

TOWN OF WHEELOCK SELECTBOARD MEETING

April 21, 2026 6PM at Wheelock Town Hall

Present: Wheelock Selectboard members Ann Lawless, Mike Richardson and Chuck Dill. Liz Muckerman, Patricia Baker, Marty Thieret, John & Charlotte Benoit, Joe Benoit, Sheryl & Jim Moran, Greg Fields. Theresa Stimpson, Carol Amos and Michael via Zoom.

6:00 pm Call to Order. Any changes to agenda:

181 discussion and request to use Town Hall on 5/29 added to New Business.

ADOPT MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING 4/7/26

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to adopt the minutes, with the addition of Marty Thieret participation via Zoom. Record will reflect change. All in favor, so voted.

NEW BUSINESS

Cemetery Task Force appointments & plan

Liz Muckerman presented the plan for cemeteries and new members needing appointment. Flags have been purchased and will be set out for Memorial Day. The group will continue repairing stones. They prefer using stamat vs concrete. They would like to do more fence painting – last year at Village only one coat was done. Two gate posts are in need of repair/replacement, one each at a t S Wheelock and Village and at Sulfur Springs the survey boundary needs more than survey markers to demarcate between cemetery and parking. The budget to pay for these items was discussed. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to buy two pressure treated posts and table for later discussion the demarcation line.

Chuck motions, seconded by Ann to table any solutions for fence demarcation line until next meeting to gather information and determine funding. All in favor, so voted.

The task force will be losing the Tidhars as they plan to move. Liz has recruited new people to join the task force. Ann motions, seconded by Chuck to appoint Norma Twombly, Katherine Coons and Debbie Hopkins to the Cemetery Task Force. All in favor, so voted.

Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)

Mike motions, seconded by Chuck we adopt the 2026 LEMP that Ann worked on with Shane Lanpher. All in favor, so voted.

Internal Financial Controls checklist

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to adopt Internal Financial Control Checklist. All in favor, so voted.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)

Ann explained that our current LHMP will expire soon, and NVDA has found us a consultant to help with an update at no charge. A current LHMP is important for disaster prevention, planning, and securing grants. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to work with NVDA for LHMP. All in favor, so voted.

Lister report

Report is informational and requires no action.

Town Hall internet

Ann spoke about the current system, paid for by the state at the beginning of the Covid lockdown for towns without a place for the public to access high speed internet. The Meraki company has sent notice our subscription has expired. Our calls and emails are not returned regarding the cost of unit or whether the company will retrieve it. The selectboard will gather comparison numbers for phone and internet. We are on the list for NEK Broadband at both sites. Service will come sooner at the garage, but NEKBB needs more funds to roll out the area that includes town hall. Jonathan Potter provided estimates for a replacement, installing wifi at the garage, and also the transfer station. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike we work with Jonathon Potter for the town hall to avoid a discontinuance of service. All in favor, so voted.

Complaints, Jills Hill, Sherburne Rd, Little Deer Drive

Little Deer Drive

Residents of Little Deer Drive presented their complaint regarding neighbor restricting ROW and debris on property. Mike has visited the site twice, most recently this spring. The residents asked how to determine their legal rights to pursue the matter and are concerned about EMS access. Pictures were shared. Ann has researched an update to our Solid Waste Management ordinance, that dates from 2004. It will be on the next agenda. The VLCT template includes a provision for the VT Judicial Bureau to do enforcement.

Mr. Benoit asked whether the town would pay for a culvert for his road. Chuck declined for the Town as it is a Class 4 road.

Sherburne Rd

The Selectboard discussed a complaint from Bob Heighton asking that Jack Mitchell repair the road damage they caused. Chuck noted he took a culvert to Mitchell last year but he has not installed it.

Jills Hill

Ann reported that most of the trash along the fence line has been removed. Cindy Cady,

Animal Control Officer and Owen Montgomery, First Constable, will be visiting the address together this week as there is also dog business there as well.

Act 181 Discussion

Marty Thieret requested the Selectboard to write a letter similar to Hardwick's in support of repealing Act 181 and Act 59. Mike said he would take a crack at writing a draft letter.

Town Hall Facility Use Request

Caledonia County Natural Resource Conservation District would like to use the Town Hall for a public presentation on 5/29. No fee was discussed. Chuck motions, seconded by Ann to allow CCNRCD to use the Town Hall on 5/29. All in favor, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS

MERP town hall – lead test? & RFP ceiling

Based on Ann's research, it was determined that further testing for asbestos in the basement ceiling was not needed since it was done in 1993 and in 2014. It is unlikely that there is a problem with lead although it is possible. The group decided to proceed. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to prepare the bid request for removing the basement ceiling and put it out in early May with bids due by the second Selectboard meeting in May. All in favor, so voted.

CLERK TREASURER'S REPORT - none

ROADS

Roads update

Chuck reports some culverts are collapsing, including an 18 inch one on Stannard Mountain at the iron gate. Calls will be made to find out if permitting is needed. A culvert on Leroux Rd is also collapsing. The new blade is on the grader, and deep grading will begin as soon as frost leaves. The truck with compressor issue will be returned soon.

Mowing bids

A bid from Jeff Masure for \$7,282 was the sole bid. We spent \$4,500 last year; the contractor is deceased. \$5,000 is budgeted. We could discuss with Jeff a single not double pass. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to accept the bid. All in favor, so voted.

Sand purchase

Chuck reported on the following prices: Randall pit in Glover \$7/yard plus fuel surcharge. Peckham \$11/ton which is \$8.25/yard. Gingue \$5.50/yard or \$6.25 with aggregate. We bought 4,000 yds last year. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to purchase 4500 yards of sand at \$5.50/yard from Gingue. All in favor, so voted.

Inquiry re Quarry Road

LandVest inquired about getting power from Rte 16 to a site for a customer on Quarry Road. Chuck explained they can use the ROW and their property. There was also a request to discontinue Quarry Rd but since there are other parcels above this one, no action was taken at this time.

Auction of Galion & trailer

Trailer is already gone and Galion can be reposted. Chuck motions, seconded by Ann to deputize Mike to seek a sale higher than the amount we were offered at auction before or repost for auction. All in favor, so voted.

FEMA buyout S Wheelock Rd – open space self-monitoring

Ann reported no forms are needed if there are no plans to install anything at the site after the house is taken down. We can self-monitor. Selectboard will have to send a photo of site every 3 years to show its not being built on.

FEMA updates

Ann reported GEODesign provided probable cost construction estimates for Boulay Rd embankment (\$98,339) and S Wheelock Rd embankment (\$204,964) plus a 10% contingency. There could be an additional \$15,000 for permitting and other costs TBD after the contractor is hired. Bid packages for the town to post are expected soon. We may receive funds for Donated Services by Scott Lange for project management. Ann will seek his signature on the form with his hours. On advisement of VEM helpers with our FEMA alternate project, Ann ordered the extra set of grader tires. We still need to take more photos of the finished work.

CORRESPONDENCE & VISITOR COMMENTS - none

ADMINISTRATIVE & ADJOURNMENT

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to sign administrative papers and adjourn. All in favor, so voted. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm. Submitted by Meaghan Rinehart

Ann Lawless

Mike Richardson

Chuck Dill
