TOWN OF WARNER

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Select Board: Alfred Hanson, Chairman
Rick Bixby, Vice Chair
Michael J. Smith

Select Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2026 6:00 PM

I. Open meeting Roll Call

Chairman Alfred Hanson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
Select Board present: Chairman Alfred Hanson and Vice Chair Rick Bixby and Mike Smith.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Public present: Judy Newman-Rogers, Russ Smith, Herm Blanchette, Clyde Carson and Varick Proper, Trish Dunne, Jordon Dunne, Sean M. Dunne (#8157).
Zoom attendees: lizaliness@aol.com

II. Select Board Business

a. Departments

Update on Highway Garage, Herm Blanchette Director of Public Works

Herm Blanchette explained that the exterior walls are just about done. He stated that the roof is scheduled to begin next week along with the rough in of the plumbing and electrical. He spoke about the possibility of adding two additional windows to allow for more natural light on the south end of building. Herm Blanchette informed the Select Board that the quote for two additional windows is $3,600. He stated that his budget has $4,000 for building maintenance that could be utilized. Alfred Hanson questioned the funding that the Select Board previously approved. Herm Blanchette recapped the purpose of that money from the building capital reserve fund covered the cost of new windows in the lower part of the building.

Herm Blanchette advised the Select Board that one truck is still being rehabbed in Vermont and is expected to be returned in the near future and the newest truck is still undergoing body repairs and fitted up with a plow. He explained that the current price for saber blades is $360, but there is a contract in place that fortunately locks in the previous cost of $200 a foot.

b. Alfred Hanson asked Finance Director Clyde Carson to come up. Mike Smith asked why Clyde Carson is being asked to speak to the Select Board. He noted that the agenda does reflect an item of business that requires Clyde Carson and he has no paperwork.

Alfred Hanson explained that he asked Clyde to discuss insurance information received during the day but he could wait and address it under Select Board Other Business. Mike Smith stated that is not ok, he stated that he does not have any information or documentation to review relating to the purpose of Clyde Carson's attendance. Alfred Hanson explained that Clyde Carson will be addressing the Health Insurance. Mike Smith stated that it should be on the agenda. Alfred Hanson explained that that this is new information and he would like to discuss it tonight. Mike Smith asserted that the discussion should have been noticed on the agenda. He stressed that he does not have any information on the topic.

Clyde Carson stated that he received an email today from Health Trust. Mike Smith stated firmly to Clyde Carson that he is not permitted to speak. Clyde Carson asked Mike Smith to be respectful. Mike Smith

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asserted that this is a Select Board meeting not Clyde's meeting. Alfred Hanson called a point of order. Clyde Carson stated that he would not be spoken to like that and he left the meeting. Herm Blanchette left the meeting at the same time. Alfred Hanson reminded Mike Smith of the Meeting Code of Conduct.

c. Out of Town Users at the Transfer Station, Varick Proper Foreman

Alfred Hanson asked Transfer Station Foreman Varick Proper to come up to the table. Alfred Hanson explained that a list of non-residents received a letter from the Town explaining the end of the non-resident use of the Warner transfer station. Mike Smith asked what exactly is the Select Board dealing with on this. Alfred Hanson explained that two non-residents have requested in writing to continue their use of the transfer station. Mike Smith questioned why the Select Board is not dealing with the issue of picking through the metal pile, and other topics. Alfred Hanson explained that if the discussion could continue Varick Proper would explain. Mike Smith stated that he wants to know why and he asked if the Select Board is picking on people now. Alfred Hanson said absolutely not. Mike Smith asserted that it seems like certain people are being picked on. Mike Smith stated that he has been watching what goes on at the transfer station and watching people pick up metal and dump what they want. He asked Varick Proper what is going on. Alfred Hanson pointed out the agenda reflects the purpose of the discussion. Varick Proper attempted to explain that the purpose is to be compliant. Mike Smith stated that allowing people to pick through the metal is not compliant or allowing others to dump. He reiterated that it seems that certain people are being picked on. Alfred Hanson stated that no one is being picked on. Varick Proper stated that he is trying to discern the coherence in the questions of Mike Smith. Mike Smith stated that he has been dealing with Varick Proper for a long time. Varick Proper apologized but that he is not following Mike Smith's questioning. Mike Smith stated that when Varick Proper does not like someone he picks on them. Mike Smith asked again if Varick Proper is going after just these people. (Waving his arm toward audience members Trish Dunne and Jordon Dunne). Varick Proper explained that he is attempting to bring the Town into compliance with the requirements of the State issued permit to operate a transfer station. Mike Smith asked if the people in question own property in Warner, Varick Proper confirmed they do however, he stated that the waste that is being brought to the transfer station is generated outside of Warner. Mike Smith stated that he does not believe that.

Mike Smith asserted that Varick Proper does not like the people and he is picking on them. Varick Proper asked Mike Smith for the courtesy of allowing him to answer a question. Mike Smith stated that Varick Proper has not shown him courtesy in the past. Varick Proper asked the Chairman for a point of order.

At 6:13 pm Alfred Hanson called a 10-minute recess.
Zoom recording paused for the 10-minute recess. Mike Smith continued questioning Varik Proper. Varick Proper stated he will not be spoken to in the manner that Mike Smith is speaking to him. Alfred Hanson stated that he will not allow Town employees to be spoken to that way. Alfred Hanson called for an adjournment of the meeting.

6:15 pm – Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted on 11/13/2026 by Tracy Doherty
Edits, Judith Newman-Rogers, Select Board Admin Asst.

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