

Granville Selectboard Meeting Transcript (AI Generated)

October 12, 2026

Overview

Key participants: Diane T. Eramo (selectboard member and correspondent on regional planning issues), Cheryl (administrative coordinator), Nancy (finance/records), the Granville Selectboard members, and other town officers contributing updates on policing and facilities.

Main topics and outcomes: The board focuses on records retention, regulatory outreach, grant/compliance roles, equipment planning, and public communications. Members discuss meeting video retention policy and lean toward keeping recordings approximately a year with backups while acknowledging storage and privacy implications; Cheryl will advise on preserving links. The board designates a volunteer to complete the required Title VI coordinator online training and associated paperwork within a week to satisfy grant conditions.

Regulatory and governance actions: Diane Eramo finalizes and circulates a concise selectboard comment letter regarding Two Rivers/LURB concerns, and the board approves distribution and signatures. Diane flags procedural issues at LURB hearings (two-minute speaking limits, commission voting thresholds, and unclear nominating committee membership) and plans to raise these matters at an upcoming in-person meeting. Diane also outlines risks to future village designation and tax credit eligibility if required plan updates are not adopted by statutory deadlines, while noting past credits cannot be clawed back.

Facilities, equipment, and outreach: The board discusses potential replacement of a first-responder vehicle and upgrades to obsolete in-car video and radio systems, noting these needs will appear in next fiscal budgets; a member may sell the current vehicle to the sheriff to ease the transition. For the town hall project, the board agrees to prepare a public mailing and web posting containing project links, ANR and LURB maps, and hearing notifications to ensure residents understand potential property impacts; staff will assemble materials and post signed documents online.

Commitments and next steps (attributed): Diane Eramo will circulate the finalized Two Rivers comment letter for signatures and will raise procedural concerns at the in-person meeting; a selectboard volunteer will complete Title VI coordinator training and related forms within the week; Cheryl will advise on capturing and preserving video links and will post finalized documents and links to the website when the mailing is ready; Nancy will provide requested materials for the mailing. The board schedules preparing and

distributing the town-hall-related mailing within weeks to a month and will incorporate website postings to support resident access to plans and hearing notices.

Detailed Summary

Meeting video retention

Board members discuss how long recorded meeting videos should be retained and accessible. They note statutory guidance that recordings may be removed after minutes are approved but consider retaining videos longer for public record and historical reference. Storage, privacy, and practical retrieval concerns inform the group's leaning toward a limited retention policy with backups.

- A selectboard member states that video recordings are not required after thirty days and references that guideline.
- A selectboard member argues that keeping videos for about a year is sufficient for public research and historical record.
- A selectboard member raises concerns about storage demands and suggests using inexpensive flash drives as a backup, attributing the retrieval burden to the town's records responsibility.
- A selectboard member asks Cheryl to advise on preserving links so videos can be captured before potential removal.

Title VI coordinator appointment

The board addresses a newly required Title VI coordinator position tied to grant compliance and training. Members confirm the role involves online training, a quiz, and a questionnaire due soon, and volunteers step forward to complete the requirement within the one-week timeframe. The board records this as an urgent administrative need to meet grant conditions.

- A selectboard member explains the Title VI coordinator is a new grant requirement tied to transportation funding.
- A selectboard member volunteers to complete the online training and related quiz and questionnaire before the deadline.
- A selectboard member requests an email reminder so the volunteer can complete training on schedule.

Two Rivers comment letter

Diane Eramo circulates and finalizes a draft selectboard letter responding to Two Rivers/related regional planning concerns, and members approve sending it. Diane frames the letter to be concise to encourage readership and flags broader governance and procedural worries about commission oversight and limited public input at hearings. The board finalizes the draft and confirms signatures for distribution.

- Diane Eramo says she emailed a revised draft of the selectboard letter and will send a second draft with minor formatting changes.
- A selectboard member confirms they printed and signed the letter and agrees it is ready to be distributed.
- Diane Eramo explains the letter aims to keep comments brief to encourage reading and to request that procedures remain unchanged to protect village tax credit eligibility.

LURB and village designation timeline

The board discusses timelines and enforcement tied to LURB (Land Use Review Board) plan approvals and village designation eligibility. Diane highlights statutory deadlines and warns that failure to adopt approved plan updates by stated dates could risk future tax credit eligibility, though existing credits cannot be clawed back. The board expresses concern about perceived heavy-handed timelines and limited commission decision-making authority.

- Diane Eramo explains that if plan updates are not approved and adopted by specified deadlines, the town risks future tax credit eligibility, while past credits cannot be rescinded.
- A selectboard member relays frustration about conflicting messages on exact deadlines and feasibility of completing the process within the suggested timeframes.
- Diane Eramo questions whether threats to withhold designation are constitutional and suggests the commission's voting thresholds may be insufficient for consensus-driven outcomes.

Public participation at hearings

Members and Diane critique limited public speaking time and restrictions at commission hearings, which they say hinder meaningful input and accountability. They discuss difficulty identifying nominating committee members and longstanding continuity on

executive bodies as obstacles to change. Diane plans to raise these concerns at an upcoming in-person meeting.

- Diane Eramo notes that public speakers and commissioners are often limited to two minutes at hearings, which she says suppresses meaningful participation.
- Diane Eramo reports difficulty identifying the nominating committee responsible for executive board appointments after reviewing five years of minutes.
- A selectboard member supports Diane's plan to attend the in-person meeting to raise concerns about control of microphones and restricted speaking opportunities.

Land use policy concerns

Board members debate broader land-use policy effects on private landowners, including limits on future development and perceived overreach by advisory bodies. They express worry that proposed regulations could restrict inheritance or family uses of property and complain that advisory organizations sometimes act like another layer of government without adequate local input. The discussion frames local stewardship priorities against regional regulatory proposals.

- A selectboard member warns that proposed land-use restrictions could limit family compound development and inheritance plans on private parcels.
- A selectboard member argues that advisory organizations sometimes act like an additional government layer and may write documents affecting landowner rights.
- A selectboard member emphasizes stewardship and local management of land for agricultural and wildlife uses as guiding principles.

Police vehicle and equipment plans

The board reviews potential replacement of a first-responder vehicle and related equipment upgrades. A member outlines losing access to a first-responder purchase program that saved significant cost, considers selling the current vehicle to the sheriff, and notes the need to replace obsolete video and radio systems next fiscal year. These equipment updates will affect individual and departmental finances and future budget planning.

- A selectboard member reports they can no longer buy a replacement vehicle under the first-responder program and is exploring fleet-registration workarounds.
- A selectboard member says the sheriff may buy their vehicle and allow them to continue using it, which could ease transition timing.

- A selectboard member states the current in-car video system is obsolete and plans to replace it in the next fiscal year, and that new radios and camera replacements will appear in upcoming budgets.

Building/town hall project mailing

The board discusses preparing and distributing a public mailing about the town hall project, associated maps, and related regulatory information. Members want the mailing to include links to the active project website, ANR and LURB maps, and a clear summary so residents understand potential property impacts and hearing notices. The group plans to assemble materials and schedule distribution within a few weeks to a month.

- A selectboard member proposes including the project website link, ANR map, and LURB map in a public mailing to inform residents about potential property impacts.
- A selectboard member estimates preparing and wrapping the mailing will take a few weeks to a month.
- A selectboard member asks Nancy to provide relevant materials and confirms the mailing will also include notification of hearings and public information.

Mailing distribution and web posting

Members confirm that the selectboard will post finalized documents on the town website and include them in the mailing to improve transparency and reduce the need for residents to seek original plans. They view concurrent website posting and mailed notices as complementary channels to reach the community. Staff agree to add signed documents and links to the website once the mailing content is finalized.

- A selectboard member asks that signed documents and links be posted to the town website to accompany the mailing.
- A selectboard member says including the website link in the mailing will help residents find original plans and hearing notices more easily.
- A selectboard member confirms readiness to post the materials online once the mailing content is finalized.