



Town of Thetford Vermont

3910 Vermont Route 113 · P.O. Box 126 · Thetford Center, VT 05075
802-785-2922 · thetfordvermont.us

Selectboard Special Meeting *Draft* Agenda

Thetford Town Offices

(w/Virtual Attendance Option)

Monday, January 10, 2022 7:00pm

To connect to Zoom via computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88122490498>

To connect via phone only: +1 (646) 558 8656 | Meeting ID: 881 2249 0498

Note: Selectboard meetings are in public, but not of the public. 1 V.S.A. § 312 (h) states, “At an open meeting, the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to express its opinion on matters considered by the public body during the meeting, as long as order is maintained. Public comment shall be subject to reasonable rules established by the chairperson.”

7:00pm – Call to Order

- 1) Agenda Review
- 2) Town Manager Report – Bryan Gazda
 - a) UVM Local Government Intern Program
 - b) AT&T Cell Tower Update
- 3) Public Comment
- 4) Library Federation Presentation & Request for Funds
- 5) Certificate of Highway Mileage
- 6) Initial Discussion of Town Meeting Plans
- 7) Revised Budget Discussion
- 8) Review of Town Meeting Warning
- 9) Review of Selectboard Report
- 10) Review of Open Elected and Appointed Positions
- 11) Warrants and Minutes
- 12) Adjourn

Thetford Library Federation
Annual Report to the Town of Thetford for 2021

The Thetford Library Federation (TLF) is private, non profit 501(c3) that is governed by a Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of 3 community members and a representative from each of the five town libraries that make up the TLF:

- Latham Memorial Library
- Peabody Library
- Thetford Academy Library
- Thetford Elementary School Library
- Thetford Historical Society and Library

The town appropriation that is warned on your ballot provides support to the Latham and Peabody libraries; to the maintenance of the Bicentennial Building, which houses Latham and the Thetford Historical Society; and covers the cost of the shared online catalog, OPALS, which is used by the Latham, Peabody and school libraries.

Summary of the public and school library circulation, as reflected in OPALS:

10,625 items circulated

2527 videos streamed through the Kanopy service

4614 audiobooks and ebooks circulated

61 museum passes circulated

For more details about the services, collections and programs provided through the Latham and Peabody libraries, see those reports.

The Federation owns and maintains the Bicentennial Building as a rent and utilities free home to the Latham Library and the Thetford Historical Society. In the past, the TLF insulated the building's attic and began purchasing a portion of its electricity at a slightly lower cost from Thetford Community Solar on Godfrey Road. In 2020 the Historical Society converted its lighting to LED lights. The TLF continues to look at ways to increase the efficiency of the building and lower its costs. In the spring of 2022, the Latham Library will complete the installation of a Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning system (HVAC) that will provide fresh air to the newly renovated community room while providing a more efficient heating system to that portion of the building. The TLF's Building Committee continues to look for ways to keep costs low as part of its building maintenance program.

The TLF meets several times each year to coordinate services to the town and to approve its budget and appropriation request. The Federation's services depend on the town's appropriation, volunteers, the Federation's endowment, grants, and your support of our annual appeal. Thank you!

Latham Memorial Library 2021 Annual Report to the Town of Thetford

Throughout the challenges of 2021, the Latham Library staff and board members worked together to provide our community a safe way to access the physical and digital collections, attend programs, and benefit from new kinds of collections. The Thetford community recognized long time librarian Peter Blodgett on the occasion of his retirement, and welcomed Emily Zollo in the new position of Interim Library Director, and Colleen Smith in the new position of Assistant to the Interim Library Director.

By following our *Phased Reopening Plan* and taking advantage of COVID related grants for supplies and equipment, Latham Library was able to welcome visitors in person starting on July 19th. Volunteers returned to the library to work on site. The very popular curbside delivery of materials continues, and so we added a delivery box to the side of the library nearest the parking lot in addition to the one on the front porch. The OPALS online catalog provides a great tool for locating and requesting materials from all the Thetford libraries. For materials not held locally, you will find that interlibrary loan is now more efficient. We are using the Vermont Department of Libraries courier van, which provides a faster, easier, and more economical system of borrowing books from other libraries across the state.

Responding to community interest, we have added or increased new types of collections:

- STEAM kits for families are available for check-out; each kit contains a book plus a variety of activities on a topic relating to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, or Math.
- A Tool Library provides tools such as a Kill-a-Watt Meter and a moisture meter for firewood.
- The *New York Times* is now available free on site at Latham Library from any device, and from your home with a code that allows for 24 hours of access; contact the library to learn about at-home access.
- Seed Saving Library, to which you can contribute!
- Free streaming movies, digital audiobooks and ebooks are easily accessible.
- Passes to museums and local educational sites are available with your library card.

Latham Library staff and board members made a major commitment to undertake much needed improvements to the lower level of the Latham space in the Bicentennial Building, through the Community Room Project. This project included insulating walls and taking other measures to prevent moisture from further damaging the building and the print collections, and developing a much safer and usable space through adding an air purifier. The audiovisual system in the Community Room has been upgraded to facilitate both in-person and virtual meetings and events. Next steps include installing a full ventilation system, furniture and bookshelves. The Community Room is made possible by your financial support, private foundation grants, and the hundreds of hours of time and expertise contributed by volunteers from the community.

A new edition of the Thetford Directory was prepared and published, to enhance community connections and build awareness of local businesses. These are available for \$5.00 at the Latham Library. Due to generous donations of funds and labor, all proceeds go towards support of the library.

Highlights of programs in 2021:

- Family programs outside and in person: VINS, Modern Times Theater, and Pollinators
- Book discussions for all ages
- Readings with local authors
- Open Mic performances both on site and over Zoom
- A Community Read Aloud to celebrate National Library Week
- Halloween book giveaway
- Summer Reading Program
- Storytime over Zoom, outside on the Thetford Hill Green, and in person at Latham
- Book Sales
- Presentation on the films of Alfred Hitchcock

Statistical summary for Latham and Peabody Libraries:

We provide a combined statistical summary in this report because the Latham library staff handle all collections, circulation and programs that are provided through Latham and Peabody Libraries.

- 6570 books borrowed
- 238 items borrowed from other libraries
- 2527 movies watched through Kanopy
- 4614 audiobooks and ebooks downloaded from Listen Up Vermont
- 61 museum passes loaned
- 129 programs
- 1733 people attended programs

Latham Library services to the Thetford Community are made possible through:

- The appropriation from the Town of Thetford that is warned on your ballot for the Thetford Library Federation
- Private and public grants
- Generous donations from individual citizens



The librarians and Board members are
always happy to hear from you!



The Peabody Library was closed due to the COVID-19 virus in the latter half of 2020 through June 2021. During the first half of the year we circulated our collection through curbside service. Joint programs in cooperation with Latham Library were held online over Zoom. The Peabody Library reopened to the public on July 14, 2021 with Covid safety precautions in place. The Library is open on Wednesdays from 2:00-7:00pm with masks currently required inside the building.

Activities and highlights from 2021 include:

- Peabody Library storytime at Treasure Island Beach resumed in the summer of 2021, with many happy beachgoers enjoying stories weekly in July and August.
- The 24th Penny Carnival was held on August 18. Many excited families joined us for carnival and lawn games, music, prizes, a book sale, treats, and fun. Thank you to our trustees and volunteers who make this event possible.
- The Wednesday after school program for young children resumed in late September, with a limit of eight kids per week in attendance. Local 1st-4th graders may take the school bus from Thetford Elementary to the library for storytime, crafts, and games. This program has taken another pause in early 2022 due to virus concerns, but will hopefully resume soon. In the meantime, families may pick up a "make and take" children's craft kit for after school enjoyment.
- The Library, along with the Thetford Historical Society, cosponsored a Halloween event on October 31. Twenty-five people joined the Spooky Post Mills History Walk to hear spine-tingling stories from local history. Thank you to Dean Whitlock for the extensive research he did into Post Mills history and for leading the walk, and thanks to Peter Blodgett and Andy and Jennifer Boyce for sharing their stories.
- Peter Blodgett continued the tradition of the Holiday Readings for the Winter Solstice on December 22, in a hybrid format both at the library and over Zoom.
- In 2021 we have been working on entering the Peabody's holdings into our catalog. You can now view and place requests for all of the items in the Peabody's collection, along with those of the other libraries in the Thetford Library Federation. Curbside service for check-out of Peabody Library items is available, with pickup from the outside book box at Latham Library.

The Peabody Library is the oldest library building in continuous use in the State of Vermont. As a member library of the Thetford Library Federation we actively participate in this town-wide unified system to efficiently provide library services to the Thetford community. In 2022, we look forward to interacting more actively with our community and expanding our long-term working relationship with the Latham Library.

Respectfully,

The Trustees of the Peabody Library - Melissa Weinstein, Andy Boyce, Nicole Leibon, Michele Joyce

Librarian Director - Emily Zollo

District 4
 Certcode 0911-0

**CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE
 YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2022**

Fill out form, make and file a copy with the Town Clerk, and submit the Mileage Certificate on or before February 20, 2022 to: Vermont Agency of Transportation, Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Mapping Section via email to: aot.mileagecertificates@vermont.gov or if necessary via mail to: VTrans PPAID - Mapping Section, 219 North Main Street, Barre VT 05641.

We, the members of the legislative body of **THETFORD** in **ORANGE** County on an oath state that the mileage of highways, according to Vermont Statutes Annotated, Title 19, Section 305, added 1985, is as follows:

PART I - CHANGES TOTALS - Please fill in and calculate totals.

Town Highways	Previous Mileage	Added Mileage	Subtracted Mileage	Total	Scenic Highways
Class 1	0.000				0.000
Class 2	14.230				0.000
Class 3	49.01				0.000
State Highway	26.335				0.000
Total	89.575				0.000
* Class 1 Lane	0.000				
* Class 4	9.46				0.000
* Legal Trail	0.00				

* Mileage for Class 1 Lane, Class 4, and Legal Trail classifications are NOT included in total.

PART II - INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES SHOWN ABOVE.

- NEW HIGHWAYS:** Please attach Selectmen's "Certificate of Completion and Opening".

- DISCONTINUED:** Please attach SIGNED copy of proceedings (minutes of meeting).

- RECLASSIFIED/REMEASURED:** Please attach SIGNED copy of proceedings (minutes of meeting).
 0.31 mi CL3 TH-54 designated Not Up To Standards (NUTS) pursuant to 19 VSA 305(a)

- SCENIC HIGHWAYS:** Please attach a copy of order designating/discontinuing Scenic Highways.

IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN MILEAGE: Place an X in the box and sign below.

PART III - SIGNATURES - PLEASE SIGN.

Signatures of Selectmen/ Aldermen/ Trustees: _____

Signature of T/C/V Clerk: _____ Date Filed: _____

Please sign ORIGINAL and return it for Transportation signature.

AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION APPROVAL: Signed copy will be returned to T/C/V Clerk.

APPROVED: _____ DATE: _____
 Representative, Agency of Transportation

THETFORD ELECTED OFFICIALS

[term expires in “()”]

Cemetery Commissioners: 3-year term		
Sam Eaton (*24)	333-9232	sam56short@gmail.com
Michael Watson (*22)	802-785-2231	
Richard Landry (*23)	802-356-9664	rich.landry.414@gmail.com
Justices of the Peace: 2-year term		
Richard Balagur	785-4514	richard@balagur.com
Martie Betts	299-5293	martieb2018@gmail.com
Wendy Cole	785-2698	wendycole723@gmail.com
Jessica Eaton	333-9491	krash537@hotmail.com
Lisa Johnson		
David Goodrich	785-2170	davidgoodrich73@yahoo.com
Greg Kasten	785-2970	greg@doctorkasten.com
Bill Keegan	333-9372	bill.b.keegan@gmail.com
Orin Pacht		orinpacht@gmail.com
Kate VanArman	802-785-2881	kate.vanarman@icloud.com
Listers: 3-year term		
Sean Boyce (*24)	785-2922	sboyce@thetfordvt.gov
Sue Howard (*22)	785-2922	showard@thetfordvt.gov
Janet Stowell (*22)	785-2922	jstowell@thetfordvt.gov
Representatives for Orange-Windsor		
Tim Briglin	785-2414	tbriglin@leg.state.vt.us
James Masland	785-4146	jmasland@leg.state.vt.us
School Directors: 2- & 3-year terms		
Julie Acker (*23)	785-2449	julie.acker@oesu.org
Charlie Buttrey (*22)	785-4005	charlie.buttrey@oesu.org
Shannon Darrah, Chair (*22)	291-4470	shannon.darrah@oesu.org
Donna Pluta (*24)		donna.pluta@oesu.org
Megan Snider (*24)		megan.snider@oesu.org
School Moderator: 1-year term		
Deecie Denison		deecie49@gmail.com
Selectboard: 2- & 3-year terms		
		selectboard@thetfordvt.gov
Mary Bryant (*22)	785-4512	mbryant@thetfordvt.gov
Nick Clark (*22)	359-3142	nclark@thetfordvt.gov
Sharon Harkay (23)	785-4924	sharkay@thetfordvt.gov
Li Shen, Vice-Chair (*24)	785-4950	lshen@thetfordvt.gov
Steve Tofel (*23)	649-2934	stofel@thetfordvt.gov
Martie Betts – Selectboard Assistant	785-2922 x120	sba@thetfordvt.gov
Senator-Orange County		
Mark MacDonald	433-5867	mmaacdonald@leg.state.vt.us

Sheriff of Orange County		
Bill Bohnyak	685-4875	wbohnyak@orangecountyvt.gov
Town Clerk: 3-year term		
Tracy Borst ('23)	785-2922	townclerk@thetfordvt.gov
Town Moderator: 1-year term		
Deecie Denison		deecie49@gmail.com
Town Treasurer: 3-year term		
Tracy Borst ('22)	785-2922	treasurer@thetfordvt.gov
Trustees of Trust Funds: 3-year term		
Priscilla Hall ('23)	333-4077	
J. Rick Hoffman ('22)	785-2438	
Joe Tofel ('24)	649-1434	

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Animal Control Officer: 1-year term		
Susan Arnold ('22)	785-4248	aco@thetfordvt.gov
Assistant Town Clerk		
Martie Betts	785-2922	mbetts@thetfordvt.gov
Assistant Treasurer		
Kristie Wadsworth	785-2922	kwadsworth@thetfordvt.gov
Conservation Commission, 9: 4-year term		
Steve Lehman ('22)	299-1914	slehman616@gmail.com
Jim McCracken, Chair ('22)	785-2925	jcmcc211@gmail.com
Sue Tallman ('25)	785-4579	sue.tallman@gmail.com
Alicia Houk ('26)	802-727-0003	aliciahouk@gmail.com
Sara Cavin ('25)		sara.cavin@gmail.com
Katherine Milligan, Vice-Chair ('23)	785-4106	Katherine.J.Milligan@dartmouth.edu
Jeff Smith ('22)	785-2615	bhollowforestry@gmail.com
Connie Snyder ('22)	785-2729	c.crovosnyder@gmail.com
Krysta Karlson, Secretary ('24)	860-221-9598	kkarlson@gmail.com
Development Review Board, 5: 3-year term		
Jesse Anderson ('23)	917-407-5116	vermontian@gmail.com
Bill Bridge ('23)	785-2964	unharried@gmail.com
Angela McCanna ('24)	333-3030	angiemccanna@gmail.com
Orin Pacht ('22)		orinpacht@gmail.com
Tim Taylor, Chair ('25)	333-4455	tim.taylor@crossroadfarm.com
DPW Foreman		
Dale Lewis	785-4679	dlewis@thetfordvt.gov
ECFiber Representative: 2-year term		
Jim Masland ('23)		
Tom Monego ('23)		
Emergency Management Director: 1-year term		
Mariah Whitcomb ('22)	802-291-1445	emd@thetfordvt.gov
Thetford Joint Energy Committee, 9: 3 year term		
Chris Hebb - School Board Appointee	333-9689	chris.hebb@gmx.com
Nolan Riegler, Chair – School Board Appointee (24)	802-333-0075	nolan.riegler@gmail.com
Stephanie Daniels – Thetford Academy Liaison	802-785-4469	slgdaniels@gmail.com
Erica Ko ('24)	917-407-5116	ericako@gmail.com
Chuck Cole ('23)		Chuck.cole@dartmouth.edu
Alice Stewart ('23)	785-3087	afs@myfairpoint.net

Tom Ward ('24)		tom.ward3@gmail.com
Vacant (2)		
Fire Warden: 1-year term		
Chad Whitcomb ('23)	333-4123	chad@whitcombwelding.com
Greater UV Solid Waste District Representative: 2-year term		
Jim Masland ('23)		
(Vacant – 1 alternate)		
Health Officer: 1-year term		
Mariah Whitcomb ('22)	291-1445	emd@thetfordvt.gov
Historian: 3-year term		
Marshall Van Norden ('24)	333-4574	
Historic Preservation Committee, 3-year term		
Stephen Branchflower, Chair ('23)	785-2667	stephen@smithandvansant.com
Doug Miller, Secretary ('22)	802-299-6458	firstlightrenovations@gmail.com
Catherine Saunders ('24)		catherine.saunders@gmail.com
Planning Commission, 7: 3-year term		
Liz Ryan Cole ('23)	785-4124	lizryancole@me.com
Jamie Thaxton, Vice Chair ('21) ?	785-4222	james.thaxton.01@gmail.com
Dean Whitlock ('22)	785-2012	boatman@deanwhitlock.com
David Forbes, Chair ('22)	333-4329	vtvuren@gmail.com
Did Pershouse ('24)	603-252-1930	Didi.pershouse@gmail.com
Michael Snow ('24)		msnow@fastmail.com
Vacant (1)		
Police Department		
Stuart Rogers, Patrol Officer	785-2200	stuart.rogers@vermont.gov
Michael Scruggs, Interim Police Chief	785-2200	michael.scruggs@vermont.gov
Judith Powell, Administrative Assistant		judith.powell@vermont.gov
Recreation Advisory Council, 9: 3-year term		
Charlotte Rutledge ('23)		Charlotte284@gmail.com
Nathan Hill ('24)		Natehill187@gmail.com
Andy McGovern ('23)		akmcgovern@gmail.com
Joseph Deffner ('23)		jjdeffner@gmail.com
Stefanie Gulick ('24)		stefanie_dyke@yahoo.com
Stacy Barton, Chair ('22)		stacyabarton@thet.net
Megan Dubuque ('23)		megandubuque@hotmail.com
Brent Mellen ('24)		b_mellen@hotmail.com
Vacant (1)		
Recreation Coordinator		
Amy Fahey	785-2922	afahey@thetfordvt.gov

Thetford Housing Committee, 5: 3-year term (Formerly Senior & Affordable Housing Committee)		
Sarah Martel ('23)	785-2018	martel71@gmail.com
Pippa Drew ('23)	333-4308	pippa@pippadrew.com
Cathee Clement ('24)	802-359-3436	catherinedaumclement@gmail.com
Vacant (2)		
Thetford Elder Network, 10:		
Jody Biddle, Chair	785-4508	
Pat Pisano		
Sue Gault, Secretary	785-2805	
Dale Gephart, Vice-Chair	333-9748	
Priscilla (Pril) Hall	222-7885	
Cathy Newbury	785-3136	
Sue Rump	785-4029	
Inge Trebitz	785-2129	
Vacancies (2)		
Town Service Officer: 1-year term		
Jessica Eaton ('22)	333-9491	krash537@hotmail.com
Treasure Island Exploratory Committee, 7: 1-year term		
David Roth, Chair ('22)		
Megan Dubuque ('22)		
Jim Zien ('22)		
Dale Gephart ('22)		
Ann Jane Kemon ('22)		
Lucas Stepno ('22)		
Vacant (1)		
Tree Warden: 1-year term		
Bill Murphy ('22)	603-252-6315	arborkiller@icloud.com
Tri Town Commission: 3-year term		
Jessica Eaton ('23)	333-9491	krash537@hotmail.com
Melissa Krzal ('23)		merillin34@yahoo.com
Li Shen ('23)		lshen@thetfordvt.gov
Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee RPC: 1-year term		
Jesse Anderson ('22)	917-407-5116	vermontian@gmail.com
Upper Valley Ambulance: 1-year term		
David Goodrich ('22)	785-2170	davidgoodrich73@yahoo.com
Zoning Administrator: 3-year term		
Angela Jones ('24)	785-2922	zoning@thetfordvt.gov

Notaries Public		
Martie Betts	299-5293	
Wendy Cole	785-2698	
Kate Cone	785-2964	
Lynn J. Daley	785-4336	
Emily S. Davis	649-2729	
Dana C. Grossman	785-4074	
Daniel F. Grossman	785-4074	
Mary M. Hathorn	333-9176	
Lynn Irwin	785-4581	
Rick Maynard	333-9130	
Diane C. Osgood	522-9376	
Susie Weider	785-4014	

List of seats for Elected Officials:

Cemetery Commissioner	1 3-year term
Lister	1 3-year term 1 year to complete 3-year term
School & Town Moderator	1-year term
School Director	3-year term
Selectboard	3-year term 2-year term
Treasurer	3-year term
Trustee of Trust Funds	3-year term

Appointed Vacancies

<u>Animal Control Officer</u>	1-year term
Conservation Commission	3 4-year terms
Development Review Board	1 3-year term
<u>EMS Director</u>	1-year term
Thetford Joint Energy Committee	2 vacancies 3-year term
<u>Greater UV SWD</u>	1 alternate vacancy 2-year term
<u>Heath Officer</u>	1-year term
Historic Preservation Committee	1 3-year term
Planning Commission	1 3-year term 1 vacancy
Recreation Advisory Council	1 3-year term 1 vacancy
Thetford Housing Committee	2 vacancies
Thetford Elder Network	2 vacancies

<u>Town Service Officer</u>	1-year term
Treasure Island Exploratory	6 1-year terms 1 vacancy
<u>Tree Warden</u>	1-year term
<u>Two Rivers-Ottauquechee</u>	1 1-year term
<u>Upper Valley Ambulance</u>	1 1-year term



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Selectboard Regular Meeting *Draft* Minutes

Thetford Town Offices

(w/Virtual Attendance Option)

Monday, January 3, 2022 7:00pm

Selectboard members present: Sharon Harkay (Chair), Li Shen (Vice-Chair), Mary Bryant, Steve Tofel

Selectboard members absent: Nick Clark

Others present: Town Manager Bryan Gazda (via Zoom), Town Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Borst

Contributing Community Members: Peggy O'Neil and Stacy Glazer with Wise, Nolan Riegler and David Forbes with the Lake Fairlee Association, Alicia Houk, Stuart Rogers

Sharon Harkay called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1) Agenda Review

No changes to the agenda.

2) Town Manager Report – Bryan Gazda

a) FEMA Funding Update

Bryan Gazda reported movement on the FEMA projects and anticipates money will be coming to the town in a few weeks. Three more projects are still under review. The FEMA payments will be applied to the grant anticipation loan.

b) Police Benevolent Association Grievance Update

The New England Police Benevolent Association #403 grievance about the employee/employer percentage of health insurance has been resolved. Until the new contract is signed, the PBA member's percentage for health insurance will stay at 10%.

c) EEI/Green Procurement Policy Update

This will be rescheduled for January 24th.

d) Road Assessment Update

This will be rescheduled for January 24th.

e) Gender Equity

Bryan met with Selectboard member Mary Bryant and Hannah Payson. Bryan said he will be moving that forward.

f) Other

Bryan thanked Susanne Simon and the Transfer Station staff and volunteers for working the last two Sundays.

3) Public Comment

No public comment.

4) Social Service Agencies and Other Organizations Request for Funds for 2022

Wise: Peggy O'Neil, Executive Director for Wise explained that this is the first time their organization has asked for funding from Thetford. Peggy gave an overview of their services ([see report here](#)).



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2 Sharon Harkay expressed appreciation for the organization and asked for clarification on the
3 term “gender-based violence”.

4 Peggy explained that gender-based violence is a term meant to encompass people who are
5 experiencing violence based on the gender norm and gender construct in our society. This
6 happens because of a construct that exists in our society. The term is more current with research
7 and on-the-ground practices.

8 Stacy Glazer, also with Wise, added that the term acknowledges the imbalance of power that
9 exists in our world, and the focus is more on cultural issues rather than random acts of violence.

10 Steve Tofel asked where their primary funding comes from.

11 Peggy said about 50% of their funding comes from federal and state grants. They get support
12 through municipalities and do fundraising as well.

13 Sharon asked if the petition process was complete, and Peggy thought they had all the signatures
14 they need.

15

16 **Lake Fairlee Association:** Nolan Riegler said there was some miscommunication last year
17 which resulted in the town not giving funds to the association. This year they are requesting the
18 amount previously asked for, \$5,250.00. Nolan said they would be treating the lake for milfoil in
19 the upcoming year, which consists of a chemical treatment and then pulling the weed out by
20 hand. Milfoil treatment can cost between \$50,000 and \$120,000. The association did receive a
21 grant and will be working on a watershed action plan to identify the cause of the increase of
22 phosphates in the lake. The Greeter Program at the boat launch is one way to monitor for milfoil
23 and other invasive species. Greeters meet with boaters as they enter and exit the lake.

24 David Forbes added that they will be submitting a grant application for erosion. Additionally,
25 they will be reviewing the Middlebrook and Blood Brook watersheds. Another source to help
26 determine the cause of phosphates is to look at the sediment on the lake bottom. In another year
27 or two David anticipates having enough data to be able to start making conclusions and
28 recommendations.

29 Sharon asked if other towns contribute to the association.

30 Nolan said they do request funds from all three towns, Thetford, Fairlee and West Fairlee. The
31 request is based on the amount of shoreline within each town. Fairlee and Thetford have about
32 the same amount of shoreline, while West Fairlee is smaller. Other money comes from the state
33 to support the efforts to control milfoil, and they also receive some money from businesses,
34 summer camps, membership dues and private fundraising events.

35 Mary Bryant expressed appreciation for the work of the association. She wondered if Nolan had
36 heard the series on Vermont Public Radio where favorite reporter stories are revisited. She noted
37 that there was a report on Lake Fairlee, and she assumes that the association had something to do
38 with the study that is being conducted. Mary thanked them for all they do as she feels the lake is
39 very special.

40 David noted that Lake Fairlee is a primary economic driver of the surrounding towns. The health
41 of Lake Fairlee will impact the economic health of the towns, and he appreciates the support.

42 Steve Tofel wanted to know the annual budget for the Lake Fairlee Association.

43 Nolan said he could send a report to the Selectboard, but it was typically about \$100,00, noting
44 again that it will be higher this year due to the planned milfoil treatment.



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2 **5) Possible Appointment to Conservation Commission**

3 While outgoing member Sue Fritz was not at the meeting, Sharon Harkay wanted to publicly
4 thank her for her many years of service on the Commission.

5 Sue had reached out to Alicia Houk about serving in her place. Alicia is very excited about the
6 potential of filling Sue's spot, and Sharon is extremely impressed by her background.

7 Li Shen noted that Alicia has a solid background in education which is part of the Commission's
8 mission. Li is looking forward to Alicia's contribution to that part of the Commission's work.

9 Mary agreed that they are extremely lucky to have Alicia on the Committee with her
10 background.

11 Alicia, who was at the meeting, said it will be a real pleasure to be part of the community in this
12 way.

13 **Motion** by Li Shen to appoint Alicia Houk to serve on the Conservation Commission beginning
14 January 3, 2022, for a term of 4 years. All in favor (4-0-0) **Motion passed.**

15

16 **6) Review of and Possible Acceptance of Lister Consultant Contract**

17 The Selectboard reviewed and discussed the consultant contract.

18 **Motion** by Sharon Harkay that we formally approve the Lister Consultant Contract with Janet
19 Stowell for 2022, as written in the agreement contract. All in favor (4-0-0) **Motion passed.**

20

21 **7) Discussion of Tax Stabilization for Additional Housing Stock**

22 Steve Tofel said he wanted to know if the Selectboard would be interested in pursuing tax
23 stabilization for additional housing. The stabilization would help offset the considerable
24 investment of the property owner. Barre City has a similar policy that, while it may not apply
25 entirely to Thetford, might be something to review as a model policy. Steve said this would not
26 be for this year's Town Meeting.

27 Sharon asked if this would be for rental properties that help people to live in Thetford and
28 become part of the community versus something like an Air B&B.

29 Steve confirmed that it would be for residential rentals.

30 Sharon said she likes this idea because more housing is needed in Thetford, but also wondered if
31 this should be a long-range project. As there are no other towns that have this, she wants to make
32 sure they know what they are getting into.

33 Steve said he had long discussions with Lister Janet Stowell, and she expressed some objections
34 around people moving into town who would not initially contribute money for services, such as
35 the Fire Department, the Department of Public Works and the Police Department. Steve didn't
36 feel that was a big issue. Once the agreement ends, the property will go through another
37 assessment and the Grand List will be adjusted.

38 Stuart Rogers asked what would happen if the property were sold prior to the end of the
39 agreement.

40 Steve said there is a provision at the end of the Barre policy that outlined a rescission of the
41 agreement.

42 Mary Bryant was glad to be looking at something to put in the toolbox to help with housing.
43 The Selectboard agreed that they would like to have Steve pursue the project.

44



Town of Thetford Vermont

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1 **8) Warrants and Minutes**

2 #26.4 \$24,939.32

3 #46.1 \$7,508.92

4 #37.3 \$46,329.45

5 #27.2 \$29,483.19

6 **Motion** by Li Shen to accept the warrants as presented. All in favor (4-0-0) **Motion passed.**

7

8 Sharon asked Bryan about the Bicycle Safety Grant and Bryan said it has been returned. He still
9 has some additional documents to send.

10

11 **Motion** by Sharon Harkay to accept the regular Selectboard meeting minutes of December 13th,
12 2021, as edited. All in favor (4-0-0) **Motion passed.**

13 **Motion** by Sharon Harkay to accept the special Selectboard meeting minutes December 15th,
14 2021, as edited. All in favor (4-0-0) **Motion passed.**

15 **Motion** by Sharon Harkay to accept the regular Selectboard meeting minutes of December 20th,
16 2021, as edited. All in favor (4-0-0) **Motion passed.**

17

18 **9) Adjourn**

19 **Motion** by Steve Tofel to adjourn the regular Selectboard meeting at 8:07 PM. All in favor (4-0-
20 0) **Motion passed.**