

Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Monday, May 11th, 2026
5:30 pm

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

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 with the addition of action items C. Vicious Dog Notice D. Coin Drop Request. All in Favor. Motion approved.

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Chet seconded by Bob to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2026. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: None

Discussion Items:

- a) **Town Manager Report** – Discussion about grant funding, we were denied two grants for paving Whipple Hollow and stormwater improvements on Blanchard Avenue. The food shelf is very busy and they are requesting a new space. We are arranging a 501C3 status. The sheriff's budget exceeded by 33 hours for 4/15-4/30 due to an increase in calls.

Action Items:

- a. **Tri Town Trail Scoping Study** – The Town of Proctor received a grant from VTrans to study options for a pedestrian and bicycle connection between the towns of Proctor, Pittsford, and West Rutland. Four options were developed for consideration, plus a No Build option. Key features were evaluated against a broad range of criteria. Option D best meets the stated purpose and need. It provides the best connections between each town's village center and existing active transportation networks; it is a looped alignment, which is preferred over a linear trail; it is not within the VELCO transmission line corridor, which will be difficult to permit; and it appears to have more options for phasing future construction. For these reasons, as well as the information presented in the alternative evaluation matrix and input received during the public meetings and surveys, the Steering Committee recommends Option D, with the secondary route along Whipple Hollow Road rather than within the VELCO transmission line corridor, be selected as the Preferred Alternative to advance in the study. Motion made by Chet seconded by Dave to choose Option D as recommended by the Steering Committee. All in Favor. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Grand List Extension Request** – Lisa is requesting an extension to file the preliminary Grand List. She doesn't anticipate delaying this more than a week or so but given the

tight deadline she would like an additional week to prepare to file. Motion made by John seconded by Bob to request the extension to file the grand list. Motion approved.

Vicious Dog Notice – A vicious dog notice was delivered to the Selectboard on May 8th.

Date and Time Occurred: May 4, 2026 at 11:20am

Victim Name: Mary Ann Goulette

Place of Attack: 108 Fairview Avenue West Rutland

The Person Bitten Did Require Medical Attention - 18 Stitches across multiple wounds, tetanus shot, antibiotics, etc. This is the second attack, the first was a young girl who is the neighbor on March 20, 2026. Despite requests from Rutland County Sheriff Animal Control, the dog has not been registered with the Town and has not had the proper vaccinations. The Health Office was on site for a scheduled health order inspection. The property owner made no attempt to confine the dog. There are currently 13 children living on Fairview Avenue. Motion made by Chet seconded by Dave to hold a vicious dog hearing on Monday, May 18th at 5:30pm. Motion approved unanimously

- c. **Coin Drop Request** - The West Rutland Legion Auxiliary is requesting a coin drop for summer 2025. The date is May 16th from 10am-12pm Motion made by John seconded by Dave to approve the Legion Auxiliary's request for a coin drop. Motion approved.
- d. **Executive Session** – John moved that the Select Board enter into executive session at 6:13pm to discuss the negotiation of a real estate purchase under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(2) of the Vermont Statutes, and he further moved to find that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Dave. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to exit executive session at 6:22pm by Bob seconded by Chet. No Action Taken.

Board Member Concerns:

John Center – We should look at pepper spray and bringing a second person on inspections. No more cap on sales tax on vehicles.

Bob – discussion on the water line on Hansen Drive. Water crossing the road on Pleasant Street near Sheldon.

Dave – have we looked at paving Water Street? Need some work done at the bridge.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette