

Proposed January 8, 2026 Barre City JEDIB minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 6:32PM

Members Present: William Toborg, Greg Quetel, Christopher Roberts, Rick Pereira, Matt Mulligan
Council Liaison Sonya Spaulding present

Members of the Public Present: Lisa Liotta, Danielle Owczarski, Ellen Kaye, Aurora Flynn, Cass Lang, Jim Deschler, Suzanne Richman

Land Acknowledgement read by Christopher Roberts

2. Motion to add approval of December 2025 minutes to agenda made by Matt Mulligan and seconded by Greg Quetel, approved unanimously

3. Motion to approve December 2025 minutes made by Matt Mulligan and seconded by Greg Quetel, approved unanimously

Motion to approve November 2025 minutes made by Matt Mulligan and seconded by Greg Quetel

4A. Motion to permanently table proposed October 7, 2023 resolution made by Rick Pereira, seconded by Matt Mulligan. Greg Quetel and Chris Roberts both spoke in favor of tabling the resolution.

Danielle Owczarski, Lisa Liotta, and Ellen Kaye spoke against the resolution.

Motion carried 4-0 with chair not voting

B. No new information on expenditures approved in May meeting

Motion to table made by Rick Pereira and seconded by Greg Quetel, carried unanimously.

C. No new information on ordinances. Joellen Mulvaney is working to close out the grant

D. Discussion of Language Access Policy. Rick indicated that he had provided the Burlington policy.

Danielle Owczarski pointed out that the State of Vermont has a plain language policy.

Sonya Spaulding pointed out that there are ballot language requirements as to what can legally be stated on the ballot.

Matt Mulligan spoke on neuro-divergency and that the ADA requires that reasonable accommodations be made.

Sonya Spaulding pointed out that we have absorbed the ADA committee

Public Comment

Aurora Flynn expressed interest in joining the committee

Motion to Adjourn made by Chris Roberts and seconded by Rick Pereira

Copy of Tabled Resolution:

On October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists attacked Israel in the worst massacre of Jews since the Holocaust as the world's oldest hatred raised was put on display. On the 50th anniversary of the start of the Yom Kippur War, over 1,400 Israelis were murdered, women raped, babies burnt alive in an act of moral depravity. We stand with Israel as God's chosen people are once again under attack. We reject the anti-Semitic calls for a cease fire in an attempt to prevent Israel from bringing those who committed these atrocities to justice. There cannot be peace when the goal of Hamas is the destruction of Israel. There cannot be peace until those who committed these acts of evil are brought to justice, until those who planned these acts are brought to justice, until those who funded these acts are brought to justice.

We have already seen the anti-Semitism on display, from Congresswomen showing 10 year old photos and reporting them to be Palestinian children killed and leading anti-Semitic groups into the halls of Congress. We have seen multiple student groups blaming Israel for the Hamas butchery. We have seen Israel being falsely accused of bombing a hospital that was struck by a Hamas rocket. While Israel has warned the residents of Gaza to leave, Hamas is preventing them from doing so because it believes that the sight of dead Palestinians will lead to a condemnation of Israel.

We recognize that that the only way to help the Palestinian people is the way in which the German people in Nazi Germany were helped, through the total destruction of their Nazi leadership.

During the second World War, former president Herbert Hoover proposed a program to help feed the people of Europe through a cross blockade program. Winston Churchill opposed it as he believed that the Nazis would just use the relief for their own purposes. In the same way any attempt to provide relief to Gaza would just be used by Hamas in their efforts to destroy Israel.