

Town of New Haven
Special / Organizational Selectboard Meeting
7:00 pm
Monday, March 10, 2026
Town Offices

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

Selectboard Assistant: Pam Kingman

Pam Kingman opened the meeting at 7:02 pm and asked for nominations for Selectboard Chair for 2026.

Election of Officers:

Marie Jewett made a motion to appoint John Roleau as the Chair of the Selectboard for 2026, seconded by Bruce Many. 3 yes / 1 abstention (Roleau)

Mike Audy joined the meeting at 7:06pm.

John Roleau made a motion to appoint Marie Jewett as Vice Chair of the Selectboard for 2026, seconded by Bruce Many. 5 yes / 0 no

Designate local posting sites:

Mike Audy made a motion to keep the local posting sites the same: Town Office, Village Green Market, Post Office, and the website. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no

Choose the local newspaper:

John Roleau made a motion to continue using Addison Independent as the local paper for posting legal notices. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett 5 yes / 0 no

Meeting schedule:

Bruce Many made a motion to keep the meeting schedule on the first and third Tuesdays of every month, at 7:00 pm; unless otherwise posted. Motion seconded by John Roleau. 5 yes / 0 no

Appointments:

- John Roleau made a motion to appoint Tim Bouton, Don Johnston and Al Karnatz as **Fence Viewers**. Karen Gallott as the **Inspector of Lumber, Shingles & Wood**, and the **Weigher of Coal**. Harold Tricou as **Tree Warden**,

and Adam Becker as **Assistant Tree Warden**. Bruce Many as **Road Commissioner** and Pam Kingman as **Selectboard Assistant**; each for a 1-year term, expiring March 2027. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0

- Each Selectboard member will be the point person for the following:
 - **John Roleau:** Anbaric / Depot / Vergennes Bypass / VT Gas
 - **Bruce Many:** VT Gas / Belden Falls underpass
 - **Mike Audy:** Dog Team Bridge / Vergennes Bypass
 - **Marie Jewett:** Emergency Management Co-Dir. / Fire Dept. / Library Committee
 - **Chris Bataille:**
 - **Steve Dupoise** has agreed to continue to help with the Train Depot / Anbaric

Financial Authority for Treasurer:

Marie Jewett made a motion to authorize the New Haven Treasurer to expend monies prior to written approval of a signed pay order, said pay order to be signed after the fact with corrections being made if necessary; for the following: postage related, payroll related payments, and ACH transactions for payroll. The Road Foreman is authorized to expend up to \$1,000 without prior approval. The Road Commissioner is authorized to spend up to \$2,000 without prior approval. Motion seconded by Mike Audy. 5 yes / 0 no

Additional Appointments: John Roleau made a motion to appoint Julie Bessette as the Road Assistant, Zoning Administrator Assistant and the E-911 Coordinator. Motion seconded by Chris Bataille. 5 yes / 0 no

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Possible executive session

VISITORS BUSINESS: None

UPDATES ON:

1. Roads given by Road Commissioner, Bruce Many:

- Roads are posted for spring
- Bruce met with Mike Mullen from Pike Industries today re: pavement cracking and heaving on North St. and South St. Mullen said they are called pressure cracks from when water gets under the pavement and freezes; it causes the pavement to bubble up and crack. Bruce is concerned it may happen again after South Street gets paved this summer. Mullen said there is a 50 - 50 % chance it could happen again; even if we spent extra money to reclaim those portions of pavement.

Mullen added that the quoted prices for paving will more than likely change due to the ever-changing gas prices.

- RVG Electrical Services came to the garage to look at lighting in the sand / salt shed, lights in the garage as well as exterior lights. A man lift is needed for the lights in the sand /salt shed.
- The crew has been working on the grader.

2. Town Buildings and Land:

- **Marie Jewett gave an update on the new Fire Station:** The Committee has met with the architect. It has come to light that the parcel of land on Main Street is zoned for residential; not non-residential. Non-residential needs to be 7 acres and this is only 5. Therefore, a waiver from the New Haven Development Review Board is needed. Marie has filled out the paperwork, she is on the agenda to meet with the DRB on April 6, 2026. The Committee plans to meet with Jim Northup; he wants to see the design changes for the Fire Station; he will offer suggestions on how to secure funding and donors to help fund this project. Marie said right now the cost to build a new fire station is approximately 5.5 million, which is not surprising in this economy.

AUTHORIZATIONS:

1. Mike Audy made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 2/21/26, in the amount of \$6,729.45, seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
2. Mike Audy made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 2/28/26, in the amount of \$6,744.99, seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
3. Chris Bataille made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 3/7/26, in the amount of \$11,824.27, (this includes the Selectboard stipends) seconded by Mike Audy. 5 yes / 0 no
4. Bruce Many made a motion to approve pay orders for the week ending 3/10/26 in the amount of \$30,824.27 seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
5. John Roleau made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the budget status report for January 2026. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
6. Quarry Hill Construction Quote for the Town Hall front doors:
 - **Option 1:** use existing frame and threshold; install new 2" thick doors. Total cost: \$13,433.15.
 - **Option 2:** remove existing frame, jamb, threshold and could include reworking exterior siding and siding and interior trim. Install new 2" thick doors, framework, etc. Total cost: \$15,614.70.

John Roleau made a motion to hire Quarry Hill Construction to do Option 2, in the amount of \$15,614.70. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no

- 7. **Beeman PTO request:** The Beeman PTO is requesting the use of 50 chairs and crowd control stations for their upcoming "Mom Prom" in April. John Roleau made a motion to allow the Beeman PTO to borrow 50 chairs and the stations. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 5 yes / 0 no
- 8. Marie Jewett made a motion to approve the minutes from February 17, 2026, seconded by Mike Audy. 5 yes / 0 no
- 9. John Roleau made a motion to approve the 2026 Town Meeting minutes, seconded by Marie Jewett. 4 yes / 1 abstention (Bataille)

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1. **Town Meeting review:** The Selectboard and Town Clerk have received many complaints about the way town meeting was run. Town meeting is also known as an informational meeting, which is run by the governing body – the Selectboard. The Board discussed ideas to make the meeting friendlier and with an agenda to follow, along with the Town Meeting Warning. This is a work in progress to make next year a better year for all.

John Roleau made a motion to go into executive session at 7:40 pm to discuss personnel. Motion seconded by Bruce Many. 5 yes / 0 no

Marie Jewett made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:56pm, seconded by John Roleau. 5 yes / 0 no

Chris Bataille will officially resign as a Selectboard member on March 31, 2026. Chris has accepted a job out of state. He apologized to the Board for not fulfilling his term and thanked the board for their support.

Pam Kingman will post the Notice of Vacancy.

Adjourn: 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved on 3-24-26

Chair, John Roleau

Marie Jewett
Vice Chair, Marie Jewett

Mike Audy

Chris Bataille
Chris Bataille

Bruce Many
Bruce Many