   11/25/24   51detric   11/25/2	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/06/24	Police Station	10-5-22-42130	121.17	2425 11/25/24
11/24 851302   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   Bldgs & Grounds Electric   11/25/24 80302   11/25/24 80302   Bldctric   11/24 80302   Bldctric   11/24 807202   Bldctric   11/24 807202   Bldctric   11/24 807202   Bldctric   11/25/24 807202   Bldctric   11/25/24 807202   Bldctric   11/25/24 807202   108.87   2427 11/25/24 807202   108.87   2427 11/25/24 807202   Bldctric   11/25/24 807202   108.87   2427 11/25/24 807202   108.87   2427 11/25/24 807202   108.87   2428 11/25/24 807202   2428 11/25/24 807202   2428 11/25/24 807202   2428 11/25/24 807202   2428 11/25/24 807202   2428 11/				11/24 822212	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
310233 GREEN MOUNTAIN FOWER 11/05/24 WHTF security light 20-5-55-42130 27.58 2425 11/25/24	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	street lights	10-5-22-42130	3100.90	2425 11/25/24
11/24 860302   Electric   11/06/24   Champlain St pump station   20-5-55-42130   101.53   2425 11/25/24   20-555   20-555-42130   101.53   2425 11/25/24   20-5559   Electric   20-555-30120   108.87   2427 11/25/24   20-5559   Electric   20-555-30120   108.87   2427 11/25/24   20-555-30120				11/24 851302	Bldgs & Grounds Electric		
11/06/24 Champlain St pump station 20-5-55-42130 101.53 2425 11/25/24 11/25	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/05/24	WWTF security light	20-5-55-42130	27.58	2425 11/25/24
11/24 867202   Electric   100559   EACH COMPANY   11/13/24   Chlorine indictor vials   20-5-55-30120   108.87   2427 11/25/24   14259241   Professional Supplies   20-5-35-30120   2428 11/25/24   2427 11/2				11/24 860302	Electric		
100559	310233	GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER	11/06/24	Champlain St pump station	20-5-55-42130	101.53	2425 11/25/24
14259241   Professional Supplies   11/14/24   election   10-5-13-10160   95.69   2428   11/25/24				11/24 867202	Electric		
310704 JENNINGS, DEBRA  11/14/24 election  10-5-13-10160  95.69 2428 11/25/24  NOV 2024  Election Workers  11/08/24 Asbestos-317 North St-FEM 56-5-06-20200  1285.39 2429 11/25/24  310240456-1 Newton Rd Flood-Legal  310033 KNAFF, ELLEN  11/14/24 election  NOV 2024  Election Workers  101156 KONICA MINOLTA PREMIER FI  10/22/24 copiers  10-5-10-30130  483.54 2431 11/25/24  540821774  Service Contracts  311176 LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI  11/13/24 cleaning  10-5-22-10120  87.50 2432 11/25/24  111324  PD Custodian  311176 LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI  11/13/24 cleaning  10-5-22-10130  157.50 2432 11/25/24	100559	HACH COMPANY	11/13/24	chlorine indictor vials	20-5-55-30120	108.87	2427 11/25/24
NOV 2024   Election Workers   11/08/24   Asbestos-317 North St-FEM   56-5-06-20200   1285.39   2429   11/25/24   210240456-1   21/24   21/25/				14259241	Professional Supplies		
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NOV 2024 Election Workers  101156 KONICA MINOLTA PREMIER FI 10/22/24 copiers 10-5-10-30130 483.54 2431 11/25/24 540821774 Service Contracts  311176 LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI 11/13/24 cleaning 10-5-22-10120 87.50 2432 11/25/24 111324 PD Custodian  311176 LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI 11/13/24 cleaning 10-5-22-10130 157.50 2432 11/25/24				310240456-1	Newton Rd Flood-Legal		
101156 KONICA MINOLTA PREMIER FI 10/22/24 copiers 10-5-10-30130 483.54 2431 11/25/24 540821774 Service Contracts  311176 LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI 11/13/24 cleaning 10-5-22-10120 87.50 2432 11/25/24 111324 PD Custodian  311176 LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI 11/13/24 cleaning 10-5-22-10130 157.50 2432 11/25/24	310033	KNAPP, ELLEN	11/14/24	election	10-5-13-10160	40.00	2430 11/25/24
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				111324	Admin Custodian		

### TOWN OF BRANDON Accounts Payable

## Check Warrant Report # 63811 Current Prior Next FY Invoices All Invoices For Check Acct 01(10 General Fund) 11/25/24 To 11/25/24

		Invoice	Invoice Description		Amount	Check Check
Vendor		Date	Invoice Number	Account	Paid	Number Date
311176	LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI	11/20/24	cleaning	10-5-22-10130	157.50	2432 11/25/24
			112024	Admin Custodian		
311176	LILY WHITE CLEANING SERVI	11/20/24	cleaning	10-5-22-10120	87.50	2432 11/25/24
			112024	PD Custodian		
101196	LOVELL, DAN	11/13/24	refund	10-4-18-50090	20.00	2433 11/25/24
			824396	Adult Activities		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/10/24	tire replacement	10-5-22-43120	31.05	2434 11/25/24
			12218	Municipal Mowing-maint		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/17/24	I-Pads, pencil, keyboard	10-5-13-30300	4308.00	2434 11/25/24
			12219	Grant Expenses		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/18/24	I-pad cases, protectors	10-5-13-30300	129.89	2434 11/25/24
			12220	Grant Expenses		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	hose, flag, WW lab, headphon		69.97	2434 11/25/24
			12221	Town Hall Repair/Maint.		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	hose, flag, WW lab, headphon		26.99	2434 11/25/24
			12221	Town Hall Repair/Maint.		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	hose, flag, WW lab, headphon		553.77	2434 11/25/24
			12221	New Equipment-Misc Tools		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	hose, flag, WW lab, headphon		119.98	2434 11/25/24
			12221	Municipal Mowing-maint		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	hose, flag, WW lab, headphon		128.69	2434 11/25/24
			12221	New Equipment-Misc. Tools		0404 44 (05 (04
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	hose, flag, WW lab, headphon		299.97	2434 11/25/24
2000	ALL GETTINGS IN D	10/01/04	12221	Cheerleading	00 00	2424 11/25/24
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	hose, flag, WW lab, headphon		98.98	2434 11/25/24
210620	Ma amun da nn	10/01/04	12221	Parks Maint. 10-5-14-30110	259.94	2434 11/25/24
310630	MASTERCARD	10/01/24	12329	Office Supplies	239.94	2434 11/25/24
310630	MASTERCARD	10/04/24	flash drivers	10-5-14-30110	54.18	2434 11/25/24
310630	MASIERCARD	10/04/24	12330	Office Supplies	34.16	2434 11/23/24
310630	MASTERCARD	10/08/24		10-5-14-10310	39.78	2434 11/25/24
310030	PARO LE ROMA	10,00,14	12331	Travel & Expenses	33.70	2434 22,23,24
310630	MASTERCARD	10/16/24		10-5-14-10320	74.01	2434 11/25/24
320000		,,	12332	Clothing Allowance		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/16/24	baton & holder	10-5-14-10320	237.98	2434 11/25/24
		,,	12333	Clothing Allowance		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/22/24	secure zip program	10-5-14-30110	47.03	2434 11/25/24
			12334	Office Supplies		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/29/24	dog food & supplies	10-5-14-40440	215.85	2434 11/25/24
			12335	Police Dog Expenses		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/17/24	hat-uniform	10-5-14-10320	37.82	2434 11/25/24
			12336	Clothing Allowance		
310630	MASTERCARD	10/29/24	medical gloves	10-5-14-30120	39.65	2434 11/25/24
			12338	Professional Supplies		
330377	MATTHEW BENDER & COMPANY,	11/06/24	VT Stat 2024 supp pkg&ind		387.31	2436 11/25/24
			43272673	Dues & Subscriptions		
310617	OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNIO	11/15/24	education portion	10-2-00-02137	1294436.11	2437 11/25/24
			NOV 2024	Education Tax Payable		
310736	POCKETTE PEST CONTROL	11/08/24	pest control @ Town Hall\	10-5-22-43100	40.00	2438 11/25/24
			39019	Town Office		

Vendor

310736

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ROYAL GROUP. INC.

STEARNS SERVICES LLC

SUBURBAN PROPANE, L.P.

USABLUEBOOK

USABLUEBOOK

VERIZON WIRELESS

VERIZON WIRELESS

VERIZON WIRELESS

VERIZON WIRELESS

VERIZON WIRELESS

W.B. MASON CO INC

W.B. MASON CO INC

W.B. MASON CO INC

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Jacolyn

### TOWN OF BRANDON Accounts Payable Check Warrant Report # 63811 Current Prior Next FY Invoices

29752727

11/06/24 propane @ WW chem bldg

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INV00534000

9978716724

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0051

10/31/24 batteries

11/14/24 SUE/BILL DEI TRAINING

11/14/24 SUE/BILL DEI TRAINING

10/30/24 batteries, envelopes

250156039

250185554

11/08/24 calculator ribbons

250368159

11/05/24 probe/dipper/lab supplies 20-5-55-30120

11/05/24 probe/dipper/lab supplies 20-5-55-41110

11/13/24 service: Oct 14 - Nov 13 10-5-18-42100

11/13/24 service: Oct 14 - Nov 13 10-5-21-10310

11/13/24 service: Oct 14 - Nov 13 20-5-55-42100

11/13/24 service: Oct 14 - Nov 13 10-5-15-42100

11/13/24 service: Oct 14 - Nov 13 10-5-14-42100

11/20/24 consulting fee

546471

1265

All Invoices For Check Acct 01(10 General Fund) 11/25/24 To 11/25/24 Invoice Invoice Description Amount Check Check Number Date Date Invoice Number Account Paid POCKETTE PEST CONTROL 11/08/24 pest control: Town Office 10-5-22-43100 70.00 2438 11/25/24 39020 Town Office POCKETTE PEST CONTROL 10-5-18-20500 2438 11/25/24 11/08/24 pest control: storage 50.00 Storage Unit Supply/Maint 39022 POCKETTE PEST CONTROL 11/08/24 pest control: Police Dept 10-5-22-43090 65.00 2438 11/25/24 PD Bldg Maint. 10/31/24 alarm monitoring 10-5-22-43080 44.16 2439 11/25/24 716568 Highway Bldg Maint RUTLAND COUNTY SOLID WAST 08/29/24 disposal of electronics 20-5-55-42140 20.00 2440 11/25/24 M4544 Maint. Supplies - Bldgs RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING 2441 11/25/24 06/30/24 TAP-MPM 4/24-6/24 56-5-18-20100 994.77 4702 MPM-TAP Forest Dale Path SILLOWAY NETWORKS INC 11/01/24 monthly service & support 10-5-10-30134 709.65 2442 11/25/24 29752591 Technical Support SILLOWAY NETWORKS INC 2442 11/25/24 11/01/24 new computer set-up 10-5-14-30210 675.00

Office Equipment

Service Contracts

Professional Supplies

Recreation Telephone

Wastewater Telephone

PD Telephone Service

Professional Development

Professional Supplies

Professional Supplies

Travel & Expenses

Travel & Expenses

HW Telephone

10-5-21-10310

10-5-13-10340

10-5-14-30120

10-5-14-30120

10-5-10-30110

Office Supplies

New Equipment-Misc Tools

360.00

48.35

210.10

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10-5-10-30130

20-5-55-42110

LP Gas - Bldgs

11/22/24 11:46 am TOWN OF BRANDON Accounts Payable

Page 5 of 5 Jacolyn

Check Warrant Report # 63811 Current Prior Next FY Invoices
All Invoices For Check Acct 01(10 General Fund) 11/25/24 To 11/25/24

		Invoice	Invoice	Description	n.	Amount	Check	Check
Vendor		Date		Number	Account	Paid	Number	
	Report :	rotal				1340163.00		
						8811111111		
						Selectboard		
	To the Treasurer of TOWN OF	BRANDON,	We Hereby	y certify				
	that there is due to the sever	ral person	s whose i	names are				
	listed hereon the sum against	each name	and that	t there				
	are good and sufficient vouche	ers suppor	ting the	payments				
	aggregating \$ *1,340,163.00					-		
	Let this be your order for the	payments	of these	e amounts.				



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT TO SELECTBOARD 9 — 22 November 2024

The traffic ordinance review working group has met. It has determined that some in-the-field observations are required to verify alignment of the existing ordinance with actual conditions. Chief Kachajian is assisting with that inventory. Several community members' suggestions were received and are being considered. Chief Kachajian has provided model revisions from a traffic review he led in another community. I had a follow-up meeting with our E-911 coordinator Tom Kilpeck who highlighted additional situations with road names, trail status, and so forth. It will make sense to address all of these while the ordinance is open for revision.

Pike Industries returned to Brandon to cut out and repave a section of Iane on North Street near Newton Road. A small spot in this section had not adhered properly. The Town crew assisted the Fire District with sitework for its end of season patching in several locations.

We are working with Naylor & Breen regarding the Sanderson Covered Bridge repair.

I was encouraged to attend and did attend with selectboard chair Doug Bailey the 13 November meeting of the OCWICD (the bug district). The District continues to evolve. For awareness of the community, there is a vacancy for a Brandon voting representative to the OCWICD. Those interested in serving here should please submit a cover sheet and letter of interest to me.

The energy committee sought my input in implementing the energy navigators grant they've secured for the Town, and we have a promising path forward there.

I have had additional communication with the Town attorney regarding our desire to clear property tax delinquencies. They are considering our request.

The outside auditors were at the town office all week, working closely with the town finance staff in their examination of our procedures and testing of our work. It is expected that the audit will be finished and reported in a timely manner.

Representatives of MVP Healthcare will meet next week with Town staff who are eligible for health insurance in 2025. The Town has selected the most cost-efficient option from the limited choices available to it. We have been in consultation with the police union on this since 7 October.

I worked with staff on the FY26 budget project, including extensively with the chief regarding options for police scheduling and funding levels. I had many meetings with town officers, staff, townspeople, and responded to a number of requests for information from various parties. Staff performance evaluations / reviews are underway.

Respectfully submitted,

Sech M. Hopkins

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT	
FY25 Budget Operating Expenses	44% thru funds /42% thru year
FY25 Police Budget Operating Expenses	49% thru funds /42% thru year
Unrestricted / Unassigned Fund Balance	\$566,633
1% (Local Option) Tax Fund Available / Undesignated [\$ <del>100,000</del> board-reserved paving now \$35,000 per board action 12 Aug 2024 not included at right]	\$250,223
Known Grant Matches Not Yet Designated	UNION STREET
Delinquent property taxes (prior years)	\$497,846 (was \$501,741)
Delinquent wastewater (prior years ['over 120 days'])	\$212,333 (was \$221,049)
Tax Sale Status — I have requested a letter under the Town attorneys' letterhead — pending	70 accounts at attorney for letters



November 25, 2024

As the town readies for year-round programming of the town hall space, we are actively recruiting volunteers to help plan and work events for the upstairs and downstairs space. Please reach out to Bill Moore via email (<u>community@brandonvermont.gov</u>) with your interest.

The town hall upstairs will be closed the week after **December 16**<sup>th</sup> for the annual refinish of the floors by **Mountainside Flooring**.

The **Friends of the Town Hall** voted unanimously to use their left-over funds from the dissolution of their amazing organization to fund the **2025 Silent Movie Series**.

The Brandon Museum and Brandon Recreation Department are excited to co-host the film, **Lost**Nation, at the Brandon Town Hall on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Vermont filmmaker, Jay Craven, will be at the screening to present the film and run a question and answer session after the show.

This is a free event, thanks to sponsorship from **Phoenix Feeds, National Bank of Middlebury & Hannaford Supermarket.** This Revolutionary War era action drama set in the early upstart Republic of Vermont will be a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

The Town of Brandon will be signing a lease agreement with **UVM** to rent the one of the two storage rooms connected to the downstairs meeting space and occasional daytime use of the conference room for their **Assistive Technology Tryout Center** that is staffed by Brandon's own **Ben Wimet**, a member of our Diversity Equity and Inclusion committee. The amount remitted to the town will be **\$4,500.00 annually**.

We will be bring to the board a request to adjust 2 different lot lines on Jones Drive to correct an historic error that has the town possessing land that should have been a part of the land after the subdivision of the Brandon State School.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Moore



### Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC): 2024-2025 Reappointment Form

Municipality na	me: Town of Bra	andon		
The first row sho designee" unde police, etc. unde	ould be the emerg r "Role") and the s er "Role"). Note th	ency <i>management</i> ( second row the eme	EM) representative (spe rgency services (ES) rep to be an emergency ser	resentative (specify fire,
First Name	Last Name	Role	Phone	Email Address
Seth	Hopkins	EMD	(802) 247-330 (os	skarhop@me.com
Tom	Kilpeck	Fire Chief	(802) 236-8389cl	nief@dunmorehose.q
*Please put a st	ar to the left of you	ur name if you woul	d be interested in becor	ning a nominee for Chair
<b>Proxy Delegati</b> voting proxies.	ons Statements:	Voting members sh	ould complete the state	ments below to delegate
I, Seth Hopkir (First r hereby delegate	name, Last name) e my vote to Tom	, representing Kilpeck ES Rep First name, Las		(Name) ers of the Rutland REMC
hereby delegate	name, Last name) e my vote to Seth	Hopkins M Rep First name, Las	the town of Brandon for all matte	(Name) ers of the Rutland REMC
municipality of	y nme, Last name) Brandon (Nam	, do	norized representative fo hereby affirm that our go dividuals named above.	overning legislative
Signature:			Date: 25 Nov 202	





To Date Brandon Selectboard 21 November 2024

Re

Lower Carver Street Reclassification

Following outreach to relevant landowners and the Town of Pittsford, I recommend the Brandon Selectboard consider undertaking the legal process to reclassify the southern portion of Carver Street from Class 3 (not maintained in winter) to a gated Legal Trail continuing to facilitate access by pedestrians, bicyclists, and if the board so chooses ATV users, for birding, hiking, fishing, hunting, and other lawful uses. Reasons advocating in favor of reclassification:

- this portion of road is not required for public convenience as Union Street and Florence Road are paralleling this route on the west side of the Otter Creek, and US 7 parallels this route at a higher elevation to the east;
- it requires new material and staff and equipment time every year as the road seasonally floods and has to be built up and graded again, only to serve very limited travel;
- it has long been a an illegal dumping ground for household trash and unwanted mattresses, tires, and televisions, and continues to be such;
- recently we have had instances of people dumping commercial construction debris into the
  Otter Creek itself, resulting in adverse environmental impacts followed by State mandates to
  the Town to clean up the river at the Town's expense

Bill Moore and I have consulted all landowners along this section and they are in favor of discontinuing vehicle traffic on this road through erection of a gate at each end and designating it as a legal trail.

In the accompanying letter, I did reach out to the Pittsford Town Manager David Atherton and through him to the Pittsford Selectboard. The Reporter's coverage relates that the Pittsford Selectboard "expressed concern about closing a connection between the two towns but did not immediately shoot down the idea". Published Pittsford Selectboard October 16, 2024, meeting minutes state: "Town Manager Atherton recently received a call from Brandon to discuss the possibility of reclassifying the Syndicate Road due to an issue with trash along the roadway and the waterway. Brandon is proposing to gate the road. There was a letter in the packets for review. D. Adams inquired the condition of the bridge. Town Manager Atherton explained that the bridge condition was not the concern, however, the state required the clean up of the trash in the waterway. There is expected to be more discussion on this topic in the future."

I have reached out to VTrans to advise of the Town's interest in exploring this possibility. I am providing you with the relevant sections of Vermont statute and request that you consider formally initiating this process by scheduling a site visit. Upon community request, the Town has graded the road this week, so the road's condition is currently about as good as it gets.

Respectfully,

Seth M Hopkins, town manager

Sech M. Hopkins





30 September 2024

Mr David J Atherton, Town Manager Town of Pittsford, Vermont [via email]

Dear Mr Atherton,

Following up on our phone conversation this morning: I'm writing as you requested to see if there are any concerns on your part as Town Manager of Pittsford, or on the part of the Selectboard of Pittsford, regarding a possible reclassification of "lower" Carver Street in Brandon (portion of Town Highway 42), approximately from the railroad crossing south to the bridge over the Otter Creek (Bridge 25) which connects to Syndicate Road in Pittsford.

This section of Carver Street is unpaved, only lightly traveled by the public, and has for many years not been maintained by the Town of Brandon in the winter months. Public convenience does not require it. Unlawful disposal of trash has long been a nuisance here, and the Town and landowners incur ongoing expense in cleaning up other people's trash. A quantity of construction debris was recently dumped in the Otter Creek, requiring a State-directed cleanup by the Town. The Town has reached out to all of the landowners along this section of road in Brandon, and none object to a reclassification which would result in limited access to the road.

From a public safety point of view, it would seem if US Route 7 is closed for any reason, Union Street and Florence Road in Brandon and West Creek Road in Pittsford (paved) would be a more suitable traffic detour and emergency vehicle alternate route.

If you would please advise whether the Town of Pittsford has any objection or reservation regarding this possibility, that will be helpful in determining whether we pursue the idea further. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Seth M Hopkins

Sech M. Hopkins

**Town Manager** 

From: dennwr3@aol.com Subject: Historic items

Date: October 27, 2024 at 9:20 AM

To: Seth Hopkins Manager@brandonvermont.gov

## DR

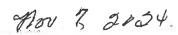
### Hi Seth

I wanted to bring 2 historic issues to you for your discussions with the selectboard.

- 1. As you probably know the Sanderson Covered Bridge is listed in the National Register, That means that restoration or repair must meet the historic codes.
- 2. There is a historic box reinforced concrete culvert on Syndicate Road near the Brandon/Pittsford line. See photograph 44 in the Brandon Preservation Survey Report. This was possibly designed by George Reed. Considered rare and from 1915 1920. It may be eligible for listing in the National Registry. We must ensure it is maintained. I know there has been some discussion about reclassifying the road.

### **Best Regards**

Dennis W. Reisenweaver Chair Brandon Historic Preservation Commission Brandon, VT 05733 (505)-490-9148 Dennwr3@aol.com





Dear Leth, I read the article in the page on ching the syndicate Road. I wanted to say at support you in this move. We have lived There for 42 years and that road has dur going down hill ever since Iks road doesn't see much Traffic except for dump rune and drugs. IT used to be a nice place for Kide To go fishing but not anymore. As you know, we burned out This year; When The guys were sloing The clear up They saw more rate that I could say, The slumping is getting closer to our area and if it is lept up we are going to be in a predicament that none I think it would be a new nature baid Litte Vitte of Grandon for bikers and I pray This gree your way. Centa Remojan

Title 19 VSA Chapter 7
Laying Out, Discontinuing, and Reclassifying Highways

https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/fullchapter/19/007

Excerpts relevant to Consideration of Reclassifying Lower Carver Street

### § 771. Procedure

- (a) The legislative body of a municipality may discontinue a town highway after following the procedures of sections 708-711 of this title. The authority of the legislative body under this subsection shall extend to any town highway, regardless of whether the highway was originally laid out by the town, the former county court, the Supreme Court, a committee of the General Assembly, a turnpike company, or was established in any other manner now or formerly authorized by law.
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the legislative body shall not discontinue a class 1 or class 2 town highway without the prior approval of the Secretary of Transportation.
- (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the legislative body shall not discontinue a class 3 or class 4 town highway extending into an adjacent municipality without notifying the legislative body of the adjacent municipality. If the legislative body of the adjacent town is aggrieved by a decision of the legislative body of the municipality in which the highway is located, it may appeal to the Transportation Board pursuant to subdivision 5(d)(9) of this title. (Added 1985, No. 269 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 2005, No. 178 (Adj. Sess.), § 6.)

### § 708. Petition

- (a) Persons who are either voters or landowners, and whose number is at least five percent of the voters, in a town, desiring to have a highway laid out, altered, reclassified, or discontinued, may apply by petition in writing to the selectboard for that purpose. A person who is a landowner in a town, desiring to have an unidentified corridor which passes through or abuts his or her land discontinued or altered, may apply in writing to the selectboard for that purpose. The selectboard may also initiate these proceedings on its own motion.
- (b) A class 4 highway need not be reclassified to class 3 merely because there exists within a town one or more class 3 highways with characteristics similar to the class 4 highway. In considering whether to reclassify a class 4 highway to class 3, consideration may be given as to whether the increased traffic and development potential likely to result from the reclassification is desirable or is in accordance with the town plan. (Added 1985, No. 269 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 2005, No. 178 (Adj. Sess.), § 3.)

### § 709. Notice and hearing

The selectboard shall promptly appoint a time and date both for examining the premises and hearing the persons interested, and give 30 days' notice to the petitioners, and to persons owning or interested in lands through which the highway may pass or abut, of the time when they will inspect the site and receive testimony. The selectboard shall also give notice to any municipal planning commission in the town, post a copy of the notice in the office of the town clerk, and cause a notice to be published in a local newspaper of general circulation in the area not less than ten days before the time set for the hearing. The notice shall be given by certified mail sent to the official residence of the person(s) required to be notified. (Added 1985, No. 269 (Adj. Sess.), § 1.)

### § 710. Survey or order of discontinuance

After examining the premises and hearing any interested parties, and if the selectboard judges that the public good, necessity, and convenience of the inhabitants of the municipality require the

highway to be laid out, altered, or reclassified as claimed in the petition, it shall cause the highway to be surveyed in accordance with the provisions of section 33 of this title if the highway right-of-way cannot be determined and shall place suitable monuments to properly mark the bounds of the survey. If the selectboard decides to discontinue a highway, the discontinuance shall be in writing setting forth a completed description of the highway. (Added 1985, No. 269 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 1993, No. 195 (Adj. Sess.), § 4; 2021, No. 105 (Adj. Sess.), § 353, eff. July 1, 2022.)

### § 711. Selectboard's return; recording

- (a) Within 60 days after the examination and hearing, the selectboard shall return the original petition with a report of its findings and of the manner of notifying the parties together with the survey or discontinuance, to the town clerk's office. The selectboard's order laying out, altering, reclassifying, or discontinuing the highway, with the survey, shall be recorded by the clerk.
- (b) As part of the report of findings provided for in subsection (a) of this section, the selectboard may order that the petitioner bear the cost of upgrading a class 4 town highway to the class 3 town highway standards established in subdivision 302(a)(3)(B) of this title. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a town to maintain a class 4 highway or to upgrade a highway from class 4 to class 3. (Added 1985, No. 269 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 1991, No. 47, § 2.)

### § 792. Petition to selectboard

When the public good or convenience of the inhabitants requires a highway to be laid out, altered, reclassified, or discontinued on, or intersecting the line between two towns, or a bridge across a stream between two towns to be built, persons who are either voters or landowners, and whose number is at least five percent of the voters, of the towns may petition, in writing, the selectboard of either town to lay out, alter, reclassify, or discontinue the highway, or build the bridge. The selectboard presented with the petition shall notify the selectboard of the other town. The two boards shall establish a time for hearing, and shall give notice of it. (Added 1985, No. 269 (Adj. Sess.),  $\S$  1.)

### § 793. Proceedings by selectboards

The selectboards shall proceed in the same manner as the selectboard of one town in laying out highways or building bridges. A copy of the selectboards' findings shall be filed with the clerk of each town within six months from the time of final hearing on the application and the selectboards' order and surveys shall be recorded in each town clerk's office and the selectboards' decision shall be binding on their respective towns. (Added 1985, No. 269 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 2021, No. 105 (Adj. Sess.), § 359, eff. July 1, 2022.)

### § 302. Classification of town highways

- (a) For the purposes of this section and receiving State aid, all town highways shall be categorized into one or another of the following classes:
- (1) Class 1 town highways are those town highways that form the extension of a State highway route and that carry a State highway route number. The Agency shall determine which highways are to be class 1 highways.
- (2) Class 2 town highways are those town highways selected as the most important highways in each town. As far as practicable, they shall be selected with the purposes of securing trunk lines of improved highways from town to town and to places that by their nature have more than normal amount of traffic. The selectmen, with the approval of the Agency, shall determine which highways are to be class 2 highways.
- (3) Class 3 town highways:

- (A) Class 3 town highways are all traveled town highways other than class 1 or 2 highways. The selectmen, after conference with a representative of the Agency, shall determine which highways are class 3 town highways.
- (B) The minimum standards for class 3 highways are a highway negotiable under normal conditions all seasons of the year by a standard manufactured pleasure car. This would include sufficient surface and base, adequate drainage, and sufficient width capable to provide winter maintenance, except that based on safety considerations for the traveling public and municipal employees, the selectboard shall, by rule adopted under 24 V.S.A. chapter 59, and after following the process for providing notice and hearing in section 709 of this title, have authority to determine whether a class 3 highway, or section of highway, should be plowed and made negotiable during the winter. However, a property owner aggrieved by a decision of the selectboard may appeal to the Transportation Board pursuant to subdivision 5(d)(9) of this title.



# Brandon Land Use Ordinance (aka the BLUO) 2024 Update

November 20, 2024

## **Overview**



- What is the purpose of the BLUO?
  - The purpose of amending the town's zoning bylaws is to increase housing opportunities, reduce nonconformities, align bylaws with changes in state law, and minimize impacts to local resources in a manner that is consistent with the Brandon Town Plan
- Why is the BLUO being updated now?
  - The updated Town Plan was formally adopted in February, 2024
  - Zoning bylaws are based on the direction provided by the Town Plan
  - The changes are required to adhere to recently-enacted state legislation: HOME Act (2023) and Act 181 (2024)

# What was the process?



- The PC finished the Town Plan in January, 2024
  - Select Board approved in February
- The PC began work on the BLUO in March
- Brandon received a state grant to "modernize" the bylaws
  - The Rutland Regional PC was engaged to assist the town
  - Revisions to the BLUO were completed by volunteers at no cost to residents
- Documents in paper form are available at the Town Offices
- Digital versions of the documents are available at brandonvermont.gov





- The BLUO update had many contributors
  - The Planning Commission (PC)
    - Jack Schneider, Chair Natalie Steen, Vice Chair
    - Neil Silins
       Sara Stevens
    - Lisa Peluso Bob Foley (term ended June 30th)
  - Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC)
    - · Logan Solomon, Planner
  - Brandon Zoning Administrator (ZA)
    - Jeff Biasuzzi (term ended June 30th)
    - Larry Stevens (term started July 1st)
  - 11 open-to-the-public working sessions
  - Input received during a June "walking tour" of downtown
  - Chamber of Commerce businesses provided feedback on signage
  - Other contributors included Development Review Board and town managers





- EXISTING structures, lots and signage are "grandfathered"
  - The proposed changes apply for instances in which a new construction permit is requested
- EXISTING non-conforming permanent signs are also grandfathered
- The recently updated "Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Overlay Districts" section did not require revision





## **Zoning District Regulations**

- Central Business
  - Incorporates the previously standalone "Sidewalk Sign and Merchandise Display Ordinance"
  - For new construction, the maximum front setback is 20 feet to ensure a vibrant, walkable downtown feeling
  - Parking and open spaces are to be located in the rear of the building
  - Residential units are welcomed above and behind retail storefront

### Mixed Use

- · Previously known as High Density/Multiuse district
- Minimum lot size reduced to allow for increased density of 5 dwelling units per acre
- If water and municipal sewer are not available the minimum is 2 acres per dwelling

### Aquifer Overlay

- · Former district is now an "overlay" as is the norm statewide
- No change to protection of town's water source

# What else IS changing?

### Village

- A new residential district, "Village", encompasses the older, pre-zoning areas of town
- For new construction, minimum lot size set at 1/8 acre per dwelling unit
- Front setback option of the average of adjoining homes encourages a uniform look to the neighborhood
- Commercial I uses permitted (less than 15,000 square feet) without conditional use review by Development review Board
- Permanently parked mobile homes are prohibited

### Neighborhood

- Primarily residential areas outside the new Village pre-zoning areas
- Development of new natural resource extraction now prohibited

### Rural

• The only change expands the district boundary to include the previous aquifer district area not serviced by water district and municipal sewer





- · Applies to applications for NEW signage
  - · Permanent non-conforming signs are "grandfathered" until moved, altered or replaced
  - At that time a new permit is required and the sign must conform to the updated zoning regulations
- Businesses are allowed a maximum of 4 signs excluding exempt signs
  - · Exempt signs include:
    - Non-commercial flags, business "open" sign, real estate, special events, election signs, etc.
    - Window signage occupying a maximum of 30% of total window area is exempt
    - · On-premise directional and informational signs
      - · These signs may be illuminated and may carry branding

# Final Steps by:



- Planning Commission
  - Holds Public Hearing (11/20)
  - Feedback from public session incorporated into draft
  - · PC votes to send draft to Select Board
- · Select Board
  - · Reviews draft and requests changes, if any
  - Holds Public Hearing (date TBD)
  - Provides feedback from public session to the PC
  - Select Board votes on final version of draft BLUO
  - If approved, Select Board submits BLUO to VT Dept. of Housing & Community Development



**Questions?** 



### INFORMATION FOR BRANDON SELECT BOARD

The State of Vermont through Act No 167 (H.626) has established a Division of Animal Welfare at the Dept of Public Safety. The funding for the director of this division will be coming from an increase in the dog licensing fees - \$2. The new fee structure will be as follows:

Spayed/Neutered Dogs over 6 months old - Intact Dogs over 6 months old -

\$4 (Town)+\$7(State) = \$11 \$8(Town)+\$7(State) = \$15

Please see attached summary of the act.

Thanks,

Sue Gage

This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

### Act No. 167 (H.626). An act relating to animal welfare

Subjects: Public safety; animal welfare; importation of animals; Division of Animal Welfare; animal shelters and animal rescue organizations

This act establishes a Division of Animal Welfare at the Department of Public Safety. The Commissioner of Public Safety is required to appoint a Director of the Division. The Director must be qualified and have: professional experience in animal welfare laws; knowledge of stakeholders; and knowledge of animal welfare and cruelty issues. The Director shall develop a comprehensive plan for the development, implementation, and enforcement of the State's animal welfare laws. In developing the plan, the Director shall consult with other State agencies that respond to animal welfare complaints or with animal welfare responsibilities to quantify the amount of time State agency staff expend in fulfilling animal welfare responsibilities, including the costs to agencies of fulfilling the responsibilities. The Director shall be the only Division employee until the comprehensive plan is complete and the General Assembly enacts legislation, as needed, to implement the comprehensive plan. The act establishes the Animal Welfare Fund to fund the expenses incurred by the Division of Animal Welfare. A two-dollar surcharge on annual dog licenses issued in the State shall be deposited into the Animal Welfare Fund. In addition, the act amends the definition of "humane officer" under the animal cruelty statues.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on July 1, 2024