draft

Town of Ira
Select Board Meeting Minutes
Date: October 27, 2026

Present: Nathan Hewitt, Tim Carter, Darin May (call-in), Debbie Perry, Bobbi Raiche, Larry Taggart, Bob Toppin, Scott Warner, Alden Hewitt, Jerri Hoffman
Nathan called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
Review and approve agenda: Tim made a motion to approve the agenda, Nathan 2nd; passed unanimously.
Warrant for bills: Nathan made a motion to approve & sign the 10/27/26 warrant, Tim 2nd; passed unanimously.
Tim made a motion to approve the 9/22/26 meeting minutes, Nathan 2nd; passed unanimously.

Business and Administrative

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	RESOLUTION
Select Board	Winter Sand & Salt Order	A quote was received from Jim Mars. He is giving credit for leftover salt. Nathan made a motion to accept quote from Jim Mars, Darin 2nd; passed unanimously.
	Tax Mapping (CAI) Professional Services Agreement	Board reviewed proposal to get tax maps up-to-date from 2018; Nathan made a motion to approve the professional service, Darin 2nd; motion passed.
	Budget FY28 discussion	Debbie provided Board with a copy of proposed budget for review. There was a lot of equipment maintenance this year and backhoe was paid off. Salaries need to be discussed.
	Review Salaries	The Admin Assistant's hours are twice what they were a year ago. Discussed moving Admin Assistant to an hourly rate rather than salaried as it is now. The Clerk's position is a salary rate. Clerk puts in many more hours than the 10 hours the office is open especially with elections and curing ballots. Bobbi will put together a breakdown of Admin Assistant and Clerk hours.
	Vermont's 2026 RHP Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report	Bobbi provided the Board with email and attachment. Board reviewed and determined no action was necessary.
	2027 PACIF Renewal	The PACIF Renewal did not need to be signed by anyone.
Treasurer Report		None

Health Officer's Report		The Amazon person, who was bitten by the dog, has stated the dog is somewhat out of control. The dog owner has said the dog was going to be put down. As it is private property, the Town does not have authority in the matter.
Highway Business	General Road/equipment update	West Road and Bird's Eye have been graded. Weaver Hill, Toppin Road, Pyka, and Middletown Hill will be graded Thursday. Tim ordered spinner for sander and needs to order chains for truck.
	Grants in Aid Amendment	Board reviewed the amendment. Nathan made a motion to sign the amendment to the Grants in Aid for FY27, Tim 2nd; passed unanimously.
	Road Employee	The Board is having to seek road employees every year or so and feel that it it is time to look at hiring full-time (30-40 hours) employee for fiscal '27-'28. Hours fluctuate depending on time of year. Nathan mentioned the employee being responsible for cemetery mowing, town building mowing, maintenance at garage as well as summer road work and winter roads. Debbie will research cost of benefits. Bobbi had printed out job descriptions from VTRANS and clerk feed.
TOPIC		
Public Comments		Larry Taggart stated he felt that the Board owed him an apology for the assault on his character/integrity at last month's meeting which he pointed out was not reflected in the minutes. Larry said that all the other meetings he attends are recorded. Nathan did apologize to Larry; however, Larry stated he wanted the apology to come from the person who questioned his integrity. Tim did not apologize.
Maintenance & Repairs to Town Buildings	Report on maintenance concerns from monthly inspection	Water softener is not working at Town Office.
	School House Roof	Scott Warner spoke to the overall condition of the school. He noted the addition on the back of the building has a metal roof. He has been inside the building and spoke of putting up plywood to help stabilize the roof internally. He also mentioned replacing the current slate roof with shingles. The decision to repair the slate to maintain its historical aesthetic was previously decided. Nathan said he and Karl Sbardella had not spoken as they had been missing each other's calls. The quote for the slate repair has not been withdrawn. Jerri indicated that donations have been coming in to as-

		sist with the cost of the slate repair and expects more by week's end.
Cemetery Committee		Nathan stated there was a burial on Friday and a bill will be forthcoming. Jerri stated that when the individual from VOCA had visited the cemetery earlier in the year, he had mentioned that the pine trees should be taken down before they fall and damage stones. Jean Marie Raiche is aware of this and will be following up with the Board.
New or Other Business		None
Executive Session (legal, personnel, real estate)		None
Adjourn		Nathan made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm, Darin 2nd; passed unanimously.
In my capacity as the minute recorder for the Ira Select Board, I certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of the approval minutes of the board meeting held on October 27, 2026.		

Recording: Jerri Hoffman