

Granville Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2025

APPROVED

In attendance:

Town: Kelli Eckroth, Chairperson, Mike Eramo (via phone) and Kenneth Beattie, Selectboard; Marilyn Dougherty, Website Administrator; Bruce Hyde, Auditor and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Town Clerk

Public: Sarah Wraight, Two Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (TRORC); Douglas Viehmann of GVV Architects via WEBEX and Shawn Dougherty

Kelli called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Town Hall Project Update #3 Meeting

Sarah requested that an Item be added to the Agenda for information purposes regarding the discussion the previous evening with the Planning Commission regarding a grant opportunity for funds to help with the update of the Town Plan which is due to expire in 2027. All in favor of adding this to the Agenda at the end of discussion for the Town Hall Project.

Doug indicated that since the last meeting his team has produced 4 options for the second floor egress; Option #1 – a shed roof design with a door on the northwest side with a platform and steps to the outside and a door at the bottom of the stairs next to the bulkhead leading to the parking lot on the south.

Option #2 – a shed roof design with a door on the northside facing the wall to the vault and a door at the bottom of the stairs next to the bulkhead leading to the parking lot on the south.

Option #3 – a Gable roof design with a roof over the bulkhead having the same 2 door effect as in Option #1.

Option #4 – Gable roof reminiscent of a Grain elevator effect with a door to the south.

After discussion it was determined that Option #3 was the better option and aesthetically pleasing. Ken makes the motion to go with Option #3 and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Doug will prepare the final drawings, etc. and send them to Historic Preservation for their review.

Doug then brought up the Organ area at the front of the Church and wanted thoughts regarding its purpose; does the Town want steps leading into it, level it off so it was even with the floor, or something else. Kelli indicated it would have to be investigated as a possible use as a platform for a stage, there are vents below what purpose do they serve. Doug indicated that the five pews in the north corner would need to be removed for the egress so there would be empty space there. Cheryl indicated that when the Church was functioning the organist would sit and play at the organ under the bell tower in the back. Why not level the platform in the south corner and put the five pews there for the Chorus and/or additional seating for events. Kelli requested that Doug and his team investigate this suggestion and present it at the next meeting. Mike indicated that it might be a good time to seek some additional funding from corporations.

Sarah inquired about the meeting schedule moving forward. After discussion it was determined that

September 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular Selectboard meeting and then September 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Sarah reminded everyone to be diligent in keeping track of their time and making sure to report it to Sarah prior to each meeting and/or requisition request. Doug left the meeting.

Payments: Kelli made the motion to accept the CDBG Order to pay Paula Sagerman and GVV and Ken seconded. All in favor.

Planning Grant: Sarah indicated that it was to help pay for assistance either by TRORC or a consultant with the rewrite of the Town Plan which is due to expire in November of 2027. The Planning Commission would like to apply for this grant which will provide funds up to \$20,000.00 and Bryan would work with the Planning Commission to write the grant, but it is the Selectboard that must apply for the grant. It requires a 10% match in cash from the Town and the application which is a competitive application is due by November 3, 2025.

Sarah will forward Bryan's notes from the Planning Commission meeting to Kelli and Kelli will follow up with William and Mike. Bruce asked if it was the same process as before; the Planning Commission writes the DRAFT, holds public hearing(s), makes edits and forwards to the Selectboard and the Selectboard makes edits, holds public hearing(s) and forwards to TRORC and the State for final approval and Sarah responded yes.

Website: Kelli indicated that after looking into InMotion with Wordpress and the cost to migrate over to its own platform it would have an introductory special cost of less than \$200.00 with a renewal of \$323.88/year and it would be set up using the Town's debit account. After a brief discussion with Marilyn; Kelli made the motion to move the Town website to its own InMotion platform, covering introductory rate and possible extra costs estimated up to \$300.00 for now and Ken seconded. All in favor.

Kelli moved to adjourn the public hearing and Special Selectboard meeting at 6:55 p.m. and Ken seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl L. Sargeant
Granville Town Clerk