

Selectboard Handbook



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Selectboard Handbook

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How To Use This Handbook

This handbook is designed for use by a municipality's legislative body (e.g., selectboard, city council, aldermen, village trustees, or prudential committee) or their support staff. In this manual we will use the term selectboard for consistency's sake, but the information contained within is applicable to any legislative body. This handbook is intended to focus your efforts navigating the wide range of MAC resources relevant to the selectboard's discharge of their duties. The information contained in the former publication, *The Selectboard Handbook*, has been updated and posted to the website as distinct resources organized by topic and are updated on an ongoing basis.

This handbook explains the overarching context of the information for selectboards. While it is possible to download and print the full handbook, using it on the web will ensure you always are referencing the most current information.

This handbook will be regularly updated as we develop more resources and to account for changes in the law; therefore, we recommend reviewing previously printed materials for accuracy before you rely on the information.

Visit the [Municipal Assistance Center \(MAC\)](#) webpage to find in-depth information and resources from VLCT and other relevant organizations on various [municipal topics](#).

The Municipal Assistance Center attorneys and staff are here to help you. If you have any questions about your role as a member of a selectboard, city council, village



board of trustees, or prudential committee, please call 800-649-7915, submit a question using the [Municipal Assistance Portal](#) (MAP), or email info@vlct.org.

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Ask a Question



Roles and Responsibilities of the Selectboard

Introduction

As a selectboard member, **you are responsible for the “general supervision of the affairs of the town”** and must ensure that all duties required of towns are performed when those duties are not committed by law to another town officer. [24 V.S.A. § 872](#).

At first glance, this authority might seem vague. However, the term "general supervision of the affairs of the town" has been interpreted broadly by the Vermont Supreme Court to touch upon almost every aspect of local government. This includes, among other things,

- setting compensation of town officers (elected and appointed) and town employees if voters have not;
- setting bonds of certain officers;
- appointing certain officers and, if allowed and necessary, removing them;
- setting and maintaining the municipal budget;
- overseeing town employees and negotiating with unions;
- creating ordinances and policies for the welfare and safety of the community;
- deciding certain legal matters as a quasi-court (e.g., vicious dog hearings or property assessment appeal hearings); and
- consulting with the town attorney, as needed.



The law provides that each town must have at least three selectboard members, but a town may elect up to two additional selectboard members if the voters so chose. [17 V.S.A. §§ 2649, 2650\(b\)](#). In towns with a three-member selectboard each elected member holds a three-year term. [17 V.S.A. §§ 2646\(4\)](#), 2649. In those towns with a five-member selectboard, the answer is more complicated. Three members of the selectboard will hold three-year terms, but the remaining two members hold one and two-year terms respectively. 17 V.S.A. § 2650(b).

To help you understand and navigate the myriad expectations and often complex responsibilities of your position, we have compiled information and resources into this Selectboard Manual for quick reference and to share with other members of your board.

Governance

As a member of the municipality's selectboard, you must understand some basic principles of Vermont municipal law to best serve your municipality. **This includes the sources, scope, and limits to your authority both as a local government and as a selectboard.**

The [Governance](#) topic page provides an overview of

- local government authority,
- municipal governance charters, and
- the selectboard's relationship with other statutory officials.

As you become familiar with your role and responsibilities, the resources found on [the Governance](#) page offer helpful information on a wealth of topics over which the selectboard has control, including filling vacancies in elected office, sovereign and qualified immunity, and finding the law so you can confirm you have authority to act before you act.





Vermont League of Cities & Towns

[A Guide to Planning Simple, Effective Selectboard Retreats](#)

February 3, 2026



Vermont League of Cities & Towns

[Selectboard Onboarding Packet Table of Contents Template](#)

February 3, 2026



Vermont League of Cities & Towns

[Staff Report on Agenda Item for Selectboard Meeting Template](#)

February 3, 2026

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Three Roles of the Selectboard



While state and federal government establishes and maintains three separate and distinct branch of government – **judicial, legislative, and executive** – a **Vermont selectboard serves all three of these roles** and sometimes all at the same meeting.

The main tools the selectboard uses to effectuate these powers are policies, ordinances, regulations, and bylaws. Visit our MAC [Policies and Ordinances](#) topic page for more information.

Executive Powers of the Selectboard

A selectboard's executive powers are those related to the administration and management of the town. The primary tool for carrying out your executive functions is a policy. A policy is a statement regarding a course of action, guiding principle, procedure, or strategy designed to influence and determine decisions while conducting general municipal affairs. A policy is adopted by resolution (i.e., by majority vote of a legislative body at a duly warned meeting), making them easy to adopt and amend. Policies are executive in nature and oriented inwards to guide internal decision-making processes. Generally, policies apply to employees, town facilities or property, or the selectboard itself. We have models of many different policies available online found under their respective topic on the [MAC Home page](#).

Legislative Power of the Selectboard

The selectboard's legislative power is the ability to make, amend, and repeal local laws, which will generally come in the form of an ordinance or bylaw. The State of Vermont delegates some of its regulatory power to municipalities by expressly granting them the authority to adopt ordinances or bylaws to regulate certain subjects. A selectboard may not enact an ordinance unless the Legislature has expressly granted it the authority to adopt local legislation on that subject, but a Vermont selectboard's regulatory authority is quite broad. According to the Vermont Supreme Court, an ordinance is "an expression of the municipal will, affecting the



conduct of the inhabitants generally, or of a number of them under some general designation." An ordinance must be adopted in a very specific way so, these are not as easily adopted or amended as a policy. We have many model ordinances available for your consideration, but we always strongly recommend a legal review be performed prior to final adoption or amendment of an ordinance or bylaw.

Judicial Powers of the Selectboard

The selectboard has **judicial powers**, when it acts in a "quasi-judicial" capacity. During these proceedings, called hearings, selectboards will sit in judgment of the legal rights of parties by weighing the evidence and applying it to the relevant laws. Selectboards act in this capacity when conducting hearings on classifying roads, vicious dogs, tax assessment appeals, and requests for tax abatement, among others.

For more information visit the related pages.

- [Appendix: Roles and Responsibilities](#)
- [Topic Page: Governance](#)
- [Topic Page: Policies and Ordinances](#)
- [MAC Home](#)

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03/12/2024



Town Manager or Administrator: Organizational Structures Guide

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Introduction

Whether you're considering adopting the town manager form of government, looking to hire someone to handle just some of the day-to-day operations of the town, or reconsidering your town government's organizational structure altogether, it is important to understand the legal and practical differences between a town manager and a town administrator.

The biggest difference between a town manager and town administrator is that a town manager isn't just another position in the local government employment organizational chart, it's its own unique form of government. A town manager represents a shift in the statutory organizational structure of town government from the selectboard to the town manager model.

Regardless of which one a town chooses – town manager or administrator – the respective relationships with their selectboards will only work if there is clear communication. It's important for both selectboards and managers/administrators to understand their own and the other's role and



responsibilities.

Importance of Assessment

We suggest that if a selectboard has identified the need for additional administrative assistance, a helpful next step would be to determine the types of functions and level of expertise necessary to accomplish its goals. This assessment may also inform whether the town manager form of government or a town administrator would best suit the town. While town officials can collect information on necessary tasks, in some cases it's helpful to enlist additional assistance to conduct this assessment.

Learning directly from selectboards and town managers and town administrators about their experiences, procedures and relationships is also recommended for practical information to help evaluate which of these different organizational structures may be most beneficial to the town.

Additional Municipal Assistance Center Resources

This document is one of several resources VLCT's Municipal Assistance Center offers members on this topic (as well as others). Contact us for information about training, to discuss ideas for assessing your town's needs as well as with specific legal questions for our staff attorneys by accessing the Municipal Access Portal, emailing info@vlct.org or calling 802-229-9111 or 800-649-7915.

Status Statewide



As of early August 2023, 95 municipalities employ either a town manager or town administrator. According to VLCT's 2022 Municipal Compensation and Benefits Report, there appears to be a correlation between the size of a town's population and whether it employs the services of a town manager or administrator. Of the 68 respondents, those municipalities with a population over 5,000 almost exclusively retain the services of a municipal manager (16 vs. 3) while those with less than 5,000 inhabitants appear evenly split between the two (25 vs. 24). Regarding experience, on average, town managers tend to have more total municipal experience compared to town administrators (17.26 vs. 11.12 years) as well as more management experience (14.39 vs. 10.72 years).

Selectboard Default Statutory Structure

While the state and federal governments each have three separate and distinct branches of government – legislative, executive, and judicial – local government in Vermont is unique in the sense that in its basic default form, the selectboard, occupies all three roles, sometimes all at the same meeting. A selectboard's legislative authority includes its ability to make, amend, and repeal local laws. Municipal authority to make law is narrowly defined by statute. A town may not enact an ordinance unless the State has expressly granted it the authority to adopt local legislation on the subject. A selectboard's executive powers are those related to its administration and management of the town and the enforcement and execution of its laws and policies. A selectboard's judicial authority - or more accurately its quasi-judicial authority - is its power to act "like a court." Though selectboards are not judges in the eyes of the law, there are discrete instances in which it asks them to sit in judgment of the legal rights of parties like a court. Selectboards serve in this capacity when they hold vicious dog hearings; hear tax assessment appeals as



members of the Board of Civil Authority; or when they lay out or discontinue roads.

The basic, default statutory organizational structure of local government in Vermont is relatively flat with the selectboard overseeing most of the town's employees and appointed officials, and the rest of local government comprised of elected officials operating independently of one another. *Town of Bennington v. Booth*, 101 Vt. 24 (1928). The independence of elected officials creates a separation of powers that has the potential to lend itself to operational dysfunction. Cooperation amongst them therefore is crucial for town government to function. Given their broad powers, including their responsibility for the general supervision of the affairs of the town, it is the legislative body (e.g., selectboard, city council, trustees, etc.) that the voters often look to when local government doesn't function well.

The authority of the selectboard itself derives from the State. Its powers and duties are extensive and while some are very specific and narrow in application (e.g., to levy impact fees, borrow money on behalf of the town, etc.) others exist that, due to the breadth of its responsibilities, are, by necessity, quite broad. One such statute provides that "(t)he selectboard shall have the general supervision of the affairs of the town and shall cause to be performed all duties required of towns and town school districts not committed by law to the care of any particular officer." 24 V.S.A. § 872(a). More than just a catch-all grant of authority, this provision of law notably reads that the selectboard must "*cause to be performed . . .*" the duties referenced therein. (Emphasis added). These words represent an explicit grant of authority to the selectboard to do what is necessary to execute State law, including employing those it deems necessary to aid in the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties. This ability to employ assistance can also be said to be implied or incident to the selectboard's express powers or essential to its declared objectives and purposes. (Note: The Vermont Supreme Court has "consistently adhered to the so-called Dillon's Rule that a municipality has only those powers and functions specifically authorized by the legislature, and such additional functions as may be incident, subordinate or



necessary to the exercise thereof." *Petition of Ball Mountain Hydroelectric Project*, 154 Vt. 189 (1990)). Common hires in furtherance of these goals include road crew employees, administrative assistants, bookkeepers, and town administrators.

Whether it adopts the town manager form of government or hires a town administrator, the selectboard will still retain its legislative and judicial responsibilities.

In contrast, a common attribute of the town manager form of government is that it is more efficient and responsive because there's one person making the day-to-day decisions. When a town adopts the town manager form of government, it alters its organizational structure by inserting a new level of administration (i.e., the town manager) between the selectboard and the town's employees. The town manager becomes the "administrative head of all departments of the town government" and is "responsible for the efficient administration thereof." 24 V.S.A. § 1235. This form of government vests most of the administrative and management functions in a professional manager who reports directly to the selectboard.

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Ask a Question



Policies and Ordinances

Policies

A policy is a course of action, guiding principle, procedure, or strategy that is adopted by a municipal public body (e.g., a selectboard or board of library trustees). Policies are executive in nature and are oriented inwards to guide internal decision-making processes. Generally, policies apply to employees, town facilities or the public body itself.

A policy is designed to influence and determine decisions in the course of conducting certain municipal affairs. Policies should establish clear-cut, orderly, and systematic methods for handling certain administrative duties and internal town operations. They should be flexible enough to meet changing situations and conditions, yet conditions yet provide enough consistency and continuity in making decisions to ensure predictability.

Although policies generally do not have regulatory enforcement authority as compared to ordinances, policies nevertheless are useful in that they clearly define a municipality's standards and set reasonable expectations for the applicable municipal topic.

Ordinances

An ordinance is a legislative act by the legislative body of a municipality (selectboard, council, aldermen, trustees). Black's Law Dictionary defines an ordinance as "laIn



authoritative law or decree; specifically], a municipal regulation, especially] one that forbids or restricts an activity." Black's Law Dictionary (10th ed. 2014). In contrast to a policy, which governs internal operations, an ordinance is "an expression of municipal will affecting the conduct of the inhabitants generally, or of a number of them under some general designation." *City of Barre v. Perry & Scribner*, 82 Vt. 301 (1909).

Municipal ordinances carry the state's authority and have the same effect within the municipality's limits as a state statute. Once adopted according to statutory process, they become legally enforceable local laws. A municipal ordinance is designated either as a civil or criminal offense and may carry a fine or penalty of up to \$800. A civil ordinance is generally enforced in the Vermont Judicial Bureau, the court that has statewide jurisdiction over civil violations.

Statutory Authority

Local control, however, exists in Vermont exclusively by permission from the Vermont General Assembly. Because Vermont is a Dillon's Rule state, municipalities have only those powers and functions specifically authorized by the Vermont Legislature, and such additional functions as may be incident, subordinate, or necessary to the exercise thereof. Therefore, municipalities may only adopt ordinances and policies on matters that the legislature has authorized.

A statute giving authority for local control will either be self-executing or enabling. A self-executing statute confers upon municipalities the immediate authority to act without first adopting an ordinance. For example, under [24 V.S.A. § 2201\(b\)](#), municipalities are given the power to issue penalties for certain solid waste violations whether or not an ordinance is first adopted. On the other hand, a statute granting only enabling authority means the municipality must first adopt an ordinance



pursuant to [24 V.S.A. §§ 1972](#) et seq. before it can exercise control over the matter.

Examples of Policies and Ordinances

Municipal authority to make local law derives from state statute or municipal charter. The subjects of local legislation are varied and scattered throughout many different titles of the Vermont Statutes Annotated. The location of most municipal authority is located in [24 V.S.A. § 2291](#). This statute includes 28 different provisions that authorize municipalities to assert local control on a specific matter. Some of the more common ordinances located in this statute include the authority to regulate dogs, solid waste, parking, and speeding. Titles 19 and 23 that focus on highways and motor vehicles respectively are other locations within state law that offer options for municipal regulation.

Examples of municipal policies include a personnel policy authorized under [24 V.S.A. § 1121](#) that establishes provisions of employment, leave time, health benefits, and work conduct; a highway maintenance policy that articulates how and when class 4 highways are maintained or plowed; and a purchasing policy that sets standards for bidding on certain municipal expenditures.

What Are the Procedures for Adopting a Policy Versus an Ordinance?

Because a policy is administrative in nature rather than regulatory, it is relatively simple to adopt. Generally, all that is required for adoption is a majority vote by the legislative body of a municipality or other board in favor of the policy at a duly noticed meeting under the Open Meeting Law ([1 V.S.A. §§ 310](#) et seq.).



Adopting an ordinance requires closely following the statutorily prescribed procedures set forth in [24 V.S.A. §§ 1972](#) et seq., which include posting the ordinance and publishing it in a local newspaper. It is important to follow these procedures, as failure to adhere to them may result in an invalid ordinance. In re Bill, 168 Vt. 439 (1998). To help member municipalities in this regard, VLCT has created an Ordinance Adoption, Amendment, or Repeal Toolkit (Ordinance Resources below) that details all the statutorily required steps for adopting an ordinance.

What Should We Use: A Policy or an Ordinance?

When weighing whether to put a rule or procedure into the form of either a policy or an ordinance, consider these key questions:

- What is the intended purpose and scope of the proposed rule?
- What is the specific municipal topic or issue?
- Is there enabling statute that would allow enactment of an ordinance?
- What is the most effective and appropriate method of enforcing the rule or procedure?

The answer may be evident immediately – for example, if the conclusion is that there is no legislative authority given to your municipality to enact an ordinance on the topic.

Remember that policies generally do not have the authority to provide for penalties or fines. For this reason, policies are a better fit for when a municipality wants to explain an internal administrative process or direct the behavior of municipal officials.

On the other hand, if your goal is to “describe a permanent rule of conduct ... [that] creates liability or affects the people of a municipality in an important or material



way," an ordinance should be adopted. *Herbert v. Mendon*, 159 Vt. 255 (1992).

Policies

Ordinances



Transparency Laws for Selectboards

Transparency is an essential element of open and democratic government. In Vermont, the primary means of providing transparency are the State's open meeting law, [1 V.S.A. §§ 310-314](#), and the public records law, [1 V.S.A. §§ 315-320](#). These laws implement the command of Chapter I, Article 6 of the Vermont Constitution that officers of government are "trustees and servants" of the people and are "at all times, in a legal way, accountable to them." Ultimately, the selectboard is responsible for ensuring the town's public bodies comply with these laws, as well as the town's conflict-of-interest policy.

All public bodies (e.g., boards, committees, and commissions) in local government must adhere to Vermont's Open Meeting Law. The law requires public bodies to notice all meetings, create and post agendas, take and post meeting minutes, conduct business in the open, and allow public comment at their meetings. Every municipality must adopt a conflict-of-interest policy containing certain criteria as prescribed by state law, and take steps to avoid and mitigate conflicts and bias in its decision-making. Finally, all municipalities must comply with requests to inspect and for copies of public records in accordance with the Public Records Act.

For more information on each of these laws, visit the related pages:

- [Appendix: Transparency](#)
- Topic Page: [Open Meeting Law](#),
- Topic Page: [Public Records Act](#)
- Topic Page [Conflicts of Interest and Ethics](#)

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Vermont's Open Meeting Law

Open Meeting Law resources have been updated to reflect revisions to the law from the 2025 legislative session. [Text of Bill](#)

January 1, 2025 - New Open Meeting Law training requirements took effect

June 9, 2025 - [Act 51 \(2025\)](#) changes took effect.

Open Meeting Law Changes 2025

- Require the posting of meeting recordings when the minutes are posted, as opposed to when the minutes are approved
- Change the definition of “undue hardship”
- Add an exception to the law’s recording requirements for non-advisory public bodies’ site inspections or field visits
- Allow meeting notices to be posted in a neighboring town if there are not enough public places within the municipality’s borders
- Require meeting agendas to include sufficient details on the specific business to be discussed and details on proposed executive session, if included
- Add a requirement to vote to exit executive session (not just enter it)
- Add two allowances for executive session (one being cybersecurity if jeopardizing public safety)
- Defines “disturbs any lawful assembly or meeting of persons” for purposes of managing meetings, consistently with our past guidance.



General Information

In Act 133 (2024) and Act 51 (2025), the Legislature made permanent changes to the Open Meeting Law. They are summarized in the resources below, which include a webinar that incorporates the 2024 changes. Note that the VLCT webinar is **not the required annual training** offered by the Secretary of State. Beginning January 1, 2025, the law requires annual OML training for State chairs of non-advisory ("decision-making") bodies and for local chairs of legislative bodies, municipal managers, and mayors.

Access the Vermont Secretary of State's required training, here: [Open Meeting Law Training](#)

Transparency is an essential element of open and democratic government. In Vermont, the primary means of providing transparency are the State's open meeting law, [1 V.S.A. §§ 310-314](#), and the public records law, [1 V.S.A. §§ 315-320](#). These laws implement the command of Chapter I, Article 6 of the Vermont Constitution that officers of government are "trustees and servants" of the people and are "at all times, in a legal way, accountable to them."

The Open Meeting Law clearly emphasizes the openness of and accessibility to government. It declares that "All meetings of a public body are declared to be open to the public at all times, except as provided in section 313 of this title [on executive sessions]." [1 V.S.A. § 312\(a\)](#). The Open Meeting Law and its requirements are meant to empower the public to play an effective role as not only an active participant in government but also a check on it as well.

Every municipal board, council, commission and committees (legally defined as "public bodies") of a municipality is required to comply with the Open Meeting Law.



The Law applies when there is (1) a quorum of a public body; (2) involved in a discussion or taking action; and (3) the subject matter of the discussion is one over which the body has authority or responsibility.

Scroll down to view our current Open Meeting Law Resources.

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[Ask a Question](#)

Open Meeting Law Basics

Hybrid and Remote Meetings

Procedures and Effective Meetings



Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

2024 Ethics and Conflicts of Interest Changes: The Statewide Municipal Code of Ethics - Act 171

Act 171 became law on June 10, 2024 and drastically changes the ethical regulatory landscape for municipalities. It removes municipal authority to enact conflict of interest prohibitions tailored to address the specific needs, concerns, size, and values of their municipalities and replaces that authority with a new, top-down, one size fits all, statewide Municipal Code of Ethics.

Deadlines:

All provisions of Act 171 take effect January 1, 2025 with two exceptions:

1. The repeal of existing municipal ethics statutes (24 V.S.A. §§ 1984 and 2291(20)) took effect upon passage June 10, 2024.
2. New ethics training requirements take effect September 30, 2025

New Contact for Guidance and Advisory Opinions: Vermont State Ethics Commission

Since the legislature gave the State Ethics Commission the authority to provide guidance and advice (including advisory opinions) to municipalities, we are directing all municipal officers to contact the States Ethics Commission regarding any ethics questions they may have.



Guidance

Municipal officers subject to the statewide Municipal Code of Ethics may request ethics guidance from the Executive Director as it relates to that person's duties.

Guidance is non-binding and confidential unless the recipient chooses to disclose it. 3 V.S.A. § 1225(a). The State Ethics Commission can be reached at 802-828-7187 or ethicscommission@vermont.gov.

Advisory Opinions

Municipal officers subject to the statewide Code of Ethics may request an advisory opinion from the Executive Director regarding the requester's ongoing or prospective conduct.

Advisory opinions are in writing, do not contain any individual's personally identifying information, and are posted on the Commission's website within 30 days of issuance. In preparing an advisory opinion, the Executive Director may seek comment from parties interested in the subject under consideration. To request an advisory opinion, complete the request form on the State Ethics Commission's website (see upper left) and return it to ethicscommission@vermont.gov.

New Municipal Ethics Requirements

Please review the following new ethics requirements carefully and direct questions and comments to the Vermont State Ethics Commission.

[Municipal Ethics Code Posting](#)



Municipalities must post the **Municipal Code of Ethics** on their websites or make such information available upon request if the municipality has no website. The posting must include the following:

1. A copy of the Municipal Code of Ethics. You can find Word and PDF versions of the Municipal Code of Ethics for download on the State of Vermont's Ethics Commission's Municipal Ethics (upper left)
2. Procedures adopted by the municipality for the investigation and enforcement of complaints that allege a municipal officer has violated the Municipal Code of Ethics
3. Any supplemental or additional ordinances, rules, and personnel policies regarding ethics adopted by a municipality.

Municipal Whistleblower Protection Required Posting

Every agency, department, and office of a municipality must post and display notices of protected employee whistleblower protection in a prominent and accessible location in the workplace. VLCT has developed a [Whistleblower Protection Posting](#) (also posted below) that municipalities may use to comply with this requirement.

Staff & Officer Designees



Required designees:

1. Each municipality's legislative body (e.g. selectboard, city council, village trustees, etc.) must designate either an employee or one of its own members to serve as its ethics liaison to the State Ethics Commission (within 30 days of January 1, 2025).
2. Assign a municipal officer or body (i.e. "Designated Complaint Recipient") to receive complaints alleging violations of the Municipal Code of Ethics.

Municipal Officer & Board Training

Initial ethics training requirement:

- Requires current specified officers* to complete State Ethics Commission approved ethics training on or before September 30, 2025.
- Requires new officers* to complete State Ethics Commission approved ethics training within 120 days of their election or appointment.
- The State Ethics Commission has posted an online training ethics video to satisfy the training requirement on its website:

<https://ethicscommission.vermont.gov/training>.

Continuing ethics training requirements:

Requires all specified officers below to retake training **every three years** after their initial training.



List of Officers Required to Take Training:

- Chief Administrative Officers
- Town or City Managers
- Mayors
- Legislative bodies (all members)
- Quasi-judicial body members (Boards of Civil Authority, Boards of Abatement, Development Review Boards, etc.).

Records & Retention

Municipalities must:

- Record and retain complaints received, and the disposition of each complaint made against a municipal officer for the duration of their service (plus a minimum of five years after service has ended).
- Promptly provide the State Ethics Commission with a summary of complaints received and the outcome of each upon request, excluding any personally identifiable information (PII).
- Create and maintain records of municipal officers who have taken ethics training.

Sample Complaint and Training Tracking Forms

Municipalities may use the following resources as reference or templates for their own tracking forms.



- Vermont Ethics Commission sample complaint and training tracking sheets are available on the Ethics Commission website (Upper left)
- VLCT Model Ethics Complaint created a form for use by municipalities to assist with processing and retaining complaints (below)

Create Investigation & Enforcement Process

Requires every municipality to create processes for investigation and enforcement of alleged violations by ordinance, personnel policy, or rule. VLCT MAC has developed a model ethics ordinance to assist municipalities in creating this process (below).

Additional Highlights of Act 171

Ethics Commission Authority & Whistleblower Protections

- Authorizes the Executive Director of the State Ethics Commission to provide advisory opinions and guidance, upon written request, to municipal officers related to governmental ethics.
- Requires the Executive Director of the State Ethics Commission to refer any ethics complaints received about municipal officers to the municipality's designated ethics liaison for investigation and enforcement by the municipality.
- Creates a new whistleblower protection for municipal employees that is nearly identical to that which protects state employees. See VLCT's sample Whistleblower Protection Posting.



Notes on Conflicts in Municipal Purchasing & Contracting

- Federal regulations require that real or apparent conflicts of interest which may arise in the context of municipal purchases and contracting are addressed.
- If the municipality does not already have a separate conflict of interest policy, it should be addressed in the body of a purchasing policy. See the VLCT Model Purchasing Policy (below).

Scroll down to see and access these and other VLCT resources. Links to other resources are also available in the upper left-hand corner of this page.



Finance for Selectboards

Budget Management

Selectboards are responsible for planning and managing the budget throughout the year. In addition to signing orders for the treasurer to pay the bills for the municipality, they develop capital budgets with allotments for projects and major purchases, set the tax rate and due dates for the year, develop budget articles for the annual meeting, and have oversight over the current year budget. These extensive financial duties require an understanding of recommended basic governmental auditing and accounting practices (GAAP), borrowing and bonding, and budgeting. The [Finance](#) topic page has information on auditing municipal finances and a dozen model policies for your reference.

Property Taxes and Tax Abatement

Selectboard members are de facto members of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA) and the Board of Abatement (BOA), along with other municipal officers. BCA members are tasked with hearing appeals of taxpayers who disagree with the Board of Listers' assessment of their property's taxable value. As members of the BOA, officers are responsible for reviewing property owners' requests for property tax relief. Learn more from the [Property Taxes](#) topic page which contains many resources, including toolkits for both BCAs and BOAs.

For more information on each of these subjects, visit the related pages:

- [Appendix: Finance](#)



- Topic Page: [Finance](#)
- Topic Page: [Property Taxes](#)

Publication Date

03/12/2024



Finance

Whether it is budgeting for a future capital project or accounting for the previous fiscal year's expenditures, prudent financial management is crucial to maintaining sound municipal operations so you can deliver the programs and services that matter most to your citizens and ensure the long-term health and stability of your community.

There are many local officials who play important roles in their municipality's financial landscape, from legislative body members to treasurers, department heads to finance and accounting staff and auditors. No matter what financial role you serve in, VLCT has resources, tools, and opportunities to learn and grow your skills to help you navigate it with greater ease. We even have a Government Finance Specialist on our team to answer your questions, and to provide guidance and solid advice.

[Capital Planning](#)

[Auditing](#)

[Model Financial Policies](#)

[Internal Financial Controls Checklist](#)

[Municipal Tax Rate Calculator](#)

[Debt Capacity Calculator](#)

[Elected Auditors Handbook](#)

[Helpful Links](#)

[Have a Question?](#)

[Vermont Town Treasurers Handbook](#)

Training & Learning Opportunities



VLCT offers members lots of ways to build their knowledge and capacity. One of these ways is through our many [live trainings](#). We recognize that you are busy and often are not available when our trainings are offered, The best part is that all are recorded and these recordings, along with any training materials, are posted on our website through our online [Store](#). So learn on your own time when its best for you.

Here are a few opportunities for you consider hosted by VLCT's Municipal Operations Support team:

[Money Matters: Recordings and Resources](#)

[Muni Mornings with Kathleen: Recordings and Resources](#)

[Grants & Funding Chat Recordings and Resources](#)

[Build a Better Project: Recordings and Resources](#)

[Grant Basics Recordings and Resources](#)



Property Taxes

Every year, the listers (or the appointed assessor if there has been a vote to eliminate the office of Lister) prepare the town's "grand list," which is a list of all of the real property and taxable personal property in the town and the appraised valuation of that property. Any aggrieved person who disagrees with the listers' appraisal can request a hearing before the listers. [32 V.S.A. § 4221](#). If they are not satisfied with the written decision the listers issue following that hearing, they may appeal to the Board of Civil Authority (BCA). [32 V.S.A. § 4404\(a\)](#). [32 V.S.A. § 4404\(a\)](#). The BCA for each town consists of the town clerk, the selectboard, and the justices of the peace. [24 V.S.A. § 801](#).

The BCA must hold a hearing and conduct a site inspection of every parcel of property that is the subject of an appeal. [32 V.S.A. § 4404\(c\)](#). The BCA may sustain, increase, or decrease the value of the property set by the listers. [32 V.S.A. § 4409](#). A decision issued by the BCA may be appealed to the State Appraiser or to Superior Court. [32 V.S.A. § 4461](#).

Listers and BCA meetings and hearings are subject to Open Meeting Law requirements. Please check out our extensive digital library of Open Meeting Law resources.

For more information on municipal property tax assessment appeals, please refer to our recorded trainings and downloadable resources below.



Town Meetings for Selectboards

Vermont town meeting is direct democracy practiced in its purest form. It is the key to town government, as voters determine the town business for the coming year.

Selectboards play a significant role in their municipality's annual town meeting and local elections, including:

- serving on the town's Board of Civil Authority;
- developing the town meeting warning;
- filling vacancies between elections;
- determining the proposed budget for the coming year;
- notifying registered voters and the public of informational meetings, elections, and annual and special meetings; and
- validating any errors in town meeting conduct or warning, if needed.

The [Town Meeting](#) topic page contains resources on a variety of town meeting subjects; in addition, the [Municipal Calendar](#) includes additional town meeting related deadlines.

For more information on each of these subjects, visit the related pages:

- [Appendix: Town Meeting](#)
- Topic Page: [Town Meeting](#)
- [Municipal Calendar](#)

Publication Date

03/12/2024



Town Meeting

2026 Town Meeting Deadlines	Date
Last day to distribute Annual Auditor's Report (<i>unless the town has voted to give notice of the report's availability</i>)	Saturday, February 21, 2026
Town Meeting Day	Tuesday, March 3, 2026

VLCT Town Meeting Resources

Vermont town meeting is direct democracy practiced in its purest form. It is the key to town government, as voters determine the town business for the coming year.

VLCT's Municipal Assistance Center (MAC) has current online resources on a variety of town meeting topics for your Town Meeting Day preparation needs. **Refer to the resources at the bottom of this page.** In addition, our downloadable [Municipal Calendar](#) includes additional related dates. Each town office received an updated print poster in July 2025. Contact info@vlct.org if your office did not receive the calendar.

Scroll to the bottom of the page to view other important Municipal Calendar deadlines.

VLCT Resources Are Grouped into the Following Categories: (scroll down)

General Resources: Quick Guide; Models for Articles & Warnings; Auditor's Report, Voter-Backed Petitions, and Vacancies FAQs.

Australian Ballot Voting: Legal Requirements, ABV Info Sheet, ABV Checklist

Special Town Meetings: Quick Guide, Model Ordinance Adoption Warning



General Elections Information and Resources for the Public

If you are looking for general information on elections, election results, or running for local office, please call 802-828-2363 or visit the [Vermont Secretary of State's Office, Elections Division's website](#). The Elections Division also maintains an [elections calendar](#).

General

Australian Ballot Voting

Special Town Meetings



Roads and Trails for Selectboards

Town roads and trails (also referred to as town highways) are under the general supervision and control of the selectboard of the town in which they are located.

Town highways are divided into different classes, each class with its own maintenance requirements.

Selectboards have the authority to

- lay out a new town highway or alter an existing one,
- regulate or restrict the use of highways and trails,
- set speed limits on municipal highways,
- name and address streets, and
- lower weight limits on its local roads and bridges.

For more information on this subject, visit the related topic page:

- [Appendix: Roads and Trails](#)
- Topic Page: [Roads and Trails](#)

Publication Date

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Roads and Trails

Town highways and trails are under the general supervision and control of the selectboard of the town in which they are located. The selectboard has the authority to regulate or restrict the use of highways and trails.



Human Resources for Selectboards

Selectboards are directly responsible for a broad range of personnel management and workplace safety matters (unless the municipality employs the municipal manager form of government). This includes

- setting the compensation of the municipality's officers and employees,
- establishing personnel policies,
- managing staff, and
- performing other human resource related responsibilities.

Select boards must do this all while adhering to state and federal employment laws and regulations. Hiring and managing employees is more complex than ever, given the frequent changes in state and federal law and increasing litigation between employer and employees.

To improve selectboard compliance with legal requirements and reduce the risk of employment practice lawsuits, PACIF's [Human Resources Consultation Program](#) helps members evaluate their needs and provide guidance so they can understand and implement sound employment practices. Its [EPL Referral Program](#) arranges for qualifying members to have a no-cost discussion about employment practices with a skilled legal firm.

For more information on this subject, visit the related topic page:

- [Appendix: Human Resources](#)
- Topic Page: [Human Resources Consultation Program](#)



- [Employment Practic Liability Referral Program](#)

Publication Date

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Human Resources Consultation Program

Navigating the employment relationship can be a complicated undertaking for leaders, especially in public sector employment. The web of workplace laws, regulations, contractual obligations, and policies all affect your leadership of a successful team.

PACIF's Human Resources Consultation Program provides valuable partnership and guidance to members in order to understand and implement best workplace practices. These PACIF membership services include:

- Advising on day-to-day HR questions
- Providing referrals to experienced counsel and other resources
- Training managers, supervisors, and governing bodies on HR principles and best practices
- Identifying areas of operational risk from an HR perspective and recommending mitigation strategies

PACIF's [EPL Referrals is a popular part of the HR program](#). We arrange for qualifying members to have a no-cost consultation about employment practices with Vermont employment attorneys.

Ask Your HR Questions

Reach VLCT PACIF's HR experts! Use the button below to ask your HR questions.

Submit Your HR Question



Please use the button above to submit your request. The form ensures we receive all the necessary details upfront, allowing our staff to respond promptly and efficiently.

You can also reach PACIF's HR experts by email at EPLReferral@vlct.org or simply give us a call.

[Workplace Matters Presentations and Resources](#)

[Recruitment and Hiring](#)

[Compensation and Benefits](#)

[Creating a Fair and Inclusive Workplace](#)

[Management and Supervision](#)



EPL Referral Program

PACIF's EPL Referral Program helps member municipalities avoid creating costly employment risks by facilitating free and timely legal consultation from qualified Vermont employment attorneys.

EPL Referral Program Basics

- Call us at 800-649-7915 or email EPLreferral@vlct.org and ask for an EPL referral. We will quickly follow up to discuss the details. If our internal employment experts aren't able to assist you directly, we will refer you to one of the Vermont municipal employment attorneys with whom we collaborate.
- PACIF will cover the cost of up to three (3) hours of legal assistance under this program. When a matter involves an employment separation, PACIF will pay for up to eight (8) hours of an attorney's time.

Impressive Results

Members consistently comment that this program provides exceptional value. We aim to support leaders in uncertain moments and help them make sound decisions to manage their legal risks.

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Dog and Domestic Pet Control for Selectboards

Animals are a frequent cause of concern and complaints from the public. State law directs how select boards may manage many animal issues, such as dog bites, rabies control, licensing, and cruelty to animals. In addition, the selectboards have authority to adopt ordinances regulating the keeping of domestic pets and wolf-hybrids, and to enforce many of the state statutes regarding domestic animals (e.g. cows, horses, etc.). The [Dog and Domestic Pet Control](#) topic page is available for reference.

For more information on this subject, visit the related topic page:

- [Appendix: Dog and Domestic Pet Control](#)
- Topic Page: [Dog and Domestic Pet Control](#)

Publication Date

03/12/2024



Dog and Domestic Animal Control

Few fields of law demand so much immediate attention, elicit such reactionary responses, draw the concern and ire of the public, or are as confusing to enforce as Vermont's laws on dogs and domestic pets. MAC has developed resources that attempt to bridge the gap between Vermont's regulatory scheme and how it's implemented in practice.

This topic page provides links to resources below that explain the various laws governing "(hu)man's best friend" (dog and wolf-hybrids) as well as other "domestic pets" which the law defines as any domestic dogs, domestic cats, and ferrets, and includes other domestic animals as the Secretary establishes by rule.



Land Use for Selectboards

Municipal land use planning is the process of assessing current conditions in a community, envisioning a desired future, and charting a course towards that future. Zoning regulations (typically called bylaws) and subdivision regulations are tools adopted by the selectboard to implement the plan's vision. Local planning and zoning administration involves various town officials. Most municipal officials have distinct roles that are delineated both by statute and by function. Within the local land use system, there are legislative, quasi-judicial, and administrative functions.

Depending on the town's structure, the following players are typically involved in municipal land use administration:

- the administrative officer ("zoning administrator"),
- planning commission,
- development review board, or zoning board of adjustment, and
- the selectboard.

Some municipalities have a robust professional planning staff if the demand requires it and the resources exist to support the positions. Other municipalities are supported entirely by the efforts of their part-time volunteer community. Regional planning commissions exist to support both. Selectboard members will oversee these appointed positions and planning and zoning staff. The selectboard also plays a role in the adoption, amendment, or repeal of the zoning bylaws and ultimately determines the approach to violation enforcement.

The selectboard plays an important role in developing a successful land use and implementation program in any municipality. One of its most important functions is to appoint and oversee these appointed positions and any planning and zoning staff,



including the administrative officer (commonly referred to as the zoning administrator). In this capacity, the selectboard represents the voters, serves as the accountability mechanism, and ensures that the expectations of the position are being fulfilled. In addition to managing the people involved in the land use program, the selectboard retains much of the final authority over the adoption of the various non-regulatory documents (including the municipal plan), capital budget, and any regulatory tools, such as zoning and subdivision regulations.

Finally, it is crucial for the selectboard to maintain an ongoing relationship with the various land use officials. An open dialogue will foster a better understanding of land use planning and implementation in the community, and will help keep difficult situations from becoming outright political battles. Some municipalities have instituted annual or other regular meetings between the legislative body and the various boards and commissions in order to promote strong relationships and open communication. To this end, it is worth noting that the selectboard members of a rural town, or two appointees of the selectboard in an urban municipality, are ex-officio members of the planning commission. Visit the [Land Use](#) topic page for more information.

For more information on this subject, visit the related topic page:

- [Appendix: Land Use](#)
- Topic Page: [Land Use](#)

Publication Date

03/12/2024



Land Use

Municipal land use planning is the process of assessing current conditions in a community, envisioning a desired future, and charting a course toward that future. It involves multiple stakeholders, including property and business owners, elected and appointed municipal officials, renters, and even visitors. Planning encompasses many activities, including adopting town plans and municipal bylaws, capital budgeting, development review, and enforcement. Plans are implemented using regulatory tools such as zoning bylaws and subdivision regulations.

The Vermont Legislature first provided municipalities the opportunity to undertake local land use planning in the 1920s; see [Title 24, Chapter 117](#), which contains the municipal planning and development laws. Since then, the Legislature has passed extensive enabling legislation that allows communities to conduct a wide range of activities related to local land use planning and regulation.

Act 47

Most recently, the Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone (HOME) Act ([Acts 47 and 81, 2023](#)) amends Title 24, Act 250, and other laws related to land use planning and development regulations. Its purpose is to encourage increased housing development. For more information, please visit the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) website with resources that provide more information on the [HOME Act](#).

Roles & Responsibilities



Municipal land use planning and administration involves various town officials. Most municipal officials have distinct roles that are delineated both by statute and by function. Within the local land use system, there are legislative, quasi-judicial, and administrative functions. Depending on the town's structure, the following players are typically involved in municipal land use administration: the administrative officer ("zoning administrator"), planning commission, appropriate municipal panel (development review board, or zoning board of adjustment and planning commission), and the legislative body. Some municipalities have a robust professional planning staff, if the demand requires it and the resources exist to support the positions. Other municipalities are supported entirely by the efforts of their part-time volunteer community. Regional planning commissions exist to support both.

Resources

We are excited to announce that the Zoning Administrator Handbook is updated as of May 2025! Partners at Regional Planning Commissions and Vermont state agencies are working to update the remaining resources and have moved them to the [Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies](#) webpage.



Tree Law for Selectboards

The selectboard has the power “[t]o provide for the location, protection, maintenance, and removal of trees, plants, and shrubs . . . on or above the public highways and sidewalks, or other property of the municipality.” 24 V.S.A. § 2291(3). To implement this, the selectboard must appoint a tree warden and may adopt an ordinance concerning trees. For more information, see the [Tree Law](#) page.

For more information on this subject, visit the related topic page:

- [Appendix: Tree Law](#)
- Topic Page: [Tree Law](#)

Publication Date

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Tree Law

The Vermont Legislature updated the laws governing trees in public ways and places with the enactment of Act 171, which took effect in November 2020. The Act makes substantial changes to Vermont's tree laws, including defining the term "shade tree" and increasing the role of municipal officers in the oversight and maintenance of trees in public ways and places. Other amendments define how trees may be removed and the methods by which they are managed on both public and private land. [24 V.S.A Ch. 67](#). Please also review "New Tree Warden Laws in Effect" about Act 171, first published in the May/June edition of the VLCT Journal.

VLCT and the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program have compiled information to assist municipal officials in navigating their new legal roles and responsibilities related to trees and roadside vegetation. Tree wardens, highway staff, local committees, and governance boards will find the following reference materials extremely valuable as they navigate expanded responsibilities related to tree and urban forest planning and management.



The [Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program](#) is a joint compact between the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and the UVM Extension. They have a webpage specific for [Municipal Assistance](#). The mission of the program is "[t]o lead citizens, businesses, and governments in understanding the value of urban and community forests and to promote civic responsibility for and participation in the stewardship of these resources for this and future generations." To that end, the program provides [training](#), and [financial assistance](#) and a myriad of resources to assist



with the effective stewardship of community forests.



Technology and Cybersecurity for Selectboards

Proper technology use and information security are paramount concerns for all manner of business and governmental entities. PACIF has created and compiled technology-related guidance, resources, training, and support for members. See the [Technology & Cybersecurity](#) page for more information.

For more information on this subject, visit the related topic page:

- [Appendix: Technology & Cybersecurity](#)
- Topic Page: [Technology & Cybersecurity](#)

Publication Date

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Technology & Cybersecurity

Proper technology use and information security are paramount concerns for all manner of business and governmental entities. Finding technical assistance, identifying and tracking assets, understanding municipal needs and costs associated with implementing new technology, and understanding how to set up these systems can be daunting for municipalities.

Organizations that maintain large stores of records and personally identifiable information (PII), such as social security numbers, financial information, or personnel records, are at significant risk of security breaches, internet scams, and ransomware (malicious software that blocks access to a computer system until a sum of money is paid) threats.

To assist members with these issues, VLCT and VLCT PACIF have created and compiled technology-related guidance, resources, training, and support for members. Follow the links below for internal and external resources to help you develop and improve your municipality's technology infrastructure and security. Contact us at 1-800-649-7915 or info@vlct.org if you have questions, requests, or ideas about how VLCT can further assist with your technology efforts.



Appendix: Selectboard Manual

Selectboard Manual Resources

Jump to section: [Roles & Responsibilities](#) | [Transparency Laws](#) | [Finance](#) | [Town Meeting](#) | [Roads & Trails](#) | [Human Resources](#) | [Dog & Domestic Pet Control](#) | [Land Use](#) | [Tree Law](#) | [Technology & Cybersecurity](#)

Roles & Responsibilities

Topic Page: [Governance](#)

Informational Resources

- [Finding the Law](#)
- [How Is a Municipal Ordinance Adopted, Amended, and/or Repealed?](#)
- [Ordinance Adoption, Amendment, and Repeal Toolkit](#)
- [Local Government Organizational Structures \(Town Manager/Administrator\)](#)
- [Vacancies in Elected Office FAQs](#)
- [Appointment of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers FAQs](#)
- [Sovereign Immunity](#)
- [Immunity for Public Officials](#)
- [Changing the Size of Your Selectboard](#)
- [Signing Orders for Payment](#)
- [Quick Guide to Charter Procedure](#)



- [Houselessness](#)

Articles

[How Is a Municipal Ordinance Adopted, Amended, and/or Repealed?](#)

Models and Templates

- [Model Rules of Procedure for Municipal Boards](#)

Transparency Laws

Topic Page: [Vermont's Open Meeting Law](#)

Informational Resources

- [Quick Guide to Vermont's Open Meeting Law](#)
- [Open Meeting Law FAQs](#)
- [COVID-19 Open Meeting Law FAQs](#)
- [Hybrid Public Meeting Toolkit](#)
- [Remote-Only Public Meetings Toolkit](#)
- [Avoiding Zoombombing During Virtual Public Meetings](#)
- [Signing Orders for Payment](#)

Articles

- [Norwich Settles Lawsuit Over Whether Subcommittees are Subject to Vermont's Open Meeting Law](#)

Models and Templates



- [Model Rules of Procedure for Municipal Boards](#)

Topic Page: [Public Records](#)

Informational Resources

- [Public Records Act FAQs](#)
- [Be Aware of First Amendment Audits](#)

Models and Templates

- [Model Public Records Policy](#)

Topic Page: [Ethics and Conflicts of Interest](#)

Informational Resources

- [Conflicts In Land Use FAQs](#)
- [Chart of Incompatible Offices](#)

Articles

- [Ask MAC: Do Selectpersons Have to be Impartial?](#)

Models and Templates

- [Model Ethics and Conflicts of Interest Policy](#)
- [Model Social Media Policy](#)
- [Model Purchasing Policy](#)
- [Model Municipal Financial Policies](#)
- [Model Rules of Procedure for Municipal Boards](#)



Finance

Topic Page: [Finance](#)

Informational Resources

- [Internal Financial Controls Checklist for Municipalities](#)
- [Financial Auditing & Reporting](#)
- [Changing Your Municipal Budget Cycle](#)
- [Taxation and Budgets: 2022 Municipal Action Paper](#)
- [Annual Auditors' Report FAQs](#)
- [Signing Orders for Payment](#)
- [Helpful Links for Finance Officers](#)
- [Federal Funding Assistance Program](#)

Models and Templates

- [Model RFP for Auditing Services](#)
- [Model Purchasing Policy](#)
- [Model Municipal Financial Policies](#)

Town Meeting

Topic Page: [Town Meeting](#)

Informational Resources

- [Quick Guide to Vermont Town Meeting](#)
- [Town Meeting 2023-2024 COVID-19 FAQs](#)



- [Elected Officers – Required and Optional](#)
- [Voter-Backed Petitions FAQs](#)
- [Australian Ballot Info Sheet](#)
- [Australian Ballot Checklist](#)
- [Remote Informational Hearing Toolkit](#)
- [Post Town Meeting Process Info Sheet](#)
- [Quick Guide to Warning Special Town Meetings](#)

Models and Templates

- [Model Town Meeting Articles](#)
- [Model Town Meeting Warnings](#)
- [Model Social Services Appropriation Policy](#)
- [Model Australian Ballot Informational Hearing Notice](#)
- [Model Special Town Meeting Warnings for Ordinance Adoption](#)

Roads and Trails

Topic Page: [Roads and Trails](#)

Informational Resources

- [Restricting Use of Town Highways](#)
- [Winter Road Maintenance](#)
- [Limiting Winter Highway Maintenance](#)
- [MUTCD Road Standards Update Designed to Improve Safety](#)

Articles

- [Are Residents Putting Snow on Your Town Highways?](#)



Models and Templates

- [Model ATV Ordinance](#)
- [Model Class 4 Highway Policy](#)
- [Model Snowmobile Ordinance](#)
- [Model Highway Access Policy](#)

Human Resources

Topic Page: [Human Resources Consultation Program](#)

Informational Resources

- [Compensation and Benefits](#)
- [Recruitment and Hiring](#)
- [Hiring Toolkit](#)
- [Job Descriptions Toolkit](#)

Dog and Domestic Pet Control

Topic Page: [Dog and Domestic Pet Control](#)

Informational Resources

- [Vicious Dog and Domestic Pet Bite Hearings FAQs](#)
- [Vicious Dog and Domestic Pet Bite Hearings Toolkit](#)
- [Dog License Types and Fees](#)



Models and Templates

- [Model Dog Control Ordinance](#)

Land Use

Topic Page: [Land Use](#)

Informational Resources

- [Conflicts In Land Use FAQs](#)
- [Open Meeting Law and Land Use Hearings](#)
- [Short-Term Rental Regulations](#)
- [HOME Act Changes Zoning Bylaw Process in Rural Towns](#)

Tree Law

Topic Page: [Tree Law](#)

Informational Resources

- [Tree Law Roles and Responsibilities](#)
- [Tree Law FAQs](#)
- [New Tree Warden Laws in Effect](#)



Technology and Cybersecurity

Topic Page: [Technology & Cybersecurity](#)

Informational Resources

- [Hybrid Public Meeting Toolkit](#)
- [Remote-Only Public Meetings Toolkit](#)
- [KnowBe4 Reimbursement Program](#)

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