

**Minutes  
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, May 12th, 2025  
6:00 pm**

**Present:** John Harvey, Chet Brown, Dave Webster, Bob Bach and John Center

**Others Present:** Mary Ann Goulette, Sean Barrows, Mike Moser, JB McCarthy and Laura Stone (VTrans), Peter Kulig, Pam Sokol, Kristen Sokol and Cliff Cressy.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by John Harvey with the pledge of allegiance.

**Agenda Approval:** Motion made by Bob seconded by Chet to approve the agenda as presented. All in Favor. Motion approved.

**Minutes Approval:** Motion made by Chet seconded by John Center to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 14, 2025. Motion approved.

**Public Concerns:** Pam Sokol was present to discuss the increase in OMYA truck traffic on Whipple Hollow Road. This is an ongoing issue, due to lack of proper commercial GPS units. Mary Ann will ask the sheriff for additional patrol on Mondays from 2-4:00pm

**VTrans Public Information Meeting: Bridge Rehabilitation Project - WEST RUTLAND BF 020-1(25)&(26), US ROUTE 4, BRIDGES 13E&W and 14E&W**

The Vtrans representatives provided an overview of this bridge project. The selected alternative is to replace the decks on all four bridges while maintaining 2-way traffic with a median crossover. They reviewed the existing site conditions, proposed work, and provided an overall schedule. The actual construction is scheduled in 2031 and will have a 40 years lifespan. The total cost is estimated at \$20,500,000. This is funded 80% federal dollars and 20% state. An electronic copy of the *Scoping Report* is available online at:

<https://outside.vermont.gov/agency/VTRANS/external/Projects/Structures/22B395>

**Action Items:**

- a) **Grants in Aid – Letter of Intent:** Motion made by John seconded by Chet to sign the letter of intent for the 26 Grants in Aid program. Grant amount is TBD. Motion approved unanimously.
- b) **Adopt Local Emergency Management Plan** – The plan is similar to last year with some updates on contact information. The Local Emergency Management Plan is part of the Vermont Emergency Management requirements and is updated every year. Motion made by John seconded by Chet to adopt the 2025 LEMP Plan. Motion approved unanimously.

- c) **Accept Municipal Planning Grant** – Motion made Chet seconded by Dave to sign and accept the agreement as presented. This grant will develop a village master plan to guide growth, enhance infrastructure and create a more vibrant and connected community. The total project cost is estimated at \$32,200 and will require a 10% match or \$3,220 from the Town. Motion approved unanimously.
- d) **Coin Drop** – The West Rutland Legion Auxiliary is requesting a coin drop for summer 2025. The date is May 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion made by Chet seconded by Bob to approve the Legion Auxiliary's request for a coin drop. Motion approved.
- e) **Listers Extension Request** - This is a request of an additional 30 days to file our Grand List with the State Department of Property Valuation and Review. Lisa is waiting for the utility assessments. Motion made by Bob seconded by John to sign the letter to PVR for an additional 30 days to file the grand list. All in favor. Motion approved.

#### **Discussion Items:**

- a) **Library Renovations** – Chet provided an update on the water damage at the library and outlined the necessary renovations, which include painting, gutter repairs, and flooring replacement. The library is requesting \$25,000 from the Town's ARPA funds to support these improvements. There was discussion regarding the library's available funds and the significance of the building to the Town. It was noted that the library is only able to use interest income to finance such projects. Preventive maintenance has now become a priority, and a capital improvement plan will be developed for future needs. A motion was made by John and seconded by Dave to allocate up to \$25,000 from ARPA funds to the library for renovations. Chet and Bob abstained from the vote. All other members voted in favor. Motion approved.
- b) **Resolution of Constitutional Rights of all People** - A notice was received from Rutland city resident, Peter Franzoni requesting consideration of a resolution condemning attacks on due process and affirming the constitutional rights of all individuals. There was discussion regarding the language of the resolution and the need for clearer definitions of key terms. The item was tabled pending further clarification and refinement of the language.

**Town Manager Report:** The recreation area is now posted with a speed of 10mph and the park is closed from dusk to dawn. We went live today with TextMyGov. Residents are able to opt in to receive notifications from the Town on road closures, events, taxes etc. Mary Ann will send out the ethics training requirement to all employees, boards members to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mary Ann is now serving as the VLCT Board President.

#### **Board Member Concerns:**

John Center – the yellow center line on Pleasant Street has faded.

Dave Webster – can we look at additional electrical outlets for the food trucks at the recreation center.

**Adjournment:** John made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58pm and Dave seconded.  
Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Goulette