

**TOWN OF WHEELLOCK  
SELECTBOARD MEETING**

July 1st, 2025, 6:00pm

At Wheelock Town Hall upstairs and via Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Ann Lawless, Mike Richardson, and Chuck Dill, Town clerk Erin Swigart, residents Teresa Stimpson and Enid Ellis on Zoom and recorder Meaghan Rinehart.

**6:00pm Call to Order:**

Any changes to agenda: Speeding in center of town to be added to New Business. Ann noted that a new draft future land use map from NVDA has been added to the town's website. Comments are due to NVDA by Aug. 31. Also posted is a press release from the Vt. River Conservancy regarding a conservation project in Sheffield that may help to prevent flooding in Wheelock village.

**ADOPT MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)**

**Adopt Selectboard minutes of 6/17/2025**

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to adopt minutes of 6/17/25. All in favor, so voted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Confirm Joint Boards Meeting date for Transfer Station**

The Selectboard of Wheelock confirms a joint selectboard meeting for 7/23/25 at 6pm at Wheelock Town Hall.

**Grant report – Mini-MERP.** Balance left after Energy Fair \$923.

Ann checked, and this amount cannot be applied to the purchase of a new dehumidifier.

Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to appoint Erin to purchase best price dehumidifier for Town Hall use.

All in favor, so voted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chuck was approached by a resident about speeding through the Village Center on 122. Mike will look into a possible contract with the Sheriff Department for speed monitoring.

**CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT**

Erin made aware that employees are completing the required ethics training module.

**Delinquent taxes.** Emily Purdy, delinquent tax collector, was not present so this was tabled.

## **Report on selling property acquired by town at tax sale**

Ann discussed the information discovered thanks to research by Carol Rossi and through VLCT. It was determined at this time to not consider selling property currently in use by the Town.

## **ROADS**

### **Road updates**

Winter sand will be done tomorrow.

Sander floor for truck has been repaired and is being painted for protection.

Chuck mentioned dead trees on Allard Hill and Jills Hill. Power companies declined to cut them. Chuck secured a quote for \$3,000 for both trees from Chuck Hill.

Jeff Masure completed the debris removal project behind Town Hall. He placed stone along the ditch on Sutton Road behind the building.

Chuck discovered that the septic tank structures (one is a backup) in the parking lot near the side door are filled with silt and the caps need replacing. Mike motions, seconded by Ann for Chuck to pursue Vac-con truck to remove silt from tank and price out replacement lids. All in favor, so voted.

### **Bids – Fall Brook Rd bridge & Boulay Rd embankment.**

No bids to date, will put out again as separate items.

### **Auction of 09 truck and other items.**

Auction is live and Mike will add a copy of title to the file.

### **19 Truck windshield.**

Windshield was leaking and taken for repair, it is repaired however the roof liner is now sagging. Solutions will be looked into.

### **Driveway permits.**

Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to accept driveway permit for Hunter property. All in favor, so voted.

### **Grants – S Wheelock Rd, Grants-in-Aid awarded \$11,500**

The FY 2025 VTrans road grant to resurface S Wheelock Rd needs to be completed by Sept 30. Final work on flood damaged Stannard Mountain Rd and S Wheelock Rd still needs to be completed. Work on Stannard Mountain will be done in house with some additional rental equipment. S Wheelock flood project needs to be bid out.

Chuck will follow up regarding the Grants-in-Aid award.

**FEMA update**

A meeting with FEMA reps today informed that only certain parts of Minister Hill Bridge are eligible for FEMA Architecture and Engineering (A&E) support of \$5,503. 600 feet of work is needed on the embankment, and FEMA will only allow work on 8 feet. Also, FEMA will not cover any work on the bridge abutment. The reason is that both problems are mentioned in the VTrans 2023 bridge inspection report. The FEMA A&E award would cover the design for the 8 feet of embankment and the cobble debris on the opposite embankment and under the bridge. Options were discussed. We have the state permit for the embankment, but not for the cobble. Amy Elliot, representative from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) also attended the meeting. She stated the Town can self-verify for removing the cobble but a Permit #9 will be required for the embankment.

Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to forgo the A&E for 8 feet of embankment reinforcement and cobble removal. Once the state permit (if needed) for the cobble is in place, the town can proceed with a contract for its removal. The contractor should be able to provide a sketch for the permit. All in favor, so voted. Ann to follow up.

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to put engineering design for the Minister Hill abutment out to bid. All in favor, so voted. Ann will follow up.

FEMA approved A&E for Welch Rd, \$17,244. Ann noted if we accept an A&E, and then DO NOT proceed with construction, the town will have to pay for the entire A&E. Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to forgo A&E for Welch Rd at this time. It can remain in our FEMA portal as a future task. All in favor, so voted.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

Erin noted that a State financial officer has set up a meeting July 22 to review town policies and procedures in place at the time of the 2023 disaster.

Erin noted that PACIF insurance will be visiting next day to undertake the annual hazard survey at town hall, garage and transfer station.

**Review and sign warrants**

Chuck motions, seconded by Chuck to sign warrants. All in favor, so voted.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**VISITOR COMMENTS**

Teresa Stimpson thanked the Selectboard for all they do.

Meaghan let the Selectboard know she had signed up for Community Leadership Summit in Randolph Aug. 11.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to adjourn. All in favor so voted. Meeting adjourned 7:56.

Submitted by Meaghan Rinehart

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Ann Lawless, chair

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Mike Richardson

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Chuck Dill