

Granville Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2026

APPROVED

In attendance:

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

Public: Sarah Wraight, Two Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) (WEBEX) and Shawn Dougherty

Kelli called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Public Communication:

- Ken was instructed to request Daily Log Sheets from ECS for Winter Maintenance per their contract.
- Bruce indicated that the Auditors were just about finished auditing with 1 more meeting scheduled for finishing up with answers to questions and their report review next week. It is recommended that the Town ask the voters if they want to eliminate the office of Auditor and contract with an outside auditor. Currently there is an amount put into the Proposed Budget for 2026/2027 for this work.
- Discussion over the amount of delinquent taxes the Town had at the end of the fiscal year, costs for the 2 building grants we are working on and the award of the fire house project grant. The projected increase in the Education Property Tax; all will have to be considered in preparation of the Proposed Budget and future of the community.

Town Hall Project Update #8:

- Sarah indicated that she needs everyone's in-kind hours and days worked on the CDBG Project for submittal to the State along with recent invoices for reimbursement. Right now, the Town is running behind the required hours needed by 50 hours. If the Town cannot meet the required hours then the Town will have to pay the difference. Kelli and Ken mentioned that they had some time to report and would forward the information to Sarah. Marilyn asked if her time uploading documents to the website

Town Hall Project Update #8 (continued):

- counted and it does so she will go back through her e-mails to calculate her time.

Review DRAFT Warning Articles:

- Discussion about removing the Law Enforcement abilities of the First Constable and update Proposed Budget accordingly. Kelli to look into hiring Addison County Sheriffs to fill the need for speed enforcement along VT Route 100 and the cost.
- Keep the article for the elimination of office of Auditors.
- Marilyn asked if the Delinquent Tax Collector position could be done differently and Kelli indicated that it would be a topic of discussion.
- Cheryl asked if there should be an article requesting permission to take out a loan for the Town Hall and/or Fire House projects. Kelli indicated that at this time she was uncertain about the scope for each project. Further research for both projects and proposed general agreement updates to be done by Kelli and the Town's attorney.
- Kelli indicated that she would like to look into shared services with surrounding towns. Cheryl indicated that Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) has and is working on this very topic with its towns they serve. Cheryl has attended a few of their meetings and is awaiting to hear more about what is to be offered. She instructed Kelli to reach out to Peter Fellows at TRORC to discuss further.

Review Proposed Budget for 2026/2027:

- Ken read off his proposed increases for the Highway Budget and Cheryl updated the proposed budget accordingly and the elimination of the Constable expenses. There are now 2 proposed budgets to be reviewed at the next meeting and they will be available at Town meeting.

Public Comment:

- Ken indicated that there was an issue at the sand pile with ECS's loader blowing the engine. Ken indicated that Dan Genderon had used the loader to fill the sander and noticed that the oil plug was leaking slightly but went on his rounds anyway. When he came back the plug was out and the loader had stopped running. Kelli indicated that it might have vibrated out of the hole. Not certain if vandalism but wanted it on the record that something had happened at the sand pile.

Kelli made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and Ken seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl L. Sargeant
Town Clerk