

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting
7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
Town Offices

Selectboard: Chair, John Roleau, Vice Chair, Marie Jewett, Mike Audy, Chris Bataille and Bruce Many

Treasurer: Julie Bessette

Selectboard Assistant: Pam Kingman

Visitors: Kristin Swartzentruber and Darcy Cummings

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

VISITORS BUSINESS:

1. **Library Trustees, Kristin Swartzentruber and Darcy Cummings** came to review the Municipal Library budget with the Selectboard. This will be the Municipal Libraries' first year having their own budget article on the town meeting warning. Per the Vermont League of Cities and the Towns and the outside Auditors, the library needed to create a budget for the entirety of 2026, starting fresh instead of completing their Fiscal year (which ends September 30). The libraries proposed budget for 2026 is \$81,779, minus a surplus of \$51,335, leaving \$30,424 to be raised by taxes.

Chris Bataille made a motion to approve the libraries budget, seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no

** Kristin and Darcy left the meeting at this time.

UPDATES ON:

1. **Roads given by Road Commissioner, Bruce Many:**
 - Most of the winter salt purchased for this year has been used, due to all the small storms. Will need to start using the reserves in the next few weeks. Many towns in our area have never received their salt orders due to a shortage.
2. **Dog Team Bridge:** Bruce and Julie Bessette met with Jim Cota and David Haskins from Vtrans last week to discuss areas in need within town and what Vtrans can do to assist us. The condition of the Dog Team Bridge was discussed. The bridge has been deteriorating for years, and it is time to think about what course of action the town would like to take. Replacing it would cost millions of dollars of taxpayer money. Mike Audy is on the Addison County Regional Planning Commissions Transportation Committee he has raised concerns about

this bridge at the county level; however, it has not made their priority list. With lack of support from regional planning, the town would not receive grant money towards replacing the bridge. Julie Bessette will contact Jim Cota about our options moving forward.

3. **Town Buildings and Land:**

- **Town Hall Front Doors:** Aaron Napoleon has ordered parts for the front doors, as soon as they arrive, he will install them. Aaron said the cost for the closer and other parts is approximately \$1,000.

AUTHORIZATIONS:

1. Mike Audy made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 1/10/26, in the amount of \$7,105.77 seconded by Chris Bataille. 5 yes / 0 no
2. Bruce Many made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 1/17/26, in the amount of \$6,397.90, seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
3. Marie Jewett made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 1/20/25, in the amount of \$46,225.48, seconded by John Roleau. 5 yes / 0 no
4. John Roleau made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the budget status reports for November & December 2025. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
5. Marie Jewett made a motion to approve the General Fund and Road Fund Budgets, as written, seconded by John Roleau. 5 yes / 0 no
6. **Town Hall Application:** Bruce Many made a motion to approve the Town Hall application from Lauren Higbee to hold a birthday party on February 1, 2026, in the gym from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Deposit and fee have been received. Motion seconded by Chris Bataille. 5 yes / 0 no
7. **DRB Appointment:** John Roleau made a motion to appoint Don Johnston to the Development Review Board (DRB) for a 2- yr term ending 2028. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
8. **VELCO** is asking the Town of New Haven to remove the CPG Condition #35 which requires them to provide the town with a one-week advance notice before they conduct annual testing of their generators. Town Attorney advice is to keep the Condition in place, as it is only one week, and it allows neighbors advance notice of the testing. John Roleau made a motion to deny VELCO's request to remove #35 from their CPG; therefore, insisting they continue to alert the surrounding property owners a week in advance of testing their outside generators. Motion seconded by Bruce Many. 5 yes / 0 no
9. **Addison County Regional Planning: ACT 181 – Tier 1B:** Regional Planning has advised that opting into Tier 1B gives New Haven exemptions to ACT 250 permitting and Village are designation benefits. Marie Jewett made a motion to authorize John Roleau to sign the ACRPC ACT 181 – Tier 1B Status. Motion seconded by Bruce Many. 5 yes / 0 no

- 10. Marie Jewett made a motion to approve the minutes from 1/6/25, seconded by Mike Audy. 5 yes / 0 no
- 11. John Roleau made a motion to approve the 2026 Town Meeting Warning as written. Two other petitions were received, and under the advice of the Town Attorney, they will fall under non-binding business (Article 5). Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no

Adjourn: 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted:

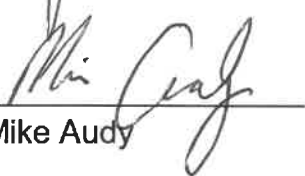
Pam Kingman

Approved on 2-3-26



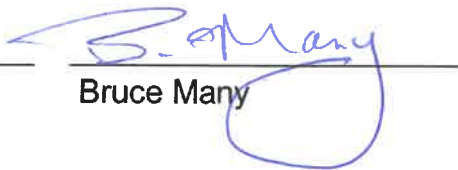
Chair, John Roleau

Vice Chair, Marie Jewett



Mike Audy

Chris Bataille



Bruce Many

