

Granville Selectboard Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2025

APPROVED

In attendance:

Town: Kelli Eckroth, Chairperson, Mike Eramo and Kenneth Beattie, Selectboard; Marilyn Dougherty, Website Administrator; Mark Belisle, Constable; Bruce Hyde, Auditor; Dan Mulcher, Cemetery Commission and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Town Clerk

Public: Douglas Viehmann, Guillot Vivian Viehmann Architects, Inc. (GVV) via WEBEX; Sarah Wraight, Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC); Tim & Jennifer Owen; Melissa Coughlin and Shawn Dougherty

Kelli called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

DRAFT Flood Regulations:

- Kelli made the motion to Adopt the DRAFT Flood Regulations, with corrections made to the end notes. as proposed and Mike seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Communication:

- Nothing presented.

Amend/Approve Agenda:

- Kelli made the motion to rearrange the order of things after the discussion regarding the Town Hall project and Ken seconded. All in favor.

Town Hall Project Update #7:

- Doug indicated that he had sent the drawings to the Selectboard for review and asked if anyone had any comments. The engineer indicated that the 4 posts in the Town Hall were the floor support for the Church which is a weak link in the project scope. They estimated that it would add an additional \$30,000.00 to the project to open the floor and ceiling, install support beams and close it up. With that being said the estimated project costs has gone from \$502,553.00 plus the \$30,000.00 to a revised project cost of \$532,553.00. Sarah asked if this complies with the buy America (YES) & lead paint remediation (YES), mold abatement (NO) and construction clerk of the works (NO). Doug then review along with the

Town Hall Project Update #7 (continued):

Selectboard 20 pages of the estimate and explained each section. Ken indicated that the Town should plan on at least a 5% increase in costs due to inflation. Kelli indicated that she had no questions and the plans & estimate were very thorough. Mike was wondering if they could construct the front steps as 1 piece without joints; Doug was not certain. He also indicated that some of the hardware could remain as is.

Sarah indicated that the work proposed would need a 10% match from the Town. The Town could apply for an access modification grant which would not be available until next fall. She also indicated that the Town would have to request an increase in the budget and a time extension until at least March 31, 2026 (she has the Amendment ready for signatures).

Sarah also indicated that due to the lack of Local Match hours she needed to ask everyone to look at their calendars to see if they can add any time. Doug will forward updated plans. The next meeting is scheduled for January 5, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. as a Special Selectboard meeting for the Town Hall Project Update #8.

Sarah will notify Paula Sangerman; Vermont Historian that the contract was being amended with a time extension to March 31, 2026.

Sarah indicated that the oil tank open question the Town has \$7,700.00 left in the grant and would need approval to spend it on ground penetrating radar to test the site.

East Granville Dog Bite Incident Dog vs Dog:

- Kelli introduced Tim & Jennifer Owens owners of the dog attacked at an event at Stickney Farms on September 6, 2025. Jennifer went on to describe what had happened and why they wanted Jennifer Stickney held accountable for the incident, receive restitution for the vet bills and the Town where the dog lives to be notified that this is a vicious dog. Kelli indicated that the Selectboard is limited in its enforcement as the dog lives outside of the Town and advised Jennifer to file a civil complaint against

East Granville Dog Bite Incident Dog vs Dog (continued):

- Jennifer Stickney of Stickney Farms and to also notify the Vermont State Police of the incident. Kelli also indicated that a claim could be filed against their homeowner's and/or business insurance through Stickney Farms registered agent on the VT Secretary of State's website. She would try to assist by reaching out to Jennifer to see if she would be willing to give her information on the dog and dog's owner and the discussion this evening.

Public Comments:

- Shawn asked if the Profit & Loss Report was correct as it indicates the Town has spent \$532,000.00 110% of budget within the past 6 months. Kelli indicated that most of that was using Highway Surplus monies for the road work performed.
- Bruce mentioned that the Town has received notification of the award of a USDA Grant for the fire house renovations and septic/potable water systems.

Financials:

- Orders – Kelli made the motion to accept the Orders as presented and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- Reports – Bruce and Shawn would like Nancy to run reports on how much budget and surplus Highway money was spent so far. This might help answer some questions and give direction for coding invoices.
- Delinquent Property Tax Sale – Nothing presented.
- Treasurer's Training – Nothing presented.
- DRAFT Proposed Budget 2026/2027 – Cheryl indicated without direction from Ken and/or the Selectboard the Highway accounts are level funded for the year. Other adjustments to the Municipal accounts were made as

Financials (continued):

- needed. Kelli asked all to review the DRAFT and come prepared at the January 5th meeting to discuss & finalize.

Minutes:

- 11/10/2025 Meeting – Ken made the motion to approve the meeting minutes as written and Mike seconded. All in favor.

New Business:

- Letter to Granville Volunteer Fire Dept. Inc. (GVFD) – After a lengthy discussion Kelli will make edits to the letter and send out for another review prior to being mailed.

Old Business:

- Audit – Bruce indicated that the Town is 95% complete and they will begin on Tuesday; December 9th with the GVFD finances and hopefully wrap up by the end of December. May recommend having a professional audit.
- Town Reappraisal – Cheryl indicated that the Assessor will be meeting with his assistant on Tuesday; December 9th to discuss the data entry over the winter and wrapping things up by March. Notices will be mailed in early May for grievance hearings.
- Planning Commission – Nothing presented.
- GVFD Update – See earlier discussions and Cheryl indicated that the Town is still looking for a GVFD Board Representative.
- WRVA Update – Cheryl has a meeting Thursday; December 11th to finalize Budget requests.
- Website – Marily indicated that she has heard back from the .gov webinar office but was waiting to hear back from the State.

Roads:

- East Granville Winter Maintenance Contract – Kelli signed the contract.
- Granville Winter Maintenance – Kelli indicated that during the last month the Town has received many complaints about lack of sanding, roads and parking lots being plowed later than required and questions on invoiced time and dates of work. Kelli will draft a letter for review by the Selectboard and will mail/e-mail to the contractor.

Public Comments:

- Mark indicated that he needed a new location and/or shed to store the radar trailer for the winter. Cheryl will look into an outbuilding with VLCT as they had issues with the last one.

Items for Next Agenda:

- Proposed Budget and Warning Articles
- Town Officers Reports
- GVFD
- Shed

Kelli made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. and Ken seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl L. Sargeant
Town Clerk