

WHEELOCK SELECTBOARD
MARCH 24th 2026, Town Hall at 6PM
MINUTES

Present: Wheelock Selectboard members Ann Lawless, Mike Richardson and Chuck Dill. Bobbie Jo and Richard Norcross, Theresa Stimpson and Meaghan Rinehart. Via Zoom Erin Swigart, Enid Ellis, Marty Thierriet, Paul from Caledonian-Record

Call to order: 6:01 PM

Changes to Agenda:

Remove MERP bid from old business

ADOPT MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to adopt the minutes of 3/10/26. All in favor, so voted.

NEW BUSINESS

Delinquent Tax Policy

The Selectboard welcomes Theresa as the new delinquent tax collector. Theresa presented the delinquent tax policy citing it compares with other surrounding towns', it is consistent with the VLCT template, and has a most generous grace period. Theresa noted it might make sense to change that next year. Erin noted the postage costs are covered in her general postage fund for all office projects. Letters will be going out April 1st.

Appoint Jack Smith to NEKWMD Board Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to appoint Jack Smith to NEKWMD board. All in favor, so voted. Ann will follow up with Jack.

Approve No Appeals Pending form for 2025 Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to approve no appeals pending form for 2025. All in favor, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS

MERP grant: Town Hall Electrical and Ceiling

Ann heard back from St. J Academy electrical instructor Jeremy Roberts. He OKd the electrical scope of work, estimating \$500 for the additional expenses related to the additional outlets the town would like in basement and main hall in addition to the lighting work in the MERP budget. The bid request for basement ceiling removal is being tabled at this time while more information is gathered regarding potential issues that could arise.

CLERK\TREASURER REPORT

Green Up Day is coming up, 5/2. Notice will be put out and the clerk stated she would be willing to help organize volunteers.

On April 8, Clerk office hours will change to Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8-3.

The clerk asked about investing some of the long-term facilities maintenance funds and if they should be invested in a CD. The Selectboard discussed options and will make a decision after more information is gathered.

ROADS

Roads Update

Spring snows are still coming, roads are starting to dry out and potholes are appearing. John Deere rep came down and went over the new machine with the crew.

Ratify Grader Loan

Documents are signed and grader will be out soon.

Adopt 2026 Road & Bridge Standards

The Selectboard reviewed the document and checked for any changes. Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to adopt 2026 Road and Bridge Standards.

Adopt 2026 Road & Bridge Certificate of Compliance

Mike motions, seconded by Chuck to adopt 2026 Road and Bridge Certificate of Compliance.

Select Bids for CDBG Grant for Hydrology & Resilience Project

The Town received 2 bids for engineering, 2 bids for project management and 1 for project administration combined with grant administration. We will find out in June if we are approved for the grant. Bids from HEB (\$60K) and Fitzgerald (\$56K) for engineering and HEB (\$5K) and Fitzgerald (\$4K) for project manager and CCNRCD for project manager and admin (\$3,300). The Selectboard requested follow-up questions for bidders and will revisit decision at next meeting. Ann will follow up.

CDS Grants (Congressionally Directed Spending)

Rep. Becca Balint's staff did not promote the request (engineering for up to 4 bridges and 2 culverts) to next phase. They felt the project was not ready and encouraged us to try again next year.

FEMA Update

- 2023 Flood buyout for Corey Kelly has been approved by FEMA. The Town is the interface with VT Emergency Management and Ann can be the point person. The process may take 28 months. Kickoff meeting for this week.
- VEM staff figured out the holdup on the Category Z payments from 2023 flood. It's about \$6,000. Ann submitted the needed form.
- Boulay and S Wheelock Rds. Engineering projects are delayed, hoping they will be complete by 4/15.
- Welch Rd alternate project is still pending as needs have changed due to change in grader. Truck tires are here; stinger board assembly costs have gone up. Still waiting for FEMA Scope change request on stinger board assembly, from 12 ft long (old grader) to 14 ft long (new grader).
- **Bid Request for tree clearing on S. Wheelock Rd.** Ann confirmed with DEC Rivers Engineer and US Army Corps of Engineers. No permits are necessary however the project must be completed by 4/14 because of bat habitat. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to put out to bid for tree clearing on S Wheelock Rd. All in favor, so voted.

CORRESPONDANCE

Carol Rossi submitted a list of needs for Town Hall along with a 2016 report of fire marshal visit. The Selectboard reviewed and discussed basement windows, moving the generator, and creating a timeline and list of projects.

ADMINISTRATION AND ADJOURNMENT

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to sign warrants, paperwork and adjourn. All in favor, so voted.

Meeting adjourned 8:08

Submitted by Meaghan Rinehart

Ann Lawless

Mike Richardson

Chuck Dill