

Town of Norwich, Vermont

Office of the Listers & Zoom

Draft Minutes – Special Meeting

Thursday August 29, 2024 – 3:00 pm

Attending: Listers – Cheryl A. Lindberg and Ernie Ciccotelli;
Public – Evan Cavanaugh (in-person) and Everett Thompson (Zoom)

1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm.
2. Review and approval of agenda – Ciccotelli made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Lindberg and passed unanimously.
3. Public Comments/Correspondence – No public comments were made.
4. HS-122 Late filing penalty grievance – Evan Cavanaugh presented his grievance on the penalty applied to his property tax bill due to their late-filed HS-122 with the State of Vermont. He stated that they are new to Vermont and learning how the Vermont processes work. The Listers accepted the information and stated that he was correct in filing the HS-122 and that Norwich's homestead education tax rate is greater than the Non-Homestead education tax rate, thus creating a higher revised tax bill. The Listers will deliberate after the meeting and send a letter with a decision.
5. Reappraisal update – Lindberg provided a brief update on the meeting with KRT Appraisal and the Town Manager scheduled for September 9, 2024. The time has been set for 10:00 am at Tracy Hall. The Listers will review the contract and amendments, emails from property owners, photo issues, interior inspection issues and any related concerns for the upcoming meeting. No invoices have been received from KRT since the reappraisal was put on hold.
6. Compensation of Listers per Article 2 of Special Town Meeting – Lindberg had provided various reports for the Listers to review – current Town of Norwich Wage Scale FY25, FY25 budget document, current Personnel Policy page of Lister hourly wage and the Lister pages from the 2022 VT Municipal Compensation and Benefits Report. The Listers reviewed the budget line items for FY25 and the information sent to them from the Finance Office on wages paid to date. After lengthy discussion about the remaining budget dollars, the value of experienced vs new Listers and the hours needed for office coverage, Lindberg made a motion to compensate the Listers at Grade 15 with a step based upon experience. Ciccotelli second the motion and it was voted unanimously. The Listers will receive the annual cost of living adjustment that is incorporated in the Wage Scale each year and move up one step with each year of experience.
7. Norwich /Sharon Boundary line – The Listers noted that no decision was made by the Selectboard to meet with the Sharon Selectboard in an attempt to discuss a boundary line dispute. The Selectboard is letting the BCA handle the appeal from the Adams. The Listers will get together to prepare a packet for presentation at the BCA hearing.

8. Approval of Minutes – Ciccotelli moved to approve the minutes of their August 7, 2024 meeting. Lindberg seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.
9. Adjournment – Ciccotelli moved to adjourn the meeting. Lindberg seconded. Motion was voted unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 4:19 pm.

Respectfully,

Cheryl A. Lindberg, Chair
Board of Listers

DRAFT