

**Minutes**  
**West Rutland Selectboard Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 12th, 2024**  
**6:00 pm**

**Present:** John Harvey, Dick Daley, Chet Brown and John Center

**Others Present:** Sean Barrows, Lyle Jepson and Olivia Bucksbaum from CEDRR

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by John Harvey with the pledge of allegiance.

**Agenda Approval:** Motion made by Chet seconded by John Center to approve the amended agenda as presented adding appoint Regional Emergency Management Committee. All in Favor. Motion approved.

**Minutes Approval:** Motion made by Chet seconded by John Center to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion approved.

**Discussion Items:**

- a) **Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR)** – Lyle gave an update on the regional marketing initiative that began 8 years ago. The Town contributes \$1 per person ever year since the program began. Businesses also contribute as the recruit new hires. The State has also awarded us a \$200,000 GROW grant. Real Rutland markets to potential families and assigns a concierge to help navigate the move. The goal is to address the population decline. Lyle and Olivia gave statistics on how many families have moved into the Rutland region. This work must continue as businesses still have many open positions. Lyle and Olivia thanked the Town for their ongoing financial commitment.

**Action Items:**

- a) **Appoint Recreation Committee** - Aimee, our recreation director suggested reviving the recreation committee to address community needs and prioritization of projects. The following residents have offered to serve: Katie Ponto, Ashley Wetherby, Christina Czarnecki, Maya Romanik, Karen Reynolds, Tashaw Hesketh, Chris Moore, Amanda Ames and Lester Corey. Motion made by Chet seconded by John Center to appoint the recreation committee members as requested. Motion approved unanimously.

**Appoint Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee Voting Members** – Fire Chief Michael Skaza, the fire chief and Mary Ann Goulette, the emergency management director serves on this regional committee and are interested in reappointment. Motion made by Chet seconded by John Center to appoint Michael Skaza and Mary Ann Goulette to the Rutland Emergency Management Committee. Motion approved unanimously.

- b) **Town Manager Report** – Two new highway personnel will begin within the next two weeks. We are in receipt of the recreation pump station. Seth will arrange installation in

the next month. Pleasant Street striping will be completed in the next few weeks. We are applying for a structures grant for Pleasant Street near Baxter Street. A ribbon cutting for the new housing project is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:30pm.

**Board Member Concerns:**

John Center – The Halloween drive thru was very successful with 210 cars plus walkers.

Chet – need to check on a house on Blanchard that has been vacant.

**Adjournment:** Dick Daley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm and John Center seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Goulette