

Granville Selectboard Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2026

APPROVED

In attendance: Robert Readie, Chair; Michael Eramo and Jared Rouleau, Selectboard; James Parrish, GVFD Town Representative; Mark Belisle, Constable; Nancy Needham, Town Treasurer; and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Town Clerk

Public: Malcolm Appleton; Sarah Wraight & Harry Falconer, Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission; James Lormand; Bruce Hyde; Charlie Smith & Dan Genderon; Northeast Excavation & Logging

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Public Communication:

- Malcolm updated the Selectboard on the Celebration of Life event on August 15th; they will begin to set up tents, chairs, etc. on Thursday and Friday. Mark will place orange cones on the roadway to help slow traffic. The Selectboard gave permission for someone to camp to watch over the space.
- James Lormand expressed his concerns with rising property taxes for the elderly and was reaching out for suggestions for assistance. The Selectboard indicated that filling out the VT Income Tax Sensitivity Forms each year is a first step to get the Property Tax Prebate. Cheryl suggested contacting Central VT Community Action in Barre; Roger Comes in Hancock to help with income tax returns and Kathryn Schankman in Rochester for other assistance.
- Bruce indicated that he was disappointed that the GVFD Congressional Award Ceremony was postponed on August 4th and that the Town may not have anyone available for September 8th. Bob indicated that it was not a hard no but that people's schedules are changing and they may not be readily available.

Amend/Approve Agenda:

- Under Old Business – MERP Grant Project – Discuss/Approve Roof Top or Tracker Solar Panel with Harry Falconer.
- CDBG Grant Project – Discuss/Approve Amendment for Time Extension, Additional Field Engineering and VT Historic Preservations recommendation that the lift be moved to the southwest corner of the Town Hall with Sarah Wraight.

Financial Reports:

- Orders – Bob made the motion to pay the Orders as presented and Mike seconded. All in favor.
- Reports – Bob is going to look into the purpose of the Addison County Tax. Jared asked about the Opioid Settlement Funds; Bob indicated that they were payments from the Pharma Law Suit. Cheryl indicated that they would be used for AA meetings, Narcan vending machine but needed a resource to provide that. Mark suggested calling the Rochester Church. Bob made the motion to accept the reports and Jared seconded. All in favor.
- Property Tax Sales – Cheryl indicated that the Town's Attorney is back from vacation and Nancy will have to address this question.
- Website Hosting Renewal - Bob made the motion to accept the request and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Minutes:

- July 13, 2026 – Bob made the motion to approve as presented and Jared seconded. All in favor.

Executive Session:

- Went into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. and came out at 7:55 p.m. Bob indicated that a decision had been made and Mark would step aside from his appointment at Town Representative to the TRORC Board.

New Business:

- Town Representative to the TRORC Board – Bob made the motion to appoint Diane Eramo as the new Town Representative to the TRORC Board and Jared seconded. Bob and Jared approved the appointment and Mike recused himself from the discussion and vote.
- Town Policy for Alcoholic Beverages on Town Property – the Selectboard discussed and there would be no alcoholic beverages consumed in the performance of Town business or on any of the Town properties. Cheryl will look into purchasing signs and posts.
- Mowing Town & Cemetery Properties – Cheryl indicated that no bids were submitted but would contact Patti Twitchell to see if she had received the invitation and/or phone messages. **Patti did call the next day and is interested in continuing to provide the services and submitted a bid to be discussed at the September 14th Selectboard meeting.**
- HVAC Amendment to upgrade power supply – Bob made the motion to approve the Amendment and Mike seconded. All in favor.
- Town Plan Public Hearing August 22nd in the Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. – Cheryl indicated that she unfortunately does not have any DRAFTS to share with the public and was told this was just an information meeting on how a Town Plan is developed and approved.
- Letter to TRORC and the State LURB Board – Selectboard drafted a letter indicating their disapproval of mandatory language throughout the DRAFT Regional Plan and other restrictions imposed upon the citizens throughout the region.
- State Mailing of General Election Ballots – Cheryl indicated that if voters wanted the General Election Ballots automatically mailed by the State the Selectboard would have to approve the request. Bob made the motion to NOT have them automatically mailed and let the Supreme Court make that decision for us. **Upon further investigation it was found that if the Town wanted the Justice of the Peace candidates and Questions added to the ballot the Selectboard would have to approve it. The State will be automatically mailing the General Election ballots per current laws. The Selectboard gave their approval to have the Justice of the Peace candidates added.**

Old Business:

- Act 162 – Fire Warden Appoint Deputy – Bob will follow up with Dan and discuss at the September meeting.
- Buildings & Grounds – Request for Dog Owners to Pick Up – Bob recommended DRAFTING a policy and will discuss at the September meeting.

Old Business (continued):

- Congressional Award Ceremony – Bob again indicated that it was not a hard no for September 8th we just need to discuss with the people involved.
- MERP Roof Top or Tracker Solar Panel – Harry indicated that he had contacted VT Historic Preservation and they were okay with a roof top installation. Cheryl questioned the structural integrity; Harry that will need to be looked at by the engineer. Bruce wondered if the pitch was okay; Mike indicated it was 12/12 so it should be good. Harry indicated that it was a 17.5 watt system to offset additional electrical costs for the other HVAC installations and they would be owned by the Town.
- CDBG Grant – Sarah indicated that she was contacted by VT Historic Preservation recommending that the lift be placed in the back of the Town Hall in the southwest corner. This would require the egress to be expanded by 10 ft X 6 ft, updated architect plans, updated historic impact statement; consultant work and state inspections for an additional \$11,300.00. Mike requested that the Selectboard before making this decision needs to have a meeting with the architect and have updated plans to look at. Sarah indicated that before that meeting she would have to have an amendment approved for \$6,300.00 for the architect and historic impact statement updates. Sarah will schedule a meeting at 4:00 p.m. on some day that is convenient. Bob made the motion to Amend the contract with GVV for \$6,000.00 and Paula Sagerman for \$300.00. All in favor.

Roads:

- Snowplowing for 3 Years – Northeast Excavating & Logging \$78,000.00/year. After discussion the Selectboard approved awarding a contract to Northeast Excavating & Logging.
- Grading for 3 Years – Northeast Excavating & Logging \$24,000.00/year. After discussion, the contract will begin on August 10, 2026 through August 10, 2029 the Selectboard approved awarding a contract to Northeast Excavating & Logging.
- Sand Pile Trucking – After discussion it was determined the Town would have 1,000 yards trucked in and piled by the following truckers if available; Stephanie Abrams and Northeast Excavating & Logging. The sand will be purchased from Champlain Construction.
- Post Office Hill Road & North Hollow Road Ditching & Culverts - Bids were received from:
GM Bowen - \$12,000.00
Northwoods Excavating - \$11,600.00
Northeast Excavating & Logging - \$10,820.00
Stromme - \$12,000.00

After discussion; Bob made the motion to award the bid to Northeast Excavating & Logging and Jared seconded. All in favor.

- Grant Agreement GA1263 – Bob signed on behalf of the Town.
- Roadside Mowing – KA Bagley LLC completed and no complaints.
- North Hollow Road 8 Culverts – Work begins next week Jared and Contractor to post signs and notice to website road to be closed 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a few days.

Public Communication:

- Nothing presented.

Items for Next Agenda:

- TRORC Board Meeting September 9th
- Town Fire Truck Engine
- Policy for Dog Owners
- GVFD Fund Raising Funds

Next meeting will be a regular meeting on September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Bob made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. And Jared seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl L. Sargeant
Town Clerk