

# TOWN OF WAITSFIELD & FAYSTON, VERMONT

## Joint Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

**Members Present:** David Babbott-Klein, Chach Curtis, Fred Messer, Brian Shupe

**Fayston Selectboard:** Ron Graves, Mike Jordan, Chuck Martel

**Staff Present:** York Haverkamp, Town Administrator;

**Fayston Staff:** Sarah Stavrak, Madi Vasseur

**Fire Department:** Daniel Beede, Paul Hartshorn, Cam Mills, Tripp Johnson, Josh Noyes, Courtney Theurer, Evan Theurer, Gordie Eurich, Jared Young (Chief)

**Others Present:** John (MRVTV)

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chuck Martel. The meeting was held in person at the Waitsfield-Fayston Fire Station.

### 1. Review agenda for addition, removal, or adjustment of any items per 1 VSA 312(d)(3)(A)

No changes were made to the agenda.

### 2. Public Forum

Nobody requested time to speak.

### III. Order Business

#### 1. Fire Department Introductions

Mr. Young provided a report, noting that the calls this year were slightly fewer than typical, that the large diameter hose should be delivered this month, and that the new engine chassis is in production. It is anticipated that the chassis will be complete this month, with the built out truck expected to be delivered in early 2027. Other projects, such as improvements to dispatching, are ongoing. He explained that MRVAS' switching to Capital West for dispatching created some issues with sharing a repeater, but that things have improved.

#### 2. Fire Department Budget Review

Mr. Haverkamp indicated that any anticipated large expense increases should be provided soon; Mr. Young noted that diesel and heating oil prices have risen significantly, and also explained that there are at times unanticipated building expenses. He outlined that he believes that everything necessary has been completed in order to become OSHA compliant, with electrical panel work still in process.

Mr. Shupe suggested that the two towns coordinate budgeting, particularly regarding a reserve for a new building.

#### 3. Fire Department Overview

Mr. Young outlined some of the larger improvements that the Department would like to plan for.

New air bottles will need to be purchased in 2032; a current price will be obtained so that this can be planned for and funds reserved.

It is hoped that a crew cab pickup can be ordered in 2028, providing a multi-purpose vehicle for personnel and equipment and allowing for fewer personal vehicles needing to be on scene. Having a pickup available will also provide a safety factor, especially in winter when responding to

situations that do not need a fire truck, and when sending personnel but not equipment for assistance to other towns.

The Department would like to order some gear racks for the building this year, portable cubbies at a cost of approximately \$9K. This improvement would coordinate with the use of the crew cab, again allowing for the use of fewer personal vehicles as gear would be stored on site rather than in individual's vehicles.

The current gear rotation was outlined; the crew continues to work on building up its inventory so that each member has two sets. The gear rack will help with these plans, and the second set of gear is critical in the winter to avoid responding to subsequent calls in a short time period and needing to use wet gear.

Whether to retain Engine 5, which is 25 years old, once the new truck is delivered, was discussed. It is possible that this vehicle might be kept as a back up until a crew cab is available; Mr. Young will get an idea of what the engine might sell for.

There was some discussion of the generator which was meant to be sized for the school and fire station, but not connected to the station. Mr. Haverkamp will look into this.

#### **4. Cost Sharing Arrangements**

It was agreed that the 60/40 sharing still is appropriate, and also agreed that the general agreement is working well as it stands.

#### **5. Questions and Discussion**

Mr. Young explained that the siding on the station has been being replaced at a rate of a panel a year, with the funds coming from the operating budget. He anticipates completing another replacement this year; three have been completed, with three left to be replaced.

Heating needs and diesel costs were outlined.

It was agreed that no funds are being put toward the building's appearance at this point, as it is anticipated that a new building will be constructed in the 5 – 10 year time frame.

#### **6. Next Steps**

It was agreed that Mr. Young will meet with town staff and Board members for a budget discussion. The potential for a spring meeting of the two Boards and the Department was supported.

#### **III. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary

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Chuck Martel 9-22-26