

Town of Wheelock Selectboard Meeting

Tuesday January 20th, 2026, 6pm

At Town Hall and via Zoom

Present: Selectboard members, Ann Lawless, Mike Richardson and Chuck Dill. Bobbie Jo and Richard Norcross and Meaghan Rinehart recorder. Via Zoom Town Clerk Erin Swigart, Enid Ellis and Eileen Boland.

Call to order 6PM

Changes to agenda: removing VCDP grant resolution.

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to adopt minutes of Public Hearing and Selectboard meeting of 1/6/26. All in favor, so voted.

Vote regarding Welch Rd.

Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to vote of Welch Rd declassification. Ann explains the 2 options the Town has.

- A) Completely discontinue Welch Rd, otherwise known as "throw it up"
- B) Reclassify Welch Rd as a trail.

The options were discussed and Ann pointed out that the lawyer preferred option B, The affected property owner would prefer option A. Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to discontinue Welch Rd. All in favor, so voted.

VT Bondbank application to purchase Backhoe.

Ann reported the application has been submitted.

VCDP grant; Approve public hearing notice, February 17, 2026, 6pm.

The Town plans to apply for a planning grant of \$60,000 for Hydrology and Resilience Project, to cover engineering costs including hydrology and alternative strategies with rough cost estimates for Fall Brook Bridge, Twin Bridges and possible other projects. The grant requires a public hearing for approval. Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to warn public hearing for VCDP grant. All in favor, so voted.

Vote to apply for Small Grants for Smart Growth.

Ann motions, seconded by Mike to apply for the Small Grants for Smart Growth request \$2500 to assist in H&H and resiliency studies. Funds will be used for food at the public meeting to share study results, and project manager or facilitator. All in favor, so voted.

Cemetery Bids

Two bids were received however one was incomplete. Bid from James Mangan of J&M Yard Services was for \$8500 for local cemeteries, \$1000 for remote cemeteries per mow and \$1500 for sexton work. The other submission from Maxwell Heck was not a qualified bid because it did not include a bid for remote cemeteries or sexton work and it was unclear if bidder was aware there was more than the Village Cemetery. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike we accept qualified bid from J&M Yard Services. All in favor, so voted.

Vote to Sign Internal Controls Checklist,

It was determined the Town needed to sign the document. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to sign internal controls checklist. All in favor, so voted.

New Business

Erin requested the Selectboard to finalize any line items to budget, approve additional appropriation petitions received by the deadline and approve the warning. The Selectboard discussed the budget for grader repair, and decided to leave line items as is. Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to approve petitions. All in favor, so voted.

Adopt Financial Policies

Ann explained that additional financial policies besides the ones already in place are required for the CDBG grant. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to approve the Reserve Fund and Investment Policy (previously approved by treasurer). All in favor, so voted.

Clerk Treasurers Report

Erin reported that the RHR Smith audit is in full swing. Dog licenses for 2026 are now available. Elected auditors have a meeting on 2\5.

Roads

Chuck reported that other than the grader issue things are going well. Crews are doing normal winter maintenance.

FEMA Update

Ann reported that the project extension requests (Boulay and S. Wheelock Rd. embankments, and Alternate Projects for backhoe and tires and grader stinger board) she filed are still under review. We received more funds than we spent on Town Hall Parking Lot and Green, and Stannard Mountain Road because FEMA estimates for these projects came in high. We do not need to give the funds back. They can be spent on any other town project, FEMA-involved or otherwise. She has been advised to document how the funds were spent in case we are audited.

Correspondence

Sally Wood-Simons submitted her report. It included the Keniston and Dane fund investment report and distribution of funds to eligible students.

Administrative

Chuck motioned, seconded by Mike to sign documents and adjourn. All in favor so voted.

Meeting adjourned 7:41pm

Submitted by Meaghan Rinehart

Ann Lawless, chair

Mike Richardson

Chuck Dill