

Select Board and Special Water Board Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2025

Present: Jeanne Gervais, Mark Vaillancourt, Mike Testut, Bill Hawkins, Thomas Moralee, Gwyn Worthington, and Ed Barber.

Attending Virtually: Mike Strait, Heather McElroy, Bruce Webster, Nate Pion, and Joel Cope.

Heather McElroy called the Special Water and Sewer Board meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Heather McElroy called the Select Board meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Updates to the Agenda: None.

Public comment: Thomas Moralee had a few questions and concerns about the 2024 budget and the amount of money raised by property taxes.

Gwyn Worthington was present to ask if the town would be willing to put dirt in her yard, as there are washouts which she believes to a drainage situation caused by the town.

Presentation from Nate Pion from Aldrich and Elliott Engineers: Nate Pion was present to update the board on the cost and adjustments made for the Water Treatment Facility Upgrade Project.

A motion was made by Mark Vaillancourt to approve the updated project cost summary for refurbishment of the town's water treatment system along with any modifications discussed at the September 3, 2025, meeting and recommend that the select board commence the procedures necessary to finance the project. Bruce Webster seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Jeanne Gervais motions to authorize the town manager to pursue all funding opportunities for the water treatment system upgrade and prepare for the necessary bond vote in the amount of 9.6 million dollars tentatively planned for November 4, 2025. Billy Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

A motion to adjourn the special water and sewer board meeting was made by Mark Vaillancourt. Bruce Webster seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Appointment of interim Town Lister: A motion was made by Bill Hawkins to appoint Joel Cope as interim lister until Town Meeting Day, 2026. Jeanne Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Renew Flood Damage Line of Credit: Jeanne Gervais motions to approve a temporary loan with Community National Bank for \$750,000.00 at 4.73% to be evidenced by a single promissory note 189901560 dated September 3, 2025, in anticipation of reimbursement from FEMA and for the board, Town Clerk and Treasurer, and Town Manager to execute all necessary documents required. Mike Testut seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

USDA Community Facilities Grant: Jeanne Gervais motions to authorize the town manager to complete an application to the USDA Community Facilities Grant Program for upgrades to the town tennis courts and to execute any documents required to secure the grant. The 25% match will be paid by the town; and the Recreation committee will also put in funds to help with the payment of the match. Bill Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Budget Report: Tabled.

Pay Orders: Tabled.

Approve previous meeting minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of the August 20, 2025, meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as printed was made by Bill Hawkins. Mike Testut seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other business: Jeanne asked when 105 would be paved. Mark Vaillancourt let her know that it would be the week of September 8, 2025.

A motion to enter into executive session in order to discuss personnel matters under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313 of the Vermont Statutes finding that premature public knowledge would substantially disadvantage the town with members of the board excluding Heather McElroy, and the town manager was made by Jeanne Gervais. Bill Hawkins seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

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