

TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE

Tuesday May 12th, 2026 at 6:00pm via Zoom and Town Offices

Meeting called to order at 6:01pm

Present: John O'Brien, Gary Mullen, Chris Batcock, Becky Hoyt, Rodney Hoyt, Bonnie McCrillis, Aileen Lem, Brenda Field, Michael Miller, Mariah Cilley, Peter Hayden, Trooper Austin Soule, Janet Zug

Road Report

Memorial Day Recap

Mullen feels nervous about people throwing candy and kids getting squished!

Scanning Documents- Bonnie McCrillis

McCrillis is looking to find someone to hire to scan documents to get the documents up and running online. The Selectboard gives the okay to find someone to scan documents. The Selectboard is comfortable with a rate of \$15 and asks McCrillis to bring someone forward to the Selectboard that they want to hire.

Vermont State Police- Trooper Austin Soule

Trooper Soule is here to answer any questions the Selectboard may have and update on staffing. Currently the staffing is a little lighter than they would like- this is a statewide issue. Last year, Soule had started a program trying to get more traffic stops in all towns and having more of a presence, but since the calls take precedence, they have been unable to do this as much. Soule's goal and hope is to get back to this program. The state is down 40-45 troopers. There are only 320 of them in total across the state. Royalton Barracks has a good group of younger people ready to do some proactive policing. Discussion of Animal Control Officers comes up. Trooper Soule is unsure where we stand with that- if the complaints would go to Orange County or Windsor County. The VSP cannot offer any contracts with the towns at this time but may be able to in the future.

Tunbridge Cats- Janet Zug

Zug has been working on a program capturing stray cats in Tunbridge and the surrounding towns and getting them fixed. Zug has Dr. Hull available for spay, neuter and rabies vaccination for less than \$200. If they are feral, Zug has been letting them go back where they were found after they have been fixed. If they look as though they have been domesticated, she tries to find them homes or their owners. Zug is asking the Selectboard to allow a donation avenue through the Town so that money can be sent in and the Town would write the checks for the vet and more supplies that are needed. Becky Hoyt states that we will need to create a fund, and then we can create a spot on the website that would allow people to donate through the town online or by check or cash.

Legal Trails Form

Jonathan Bicknell had a release form created for volunteers using chainsaws to help maintain the trees. Peter Hayden felt that there was two large issues- one being that the liability falls upon the

volunteer and also clearing the trees on the Orchard Trail as well since we have a hostile landowner. Peter Hayden is hoping we have the town do some clearing of those trees. Mullen will talk to Rodney Hoyt about the road crews' thoughts on clearing the trees on Orchard Trail. Hayden and Bicknell will work together to come up with another draft.

Determining Special Meeting Date for Final Interviews and Hiring of AA

The Selectboard sets the date of Tuesday June 2nd, 2026, pending it works with Mike McPhetres.

Other Business

Cody Thurston comes to discuss that Baxter Doty cut trees in front of the cemetery that were on their property and wants to give us a heads up that he is going to file a police report and get a value of the trees that were cut. Doty cut them last June, before the survey was completed, so he was going off the parcel maps which show different lines than the survey that he had just completed.

The Listers are requesting an extension for the Listers to lodge the Grand List.

The Recreation Committee is requesting the purchase of a bounce house. Mullen would like Kathy Galluzzo to come in and make a request on an agenda.

Approve Warrants:

All warrants were signed and approved.

Approve Minutes:

Cilley presents minutes from the May 12th, 2026 meeting.

McPhetres makes a motion to adjourn. O'Brien seconds. Meeting adjourned.

Gary Mullen, Chair

Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

John O'Brien, Clerk

