

SoVT Get on Board Unit 2: Materials

Freedom and Unity Comic:

https://www.cartoonstudies.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FreedomandUnity_web-20221216-sm.pdf

An introduction to an exercise we'll do: <https://andiron.com/navigating-polarities/>
(navigating polarities)

Recommended listening if you like to listen:

<https://www.rumblestripvermont.com/episodes/2023/03/its-town-meeting-again>

The Sum of us

- [Episode 1](#)
- [Episode 2](#)

..... and Materials for more exploration

VT Local Government: resources for more study

Municipal Law Basics – a (warning: fairly technical) review of the roles and responsibilities of local boards

Open Meeting Law

- VLCT Summary: <https://www.vlct.org/topics/vermonts-open-meeting-law>
- A more in depth guide to Open Meeting Law, what it means, and how to be in compliance:
<https://outside.vermont.gov/dept/sos/Municipal%20Division/a-guide-to-open-meetings-january-2019.pdf>

Participating in Local Government:

- [A Citizen's Guide to Town Meeting \(2008\)](#)
- Robert's Rules of Order: a [Cheat-sheet](#) (from Robert's Rules for Dummies) that runs through a meeting.

- Roberts Rules of Order: Here's another [cheat-sheet](#) that is useful for understanding what is happening at Town meeting (motions, seconds, etc).
- [Isn't there a Law About That?](#) – a guide to exploring VT laws as a citizen
- [“Born to Chair: an introduction to the science and art of chairing a board meeting.”](#)

Overview of VT local governance structure

[VLCT Overview of Governance](#)

[VLCT](#) has a full suite of resources and in-depth training materials available to municipal leaders. If you serve on a town board, and your town is a VLCT member (they most likely are!), you can get access to materials through your town. You'll need to have a dedicated email address (either through your town or if your town does not have that available, a separate Town Board email address through Google), and can set up a log-in.

VT's Secretary of State page with more municipal resources:

<https://sos.vermont.gov/municipal-division/>

Equity and inclusion resources

<https://racialequity.vermont.gov/about-us/executive-director-racial-equity> : VT office of Racial equity resources and information

<https://racialequity.vermont.gov/ideal-vermont>: This program of the VT Racial Equity office is focused on engaging individual municipalities

<https://vtdeclarationofinclusion.org/> : VT declaration of inclusion project. Resources and report-back

<https://vtfuturesproject.org/celebrating-inclusion-a-path-towards-a-brighter-future-in-vermont/>
VT Futures Project is focused on increasing VT's population and inclusion efforts are a large part of that.