

Town of Woodbury Select Board

May 12, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Select Board (WSB) Members: Diana Peduzzi; Chris Casey

Town Officials: Robin Durkee –Town Clerk; Lilly Baron–Town Treasurer; Skip Lindsay–Recovery Officer; Skip Marchesani – IT Manager

Town Employees: Alfred Larrabee–Road Commissioner; Michael Gray–WSB Assistant/Scribe

Members of the Public: Goddard and Susie Graves; Anderson Williams and Holly Williams by Zoom

Media: Jerome Lipani - Hardwick Community Television (Meeting can be viewed at hctv.us or Comcast Channel 1080)

Chris called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

Adjustments to Agenda: A lister request to extend the deadline for completion of the grand list will be addressed under “other business”.

Meeting Minutes – 04.28.2025 WSB meeting minutes were approved.

Public Comment – Goddard and Susie Graves attended to continue the conversation started during the previous meeting, regarding their concerns about sanitation at a property near them on Sand Hill Road. Goddard had done a lot of phone calling to better understand what might be done to resolve the situation on the property and shared that the state is also now involved (and has been for some time.)

At this point, Chris, in his role as Health Officer, reported his findings. Chris and Paul Cerutti visited the site the previous week – Paul to investigate complaints of open burning and Chris to investigate any open sewage, garbage or other health threats. They spoke with the owner, Todd Walker. Chris did not observe anything that would be considered a public health hazard but did acknowledge the disarray of stuff scattered over the property. Chris asked Todd to explain how he and his brother dispose of their sanitary (human) waste and was told they pump out their camper tanks into a specifically designed holding tank that is then transported to a dumping station to be properly disposed of. Susie reported that she has smelled sewage waste in the roadside ditches. Paul Cerutti saw no evidence of an open trash burn site or burn barrel. Goddard and Susie described several other concerns...the trash, drug dealing, young women wandering the roads obviously high on drugs and their concern for their water source becoming contaminated. Goddard heard that Todd is seeking financing from the state for home improvements, including a septic system. The discussion is left at that for this meeting. The WSB will pursue this issue further.

Chris reported on another site visit - to the Gosbee property on Herricks Cove Upper Road, in response to a neighbor complaint. He observed a lot of junk that was left outdoors, but no garbage that would attract the reported rats. He does not feel the site constitutes a public health hazard. Diana wrote to the property owner's mother, and received a phone call in response. Corinne Guilmain is planning to come up to Woodbury (from her home in N.C.) this summer, to deal with the problem.

Town Emails: with Skip Marchesani – The town email addresses are all ready to be set up for WSB members and other town officials, and Skip will help get the new emails set up on everyone's personal devices at the next WSB working meeting in two weeks. Skip asks, if other town committee members ask for a town email, who would approve that, the WSB? Chris said that the WSB is working on a policy for that.

Town Clerk's Report: Robin presented a new contract for the Washington County Sheriff's Department (WCSD). The WCSD's hourly and mileage rates are going up. The 2026 budget included \$5,000 for this contract. The contract was signed for \$5,000. Skip Lindsay mentioned that the solar speed signs on Rte.14 along Sabin Pond and in Woodbury village have the capacity to record data like speed, time of day etc. that could be downloaded to inform the WCSD on optimum times to monitor traffic in town. It's unclear who knows how to download the data.

Robin reported that the town's ACO – Ed Dumas – has made 2 trips to Old Quarry Road to deal with a dog nuisance complaint. Receiving no cooperation from the owners, he has since turned the complaint over to the state police.

Direct mail notices to owners of unlicensed dogs has resulted in 40 new dog licenses issued.. There have been no responses to postings about unfilled volunteer positions.

Town Treasurer Report: For the previous two weeks – 04/28/2025 to 05/12/2025 - total cash received was \$7,134.04, Payroll came to \$9,758.07 and accounts payable totaled \$33,473.10 which included a quarterly payment to the WVFD.

Lilly recommended that CDs be established for the FEMA leftover obligated funds and for the reappraisal fund – to earn interest while the money sits un-used. The WSB authorized Lilly to set up the CDs. There was discussion about where the interest earned, should be credited.

Skip Lindsay reported that Lilly has, with some determination, finally succeeded in re-establishing Woodbury's SAM.gov account (essential to any FEMA and other federal funding).

Recovery Officer's Report: with Skip Lindsay – Skip reported that all 16 projects, comprising 64 separate damage locations associated with the July 2023 flood, FEMA Disaster 4720DR-VT, are now in the "Pending Grant Completion" phase and that the July 2024 flood, FEMA Disaster 4810DR-VT, with three projects, comprising 11 separate damage locations, have been obligated by FEMA and are now in the "Pending Grant Completion" phase. Recovery of state funds for these projects will not occur until the town bridge replacement projects for TH 23 and TH 24 are completed. Town matches will differ slightly for the two flood – 2023 and 2024 - recovery funding. Woodbury has been reassigned from FEMA's Washington, D.C., team to FEMA's Region 1 group in Boston, MA. and has been assigned yet another "program delivery manager."

A working group including Michael Gray, Alfie Larrabee, and Skip Lindsay has identified seven locations where the leftover obligated funds from FEMA could be used for road work to mitigate future flooding and has also identified town office building mitigation improvements.

Road Commissioner's Report: with Alfie Larrabee – Alfie reported that the first round of road grading is close to complete and that grading will continue, weather permitting. The road crew dealt with an emergency from collapsed ledge on County Road this past weekend and will be tackling two priority projects this coming week – a culvert on Ainsworth Road and a plugged driveway culvert on Cabot Road. The road crew is now on its summer schedule of working 10-hour days Monday through Thursday. Cars parked at the town office are mentioned as another car has been in the parking lot for several days. Diana recalled that "No Overnight Parking" signs were previously discussed and approved by the WSB but have not been ordered. Skip Lindsay also mentions the bicycle signs. Alfie noted that signs have been purchased and are on the road crew's "to-do" list to be installed. Skip will send Alfie the map and GPS data for placement of the bicycle signs.

Lawn Mowing Contract: The WSB opened three bids for this summer's mowing of town properties. Bids were submitted by Mike Tatro Outdoor Maintenance, Anderson Williams and D&R Property Maintenance.

D&R was the low bidder, offering to charge \$75 per mowing of the 5 town properties and a one time cost of \$225 for spring cleanup. The WSB awarded the mowing contract to D&R.

Updates and Other Business: Grand List Deadline Extension – The WSB approved the request from the listers for an extension to complete the town's grand list.

Date Change for 5/26 scheduled WSB meeting – Memorial Day falls on 5/26. The WSB will meet instead on Tuesday 5/27. This will be a "working meeting" and will be held at the Town Office.

Executive Session: The WSB voted to enter executive session at 7:40 p.m., citing 1VSA 313(a)(3) and invited Alfie to attend.

The session was closed at 8:10. The WSB approved Alfie's request to work on a 30-hour per week (3 day) schedule, for a trial basis for two months, after which he will decide whether to resign the position and the WSB will begin the search for a replacement. He will work extra hours when needed.

Bills and payroll orders were signed at the end of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Diana Peduzzi

Chris Casey

Date Approved

5/27/25

Guide to acronyms: **ACO** – Animal Control Officer; **AP** – Accounts Payable; **BRIC** – Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities; **CR** – Cash Receipts; **CRC** – Consolidated Resource Center; **CVRPC** – Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission; **DHC** – Department of Health; **EC** – Ethics Commission; **EMD** – Emergency Management Director; **EMS** – Emergency Medical Service; **ET** – Electronic Transfer; **EWPP** – Emergency Watershed Protection Program; **FIRM** – Federal Insurance Rate Map; **FPF** – Front Porch Forum; **FY** – Fiscal Year; **GIA** – Grants in Aid; **HED** – Hardwick Electric Department; **HERF** – Highway Equipment Replacement Fund; **HMP** – Hazard Mitigation Plan; **HPD** – Hardwick Police Department; **H&H** – Hydrological & Hydraulic; **LEMP** – Local Emergency Management Plan; **LHMP** – Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; **MMA** – Money Market Account; **MRGP** – Municipal Roads General Permit; **MOU** – Memorandum of Understanding; **MTSC** – Mountain Tamers Snowmobile Club; **MVUESD** – Mountain View Union Elementary School District; **NEMRC** – New England Municipal Resource Center; **NEWT** – Northeast Wilderness Trust; **NRCS** – Natural Resources Conservation Service; **OSSU** – Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union; **PDMG** – Program Delivery Manager; **PR** – Payroll; **RBT** – RB Technologies; **RFP** – Request for Proposal; **SS** – Seacoast Securities; **TAC** – Transportation Advisory Committee; **TC** – Town Clerk; **TH** – Town Highway; **THO** – Town Health Officer; **TTr** – Town Treasurer; **USDA** – United States Department of Agriculture; **VEM** – Vermont Emergency Management; **VTRANS** – Vermont Agency of Transportation; **WCSD** – Washington County Sheriff's Department; **WHRT** – Woodbury-Hardwick Rail Trail; **WSB** – Woodbury Select Board; **WVFD** – Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department; **ZBA** – Zoning Board of Adjustment;