

Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, October 14th, 2025
5:30 pm

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

Others Present: Mary Ann Goulette, Mike Moser and Sean Barrows.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by John Harvey with the pledge of allegiance.

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

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Bob seconded by John to approve the minutes of the meetings of September 8th, 2025. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: none

Action Items:

- a) **Salt Purchase:** Prices have increased approximately 14% or \$15,000. We normally purchase 1,000 tons of enhanced deicer and 100 of bulk. Discussion on availability and deliveries. Sean also gave an update on the salt shed replacement. The drainage work has been completed and the new cover will be installed in the next several weeks. There is still some water coming through from the backside where the new spray foam did not hold. We will monitor the situation over the next few months. John made the motion seconded by Bob to purchase this year salt at a price of \$112.50 for 1,000 tons of enhanced deicer and 100 tons of bulk salt at \$98.75. Motion passed unanimously.
- b) **Village Master Plan Proposals** – The Village Master Plan update is funded with a \$28,980 municipal planning grant and 10% local match of \$3,220. We received four proposals: GBA Architecture, Dubois & King, Dodson & Flinker and Precision. Based on a scoring matrix: Mary Ann and Sean recommend GBA Architecture's proposal of \$32,000. Discussion on a market analysis and the new CHIP tool from the State. Motion made by John seconded by Chet to approve the Village Master Plan Proposal of GBA Architecture in the amount of \$32,000. Motion approved unanimously.
- c) **AARP Winter Placemaking Grant Letter of Support** – We are applying for a \$4,000 grant to host an Ice Carving Event with the Carving Studio in February, 2026. The event will highlight and celebrate the ice sculptors in the area, and invite them to demonstrate and display their work. The Winter Placemaking grant program aims to help communities embrace winter by transforming public spaces to promote outdoor activities and social interaction. Motion made by Bob seconded by Dave to sign the letter of support for the AARP Winter Placemaking Grant. Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion Items:

- a) **Review Water/Sewer Connection Ordinance** – Discussion on the connection fees to reconnect a property. The property disconnected several years ago and is now wanting to reconnect. No maintenance fees were paid during this time. Normal connection fees are \$1,170 for wastewater and \$1,425 for water. After some discussion, the Board agreed to reduce the connection fees by 50% for any reconnection occurring within five years. Mary Ann will revise our ordinances. Motion made by Bob seconded by Chet to offer a 50% reduction in connection fees to reestablish an old connection within 5 years. Motion passed unanimously.
- b) **Town Manager Report:** Mary Ann gave an update on all ongoing projects. Land Use Review Board meeting on Thursday to discuss our Tier 1B application. Dam Removal is nearly complete. We received the final permit for the pressure reducing valve and have issued the RFP. Cornerstone has scheduled a ribbon cutting on November 17th at 1:00pm. We need to send the State an update on our reappraisal progress. We will develop an RFP with Pittsford in the next month. We worked with Vermont Manufacturing Services on a grant for a facility upgrade for their overhead doors.

Board Member Concerns:

John – we should offer the block party vendors a free space for next year due to the rain. We should ask Vermont Rural Water to schedule pressure tests on our hydrants. It is free of charge and it will give us a baseline to help identify leaks in the system. There are also smart hydrants that are expensive but will identify a pressure drop etc. The area around Pet Gear has been cleaned up and the area looks much more inviting.

Adjournment: Chet made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27pm and Dave seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette