

Granville Selectboard Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2025

APPROVED

In attendance: Kelli Eckroth, Chair, Michael Eramo and Kenneth Beattie, Selectboard; Danial Sargeant, Granville Volunteer Fire Dept. (GVFD); Nancy Needham, Town Treasurer; Marilyn Dougherty, Website Administrator and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Town Clerk

Public: Charles Smith, Jr.; Dan Genderron; Jared Rouleau and Shawn Dougherty

Call to Order: 6:10 p.m. (recorded with Webex)

Public Communication:

- Shawn inquired if the advertisement for the Grading and Winter Roads projects were publicly noticed on an Agenda, discussed and approved at a public Selectboard meeting. He also inquired about the decision to accept the payment and closure of the Bowl Mill gravel debt for the same reason. Kelli indicated that the Selectboard and Town were notified by Shane Elwell via e-mail that he was terminating all of his contracts with the Town of Granville. Thus leaving the Town without a Grading and/or Winter Roads contractor. We had a Graveling project scheduled and determined that the Town needed to advertise the Grading and Winter Roads projects outside of a Selectboard meeting. Kelli asked Cheryl to prepare the advertisements, and they were reviewed by the Selectboard and publicly advertised on the website; posting at the 3 locations and published in The Herald of Randolph plus sent to contractors. Regarding the Bowl Mill gravel debt that too was openly discussed at a warned Selectboard meeting under Gravel and Road Update for several months in advance of advertisement.

Amend/Approve Agenda:

- Marilyn asked to Amend the Agenda to indicate the Selectboard would be Approving the Minutes for the 07/14/2025 meeting. So approved.
- Nancy asked to Amend the Agenda to discuss the TAN Loan with Mascoma Bank. So approved.
- Kelli asked that the Bid Openings be moved up so that our guests would not have to sit through the meeting. So approved.

Bid Openings:

- Winter Roads Maintenance 3 bids submitted:
 - ECS Excavating & Landscaping LLC - \$120.00/hour trucks
\$130.00/hour loader
\$150.00/hour grader
 - Acker Excavating LLC - \$250.00/hour Loader and Plow
 - A&J Recycling - \$71,000.00/year or \$11,833.33/monthAfter discussion Kenneth made the motion to accept the bid from ECS Excavating & Landscaping LLC and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Bid Openings (continued):

- Grading Roads 2 bids submitted:
 - ECS Excavating & Landscaping LLC - \$150.00/hour grader
\$100.00/hour roller
 - Acker Excavating LLC - \$200.00/hour grader
\$150.00/hour roller

After discussion Kenneth made the motion to award the bid to ECS Excavating & Landscaping LLC and Mike seconded. All in favor.

- North Hollow Road Culvert #10 & Ditching 1 bid was submitted:
 - ECS Excavating & Landscaping LLC - \$17,320.00 Lump Sum

After discussion Kenneth made the motion to award the bid to ECS Excavating & Landscaping LLC and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Financials:

- Orders – Ken made the motion to approve the Orders as presented and Mike seconded. All in favor.
- Reports – Kelli made the motion to approve the Financials as presented and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- TAN Loan with Mascoma Bank – Nancy indicated that the Town needs to decide where to pull the funds to set up the required account to get the TAN Loan approved. After discussion Kelli made the motion to move \$10,000.00 from the Money Market Account into a 6-month CD with Mascoma Bank and Mike seconded. All in favor.
- Treasurer Training Update – Kelli asked how the training was going, and Nancy is happy with it; Sharon is clearing up files; uncleared checks, vendor listing, etc.
- Delinquent Property Tax Collections – New Manual from VLCT; Nancy indicated that the Town's Attorney recommends setting a balance owed of \$10,000.00 and pursue going after those unpaid property tax payers. Shawn asked if the attorney fees could be added to what is owed; Nancy indicated that it was her understanding that only a portion of them can be added. After discussion Kelli indicated that she would contact VLCT to get clear answers and Nancy would provide a list of those properties to pursue that are at or above that level.

Minutes:

- July 14, 2025 and July 29, 2025 – Kelli made the motion to approve the meeting minutes as written and Ken seconded. All in favor.

New Business:

- Open Town Positions – Cheryl indicated that we would need to find and appoint 2 Auditors for the upcoming audit and prior to Town Meeting.

New Business (continued):

- Catering License Request – Kelli made the motion to approve the Catering License and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Old Business:

- Constable – Discussion about the traffic speed report; 4 vehicles traveling south going over 100 mph during daylight hours and the concern for safety and patrols.
- Reappraisal – Cheryl indicated that the Assessor was finishing up Town Line Road, upper Buffalo Farm Road and North Hollow Road. He will start on Maston Hill and Post Office Hill Roads next with plans to complete visits by November 1st and begin the computer work over the winter with completion by May 2026.
- Planning Commission – Kelli indicated that the Commission was unable to hold their warned meeting on Thursday due to a WEBEX issue. She will work on making sure that all Commissions have access to the site and YOUTUBE so that it will hopefully not happen again.
- GVFD – After discussion Dan was given permission to sell the 4X4 Engine with a minimum bid of \$18,000.00 on national fire apparatus sites and locally. Mike will reach out to Chris Matrick of the US Forest Service to see if they may have something to replace it. Dan indicated that the truck belongs to the Town and would like to request that the funds be deposited into the Fire Department Building Fund as done in the past.
- Lighting issues at the fire station – Dan indicated that several of the 6-foot fluorescent fixtures have stopped working and they would like permission to replace them with LEDs. The Selectboard approved the request.
- EMS Update – Dan indicated that he is trying to get a tri-town meeting along with White River Valley Ambulance (WRVA) scheduled to continue the discussion of EMS coverage. Rochester is currently looking to have their fire members become first responders, covering roughly 120 EMS calls per year. Hancock and Granville would continue to be served by GVFD/Valley Rescue with WRVA providing ambulance transport. Dan will keep the Selectboard posted as information is available. Mike and Kelli indicated they would be willing to help where they could and when available just to let them know.
- Website – Marilyn indicated that the Google Drive was running out of room and needs to compress videos and documents on there; there is a lot of information on the Front Page that needs to be cleaned up. Marilyn indicated that the website renewal was coming up in September and the DOMAIN was due in January and wanted to know

Old Business (continued):

who would be paying for those subscriptions if it would continue to be Dan or if the Town would take that over directly. Discussion ensued with Dan offering to continue to pay for it as his donation to the Town, but Marilyn and Kelli felt that was not fair nor appropriate. Dan left the meeting with his offer on the table to leave things as they are. Kelli and Marilyn will look into the matter further and will report at the September meeting. In the meantime, the Website renewal will be due in September.

Roads:

- Ken indicated that the sand pile would be refilled with sand from Champlain Construction and by the plowing contractor; ECS Excavating & Landscaping LLC. Cheryl asked how much he was planning on having delivered; 1,200 yards because there was roughly 300 yards left. Kelli indicated that she received a call from Acker Excavating and Ken indicated that it was up to the plowing contractor and there were issues with the sand brought in last year.
- Roadside Mowing – Ken indicated that the mowing is almost done. Cheryl asked if Ken had received a call from a property owner regarding saplings and flowers mowed over on West Hill Extension and he had along with other complaints.

Public Communication:

- Nothing presented.

Items for Next Agenda: Special Selectboard Meeting August 25, 2025 and September 8, 2025 Regular Selectboard Meeting;

- WEBEX Accounts and Connections
- Website Subscription Renewal – Invoice
- Town Hall Project Update
- Town Annual Audit – State’s Recommendation for Lack of Auditors
- TAN Loan Update
- LHMP Revisions Selectboard Comments

Ken made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Sargeant
Town Clerk