

Stowe Selectboard / School Board Joint Special Meeting

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

5:30pm

Stowe High/Middle School
413 Barrows Rd
Stowe, Vermont



Selectboard Members: Paco Aumand, Ethan Carlson, Nick Donza

School Board Members: Tiffany Donza, Ryan Bennett, Andrew Kohn, Nancy Gleason, Erica Loomis

Legislators: Senators Ann Cummings, Andrew Perchlik, Anne Watson; Representatives Jed Lipsky, David Yacovone, Saudia Lamont

Approximately 100 members of the public attended in person and 60 attended on Zoom.

Call to Order

Selectboard Chair Aumand called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Discussion with State Legislative Delegation Regarding State Education Policy and Tax Impacts (Item A-1)

Paco Aumand, Ethan Carlson and Ryan Heraty presented data and information about the Town of Stowe and Stowe School District. Ethan Carlson discussed the need for property tax relief and alternative revenue streams for the Town due to the high property tax burden primarily caused by State Education Fund. Ryan Heraty discussed the exceptional financial and academic performance of the district and the potential impact of legislative mandates and school closures.

The Boards and the legislative delegation discussed education policy, community building, and tax reduction, with a focus on the challenges faced by Stowe, particularly high property taxes and housing costs for residents. The legislative delegation expressed an awareness that Stowe is situated differently than other municipalities due to high property values and associated tax burden due to the State Education Fund. They also indicated an openness to considering the Town adopting alternative revenue sources to help mitigate this impact.

Members of the public in attendance and the Boards asked various questions of the legislative delegation surrounding education tax formulas, potential school or school district consolidation bills, school construction funding, and the use of data to drive decision-making.

Adjournment

Chair Aumand adjourned the meeting at 7:57pm.

Notes

Minutes submitted by Will Fricke.

The Selectboard of the Town of Stowe meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm.

A recording of this public meeting is available at: <https://www.stowevt.gov/Government/Selectboard>