Town of Addison Selectboard Meeting Minutes

The Town of Addison Selectboard meeting was held on Tuesday August 5, 2025 at 7:00PM at the Addison Community Center located at 121 VT RTE 17 West, Addison.

Attendance: Jeff Kauffman, Geoffrey Grant, Peter Briggs, Rob Hunt, Alma Briggs, Steve Torrey, Pat Torrey, Bryan Nolan, Elizabeth Armstrong, Kay Mitchell, John Spencer, Michael Hollis, Erin Cashman, Marty Haitz, Alden Harwood, Chris Carella, Tom Reneer, Deborah Kurak, Tom Lockenman, Jeffrey Randall, Brad Stephanie, Vince Paradis, Peter Macfarlane, Phil Stearns, Kelly Wellings

Call to Order- Jeff Kauffman Sr @ 7:01pm

Additions and Changes to the Agenda- *Listers errors and omissions Motion by Rob Hunt | Peter Briggs 4, 1 absent*

TOWN BUSINESS OF HIGHWAY & CLERK/TREASURER

Approve minutes: August 5, 2025- *with amendment to attendees- Motion to approve Peter Briggs | Geoffrey Grant 3, 1 absent, 1 abstain*

Highway

- Truck- *still waiting on it to be completed*
- Paving Grant- *the Vendors originally planned to handle the rubber chip seal will not complete the job this calendar year, but Bryan Nolan is hoping to maintain budgeted funds from 2025 to pay for work when completed (will be spring of 2026). Asking whether allotted finances could be put into a fund to save & Jeff Kauffman Sr mentioned that would likely have to take it to the voters as a line item to approve*
- Completed culverts in Potash Bay- *all scheduled culverts planned for replacement for 2025 will be completed as of end of this week*

Appointments

- Dog Warden

Town Clerk/Treasurer

- Access Policy- *Geoffrey Grant | Rob Hunt 4, 1 absent*
- 1. Mailbox replacement policy- *suggestion from Bryan Nolan to remove the language requiring distance from the roadway*
- 2. Private road policy- *no amendments required*
- 3. Request for use of town equipment for emergency situations- *no amendments required*
- 4. Highway rates- *Amendment to say follow federal rates*
- 5. Road debris policy- *Bryan Nolan questions accuracy of dates listed for adoption vs amendment. Mentions that policy had been amended but the amendments are not listed on the presented copy. $500 plus federal labor rates*
- 6. Sanding policy- *No amendments required*
- 7. Winter sand policy- *Amendment suggested that town declines to sell winter sand to private contractors*
- 8. Sale of town equipment- *Amendment to say "equipment reserve fund"*
- 9. Sign policy- *No amendments required*
  Motion to approve 1-9 listed above Peter Briggs | Rob Hunt 4, 1 absent
- Tree removal-*Will address in future*

- Water/drainage/flowage-*Will address in future*
- Transportation construction and improvements- *Will address in future*

Approve Bills/Invoices Paid and Due: General and Highway Peter Briggs | Rob Hunt 4, 1
Approve Timesheets/Payroll: Highway *Geoffrey* | *Peter 4, 1*
Approve Timesheets/Payroll: General *Rob Hunt* | *Peter 4, 1*
Updates

Miscellaneous Board Business

- Potash Bay:
  Jeff Randall supports public access, but reiterates that possibly signage needs to be curated to create clearer expectations of use. Agrees that neighbor dispute regarding the parking of trailer etc is a real issue
  Mr & Mrs Breen have experienced a decline in respectful use of the beach, and claims that most residents did not know about changes regarding the beach ahead of time, many out of staters now present. Also suggesting that issues with parking and access with neighbors will not be solved with no parking signs and he feels that there is no enforcement of signs, which leads to the question of how they could be effective. Comments that the widening of the public access would be great but only during certain parts of the year because of loose gravel etc.
  Kay Mitchell- believes having no overnight parking sign would be more productive to addressing the private property dispute with neighbor, and that mowing shorter on side of road access could allow visitors to park more often off to side and out of road, perhaps consider adding a handicap parking sign for those who cannot park up the hill. She wonders about the visitors renting local rentals whether we can share upfront to encourage respectful use of the beach. Kay requests for the town to consider making the access wider to accommodate trailers trying to back down.
  Elizabeth Armstrong- reiterates the need for no parking or blocking the access road to the bay because the fire department requires access to water there. She mentions that she has experienced the sheriff in the area monitoring the neighbor's concerns and has never experienced any issues with a decline of respectful use and supports public use.
  Vince Paradis tells the board that he has never experienced any negative or disrespectful usage and that it is a wonderful asset to the town and to visitors and it should be
  Debbie Curac- Lives on the beach and frequently brings grandchildren and has also never encountered any issues with usage and supports public beach access.Does not understand why someone would cut down the beach access sign.
  Tom Lockenman stated the need for liability release signs, no overnight parking signs, and rules/ regulations for dogs on the beach. Has never experienced any issues with disrespectful use and supports public beach use.
  Brad Stephanie owns the corner lot of Lake St and Potash & also has never experienced irresponsible use of area but encourages local residents to monitor areas and take ownership if they see such occurrences. He said he would be willing to place signs on his land regarding public beach access, policies, etc.

Jeff Kauffman read letters from local residents regarding unleashed dogs, trash & monitoring for safety etc. at Potash Beach. He states that it would be possible to add signs supporting town ordinances for dogs, etc. possibly widening the access, lower mowing on Kay Mitchell

Erin Cashman mentions that she, having access to the town website, can add a page for Potash Bay for possible town visitors providing information promoting respectful use of the beach.
Chris Carella suggests posting a camera sign and a faux or real camera to encourage respectful use of the beach. Ultimately supports a public beach because it promotes our Addison economy and businesses etc.
Bryan Nolan mentions that we do have a dog ordinance so we could put a sign up for that but other signs would need to have a coordinating ordinance created. He states that it could be difficult to widen the access because of large stones which had been placed to prevent erosion from water but not impossible.

- Listers Errors & Omissions- *see below*
- Speeding on 22A- *Letters have been sent to state level and they are considering adjustments to speed on 22A, law enforcement has placed a speed trailer*
  Dave Carpenter- thanks the selectboard for due diligence in working toward addressing the speeding concerns. Dave asks about the possible future widening projects scheduled for 22A and because they may increase ability to speed, should the town look into a safety zone, traffic light at four corners, or "no jake brakes" ordinance.
  Jon Spencer cites issues trying to get mail crossing 22A due to speeding and trucks
  Rob Hunt asks whether more speed trailers could be helpful to promote more awareness of speed. Marty Haitz mentions that Cornwall has gotten grant money to install permanent speed alarm signs and suggests we start looking into options for what may be available to the Town of Addison.
  Chris Carella discusses the future plan to reroute truck traffic and concerns over major trucking and how to make it safe for locals while still encouraging capitalism and access to goods/ services provided through trucks.
  Selectboard will place a sign for dogs on the beach, and will work on what ordinances would need to be created to post other signs addressing other concerns

Selectboard Concerns

- *Town workday is planned for Town Clerk's Office September 27, 2025*
- *Jeff Kauffman Sr updates on federal grant that town had applied for that he has not received any updated information on this and as such perhaps town needs to consider other options to move forward with options for Town Clerk's Office and building usage*

ALL OTHER TOWN BUSINESS

Updates from Committees

Planning Commission:

- Reports- *have a rough draft for the town plan nearing completion*

Delinquent Tax collector:

- Tax Sale Update- *after restarting the tax sale process and allowing 30 days required to property owners to enter into a payment agreement he has received no response and as*

such- the tax sale is rescheduled for October 23, 2025 at 10am. Five properties total. $53,578 which is all but roughly 5% of the total delinquent taxes owed to the town. Most of the remaining dollars owed fall under the mandated threshold of $1,500

Listers:

- Reports- error and omissions: *correction on a tax assessment value sent to an owner of a camper. Motion made to approve Rob Hunt | Geoffrey Grant 4, 1 absent*

Town Hall:

- Reports- *has had one bid for Town Hall RFP but it is not completed yet as he required more time to complete the bid with accuracy*

Emergency Management:

- Reimbursement received for last year flood damage- *a little over $9,000*
- Met with ACRPC - New LHMP template- *will use this new template*
- REMC: Flood Prediction tool and mosquito control- *perhaps this could be helpful to highway dept and shows vulnerable roads etc. There are options for possible future mosquito control if Town is interested*

Transportation Advisory:

- New website for Vergennes PFL study for truck bypass- *VTRANS taking over the website*
- Study grants for Leicester, Ripton, Shoreham- *willing to bring up the traffic speed monitoring devices to see if these grants could apply*

DRB:

- Monthly update- *continued subdivision activity, and completed the approval for Goulet property with Fish and Game purchase*

ZA:

- (None)

Facility Rental Committee:

- Events and usage update- *meeting with playground group looking to replace wooden structure using grant money*
- *Daycare working on renting second space at market value*

Community Center:

- Mobile Clinic- *Dr. Haddock requested & just needs a place to park a large RV 1 time per month and will provide access to lower healthcare. Alma Briggs comments that providing CDL physicals could be a wonderful thing for our community in several ways.*
- Fire Marshall update- *have come to some agreements on usage of space that allows for preschool to exist and also other renters and public access to playground simultaneously*
- Snowplowing RFP- *Jeff Kauffman Sr reads the proposed stipulations and details of RFP- motion to approve* Rob Hunt | Geoffrey Grant 4, 1 absent

Miscellaneous Added

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Selectboard Concerns

Public Comment

Michael Hollis- questions whether the next vote would cause conflict with preschool but Jeff Kauffman Sr assures that due to the double locked door the conflict will not exist.
Kelly Wellings expresses having concerns over disc golfers accessing her private land adjacent to the course and she will be posting her property to discourage unauthorized trespassing due to concerns for safety. She also requests a dog sign to be placed at Addison Community Center promoting dog leash use and proper clean up after pets. Alma Briggs asks about why the disc golf app says that dogs are allowed on property at the ACC and Jeff Kauffman Sr plans to address with local representative for Mountain View Disc Golf.

Executive Session If Needed

Adjourn- *motion to adjourn Rob Hunt | Peter Briggs 4, 1*