

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
Minutes of December 17, 2025**

I. ROLL CALL. Chair Charles Morse, Board members K. David Maxwell, Lydia Petty, Merry Shernock, and John Stevens. Also present was Town Attorney John Klesch (SP&F Attorneys, P.C.), Kristen Pollard, Bill Frasier (Vermont League of Cities & Towns) (6:30 p.m.), Steve Mackenzie (7:00 p.m.), and Tom Davis (7:46 p.m.).

Chair Morse called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED): None.

Motion by Board member Petty, seconded by Board member Morse, to find that premature public knowledge of attorney-client communications would place the Select Board at a substantial disadvantage, including by potentially waiving attorney client privilege and disclosing confidential information. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Consider Employee Severance Agreement. Motion by Board member Petty seconded by Board member Morse, to enter executive session under 1 VSA §313(a)(1)(F), with the Town's legal counsel (John Klesch) present. **Motion passed 5-0-0**

The Board went into executive session at 5:33 p.m.

Motion by Board member Maxwell, seconded by Board member Shernock, to come out of executive session. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board came out of executive session at 5:56 p.m.

John Klesch left the meeting at this time.

IV. DISCUSSION

a. Vote on Severance Agreement. Motion by Board member Petty, seconded by Board member Shernock, to ratify the severance agreement with Jeff Schulz and for Board member Petty to sign the agreement. **Motion passed 4-1-0, with Board member Morse voting in the negative.**

The Board went into recess at 6:00 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., Bill Frasier joined and Kristen Pollard left the meeting.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Consider Interim Manager Applicants. Motion by Board member Petty, seconded by Board member Morse, to enter executive session under 1 VSA §313(a)(1)(F) with Bill Frasier present. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 6:30 p.m.

Steve Mackenzie joined the executive session at 7:00 p.m.

The Board recessed the executive session at 7:45 p.m.

Steve Mackenzie left the meeting at this time.

Tom Davis arrived at 7:46 p.m. and the Board resumed the executive session.

Tom Davis left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Motion by Board member Petty, seconded by Board member Shernock, to come out of executive session. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board came out of executive session at 9:03 p.m.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (UNSCHEDULED). There was none.

VII. ADJOURNMENT. Motion by Board member Petty, seconded by Board member Shernock, to adjourn. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles L. Morse

Charles L. Morse, Acting Clerk

These minutes were approved at the Select Board regular meeting of January 13, 2026.