



SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OFFICE & ZOOM
September 24th, 2026, 6:15 P.M.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83677614523?pwd=CoYiP91RkRdVp7JjYjSzyApghQbgZ9.1>

Meeting ID: 836 7761 4523 - Passcode: 943MWX

OR dial +1 646 931 3860 – Meeting ID: 836 7761 4523 – Passcode: 668077

Please note that agenda times are approximate and are subject to change.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
 - a. (6:15) – Roll Call
 - b. (6:18) – Changes to the agenda
2. (6:20) – PUBLIC COMMENT (Items not on the agenda)
3. (6:30) – MINUTES: August 13th & September 10th, 2026, SB Meeting (Review and Approve)
4. (6:40) – CCRPC UPDATE (Ben Bornstein)
5. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
 - a. (6:50) – Review Road Schedule
6. TREASURER
 - a. (6:55) – Review FY' 26 General Fund and Highway Fund Status Report
 - b. (7:05) – Review and approve accounts payable and payroll warrants
7. DISCUSSION
 - a. (7:15) – Fire Truck Bond Vote Language and Voting
 - i. Approve Necessity Resolution
 - ii. Special Meeting Warning Approval
 - iii. Other Related Documents from the Attorney
 - b. (7:45) – Fire Department Overview
 - c. (8:05) – Discussion and possible action on a signed resident petition requesting reconsideration and a new vote on seasonal trail closures (Oct 1 to Dec 14) within the Westford town trail system: Goodrich, Covey, Shultz & Seymour
 - d. (8:35) – Town Administrator Report
 - e. (8:40) – Zoning Administrator Report
 - f. (8:45) – 1705 Updates and Supporting Materials from CCRPC
 - i. Westford Draft Map
 - ii. Existing Conditions Summary
 - iii. Engagement Plan
 - g. (9:00) – Dog Warden/Animal Control Officer
 - h. (9:10) – Conversation on Next Steps for Delinquent Tax Collector
8. (9:20) – CORRESPONDENCE
9. COMMUNICATION
10. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION –
11. ADJOURN

The next regular Selectboard Meeting will be held on October 8th, 2026.

Disclaimer: If a quorum of the Board is attending in-person, the meeting will continue notwithstanding a disruption or disconnection in electronic participation. Therefore, in person attendance is recommended. The Vermont Department of Health recommends that each person decide if they want to take precautions, such as wearing a mask, based on their own personal level of risk. Please stay home if you are unwell. Any individual who believes that they need reasonable accommodation may submit a request to the Town Administrator. The Town will assess whether the request for reasonable accommodation is necessary to make the Town service, program, or activity available to an individual with a disability; whether there is an alternative accommodation which may provide an equivalent level of access and/or benefit; whether the requested reasonable accommodation would impose an undue financial or administrative burden; or whether the requested reasonable accommodation would require a fundamental alteration in the nature of the Town service, program or activity.

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
August 13, 2026
Draft Minutes**

Present:	Pat Haller Julia Andrews Casey Mathieu Nick Nichols	Callie Hamdy Tommy O'Connor Abby O'Neil Sean Cushing
----------	--	---

Guests: see attached.

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Resident Discussion on Current Land Taxes removed, added loan paperwork for the new 2026 western Star Dump Truck.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Items Not on the Agenda

Dave Gauthier was present and questioned about the four dead trees on Common Road. They have been dead for some time, and he was concerned they would fall into the road. He wanted to know when and/or if they were coming down. Pat clarified this is the first time the trees have been discussed and suggested we contact the Fluerys as the trees are on their property, but close to the power lines.

MINUTES

P. Haller moved to approve the July 23, 2026 minutes as written. J. Andrews seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

CCRPC UPDATE

Ben Bornstein, CCRPC Representative, was present. The Land Use Review Board approved Westford's request for a less than the full amount of Tier 1B. Kirsten Tyler has been working with him on the Municipal Energy Resiliency Program and use of the remaining funds. They will be submitting a report this week and for forward with helping the Conservation Commission create educational programs with an energy resiliency component to them. They've been interacting with the CCRPC in respect to 1705. They will be meeting early next week.

ROAD SCHEDULE

Sean Cushing, Road Foreman, was present and went over the road schedule from July 25, 2026 to August 13, 2026.

FY'27 HIGHWAY BUDGET STATUS REPORT

T. O'Connor went over the FY'27 Highway Budget Status Report. The new Treasurer, Abby O'Neil, was present as well.

TOWN HIGHWAY TRUCK LOAN PAPERWORK

Community Bank is who we've worked with recently, they came back with the strongest opportunity to have reasonable payments. T. O'Connor had the loan paperwork present for the Selectboard to sign. After, the Treasurer and Town Clerk will finalize the document. P. Haller motioned to approve. C. Mathieu seconded. Motion passed 4-0. J. Andrews moved to accept the loan for Community Bank. N. Nichols seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

TREASURER FY'27 GENERAL FUND BUDGET STATUS REPORT

T. O'Connor and A. O'Neil went over the FY'27 General Fund Budget Status Report.

REVIEW AND APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL WARRANTS

The Selectboard went over the Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants.

EMPLOYEE REVIEW UPDATES

S. Cushing is conducting and finishing reviews for the road crew members. T. O'Connor conducted Sean's review. Maria and MJ's have also been done. DRB and PC have met in regards to Harmony and they have gotten a reminder to send it back. The Selectboard members are responsible for conducting a review of Tommy and a review of the reviews Tommy does of the employees.

P. Haller is hoping to use the same form Tommy has used for the employees. He asked the other Selectboard member's opinions on the process. J. Andrews thought the board is all pretty busy right now and all the members doing one task separately seems like a lot of work. She wondered if one or two people take the lead. P. Haller clarified that's how it was done the previous year. J. Andrews volunteered Deb Jorschick because she felt she had a good eye for something like that. P. Haller felt he should also be one of the reviewers because he was chair. After they complete the review they will share it with the rest of the board in an executive session.

ACCESS PERMIT APPROVAL – REPLACEMENT PERMIT

Last year the Selectboard had approved an access permit for a property at the end of Osgood Hill Road. Along the way H. Cism had misplaced the paperwork. S. Cushing had looked at it and approved it, H. Cism had provided a replacement application for approval. J. Andrews moved to approve the access permit. N. Nichols seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

DRB FEE WAIVER REQUEST – SKETCH PLAN REVIEW

A resident had gone through sketch plan reviews last July and they had not gone to the next DRB step in time and has to start at the beginning again with a new Sketch Plan Review. He is requesting a waiver of the fee since he has already paid it previously. In the past the board had approved similar requests. J. Andrews asked if H. Cism senses if this person has made progress towards getting the subdivision nailed down? H. Cism has talked to the surveyor a lot. He has all the steps laid out and once he finishes sketch plan review he'll have another calendar year to proceed. J. Andrews moved to waive the DRB fee for Allen Reynolds Jr. N. Nichols seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Harmony Cism, Zoning Administrator was present and gave the Zoning Administrator's report. She has noticed an increase in the number of permits from last year. The board and Harmony discussed several zoning violations and how to best proceed. They also discussed the outcome of the Emerald Ash Borer Training and next steps.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Tommy O'Connor, Town Administrator, was present and gave the Town Administrator's report.

TOWN FACEBOOK PAGE SOFT LAUNCH

There's been some question and ideas about having a town Facebook page as another form of communication. Tommy explained there was a lot of nuance in creating the page, it has softly launched. Information from the town and town entities will be shared. Recreation has also relaunched their page. They hope is to treat the Town page similar to Front Porch Forum where it is not required to post there, but we will try our best to post there to increase communication. J. Andrews had concerns about it becoming a vitriolic dumpster fire as Facebook can sometimes be. One way to handle that would be to shut comments off. She thinks we need a social media policy for employees as well. T. O'Connor noted that each individual post has to be edited to be non-comment, which is why he soft launched the page, so he knew how to do that before proceeding. P. Haller agreed that if we have a page it must be no comments and just to get information out. N. Nichols noted that in many places of employment, managing social media is a job in itself.

INVASIVE SPECIES DISCUSSION- JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Kirsten Tyler of the Westford Conservation Commission (WCC) had let the board know a few meetings ago about some work they wanted to do along some of the town's trails in regards to invasive Japanese Knotweed. K. Tyler was present to update about that. She asked if the Selectboard would give the WCC permission to lead the effort of removal of the invasive knotweed on 1705. They included 1705 in their quote from the invasive species specialists because it was town property. She was inquiring about adding 1705 to that work plan. The WCC has budgeted for this year \$1400 for invasive species removal out of their budget. They would be requesting \$600 from the Selectboard to cover the rest of the cost. J. Andrews thinks putting it off is a bad idea because it will cost more to remove it the longer it goes. C. Mathieu asked if surrounding properties from 1705 also have knotweed. If we get rid of it, will it come back? K. Tyler thinks no matter what we do it will be a problem. We have a significant amount, but not as bad as some other towns. The patch we have at 1705 is quite large and if we don't deal with it now it will only get worse. It will be an annual or bi-annual treatment work plan that will have to happen because of how pervasive the plant is. K. Tyler thinks the best way to deal with it is to do so as early as possible and expects each subsequent clean up to be easier once we get past this initial point.

Lori Johnson was present. She thanked Kirsten for the amount of work she's done. She wanted to emphasize some of what Kirsten had said, namely that this would be an ongoing issue to address. She thinks it's something the board should keep that in mind. Additionally, there's knotweed on other town property such as on Brookside in the ROW. If we're going to treat 1705 and the school trails, what's going to be the end point of treatment and how much are we going to treat around town for the other patches? She thinks it's going to be a large expense. C. Mathieu wondered if there was any grant that could help us. P. Haller is of the opinion that any

invasive species in the ROW is the responsibility of the property owner because it is their property so he's not looking to control knotweed in all the ROWs. J. Andrews thinks we also need to consider regarding 1705, our ultimate aim on that property is to make significant changes such as a wastewater system etc. If we leave it unchecked we will disturb it and then be further doing that work later, knotweed is also terrible for wastewater systems, leach fields etc. An investment now is a good idea. She thinks the board would look to the WCC and budget time to be thinking about adding this item to their yearly budget request. T. O'Connor indicated some areas in the budget we are expecting excess funds we could pull from, such as Mowing.

Kim Guidry was present. She hears that goats do a nice number on knotweed and suggested using goats for control. N. Nichols noted you can hire goat herds to weed and clear areas.

P. Haller moved to authorize the WCC to use their \$1400 towards the \$2095 bid from Vermont Invasive Plant Control and for us to also fund the additional \$600 to meet the total cost. J. Andrews seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

POTENTIAL SEASONAL TRAIL CLOSURE (GOODRICH, COVEY, SCHULTZ, SEYMOUR)

James Hazen was requesting the Selectboard close the legal trails during hunting season, Oct 1 – Dec 14. This would not be the Misty Meadows or Maple Shade trail systems but trails that cross private lands. The town had quite a bit of correspondence from residents regarding this. C. Mathieu asked P. Haller what the timeline on the trail maintenance document was. P. Haller anticipates getting a draft to the next Selectboard meeting, but that only involves maintenance. Initially this document had contained many of the desires of the abutting landowners that was not maintenance related such as no hiking in the middle of the night, having dogs on leash as opposed to "verbally controlled or on leash" as well as possible closing trails during hunting season. Pat had come to the conclusion that those items in the Trail Ordinance and Dog Ordinance instead of the trail maintenance guidelines. T. O'Connor had already begun working on integrating those items into the ordinances upon the Selectboard's request for review.

J. Andrews asked if we are now just currently talking about closure for hunting season tonight? That was true. P. Haller noted this came up last year and that board had agreed to it unanimously. Most of what the town is trying to do with the maintenance policy is trying to show goodwill to our neighbors. The Town has a Right of Way (ROW), but we also need to be mindful of the properties those cross and to address things in a neighborly fashion. P. Haller suggested because we're not passing an ordinance that it cannot be permanent this time and suggested a temporary closure for this year only until it is brought up for review in an ordinance. He thinks that closing the trails for hunting season is a good effort. He didn't hear complaints last time it was closed but did hear from the residents with trail across their lands that they were appreciative, and they felt it was a great step forward.

C. Mathieu said there seems to be increased reports of use of the trails when discussed at or by the Selectboard. Opening day hunting season there's been a crowd of people going through there, which is what triggers these discussions. The town needs to be neighborly, most of these landowners are hunters. There's a lot of back history to it. J. Andrews sees both sides and came with an open mind. For residents, is it people using the trails to not access hunting, they're just using the trails for a theoretically to curb people from hunting? One of the landowners indicated that's what it felt like to them. P. Haller noted people are using the trails, in the recent past

whenever we're talking about hunting season it sparks people to go check out that trail. He thinks there might be some speculation of trail use to curb hunting, but we can't know if that's really happening. What they do see is when they closed it last year they didn't have residents saying, 'what you closed it??' etc. He also said the town hasn't been maintaining the trails because of the in progress maintenance document. So, use is currently down. T. O'Connor clarified that the closure would only be for general public/recreational use and would have no bearing on the individuals who need to use the trail to access their trails and have legal access across the trails for that use.

Marilyn Thomas was present. She asked what's the reasoning for closing the trail for hunting season? P. Haller believes it is to offer a neighborly gesture for the land owners who hunt on their properties that have town trails through them. From his understanding, when the trails are open to the public not only does it disturb the direct hunt, but the animals stay away from those properties. M. Thomas understands hunting; she doesn't understand how somebody said safety. Milton Town Forest isn't closed during hunting season and hunting is allowed there. Most people are aware during hunting season you don't go out opening season and ending season, as well as mornings and evenings. She doesn't understand why it's a big deal. The landowners bought those properties knowing public trails go through those properties and people use it on a regular basis and always have. A lawsuit has already been settled saying it's a ROW, but it is still the town's. The trails are dear to her heart, and she hates to lose them. Ken Tardie was present. The town spent \$30,000 keeping Schultz trail open to the public and now the new owners are trying to close it again? He's a hunter and he's hunted off Goodrich and Schultz before the previous owners were fighting about it. He's had people drive by him on ATV and it never bothered the deer at all.

Kirsten Tyler was present. She saw the email to the SB requesting the trail closure during hunting season. She'd prepared a statement which she read aloud: She was speaking for herself and not WCC. She respectfully opposed imposing a seasonal closure on the Goodrich, Covey, Schultz, or Seymour Trails. These four trails are not informal paths; they are legal trails and public ROW that existed before the current requesting landowners acquired their properties. They were roads back in the 1800s. Land crossed by a legal trail is owned subject to the public's established right of passage. That right should not have to be renegotiated whenever a landowner objects to trail use. The Town should listen respectfully to landowner concerns, but it must also protect the public interest. If one request is enough to close a ROW, even temporarily, it creates a precedent for similar requests based on other hunting seasons, privacy, dogs, noise, or simply a preference for less public use. One by one, these requests can gradually erode public access one exception and one season at a time. Westford's adopted policies point in the opposite direction. The Trails Ordinance says trails should remain open for public use and prohibits obstructions that hinder or prevent public travel. The land-use regulations reinforce that principle. They prohibit residential fences and walls from obstructing a public ROWs. They also urge any development to connect and extend existing trails, preserve pedestrian access through new subdivisions, and avoid interfering with access to public recreational areas. Our policies in Westford have been to preserve the continuity of public access, not narrow it. The Trail Use Guidelines are also clear: Westford trails are public and open to all. During hunting season, the established guidance is be aware, leash dogs, and wear orange. The Town Plan also reinforces this, identifying Westford's legal trails as public ROWs that were once public roads connecting Westford with neighboring towns. It records that when the Town attempted to discontinue them

in 1973, the Superior Court found that they had been discontinued in error and required their reestablishment as legal trails. The Town Plan calls for Westford to continue the use and conservation of public trails, improve access and connectivity, and promote responsible trail use through education.

Kirsten thinks it would be a good idea to come up with a compromise. The SB can post hunting-season notifications on the website, WCC can post hunting season signs on kiosks that include the same message as we use in Maple Shade: be aware, wear orange, and leash, and WCC can add high-vis vests at all trails, like we do at Maple Shade. She doesn't think that closure should become the default response to a landowner's request. Public ROWs should remain public.

Jim Anderson was present. He thinks the landowners are under no responsibility to accommodate the town. He thinks the trails are forced upon the land owners. He thinks they are invasive to people's property and doesn't just include the boundary of the paths. He also shared frustration that the town has not produced a cohesive plan around trails

Heidi Tardie was present and asked for clarification for what Jim was saying about property owners "granting use", she thought that was untrue. The ROW is the town's legal right of way. She and Ken live on Machia Hill Road and have lived there for a long time. Their property is close to the trail. They walk and ride horses on them. She's confused on why she would be denied her right to walk on a public trail during hunting season. She would put orange on, and the question is if you're good neighbors what's next are you going to close driving on Machia Hill to everybody that doesn't live on Machia Hill Road? She and Ken have problems with people coming on their property when its posted. So why do the trail abutting land owners get special treatment when they also have issues with their property? She finds this whole thing very weird. Hunting season is inherently dangerous, but on the other hand it's a right for the people. You don't buy property on a public trail and want to close it after. It wasn't a secret; you can find the lawsuit. Don't buy the property if the trail bothers you. Per the lawsuit the trail was required to be disclosed to them when they purchased the property.

Carol Winfield was present. She reiterated the points from Heidi and Marilyn. They are legal ROWs. It was ratified by the superior court in the 1970s and there's a procedure that needs to be followed to reclassify a public trail before it can be true. The speculation to the motivation of walkers on the trails is totally unsubstantiated and irresponsible to throw out in her opinion. The idea that the trail is not just a narrow trail is not the issue at hand and is irrelevant tonight. She agrees about being neighborly, but she doesn't think it is neighborly to everybody else in town that wants to use the public trails because people that recently came to town bought land on a public trail and then turn around and don't like that there's a public trail. She sympathizes with them, but the public trails were disclosed. Anybody who has been in Vermont more than a few months knows about hunting season and a lot of residents recreate outside year round. Whose going to limit access to the trail for some other reason next?

Dave Lavalley was present. He echoed what was said. They're public trails, just because its hunting season is a slippery slope and it's a public area you should be able to walk through. We shouldn't be closing them down at the whim of a few people. Lori Johnson was present. She agrees. Why are we closing the trails for the request of just a couple being neighborly to them. What about everybody else? They're disenfranchising the rest of the town and people should be

able to make their own decision on if they want to go on the trails or not. Barb Peck had written indicating there is state statute that the SB cannot close the trail without following lengthy legal procedure. Lori thought we should look into that and consider the other people in town. We're being neighborly to 2 but unneighborly to the other 1,998.

N. Nichols asked if there's any information on what Lori had brought up re: Barb and state statute. J. Andrews had the statute referenced pulled up. It is part of a misc. transportation bill. The only thing she finds in there is that the town has the right to maintain legal trails (but not any infrastructure around it). She doesn't see anything about a legal process. T. O'Connor had testified on that bill. Closures have to be defined. Mud season, for example, is very ambiguous. Closures can be done for protection on an environmental level. The town has the legal standing. J. Andrews notes that this is 57 page bill and she is not a lawyer. P. Haller noted that if they closed the trail they would empower the town administrator to find out what legal steps we must take to do such a closure.

Ben Bornstein was present. He noted the actual ask is a permanent closure of the trails during hunting season with no end date. He would appreciate that be clarified. A permanent closure is an encumbrance. There is a reference that raises concerns about safety and that causes him to be concerns because this is his driveway to access his property. If there's a safety concern for all of the public there's a legitimate safety concerned for him and his family. They talk about neighborliness, but he's been available. He may not live in Westford, but he's incredibly involved in Westford itself and has been a diligent steward of the land for over 65 years. He's not just a landowner and he finds that insulting. In the past he has granted access to his property to one of the requesting landowners for the purpose of hunting, such as tracking an injured deer they were unable to take down amongst other requests. He's not opposed for the sake of being opposed, but he would like engagement and consultation. He was not told about this ahead of time and it impacts him. He's tried to be a team player but a permanent closure and only leaving him and his family subject to those safety concerns is not very neighborly. He's gone through 3 final court decisions regarding his right of access and egress for all purposes. The decision as it stands creates an encumbrance, he's not open to the suggestion they're less than because somebody built a house. He doesn't feel that's very nice. The whole idea of the trail maintenance policy was open scope and wasn't meant to exclude. All the trails through private property are different from each other for a blanket decision. P. Haller disagreed that it's an adverse encumbrance.

James Hazen was present. Ben's been a good neighbor, and it has nothing to do with that. He thanked Ben for his stewardship. In his opinion if the town wants to be neighborly, recreation is a big part of why he bought his land and it's important to him. The amount of people walking the trails is borderline harassment in his opinion. He's not going to mow his lawn when somebody has a family dinner. Nobody should go for a walk when its hunting season there's plenty of places to walk in Vermont. He understands the precedent it sets.

Kati Anderson was present. She had no idea about hunting until she met her husband Jim. She is appreciative of people that understand it but there's a lot of people that don't. She counts on venison meat for her family. The purpose of the temporary trail closure would be twofold: safety yes but minimizing the number of domestic animals of the trial decreases the risk for an accident. Off leash dogs is a big issue for her. The number of people that come to her property

on hunting season when the foliage is not that nice makes it hard to not see it as a purposeful process to interrupt hunting. She appreciates everybody who mentioned that they should have known about the trail when they bought the property. They did know and it was not a surprise. They were surprised by the harassment they've experienced. They keep their property posted, but they still have hunters looking to access their property. They didn't reach out to Ben because he hadn't come forward. They have had other neighbors expressing being thankful for the lack of hunters on the road.

P. Haller disagreed with Ben in regards that closing trails is an encumbrance on his ROW. He doesn't think it's an encumbrance any more than our lack of maintenance as well as how do we know how far one might go in suggesting they can't access their trail because of risk of what others legally can do. He respects and understands the viewpoint but doesn't think the town can be put in a position of indicating what is the perceived risk and try to govern a perceived risk on things we do not have control of such as hunting. He suggested that if that was the logic they could turn the logic to the landowners themselves, but that wouldn't be correct either. There can't be a subjective rule, where when somebody feels they're not at risk because of legal activity that we can't close our trails. P. Haller was still in favor of doing a temporary trail closure but doesn't think there should be any permanent closure of the trails. P. Haller motioned to close the trails temporary from Oct 1 – Dec 14 to the general public except for all those with legal rights of access and egress. C. Mathieu seconded.

Dave Gauthier asked if somebody goes on a temporarily closed trail what happens? Just because they say the trails are closed, there's no enforcement what good is it? J. Andrews noted it does deter a good number of people. N. Nichols commented that he feels like the larger emotion and frustration that occurs outside of hunting season is getting mixed in with this discussion, especially in regards to closing the trails. He would love to have the trail maintenance guide done and see if that could help reduce tension around this issue. He has not heard persuasive argument to permanently close the trail. He liked what Kirsten mentioned about finding a compromised way to help everybody manage. He would love for ideas like that in regards to this issue and feel it should be another major focus. **Motion passed 3-1.** P. Haller, N. Nichols, & P. Haller voted in favor, J. Andrews voted against.

FIRE TRUCK BOND UPDATE

The Selectboard has been looking into the fact that we had a bond vote in 2024, and we now know we're going to have to do a re-bond vote. The board had talked about having a communication plan about this. J. Andrews had drafted a first draft and passed it to Tommy. The 2024 vote unfortunately it was not warned correctly in newspapers at the time and therefore the bond bank will not issue a bond because we did not complete things properly. We have to go through the process again. It will be on the back of the General ballot in November.

CORRESPONDENCE

Lots of correspondence was received in regards to the temporary trail closure potential.

Turn around on a driveway, was given to Harmony

Town Planner, potential of sharing a town planner with Fairfax.

Common Drainage

Julia had sent in that the inclusion statement is ready for review.

New Library Director Robin

Kim Guidry thanks to those putting up curb signs.

COMMUNICATION

Communicate about Temporary Trail Closure once Attorney approves.
New Common Use form will be the only accepted form for Common Use. Old form is no longer accepted by the town.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Haller
Selectboard Chair

Callie Hamdy
Minute Clerk

GUEST LIST

Dave Gauthier
Harmony Cism
Carol Winfield
Michael Miller
Kirsten Tyler
Kim Guidry
Ira Allen
Dave Lavallee
Dick Lavallee

Ben Bornstein
Lori Johnson
James Hazen
Kati Anderson
Jim Anderson
Marilyn Thomas
Ken Tardie
Heidi Tardie

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
September 10, 2026
Draft Minutes**

Present:	Pat Haller Deb Jorschick Casey Mathieu Julia Andrews	Callie Hamdy Tommy O'Connor Abby O'Neil Sean Cushing
----------	---	---

Guests: see attached.

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Items Not on the Agenda

Barb Peck was present. She noted that Michael Miller had never announced himself in the meetings previous. P. Haller and the board know this and explained that with Open Meeting Law any of the public is welcome to attend, but if he wanted to speak he would have to announce himself and be recognized by the chair.

MINUTES

D. Jorschick motioned to accept the minutes from August 13, 2026, meeting as amended. J. Andrews seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

C. Mathieu motioned to accept the minutes from August 27, 2026, meeting as amended. J. Andrews seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

CCRPC UPDATE

Ben Bornstein, CCRPC Representative, was present. Next week there is the monthly CCRPC executive meeting. He and Kirsten Tyler provided a review of documents CCRPC had forwarded and made suggestions regarding further outreach and public engagement for 1705. He is on the UPWP sub-committee and is undertaking a review of projects that were approved for last fiscal year to see what might help Westford in the future.

ROAD SCHEDULE

Sean Cushing, Road Foreman, was present and went over the road schedule from August 28, 2026 to September 10, 2026.

P. Haller motioned to approve the Fidium 467 Old stage Road work in the ROW and empower Tommy to forward the approval to Fidium. D. Jorschick seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

FY'27 HIGHWAY BUDGET STATUS REPORT

A. O'Neil, Treasurer, went over the FY'27 Highway Budget Status Report.

TREASURER FY'27 GENERAL FUND BUDGET STATUS REPORT

A. O'Neil, Treasurer, went over the FY'27 General Fund Budget Status Report.

REVIEW AND APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL WARRANTS

The Selectboard went over the Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants.

COMMON USE REQUEST

A vendor at the Westford Farmers Market wishes to have beer sold at the last market in September. The board needed to approve the sale of alcohol on the Common for this event before the vendor can get their permitting from the Department of Liquor Licensing. J. Andrews moved to approve contingent on permits being obtained. D. Jorschick seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

CCRPC ANNUAL REPORT

Charlie Baker from CCRPC was present and gave the CCRPC Annual Report.

P. Haller asked about the VTRANS Highway Grant. \$200,000 covers about half of the average paving project and we have to stagger our paving every five years to seven years to afford through the tax base the other \$200,000. It would be great as cost rise if VTRANS had a higher grant potential. C. Baker noted this has come up prior and is on the CCRPC priority list. It got discussed some last year, but VTRANS also has a tight budget as well. He's not sure if there's fruit to be harvested there. J. Andrews noted the transportation budget is the only budget that is consistently under budgeted, especially with federal cuts.

WESTFORD INCLUSION STATEMENT

Edits to the Westford Inclusion Statement had been completed and a draft had been provided to the Selectboard. J. Andrews felt the committee had made good choices in balancing the inclusive language while also acknowledging what the town can be responsible for. D. Jorschick asked how are we going to incorporate this into the town itself so it doesn't just live as a document somewhere. J. Andrews thought that was a fair question. The Committee had done some Fourth of July activities regarding this; there had also been desire for students to read the statement at Town Meeting, which had been previously paused until the draft was finalized. Another way the board could make it more a living thing is a policy review to make sure the town's policies are more aligned with their hopes to be a welcoming community. P. Haller imagined we would ask all of the committees that have charters to review their charters with declaration of inclusion as a barometer to see if it meets the inclusion statement. He also thought it should be part of the town plan so that as we're adopting things we can say we meet the declaration of inclusion. P. Haller motioned to approve the new wording of the declaration of inclusions. J. Andrews seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

COVERED BRIDGE UPDATES

The were expecting Miles from Vermont Heavy Timber in attendance like last Selectboard meeting. He'd insisted he would make this meeting, and he was not present to discuss. P. Haller thinks the board should look at the information provided to them without Miles present and have Tommy review it with them.

Three of the four payments have been paid. The first one was in a previous fiscal year. The second and third and this fiscal year and they reflect on the budget status report. J. Andrews was unclear of what's happening. There was a change order and another round of rot found in

a support beam that requires the bridge to be lifted off the foundation and the beam replaced. The quote is \$11,500. J. Andrews is worried about giving this person that's taken two years to finish this work all the money before the work is finished. She doesn't have a strong sense of confidence that the work will be completed. T. O'Connor was comfortable withholding the final payment until completion.

Ben Bornstein was present. He wonders if it's a situation we might want to ask for a bond from the people doing the work since there's been a difference in their deliverables. C. Mathieu asked what the timeline for completion is. That's what we were hoping to hear from Miles, but he was not present. We had also lacked response from Miles until the Town Attorney talked with him. P. Haller wanted us to tell Miles to come to the next Selectboard meeting to discuss and that we should withhold payment until he attends a meeting.

VOSHA REPORT & CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Representatives from the Vermont Occupational Safety & Health Administration (VOSHA) had completed their assessments on the Town Buildings on July 28, 2026 and provided a report of their findings. They'd compiled a list of hazards that required corrective action on behalf of the town. Documentation of those corrective actions were required by September 3, 2026, or else we will be referred to the VOSHA compliance program. Corrective actions had been taken and provided. A detailed report of these actions was included by Tommy. Representatives from VOSHA accepted the Corrective Action Report and the matter was considered closed.

FIRE TRUCK BOND RE-VOTE FORUM DATES SELECTION

The Selectboard discussed setting dates for the Fire Truck Bond Re-Vote Public Forums. They also discussed communication to the public on Front Porch Forum. They wanted to make sure that voters could be as informed as possible. They shortlisted 9/29 and 9/30 at 7pm at the Westford School depending on availability. It will be warned to the public when a date is finalized. They discussed October 26 instead of November 2.

CORRESPONDENCE

There's an email exchange between the town attorney and Tommy. N. Nichols had also suggested coordinating with Fairfax for a Dog Warden, a process Tommy confirmed is happening and will be presented next meeting. Complaints about goats on Brookside Road, P. Haller has talked to the owners of the goats. Email from Dick Lavalley about the trail closure. P. Haller and Dick Lavalley met on the Common and discussed further. T. O'Connor had send an update about budget season and the capital budget.

COMMUNICATION

Communication about Fire Truck Bond Re-Vote, Budget Presentations to the SB forthcoming. Selectboard will communicate about trail closures, town newsletter, FPF, website, trail signage.

Barb Peck was present. In the next two weeks there's a petition going around and stir over the decision to close the trail. The board should be prepared to be asked for a line item in an agenda. She's not sure how this is going to roll out, but she thinks it's becoming a bigger issue than the board might realize.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pat moved premature public knowledge regarding personnel would place the town at a significant disadvantage and to enter executive session. Deb seconded. Motion passed 4-0. at 8:24pm.

The Selectboard exited Executive Session at 9:03 and took no action during the session.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Haller
Selectboard Chair

Callie Hamdy
Minute Clerk

GUEST LIST

Dave Gauthier
Ben Bornstein
Lori Johnson
Dick Lavallee
Barb Peck
Michael Miller

Kirsten Tyler
Dave Lavallee
Kim Guidry
Ira Allen
Charlie Baker (CCRPC)
Kati Anderson

9/21/2026

3:41pm

Current Yr Pd: 3 - Budget Status Report

GENERAL FUND & HIGHWAY FUNDS

		9/10/2026			9/24/2026		
Account	Budget	Actual	Actual % of Budget		Actual	Actual % of Budget	Change
100-20 PROPERTY TAXES							
100-2000-00.00	Current Property Taxes	1,152,312	1,641,040.47	142.41%	1,560,057.66	135.39%	80,982.81
100-2005-00.00	Advance Year Property Tax	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2009-00.00	Late Tax Interest	2,500	254.15	10.17%	324.51	12.98%	(70.36)
100-2010-00.00	Delinquent Taxes	40,000	26,558.08	66.40%	27,011.73	67.53%	(453.65)
100-2011-00.00	Delinquent Tax Penalty	4,000	2,124.63	53.12%	2,160.92	54.02%	(36.29)
100-2012-00.00	Delinquent Tax Interest	3,000	1,934.71	64.49%	1,950.59	65.02%	(15.88)
Total PROPERTY TAXES		1,201,812	1,671,912.04	139.12%	1,591,505.41	132.43%	80,406.63
100-21 LICENSES & FEES							
					0.00		
100-2100-00.00	Liquor Licenses	185	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2110-00.00	Recording Fees	17,000	5,297.00	31.16%	6,159.00	36.23%	(862.00)
100-2120-00.00	Dog Licenses	1,700	15.00	88.00%	35.00	2.06%	(20.00)
100-2130-00.00	Building Permit	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2131-00.00	Access Permits	150	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2135-00.00	Excess Weight Permit	700	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2140-00.00	Marriage Licenses	150	60.00	40.00%	75.00	50.00%	(15.00)
100-2145-00.00	Copies	1,700	469.25	27.60%	664.50	39.09%	(195.25)
100-2146-00.00	Vault Time	200	21.00	10.50%	29.00	14.50%	(8.00)
100-2150-00.00	Auto Registration Fees	20	9.00	45.00%	9.00	45.00%	0.00
100-2155-00.00	Metal Dumpster	3,600	652.00	18.11%	811.50	22.54%	(159.50)
Total LICENSES & FEES		25,405	6,523.25	25.68%	7,783.00	30.64%	(1,259.75)
100-22 INTERGOVERNMENTAL							
					0.00		
100-2229-00.00	Current Use/Land Use	85,145	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2230-00.00	State - Planning Grant	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2234-00.00	Burlington Free Press Gt	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2241-00.00	State - Misc. Grants	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2242-00.00	State - Traffic Fines	4,500	775.50	17.23%	775.50	17.23%	0.00
100-2245-00.00	State - Miscellaneous	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2248-00.00	Vt Act 68/Equalization	965	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2249-00.00	VLCT Grants	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2260-60.06	Wastewater Project RF1-26	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2260-60.07	VCDP - Grant - Pigeon Pro	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total INTERGOVERNMENTAL		90,610	775.50	0.86%	775.50	0.86%	0.00
100-23 PLANNING & ZONING							
					0.00		
100-2350-00.00	Vault time/copier/fax fee	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2359-00.00	Building Permits	8,000	3,343.90	41.80%	6,348.50	79.36%	(3,004.60)
100-2360-00.00	DRB Subdivision - Sketch	700	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2361-00.00	DRB Subdivision - Prelimi	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2362-00.00	DRB Subdivision - Final	0	600.00	100.00%	600.00	100.00%	0.00
100-2363-00.00	DRB Subdivision Amendment	350	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2363-10.00	DRB Waiver	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2364-00.00	DRB Site Plan	325	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2365-00.00	DRB Variance	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2366-00.00	DRB Boundary Line Adjustm	0	175.00	100.00%	175.00	100.00%	0.00
100-2367-00.00	DRB Conditional Use	325	650.00	200.00%	650.00	200.00%	0.00
100-2368-00.00	DRB Zoning Appeal	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2369-00.00	ZA Admin Amendment	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2370-00.00	Certificate of Compliance	500	200.00	40.00%	320.00	64.00%	(120.00)
100-2371-00.00	Zoning Violation Fines	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2372-00.00	Certificate of Occupancy	700	75.00	10.71%	150.00	21.43%	(75.00)
100-2373-00.00	Home Occupation	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2374-00.00	CCRPC-BWQC	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00

100-2380-00.00	Legal/Professional Review	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total PLANNING & ZONING		10,900	5,043.90	46.27%	8,243.50	75.63%	(3,199.60)
100-24 TOWN FUNCTIONS							
100-2420-00.00	Metal Dumpster	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2421-00.00	Recycle Bins	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2422-00.00	CTCL - GRANT - ELECTION	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2423-00.00	1705 Rte 128	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2438-00.00	Holiday Basket Donations	2,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total TOWN FUNCTIONS		2,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100-2705 TRANSFER IN							
100-2705-00.00	Transfer In From Reserves	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2705-10.00	Transfer In - Fund Balanc	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total TRANSFER IN		0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-28 DOGS							
100-2820-00.00	Dog Fines	200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2821-00.00	Dog Shelter Fund	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total DOGS		200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-29 MISCELLANEOUS							
100-2900-00.00	Reimbursement School Exp	2,500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2910-00.00	Use of Cash on Hand	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2920-00.00	Note Proceed Spiller Lot	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2930-00.00	Interest Income	12,000	5,566.46	46.39%	4,691.26	39.09%	875.20
100-2935-00.00	Interest-Restricted	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2990-00.00	Miscellaneous Revenue	0	32.50	100.00%	54.50	100.00%	(22.00)
100-2990-01.00	Misc Donations	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2990-02.00	Summer Concert Series	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2990-03.00	Nat'l Opioids Settlement	0	579.67	100.00%	579.67	100.00%	0.00
100-2990-04.00	CANNABIS VT CONTROL BD	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2990-05.00	Employee Training Grant	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2990-10.00	Town Sign Advertising	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2990-11.00	Maple Shade Town Forest-g	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-2990-12.00	Veteran Banners - REV	0	575.00	100.00%	575.00	100.00%	0.00
Total MISCELLANEOUS		14,500	6,753.63	46.58%	5,900.43	40.69%	853.20
Total Revenues		1,345,427	1,691,008.32	125.69%	1,614,207.84	119.98%	76,800.48
100-30 ADMINISTRATION							
100-3000-10.00	Select Board Salaries	4,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-10.01	Select Board Minute Taker	1,700	253.00	14.88%	253.00	14.88%	0.00
100-3000-11.00	Town Administrator	97,066	19,963.20	20.57%	19,963.20	20.57%	0.00
100-3000-12.00	Bookkeeper Salary	43,398	11,998.55	27.65%	11,998.55	27.65%	0.00
100-3000-13.00	Fire Warden Stipend	400	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-13.01	Rec Coordinator Salary	12,004	2,769.24	23.07%	2,769.24	23.07%	0.00
100-3000-14.00	FICA Expense	26,671	5,339.14	20.02%	5,339.14	20.02%	0.00
100-3000-14.10	Childcare Tax	1,545	664.96	43.04%	664.96	43.04%	0.00
100-3000-15.00	Health Insurance	30,000	4,321.36	14.40%	4,321.36	14.40%	0.00
100-3000-15.01	Dental Insurance	1,000	244.92	24.49%	244.92	24.49%	0.00
100-3000-15.02	Disability Insurance	1,400	273.42	19.53%	273.42	19.53%	0.00
100-3000-15.03	Vision Insurance	250	36.24	14.50%	36.24	14.50%	0.00
100-3000-15.04	Cobra Ins Benefit	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-16.00	Pension Plan Employer Exp	10,152	1,724.18	16.98%	1,724.18	16.98%	0.00
100-3000-17.00	Unemployment	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00

100-3000-19.00	Office Equipment	2,500	10.00	0.40%			
100-3000-20.00	Office Supplies & Repairs	5,000	1,240.78	24.82%	10.00	0.40%	0.00
100-3000-21.00	Employee Appreciation	500	0.00	0.00%	1,561.45	31.23%	(320.67)
100-3000-30.00	Legal Notices	1,300	646.00	49.69%	0.00	0.00%	0.00%
100-3000-34.00	Postage	6,000	1,944.17	32.40%	1,292.00	99.38%	(646.00)
100-3000-40.00	Education S/B & Town Adm	500	99.00	19.80%	1,944.17	32.40%	0.00
100-3000-42.00	Grant Writer	0	0.00	0.00%	99.00	19.80%	0.00
100-3000-48.00	Property Casualty W/C	19,000	9,265.31	48.76%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-50.00	Payroll Services Cintract	6,500	0.00	0.00%	9,265.31	48.76%	0.00
100-3000-59.00	Admin Planning Consultant	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-60.01	Legal & Professional Fees	22,000	1,557.01	7.08%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-60.02	IT Professional Services	15,000	3,921.24	26.14%	2,489.55	11.32%	(932.54)
100-3000-60.04	Software	1,500	0.00	0.00%	5,882.73	39.22%	(1,961.49)
100-3000-60.05	Town Admin Computer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-60.07	Audit Reserve Expense	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-60.08	Admin Cap't Budg't Exp	11,065	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-60.10	Holiday Basket Expense	1,200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-62.00	Stationary & Printing	2,850	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-63.00	Newsletter printing	3,100	555.55	17.92%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-74.00	S/B Town Adm Travel	300	0.00	0.00%	861.50	27.79%	(305.95)
100-3000-75.00	Emerg'y Gener't Maint/Fue	2,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-76.00	Electric-Flag-Gaz-Street	1,800	343.42	19.08%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-91.00	Interest Expense	50	0.00	0.00%	343.42	19.08%	0.00
100-3000-92.00	Tax Abatements	1,000	589.28	58.93%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3000-93.00	Estimated Uncollected Tax	0	0.00	0.00%	589.28	58.93%	0.00
					0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total ADMINISTRATION		332,750	67,759.97	20.36%	71,926.62	21.62%	(4,166.65)
100-32 CLERK/TREASURER							
100-3200-10.00	Clerks Salary	49,598	12,526.77	25.26%	0.00		
100-3200-25.00	Treasurer Salary	16,142	1,225.00	7.59%	12,526.77	25.26%	0.00
100-3200-30.10	Membership Dues	150	0.00	0.00%	1,225.00	7.59%	0.00
100-3200-40.10	Education - Clerk's Offic	300	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3200-40.20	Education - Treasurer's	200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3200-60.03	Supplies - Town Clerk	300	203.52	67.84%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3200-60.04	Supplies - Treasurer	500	0.00	0.00%	203.52	67.84%	0.00
100-3200-60.05	Treas/Bookkeeper Computer	1,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3200-60.06	Clerks Computer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3200-74.00	Travel	250	23.93	9.57%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
					23.93	9.57%	0.00
Total CLERK/TREASURER		68,440	13,979.22	20.43%	13,979.22	20.43%	0.00
100-33 BCA/ELECTION							
100-3300-10.00	BCA Salaries	600	0.00	0.00%	0.00		
100-3300-20.00	Election Workers	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3300-30.00	Ballots Supplies & Votin	5,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3300-40.00	CTCL - GRANT - ELECTION	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3300-99.00	Election Misc Expense	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
					0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total BCA/ELECTION		5,600	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-34 AUDITORS/DELINQ TAX							
100-3400-10.00	Auditors Salaries	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00		
100-3400-11.00	Audit/Independent	20,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3440-10.00	Delinq Tax Penaty Paymen	5,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3440-34.01	Delinq Tax Collectors Exp	100	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3440-40.00	Education-Auditors & D.Tx	50	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
					0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total AUDITORS/DELINQ TAX		25,150	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-35 LISTERS							
100-3500-09.00	Assessor Contract Svcs	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00		
100-3500-10.00	Listers Salaries	22,880	3,322.50	14.52%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
					3,322.50	14.52%	0.00

100-3500-10.01	Reappraisal	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-20.00	Tax Mapping	1,250	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-30.10	Membership Dues	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-40.00	Education Listers	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-50.00	Supplies/Equipment	200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-60.04	Software	865	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-60.05	Computer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-74.00	Travel	200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3500-74.01	Listing Subcontractors	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total LISTERS		25,395	3,322.50	13.08%	3,322.50	0.1308	0.00
100-36 PLANNING/DRB/ZONING					0.00	0	
100-3600-10.01	Planning Comm Stipend	2,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3600-10.02	PC Minute Clerk	1,800	170.50	9.47%	170.50	9.47%	0.00
100-3600-30.00	Planning Legal Notices	750	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3600-40.00	Planning Admin Education	300	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3600-60.01	Planning Legal & Professi	1,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3600-60.02	Planning Special Proje	7,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3600-60.06	Wastewater Project RF1-26	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3600-60.07	VCDP - Grant - Pigeon Pro	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3600-99.00	Planning Maps & Miscellan	500	0.00	0.00%	120.00	24.00%	(120.00)
100-3601-09.00	Planning Consultant	0	238.00	100.00%	238.00	100.00%	0.00
100-3601-10.00	Town Planner Salary	30,836	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3601-10.01	Planning Assistant	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3601-40.00	Town Planner Education	250	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3601-60.05	Town Planner Computer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3601-74.00	Town Planner Travel	200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3620-20.00	DRB Stipend	2,800	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3620-30.00	DRB Legal Notices	500	147.16	29.43%	214.76	42.95%	(67.60)
100-3620-40.00	DRB Education	100	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3620-41.00	DRB Minutes	300	44.00	14.67%	44.00	14.67%	0.00
100-3620-42.00	DRB Grant Writer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3620-60.01	DRB Legal & Professional	2,000	420.03	21.00%	420.03	21.00%	0.00
100-3620-99.00	DRB Miscellaneous	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3650-10.00	Zoning Admin Salary	62,462	14,921.19	23.89%	14,921.19	23.89%	0.00
100-3650-40.00	Zoning Admin Education	500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3650-60.01	Zoning Admin Legal & Prof	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3650-60.05	Zoning Admin Computer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3650-74.00	Zoning Admin Travel	300	13.06	4.35%	13.06	4.35%	0.00
100-3650-75.00	Zoning Admin CCRPC-BWQC	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3650-99.00	Zoning Admin Miscellaneou	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total PLANNING/DRB/ZONING		113,598	15,953.94	14.04%	16,141.54	0.1421	(187.60)
100-37 TOWN OFF BLDG & PROPERTY					0.00	0	
100-3700-68.00	Maintenance/Repairs	5,000	1,423.00	28.46%	1,423.00	28.46%	0.00
100-3700-69.00	1705 Route 128 Property	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3700-70.00	Custodial Services	2,600	610.00	23.46%	960.00	36.92%	(350.00)
100-3700-71.00	Mowing	10,000	2,000.00	20.00%	3,000.00	30.00%	(1,000.00)
100-3700-75.00	Fuel	1,700	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3700-76.00	Electric	3,000	1,179.13	39.30%	1,179.13	39.30%	0.00
100-3700-77.00	Telephone	3,200	396.91	12.40%	598.74	18.71%	(201.83)
100-3700-78.00	Water Office & Library	600	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3700-79.00	Common Port-o-let	1,500	750.00	50.00%	750.00	50.00%	0.00
100-3700-81.00	Improvements	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3700-81.01	Septic System Upgrade	30,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3700-82.10	Maple Shade Town Forest	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-3700-83.00	Sports Field Maintenance	5,000	5,114.32	102.29%	5,114.32	102.29%	0.00
Total TOWN OFF BLDG & PROPERTY		62,600	11,473.36	18.33%	13,025.19	0.2081	(1,551.83)
100-38 CUSTODIANS					0.00	0	

100-3800-10.00	Custodian Contract	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total CUSTODIANS		0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-41 DOG WARDEN							
100-4100-10.00	Salary	300	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4100-40.00	Education	50	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4100-74.00	Travel	50	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4100-75.00	Dog Shelter Expense	200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4190-00.00	Miscellaneous	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total DOG WARDEN		600	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.44
100-42 LAW ENFORCEMENT							
100-4200-00.00	Law Enforcement Contract	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4200-10.00	State Police	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4200-20.00	Chittenden County Sheriff	26,500	3,920.00	14.79%	3,920.00	14.79%	0.00
100-4200-30.00	CUSI	1,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total LAW ENFORCEMENT		27,500	3,920.00	14.25%	3,920.00	0.1425	0.00
100-43 EMERGENCY SERVICES							
100-4310-00.00	Essex Rescue	12,655	12,655.32	100.00%	12,655.32	100.00%	0.00
100-4320-00.00	Fairfax Rescue	14,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4330-00.00	Dispatching Services	15,160	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total EMERGENCY SERVICES		41,815	12,655.32	100.00%	12,655.32	0.3026	0.00
100-45 FIRE DEPARTMENT							
100-4500-00.00	Fire Department	69,086	15,000.00	21.71%	15,000.00	21.71%	0.00
100-4500-59.00	N/P 2018 Pumper Trk 9/07	28,852	25,882.83	89.71%	25,882.83	89.71%	0.00
100-4500-60.00	N/P Fire Utility Tr -4/04	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-4500-60.01	Capital Budget Fire Res E	39,730	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total FIRE DEPARTMENT		137,668	40,882.83	29.70%	40,882.83	29.70%	0.00
100-48 CONSERVATION							
100-4800-00.00	Conservation Commission	2,500	1,080.36	43.21%	1,080.36	43.21%	0.00
Total CONSERVATION		2,500	1,080.36	43.21%	1,080.36	0.4321	0.00
100-61 HEALTH OFFICER							
100-6100-10.00	Health Officer's Salary	300	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total HEALTH OFFICER		300	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-63 TRASH/RECYCLE							
100-6300-00.00	Solid Waste Disposal	262,955	70,492.89	26.81%	70,492.89	26.81%	0.00
100-6304-00.00	Recycle Bins	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-6305-00.00	Recycling Exp.	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-6306-00.00	Metals Recycling Exp	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total TRASH/RECYCLE		262,955	70,492.89	26.81%	70,492.89	26.81%	0.00
100-68 CEMETERY & TOWN PROPERTY							
100-6800-00.00	Cemetery Commission	9,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-6800-10.00	Cemetery Comm Stipend	450	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total CEMETERY & TOWN PROPERTY		9,450	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-78 LIBRARY							
100-7800-99.02	Transfer Out To Library	98,441	98,441.00	100.00%	98,441.00	100.00%	0.00

Total LIBRARY		98,441	98,441.00	100.00%	98,441.00	1	0.00
100-83 DEBT SERVICE					0.00	0	
100-8310-13.00	N/P Spiller House -9/30	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-8310-14.00	N/P Maple Shade Town Forr	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total DEBT SERVICE		0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0	0.00
100-93 DUES/ASSESSMENTS					0.00	0	
100-9300-30.10	Chittenden County Tax	15,000	6,904.50	46.03%	6,904.50	46.03%	0.00
100-9300-30.11	CCMPO	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9300-30.12	CCRPC	3,253	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9300-30.13	VLCT	4,139	4,139.00	100.00%	4,139.00	100.00%	0.00
Total DUES/ASSESSMENTS		22,392	11,043.50	49.32%	11,043.50	0.4932	0.00
100-99 DONATIONS/MISC					0.00	0	
100-9900-00.00	Miscellaneous Expense	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-01.00	TLC Grant 04-05	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-01.01	Donations - Other	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-02.00	Misc Jackson Forest	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-04.00	Opioid Settlement Fund	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-05.00	Brick Meeting House	2,500	1,228.00	49.12%	1,228.00	49.12%	0.00
100-9900-05.01	Westford Common Hall	2,500	2,500.00	100.00%	2,500.00	100.00%	0.00
100-9900-05.02	Summer Concert Series	2,700	2,700.00	100.00%	2,700.00	100.00%	0.00
100-9900-05.03	Historical Society	1,500	775.13	51.68%	775.13	51.68%	0.00
100-9900-07.00	Conservation Appropriatio	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-08.00	Rec Dept Appropriation	750	500.00	66.67%	500.00	66.67%	0.00
100-9900-09.00	Grant Matching Appropriat	25,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-10.00	Covered Bridge Restoratio	12,000	28,000.00	233.33%	28,000.00	233.33%	0.00
100-9900-11.00	Stop Payment Refunds	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9900-12.00	Veterans Banners-EXP	600	690.00	115.00%	690.00	115.00%	0.00
100-9900-99.00	TRANSFER OUT GL	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9905-00.00	Visiting Nurse	6,500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9910-00.00	Agency on Aging (Age Well	1,500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9920-00.00	Fairfax Fletcher & Westfd	100	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9930-00.00	Front Porch Forum	270	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9931-00.00	GBIC- Greater Burl Indust	200	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9932-00.00	Winooski Natural Resource	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9933-00.00	Essex High School Robotic	300	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9934-00.00	Winterfest	750	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9936-00.00	Westford Farmers Market	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9937-00.00	Howard Center	750	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9940-00.00	Steps to End Domestic Vio	300	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9941-00.00	Hope Works	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9942-00.00	VT Center Independent Liv	100	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9943-00.00	VT Family Network	250	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9944-00.00	COTS-Committee on Temp Sh	250	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9945-00.00	CHIPS	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9950-00.00	Brookside Cemetery	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
100-9951-00.00	Pleasant View Cemetery	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total DONATIONS/MISC		58,820	36,393.13	61.87%	36,393.13	0.6187	0.00
Total Expenditures		1,295,975	387,398.02	29.89%	393,304.10	0.3035	(5,906.08)
Total GENERAL FUND		49,451	1,303,610.30		1,220,903.74	0	
110-20 HWY CURRENT TAX REVENUE					0.00	0	
110-2000-00.00	Current Taxes Hwy	1,103,596	183,932.68	16.67%	275,899.02	25.00%	(91,966.34)
Total HWY CURRENT TAX REVENUE		1,103,596	183,932.68	16.67%	275,899.02	0.25	(91,966.34)

110-2705-00.00	Transfer In	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-2910-00.00	Use of Cash on Hand	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-50 HIGHWAY DEPT REVENUE					0.00	0	
110-5000-19.00	State Grants	200,000	0.00	0.00%	200,000.00	100.00%	(200,000.00)
110-5000-19.01	Rogers Rd Culvert 2020	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-19.02	Rollin Irish Rd NWRPC GRT	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-19.03	Old Stage Road Grant	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-20.00	Note Proceeds New Vehicle	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-25.00	Proceeds Sale of Equipmen	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-30.00	Reimburse Hwy School Exp	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-40.00	State Aid Roads Hwy	100,000	27,601.08	27.60%	27,601.08	27.60%	0.00
110-5000-40.01	Better Roads/RPC Grants	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-40.02	CCRPC Grant Hwy Projects	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-44.00	FEMA OCT 2017 WIND STORM	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-45.00	FEMA July 2023 Flood Cowi	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-49.00	Hwy Insurance Claim	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-50.00	FEMA Oct 2019 halloween S	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-51.00	FEMA Public Safety Dec 20	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5000-90.00	Misc Highway Revenue	0	2,650.55	100.00%	2,650.55	100.00%	0.00
Total HIGHWAY DEPT REVENUE		300,000	30251.63	10.1%	230,251.63	0.7675	(200,000.00)
Total Revenues		1,403,596	214,184.31	15.26%	506,150.65	0.3606	(291,966.34)
110-51 HIGHWAY DEPT - ROADS					0.00	0	
					0.00	0	
110-5100-10.00	Highway Salaries	365,071	74,024.32	20.28%	74,024.32	20.28%	0.00
110-5100-14.00	FICA/MEDI Expense	27,928	5,464.06	19.56%	5,464.06	19.56%	0.00
110-5100-14.10	Childcare Tax	1,606	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-15.00	Health Ins Expense	45,000	12,345.18	27.43%	12,345.18	27.43%	0.00
110-5100-15.01	Dental Expense	1,940	489.84	25.25%	489.84	25.25%	0.00
110-5100-15.02	Disability Insurance Hwy	1,225	390.40	31.87%	390.40	31.87%	0.00
110-5100-15.03	Vision Ins Expense	435	72.48	16.66%	72.48	16.66%	0.00
110-5100-16.00	Pension Expense	10,796	1,729.47	16.02%	1,729.47	16.02%	0.00
110-5100-17.00	Unemployment	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-22.00	Gravel - Road Resurfacing	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-23.00	Town Ditching	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-24.00	Gravel	100,000	27,152.44	27.15%	28,092.74	28.09%	(940.30)
110-5100-24.01	Gravel - Road Rebuilding	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-24.02	Chloride	50,000	17,359.55	34.72%	17,359.55	34.72%	0.00
110-5100-24.03	Culverts	7,500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-24.04	Road Fabric	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-24.05	Hot Mix & Cold Patch	2,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-24.06	Guardrails & Fences	1,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-24.07	Seed & Mulch	2,000	1,237.03	61.85%	1,237.03	61.85%	0.00
110-5100-24.08	Signs	2,500	1,555.17	62.21%	1,555.17	62.21%	0.00
110-5100-24.09	Stone for Culverts-Draina	7,500	1,204.00	16.05%	2,709.00	36.12%	(1,505.00)
110-5100-25.01	Sand	119,000	70,250.46	59.03%	83,984.04	70.57%	(13,733.58)
110-5100-25.02	Salt	28,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-25.03	Chains	5,500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-26.01	Gravel - Mud Season	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-26.02	Gravel - Unusual events	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-27.00	Blades	5,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-28.00	Tires	9,000	231.50	2.57%	231.50	2.57%	0.00
110-5100-58.00	Equipment Rental	3,000	0.00	0.00%	162.15	5.41%	(162.15)
110-5100-59.00	Contr. Services-Reg Maint	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.01	Contr. Services-Mud Seas.	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.02	Contr. Services-Misc.	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.04	Contr. Serv.-Tree Removal	7,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.05	Contr. Serv.-Roadside Mow	10,400	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.06	Contr. Ser-Unusual events	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.07	Contr. Serv.-Engineering	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.08	Contr.Serv.-Ditching	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00

110-5100-59.11	High Priority Road Projec	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.15	Highway Cap't Budget Proj	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-59.16	Equipment Reserve Fund	55,230	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-60.00	State Grants	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-60.01	Rogers Rd Culvert - 2020	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-62.02	Westford Milton Rd Paving	0	200,000.00	100.00%	200,000.00	100.00%	0.00
110-5100-62.03	Old Stage Road Grant	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-62.04	Cambridge Rd Paving	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.00	N/P 2012 Vol Grader-9/28	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.01	N/P 2014 West Star-8/05	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.02	N/P 2014 Ford F-550-2/21	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.03	N/P 2015 J. Deere Loader	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.04	N/P Current Exp Seymour 4	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.05	N/P Grant Anticipation	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.06	N/P 2017 West Star 7/05	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.07	N/P 2018 West Star-9/08	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.08	N/P 2020 International HX	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.09	N/P J.Deere/75G Excavator	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.10	N/P 2021 Chevrolet Silver	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.11	2022 Chevrolet Silverado	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.12	N/P 2023 GRADER 4/21/24	45,909	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.13	N/P 2024 47X WESTERN STAR	32,212	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.14	N/P NEW TRUCK 2025	32,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-65.15	2025 CAT 275 SKID STEER	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-66.00	Loan Interest N/P	13,248	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.00	R/M #527-Tk 2024 47X	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.01	#518-Tk 2014 - Ford F-550	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.02	#515 2008 Excavator Cat	5,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.03	#516 2012 Grader - Volvo	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.04	#524-TK 2021 Chevrolet Si	500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.07	#504-Tk 2000 Int'l 250	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.08	#522-Tk 2020 Internat'l	0	662.83	100.00%	1,243.35	100.00%	(580.52)
110-5100-67.09	#509-Tk 2005 Int'l Tandem	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.10	#523-J.Deere/75G Excav't	4,000	125.14	3.13%	125.14	3.13%	0.00
110-5100-67.11	#517-Tk 2014 West'r'n Star	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.12	Brush Hog	1,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.13	#519 2015 J Deere Loader	5,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.14	#520-Tk 2017 West'r'n Star	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.15	Hydroseeder	1,000	79.78	7.98%	79.78	7.98%	0.00
110-5100-67.16	#521-Tk 2018 West'r'n Star	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.17	Wood Chipper (used 2015)	500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.18	#525-Tk 2022 Chev Silvera	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.19	#526-Tk 2023 GRADER	5,500	3,490.66	63.47%	3,490.66	63.47%	0.00
110-5100-67.20	John Deere Roller	500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.21	Power Washer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-67.22	#527-Tk 2024 47X Western	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-68.01	Repairs & Maint-Trucks	23,000	3,158.03	13.73%	3,158.03	13.73%	0.00
110-5100-68.05	Repairs & Maint-Sander	500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-68.06	Repairs & Maint-Sm Equip	2,000	155.67	7.78%	155.67	7.78%	0.00
110-5100-74.00	Travel Expense	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-75.01	Diesel Fuel	65,000	0.00	0.00%	13,277.95	20.43%	(13,277.95)
110-5100-75.02	Propane Gas - Generator	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-76.00	Streets - Electricity	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-95.00	Chloride tanks & pumps	500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5100-99.00	Transfer Out	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Total HIGHWAY DEPT - ROADS		1,106,000	421,178.01	38.08%	451,377.51	40.81%	(30,199.50)
110-52 HIGHWAY DEPT - PERMITS							
110-5200-20.00	MRGP Stormwater Permit	1,750	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	77.14%
110-5200-30.00	Petroleum Cleanup Fund	50	50.00	100.00%	50.00	100.00%	100.00%
Total HIGHWAY DEPT - PERMITS		1,800	50.00	2.78%	50.00	0.0278	0.00

110-53 HIGHWAY DEPT - GARAGE							
110-5300-20.00	Supplies	5,000	298.94	5.98%	0.00	0	
110-5300-21.00	Oil & Grease - Minor's Ga	1,300	94.51	7.27%	298.94	5.98%	0.00
110-5300-22.00	Shop Tools & Equipment	1,000	165.56	16.56%	94.51	7.27%	0.00
110-5300-23.00	Equipment	2,000	1,500.00	75.00%	165.56	16.56%	0.00
110-5300-24.00	Communication Equipment	1,500	2,140.00	142.67%	1,500.00	75.00%	0.00
110-5300-25.00	Personal Protective Equip	1,000	0.00	0.00%	2,140.00	142.67%	0.00
110-5300-40.00	Education Workshops	500	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-48.00	Property Casualty W/C Ins	40,500	20,074.79	49.57%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-50.00	Fire/Security System	1,500	0.00	0.00%	20,074.79	49.57%	0.00
110-5300-60.00	IT Service & Software	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-60.05	Computer	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-68.00	Bldg Maint & Repairs	6,000	21.19	35.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-68.10	Garage Drain	0	0.00	0.00%	21.19	0.35%	0.00
110-5300-71.00	Salt Shed Reserve	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-76.00	Electricity	4,000	693.78	17.34%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-77.00	Telephone	1,910	131.02	6.86%	693.78	17.34%	0.00
110-5300-78.00	Water	100	0.00	0.00%	131.02	6.86%	0.00
110-5300-81.00	Bldg Improvements	10,000	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-83.00	Storage Shed	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-85.00	Clothing Allowance	2,400	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
110-5300-99.00	Miscellaneous	1,000	83.31	8.33%	0.00	0.00%	0.00
					83.31	8.33%	0.00
Total HIGHWAY DEPT - GARAGE		79,710	25,203.10	31.62%	25,203.10	31.62%	0.00
Total Expenditures		1,187,510	446,431.11	37.59%	476,630.61	40.14%	(30,199.50)
Total HIGHWAY FUND		216,086	-232,246.80		29,520.04		
Total All Funds		265,537	1,071,363.50		1,250,423.78		

Tommy O'Connor

From: Tommy O'Connor
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2026 9:41 AM
To: selectboard1
Subject: FW: Timeline on Bond Re-Vote

From: Tommy O'Connor
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2026 10:29 AM
To: 'David W. Rugh' <drugh@firmspf.com>
Subject: RE: Timeline on Bond Re-Vote

Thank you

The dates are September 10 and 24.

Appreciate this.

From: David W. Rugh <drugh@firmspf.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2026 10:27 AM
To: Tommy O'Connor <toconnor@westfordvt.us>
Subject: RE: Timeline on Bond Re-Vote

Hi Tommy,

There's really only four dates, one of which is an upcoming Selectboard meeting, as follows:

- September 24, 2026 – Selectboard approval of Necessity Resolution, Warning, Form of Ballot and Declaration of Intent.
- September 30-October 2, 2026 – Deadline for Selectboard to post approved Warning for Special Town Meeting for November 3rd (between 30-40 days before the meeting) in 3 places (one being Town Clerk's Office). This Warning needs to be published too, no later than 5 days before the meeting.
- November 2, 2026 – Informational meeting on bond vote (required for an Australian ballot vote). SB can change this date to weekend before if desired.
- November 3, 2026 – Special Town Meeting.

I'm not sure what dates the SB is meeting in September, but I'll have the necessary documents ready the Monday before if you let me know when it wants to consider them.

Thanks,
Dave

p.s. I'm generally out today and Monday traveling, but I'll follow-up next week, if not sooner.

David W. Rugh, Esq.
SP&F Attorneys, P.C.
171 Battery Street
P.O. Box 1507
Burlington, VT 05402-1507
Phone: 802-660-2555
drugh@firmspf.com

From: Tommy O'Connor <toconnor@westfordvt.us>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2026 9:45 AM
To: David W. Rugh <drugh@firmspf.com>
Subject: Timeline on Bond Re-Vote

Good morning David,

The selectboard asked if a timeline could be shared in regards to the bond re-vote. They understand that you are taking the lead in the creation of language and proper warning articles etc...

They are just wanting to know when those items and other specifics are happening so they can be up to date when being asked by the public. Is there any way to get a rough timeline that I can share with them? I am creating one for other town related activities and will just add those dates to it.

Thanks again.

Tommy O'Connor
Town Administrator
1713 VT Route 128
Westford, VT 05494



This email message, along with any response or reply, is considered a public record, and thus, subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Law (1 V.S.A. §§ 315-320).

Tommy O'Connor

From: David W. Rugh <drugh@firm SPF.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2026 12:13 PM
To: Tommy O'Connor; Pat Haller
Cc: selectboard; Matt Bloomer
Subject: Fire Truck Bond - Necessity Resolution, Declaration of Official Intent, etc.
Attachments: WED26-004 (Fire Tanker Truck) Draft Notice Declare Intent 26-09-20 BONDS.docx; WED26-001 (Fire Tanker Truck) Draft Nec Res 26-09-20 BONDS.docx; WED26-003 (Fire Tanker Truck) Draft Form of Ballot Fire Truck 26-09-20 BONDS.docx; WED26-002 (Fire Tanker Truck) Draft Warning Special Town Meeting 11-03-26 BONDS.docx

Good morning,

Please find attached hereto the following documents for the Selectboard's consideration and approval on Thursday evening in connection with the financing for the new fire tanker truck that's on order:

1. Necessity Resolution – this may be approved by simple motion and essentially states that the costs of the truck are too great to be paid out of the Town's ordinary income and approves the Warning for the Special Town Meeting and Form of Ballot for the same (we realize the bond article will be on the general election ballot, but the SB needs to approve the Resolution with a Form of Ballot regardless).
 - a. Special Town Meeting Warning – this needs to be approved by a separate motion from the Necessity Resolution and signed by a majority of Selectboard and Callie once she receives it for recording in the Town's records
 - b. Form of Ballot – Keep this with the Necessity Resolution.
 - c. Note there is two pieces of information missing in both the Resolution and Special Town Meeting Warning – the first is the time when the Selectboard will hold the Public Informational Hearing on October 26th, and the second is the Zoom/Teams/etc. link for remote access to the PIH if the Town decides to allow for remote access.
2. Declaration of Official Intent – this may be approved by a simple motion to approve the Declaration of Official Intent. This Declaration allows the Town to use 5% of the bond issuance to repay "de minimis expenses" that were incurred prior to issuance of the indebtedness. In this case, the Town paid an advanced, "chassis payment" in the amount of \$160,000, and although we cannot recover the entirety of that amount now due to when that was paid and the limits of federal tax-exempt bond regulations, the Town can recover 5% of the amount of the indebtedness and use it to re-pay a portion of pre-issuance chassis payment as "de minimis expense," in this case \$22,500.
3. Following approval of the Necessity Resolution, Declaration of Official Intent, and the Special Town Meeting Warning, the Town will need to follow special rules for warning the Special Town Meeting with a bond vote article. Per 24 V.S.A. § 1756, the signed Special Town Meeting Warning will need to be posted in five* places in the Town, at least 30 days before the Special Town Meeting, and it should be published in the Town's newspaper of record for three consecutive weeks on the same day of the week, with the last date falling not more than 10, and no less than 5, days before November 3rd. We previously suggested that the Special Town Meeting Warning be published on a day certain that's either a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday in the weeks beginning October 12th, 19th and 26th.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the foregoing in the coming days. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend Thursday's Selectboard meeting in-person because I will be out of town that

evening, but if needed, I can be available by telephone (cell – 410-913-0864) if there are any last minute questions or concerns regarding approval of the Necessity Resolution, Special Town Meeting Warning, and Declaration of Official Intent on Thursday night. I'm hopeful that the foregoing is sufficiently specific that there won't be any questions, or at least that they can be addressed in advance, but feel free to call on Thursday evening if something pops up.

Thanks,
Dave

* In a prior email to Tommy, I mistakenly wrote "three" places, which was a mistake. The Warning needs to be physically posted physically in five places.

David W. Rugh, Esq.
SP&F Attorneys, P.C.
171 Battery Street
P.O. Box 1507
Burlington, VT 05402-1507
Phone: 802-660-2555
drugh@firm SPF.com

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This E-Mail transmission and any accompanying documents contain information that may be subject to the attorney-client or attorney work product privilege and therefore are CONFIDENTIAL and legally PRIVILEGED. Neither the confidentiality nor the privilege is waived by this transmission. If you have received this transmission in error, be advised that any disclosure, copying, distribution, preservation or action taken in reliance on the contents of the information in this transmission is strictly prohibited, and you are asked to please immediately notify the sender by reply e-mail or by calling 802-660-2555 and delete this message and all attachments from your storage files. Thank you.

NECESSITY RESOLUTION
New Fire Tanker Truck

RESOLVED at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Westford ("Town"), duly noticed for and held on September 24, 2026, it was determined by the Selectboard that public interest and necessity demand that the Town replace an existing fire tanker truck that has reached or is expected to soon reach the end of its useful service life with a new fire tanker truck, and that the Town pay not more than Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$472,500) to acquire and equip the new fire tanker truck (the "Project"); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the costs of the Project, after application of any funds from the Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund, are too great to be paid out of the ordinary annual income, revenue, and available resources of the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposition of incurring general obligation debt for the Project cannot be delayed or postponed until the next Annual Meeting of the Town in March 2027, and therefore a Special Town Meeting is required to be warned, noticed, and held to consider the proposition of incurring general obligation debt for the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a proposal for the issuance of general obligation indebtedness of the Town in an aggregate amount not to exceed Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$472,500) to be repaid over a term not to exceed ten (10) years, more or less, to fund the Project should be submitted to the legal voters of the Town to be voted by Australian ballot at a meeting duly warned and held Tuesday, November 3, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Selectboard will hold a public informational hearing on the bond issue proposition on Monday, October 26, 2026, commencing at seven o'clock in the afternoon (7:00 p.m.) to be held in-person at the Westford Town Office, 1713 Vermont Route 128, Westford, and also electronically in an online platform, the specific details and dial-in numbers for the on-line platform will be as specified in the Warning for the Special Town Meeting and the warning for the public informational meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all acts relating to the proposition of incurring indebtedness and the issuance of general obligation debt for the purpose of the Project be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 53 of Title 24, Vermont Statutes Annotated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached Warning and form of Ballot are specifically adopted for use in connection with consideration of the proposition of

undertaking the identified capital equipment acquisition project and incurring indebtedness therefor.

Approved this 24th day of September, 2026.

WESTFORD SELECTBOARD

Patrick Haller, Chair

Julia Andrews, Vice Chair

Casey Mathieu

Deborah Sawyer Jorschick

Nick Nichols

Received for record September 25, 2026, at _____ a.m.

Attest:

Callie Hamdy, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF WESTFORD
OFFICIAL BALLOT
NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

ARTICLE 1

Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Westford in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$472,500), subject to reduction by funds from the Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund, and having a maximum term of ten (10) years, more or less, be issued to fund the purchase and equipping of a fire tanker truck for the Westford Fire Department?

If in favor of the bond issue, make a cross (X) in this square ☐

If opposed of the bond issue, make a cross (X) in this square ☐

**OFFICIAL WARNING
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - TOWN OF WESTFORD**

The legal voters of the Town of Westford are hereby notified and warned to meet for a Special Town Meeting at the Westford Elementary School, 146 Brookside Road, in said Town of Westford on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, to vote on the following article by Australian ballot beginning at 7:00 a.m., at which time the polls will open, until 7:00 p.m., at which time the polls will close.

The legal voters of the Town of Westford are further warned that the Selectboard will hold a public informational hearing on the following article to be voted by Australian ballot at the Westford Town Office, 1713 Vermont Route 128, in said Town of Westford on Monday, October 26th, at 7:00 p.m. Voters may participate in the public informational hearing in-person or remotely at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87355728277?pwd=Zbp7pc2pw4gjaqcw6kci0Ea5qkpfu9.1>

ARTICLE TO BE VOTED BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

ARTICLE 1 Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Westford in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$472,500), subject to reduction by funds from the Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund, and having a maximum term of ten (10) years, more or less, be issued to fund the purchase and equipping of a fire tanker truck for the Westford Fire Department?

The legal voters of the Town of Westford are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said Annual Meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Approved this 24th day of September, 2026.

WESTFORD SELECTBOARD

Patrick Haller, Chair

Julia Andrews, Vice Chair

Casey Mathieu

Deborah Sawyer Jorschick

Nick Nichols

Received for record September 25, 2026, at _____ a.m.

Attest: _____
Callie Hamdy, Town Clerk

Posted at: Westford Town Office, Westford School, Westford Library, Westford Post Office, Westford Provisions (Store), and Town of Westford Website.

**DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT OF
TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT TO REIMBURSE
CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FROM PROCEEDS OF INDEBTEDNESS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Westford, Vermont (the "Issuer") intends to purchase a new fire tanker truck at a cost estimated to be Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$472,500) (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS the Issuer expects to pay certain de minimis capital expenditures (the "Reimbursement Expenditures") in connection with the Project prior to the issuance of indebtedness for the purpose of financing costs associated with the Project on a long-term basis;

WHEREAS the Issuer reasonably expects that for that part of the Project consisting of pre-indebtedness issuance expenses, debt obligations in an amount not expected to exceed Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$472,500) will be issued, and that certain of the proceeds of such debt obligations will be used to reimburse the Reimbursement Expenditures; and

WHEREAS the Issuer declares its reasonable official intent to reimburse prior expenditures for the above-described part of the Project with proceeds of a subsequent borrowing.

NOW THEREFORE, the Issuer declares:

Section 1. The Issuer finds and determines that the foregoing recitals are true and correct, and that all of the capital expenditures covered by this Resolution will be used to pay for the Project and de minimis Reimbursable Expenditures not to exceed five percent (5%) of the indebtedness, or One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000), whichever is lower.

Section 2. This declaration is made solely for the purposes of establishing compliance with the requirements of Section 1.150-2 of the Treasury Regulations. This declaration does not bind the Issuer to make any expenditure, incur any indebtedness, or proceed with the Project.

Section 3. The Issuer hereby declares its official intent to use proceeds of indebtedness to reimburse itself for de minimis Reimbursement Expenditures within 18 months of either the date of the first expenditure of funds by Issuer for such Project or the date that such Project is placed in service, whichever is later (but in no event more than three years after the date of the original expenditure of Issuer funds for such Project), and to allocate an amount not to exceed \$22,500.00 of the proceeds thereof to reimburse itself for its expenditures in connection with the Project.

Section 4. The Issuer's debt obligations for the aforementioned purpose will

not be “private activity bonds” within the meaning of Section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Section 5. All prior actions of the officials and agents of Issuer that are in conformity with the purpose and intent of this Resolution and in furtherance of the Project shall be and the same hereby are in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 6. All other resolutions of the legislative body of the Issuer, or parts of resolutions, inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 7. It is hereby found that all discussions and deliberations of the legislative body of the Issuer leading to the adoption of this Resolution occurred at one or more meetings of the legislative body conducted pursuant to public notice and open to public attendance.

Section 8. This declaration shall take effect upon its adoption.

Dated this 24th day of September, 2026.

TOWN OF WESTFORD SELECTBOARD

Patrick Haller, Chair

Julia Andrews, Vice Chair

Casey Mathieu

Deborah Sawyer Jorschick

Nick Nichols

The undersigned, Clerk of the Issuer, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the declaration of the legislative body of said Issuer duly made at a meeting thereof held on the date, specified below, and that said declaration was not amended, modified or revoked.

Callie Hamdy, Town Clerk

DATE: September 24, 2026

Tommy O'Connor

From: dickstr lavallee <dickstr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2026 10:46 PM
To: TownAdmin
Cc: selectboard
Subject: Fw: draft for Tommy for agenda item

Tommy O'conner
Westford Town Administrator
cc:Town of Westford Select Board

For the upcoming September 24, 2026 select board meeting, please add a line item to the agenda for the select board to reconsider and re-vote on their recent decision to implement selective trail closures (ROW) within the Westford town trail system from October 1, 2026 to December 14, 2026. The attached petition shows there is compelling public opinion to revisit the vote.

We respectfully ask the Selectboard to consider this new information. There is a petition signed by 119 (and counting) of Westford residents requesting that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years regardless of the time of year and hunting season. It appears that there is a significant desire of many residents to respect the right of the public to access these legal, public trails with deeded rights of way (ROW). As the Tunbridge legal decision recently made clear, these legal trails belong to the public.

A Seperate e-mail is submitted electronically with all the residents signatures for the petition from Westford residents. A hard copy was also submitted to Tommy O'conner by Sept 17, 2026.

Respectively submitted
Dick Lavallee
39 Old Number 11 Road
Westford, Vt 05494
phone 802-879-4269

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

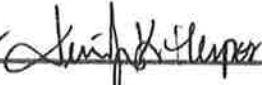
Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

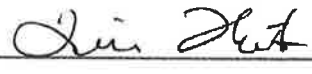
Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

Jennifer K Harper  33 Phillips Lane ☒

Eric Harper  33 Phillips Lane ☒

Kimberlee Phillips  9 Phillips Lane ☒

Alex Carmical 325 Old #11 Rd ☒

Tracy Thornton  325 Old #11 Rd ☒

Herdi Tardie 97 Machia Hill Rd. ☒

Ken Tardie 97 Machia Hill Rd. ☒

Stacey Lee 82 Old Number 11 Rd ☒

N. Park 201 Old Number 11 Rd ☒

☐

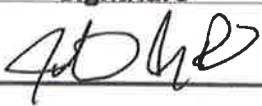
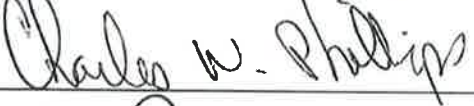
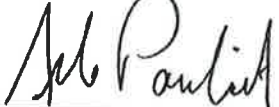
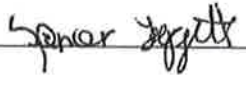
PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name	Signature	Physical Address	Registered Voter
Jon Brown		67 Covey Rd Westford VT 05494	☒
Cathy for Cole		11	☒
William McClintock		10 Forest Lane, Westford	☒
Martha McClintock		↓	☒
Charles W. Phillips			☒
Art Paulin			☒
Raymond Gernache		35 Seymour Road Westford, VT.	☒
Kimberly Leggett		15 Stoney Ridge, Westford VT 05494	☒
Spencer Leggett		15 Stoney Ridge, Westford VT 05494	☒
John Leggett		109 Cambridge Rd Westford VT	☒

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

DEBRA KETTER Debra Ketter 80 Old #11 Rd ☒

Connie Denev Connie Denev 191 Old #11 Rd. ☒

Steve Willard Stu Willard 191 Old Number 11 Rd ☒

Jim Bainville Jim Bainville 535 Cambridge Rd ☒

June Ross June Ross 30 Old #11 ☒

Cliff Ross Cliff Ross 30 Old #11 ☒

LARRY WHITE Larry White 161 Covey Rd ☒

Robin Belanger Robin A. Belanger Rd Covey Rd. ☐

Alex Chase Alex Chase 80 Covey Rd ☒

Edward Chase Edward Chase 80 Covey Rd ☒

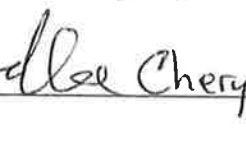
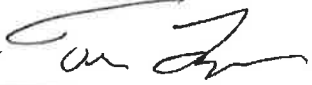
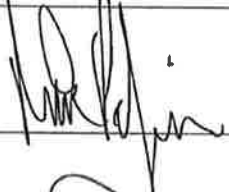
PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name	Signature	Physical Address	Registered Voter
Dave Lavallee		138 Old #11 Rd	☒
Cheryl Lavallee		138 Old #11 Rd	☒
Pick Lavallee		39 Old #11 Rd	☒
Tess Lavallee		39 Old #11 Rd	☒
Travis Lavallee		1560 Rt 128	☒
Sara Lavallee		1601 Rt 128	☒
Ted Lavallee		1601 Rt 128	☒
Mark Pelogin		1075 Osgood Hill	☒
Beth Pelogin		1075 Osgood Hill	☒
Harry Gaudin		74 MacPica Hill Rd	☒

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

Laurie Light *[Signature]* 74 Machigittiquid Rd ☒

Becky Roy *[Signature]* 143 Old #11 Road ☒

Alexander Roy *[Signature]* 143 Old #11 Road ☒

Glenn Minor 188 Corey Rd ☒

~~Andrew~~ Andrew ^{E Roy} 143 Old #11 Rd ☐

R. ~~At~~ 112 Old #11 ☒

Nick 102 Old #11 ☐

Ricky Bonnard 92 Old #11 ☒

Pat LeFrance 52 Old #11 ☐

Andrea Loh *[Signature]* 156 Cambridge Rd ☒

MARK LETORNEY *[Signature]* 156 CAMBRIDGE RD ☒

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name	Signature	Physical Address	Registered Voter
Michael N. Savigny	<i>Michael N. Savigny</i>	128 Cambridge Rd ^{Westford}	☒
Ann Drinkwine	<i>Ann Drinkwine</i>	34 Drinkwine Lane	☒
Clyde Drinkwine	<i>Clyde Drinkwine</i>	34 Drinkwine Lane	☒
Marjorie McIntosh	<i>Marjorie McIntosh</i>	201 Huntley	☒
Stacy Leveille	<i>Stacy Leveille</i>	127 Cambridge Road, Westford	☒
Garnett Bartlett	<i>Garnett Bartlett</i>	127 Cambridge Rd. Westford	☒
Ken W. Kearns	<i>Ken W. Kearns</i>	171 Covey Rd Westford	☒
Suzanne P. Keron	<i>Suzanne P. Keron</i>	171 Covey Rd Westford	☐
Heather Harmon	<i>Heather Harmon</i>	156 Covey Rd Westford	☐
Roger D. Thomas	<i>Roger D. Thomas</i>	80 Old #11 Rd Westford	☒

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

Mike Butler *MButler* 1630 Old Stage Rd ☒
1630 Old Stage Rd

Deborah Parente *DebParente* ☒

Dean Witham *Dean Witham* 175 Sap Line Drive ☒

Paul B. Birkholz ☒
PAUL BIRKHOFF 55 PEARWOOD LN Westford, VT

Don Poulton *Don Poulton* 24 White Church Ln. ☒

Ray Geddens *Ray Geddens* 22 White Church Ln ☒

Hori Johnson *Hori Johnson* 22 White Church Ln ☒

Carol Winfield *Carol Winfield* 57 Bouffard Ln ☒

Kelly Morrill *Kelly Morrill* 1030 Osgood Hill ☒

KRISTIN LECLAIR *K L Clr* 620 CAMBRIDGE ☒

RD

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

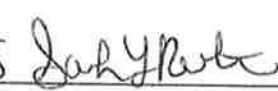
We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

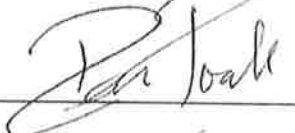
Elias Rosenblatt  6 Shady Ln ☒

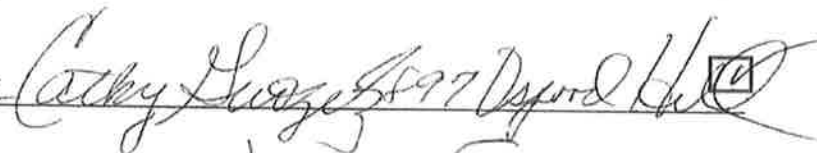
R. Kirsten Tyler  6 Shady Ln ☒

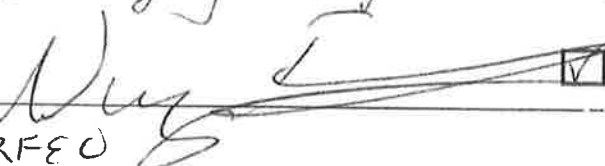
Sarah Roberts  24 Meadowlark Acres Rd ☒

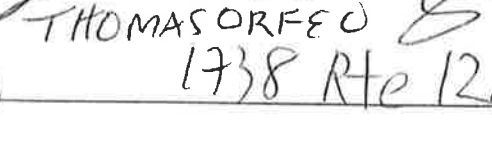
Nicole DeVoid  1302 Old Stage Rd ☒

Helen Skaling  600 Cambridge Rd ☒

Dale Poulton  24 White Birch Ln ☒

Cathy Gwozdz  597 Depot Hill ☒

Wayne Fleming  ☒

Thomas Orfeo  1738 Rte 128 ☒

Dale Rodgers  140 Huntley ☒

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

J. ALLEN *J. Allen* 1681 Rt 128 ☒

Kay Gundry *K. Gundry* 1681 Rt 128 ☒

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

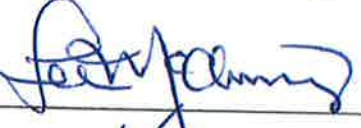
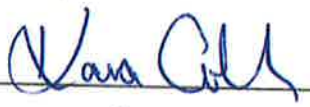
PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name	Signature	Physical Address	Registered Voter
Barbara Beck		1088 VT 128 Westford VT	☒
EDWARD MERRHAN		1088 VT RE 128 Westford VT	☒
Helen Stygges		425 Stygges Ln Westford, VT	☒
MAUREEN WILCOX		55 DEARWOOD LANE Westford, VT	☒
Lee McClenry		61 Sanctuary Rd Westford, VT	☒
KATHERINE LATIMER		61 SANCTUARY RD WESTFORD, VT	☒
Kara Collier		760 Sanctuary Rd Westford, VT	☒
Kerth Simpson		45 Sanctuary Rd Westford, VT	☒
Molly Lorette		22 Fieldstone Westford VT	☒
James Williams		22 Fieldstone Westford, VT	☒

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

Jennifer Simpson *[Signature]* 45 Sanctuary Rd Westford ☒

Leticia Noack *[Signature]* 18 Shady Ln.
Westford, VT. 05494 ☒

Thomas Noack *[Signature]* 18 Shady Ln.
Westford, VT. 05494 ☒

Martha Steady 56 Beaver Pond Rd Westford ☒

William Cleary 56 Beaver Pond Rd. Westford ☒

Robert L. Bancroft 405 Brookside Rd., Westford ☒

PATRICK GRANT 1217 Osgood Hill Rd ☒

Annie Williams 1217 Osgood Hill ☒

Oliver Spencer O.B. Spencer 773 Osgood Hill Rd ☒

☐

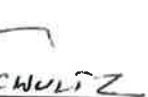
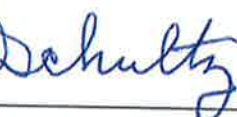
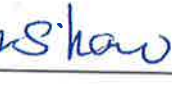
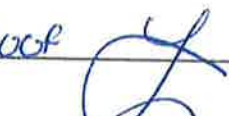
PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name	Signature	Physical Address	Registered Voter
Cori Hill		507 Old #11 Rd	☒
Norman Schultz		542 Old #11 Rd	☒
L. Jean Schultz		542 Old #11 Rd	☒
William Hill		507 Old #11 Rd	☒
Francois Ross		25 Kilburn Ln.	☒
Victoria Ross		25 Kilburn Ln.	☒
Dorey Hmslow		434 Old #11 Rd	☒
Susan Rediger		434 Old #11 Rd	☒
Elizabeth Ploof		323 Old #11 Rd	☒
Brad Ploof		323 Old #11 Rd	☒

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

GORDON GEBBARD  388 OLD #11 RD ☒

TINA SHOUP Tina Shoup 388 OLD #11 RD ☒

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

Ben Hamlin *[Signature]* 1659 VT-128 Westford, VT 05494 ☒

LAURA BENIS *[Signature]* 71 Stony Ridge " " " " ☒

Pat Osborne *[Signature]* " " " " ☒

JIM BODAN *[Signature]* 682 CAMBRIDGE RD 05494 ☒

Kyle Henes *[Signature]* 11 Bushey Lane Westford VT 05424 ☒

Ariel Henes *[Signature]* 11 Bushey Lane Westford VT 05494 ☒

☐

☐

☐

☐

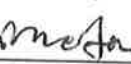
PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name	Signature	Physical Address	Registered Voter
HEATHER ARMATA		97 Deer Run Lane Westford, VT 05194	YES ☒
Peter Armata		87 Deer Run Lane Westford	YES ☒
PETE ARMATA JR		87 DEER RUN LN WESTFORD VT 05194	YES ☒
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

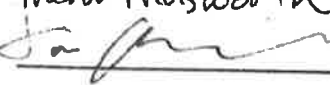
To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name Signature Physical Address Registered Voter

Sarah Pinto Strumfni 111 Machia Hill ☒

Trevor Ainsworth  111 Machia Hill Rd ☒

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revote on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system.

We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name	Signature	Physical Address	Registered Voter
------------	-----------	------------------	------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

Noreen Sila	Noreen Sila	112 Old #11 Rd	☒
-------------	-------------	----------------	-------------------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

			☐
--	--	--	--------------------------

PETITION TO THE SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, VERMONT

Subject: Request to Reconsider Vote on Selective Trail Closures within the Westford Town Trail System

To the Selectboard of the Town of Westford, Vermont:
We, the undersigned residents and legal voters of the Town of Westford, Vermont, respectfully request that the Selectboard reconsider and revoke on the recent decision to implement selective trail closures within the Westford Town Trail system. We formally request that these town trails remain open to all users for the current year and all subsequent years.

Print Name _____ **Signature** _____ **Physical Address** _____ **Registered Voter** ☐

Margaret Crawford 31 Bradford Ln. Yes ☒

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

Tommy O'Connor

From: Vicky Ross <vicky.ross1@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2026 8:23 PM
To: selectboard
Cc: dickstr lavallee
Subject: 8/13 Potential Trail Closure Agenda Item

Good evening to you all,

I do see that the SB Agenda for 8/13 listed this item under DISCUSSION

i. (8:10) Potential Seasonal Trail Closure (Goodrich, Covey, Shultz & Seymour)

This agenda item did not clearly articulate that this request was for hunting season, requested by 2 trail adjacent landowners, who are apparently avid hunters.

Nor did the agenda item mention that the seasonal trail closure time-period would be from October 1 through December 14. Nor did the agenda item mention that the board would be taking a vote on the question. I think listing it under DISCUSSION suggests action would not be taken within the 8/13 meeting.

My personal opinion is that it is unfortunate that the business of the town and Selectboard winds up pitting hikers against hunters. I believe there are many compromise options that were not considered. I think it is especially unfortunate for these very unique and special trails to be closed for the month of October, the very peak of Fall & Foliage season. We all know that the legal rights for access to these trails resides with the town of Westford, the people of Westford and others who may visit. But in an effort to meet part way, perhaps a shorter trail closure for hunting considerations could be set for November 1 – December 14, as one potential compromise worth thinking about.

I think you know that much broader interest on this topic has been percolating in recent weeks. I would suggest that it would be prudent for the Selectboard to list this as an Agenda item for the 9/24 meeting, in the early part of the agenda, as an item requiring action, making it clear that there will be additional discussion heard, more compromise options considered and a second vote held – with the benefit of much broader engagement and perspective from far more than a dozen Westford residents who happened to notice the agenda item and were able to attend the 8/13 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicky Ross

Tommy O'Connor

From: Lee McClenny <leemcclenny@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2026 1:54 PM
To: selectboard; TownAdmin
Subject: Fwd: Westford Front Porch Forum No. 6459

Pat et al --

Forwarding for your convenience, as my previous forwarded jpeg may well be too fuzzy to read when enlarged. Sorry! Hope this helps.

A number of us look forward to the matter of this petition being placed on the agenda of a SB meeting in the immediate future for a more fulsome discussion and further consideration.

Thank you!

Lee

Begin forwarded message:



Compose

[Forum](#)
[Calendar](#)
[Directory](#)
[Search](#)

Westford Forum

Issue No. 6459 • Sep 7, 2026



In This Issue:

Walmart

Lost and Found • Cheryl Cobb, Woods Hollow Rd, Westford

Sunglasses

Lost and Found • Art Woolf, Cambridge Rd, Westford

Goodrich ATV Use

Seeking Assistance • Jamie Hazen, Machia Rd, Westford

Free Bolts, etc

Free Items • Meg Armstrong, Sam Ward Rd, Underhill

Re: Right of Way Town Trail Closures Petition

Discussion • Lee McClenny, Sanctuary Rd, Westford

Re: Invasive Knotweed Removal

Discussion • R Kirsten Tyler, Member, Conservation Commission, Westford

Right of Way Town Trail Closures Petition

Discussion • Barb Peck, VT Rte 128, Westford

Meet and Greet

Election • Brenda Steady, Candidate for State Representative, Chittenden-25 House District

Bicycle & Sewing Machine Collection Sept. 12

Announcement • Bob Thompson, Deer Run Ln, Westford

Honky Tonk + New Sunday Morning Schedule at WCH

Announcement • Eileen Nehme, Back Forty Ln, Westford

Walmart

Cheryl Cobb • Woods Hollow Rd, Westford

Lost and Found

Did anyone with the name Csoneka order Acetaminophen from Walmart for delivery?

[Contact Author](#)

[Reply to Forum](#)

Sunglasses

Art Woolf • Cambridge Rd, Westford

Lost and Found

I found a pair of sunglasses on the north side of Cambridge Rd. (near the Toof Rd line). Anyone lose them?

[Contact Author](#)

[Reply to Forum](#)

More Homes Means a Stronger Vermont!



Paid Ad

Building more homes is key to Vermont's future. Let's Build Homes is a coalition working to modernize housing policy and expand opportunities to build in towns and villages across the state. More homes mean stronger local economies, thriving schools, and communities that can welcome the next generation. Join your neighbors and be part of the movement to build what Vermont needs.

[Join Our Coalition](#)

Goodrich ATV Use

Jamie Hazen • Machia Rd, Westford

Seeking Assistance

Can anybody help in identifying a couple riding the Goodrich Trail unlawfully on an ATV and joyriding around my family property this weekend? They sped off when I asked for identification. Email me or txt 802.922.5820 so I can provide you more information!

[Contact Author](#)

[Reply to Forum](#)

Injured? Trusted, Local Attorneys Can Help!

Paid Ad

Injured and unsure where to turn? Behrens Venman is here to help. Schedule your FREE consultation today and get experienced, client-focused representation you can trust. Call 802-658-6900.

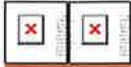
[Contact Today](#)

Free Bolts, etc

Meg Armstrong • Sam Ward Rd, Underhill

Free Items

I have 8 milk crates of misc nuts, bolts, washers, carriage bolts, etc of various lengths. Must take all, you can have the milk crates too.

[Contact Author](#)[Reply to Forum](#)

Older Research Participants Needed for UVM Study!

Paid Ad

Volunteers ages 65+ needed for a 3.5 year-long study for an investigational vaccine for symptoms of C. Diff. Includes screen, 5 in-person and 3 phone visits. Compensation is \$1320. More compensation is possible if more visits/activities are required.

[Learn More!](#)

Re: Right of Way Town Trail Closures Petition

Lee McClenny • Sanctuary Rd, Westford

Discussion

I share Dick Lavalley's opposition to closing Town trails during hunting season, and I urge the Select Board to reverse course on this matter.

I'm perplexed by this Select Board decision, because we already amicably resolved the questions around Town land, Town trails and hunting season years ago, when we bought Maple Shade/Misty Meadows. We concluded then that respectful hunters and respectful walkers/hikers can enjoy the woods that we all own, together. Common sense prevailed. For years, the same principle of a mutually respectful relationship guided how we managed all Town trails, including Schultz, Goodrich and Seymour...until a couple of large landowners started pressing the Select Board to change that.

I'm a hunter, myself. I share the petitioners' love of the outdoors and reverence for Nature, just as I fully support their right to hunt...whether on their own land, or on public land, or (with permission) on the private land of others. But demanding the closure of Town... [read more](#)

[Reply to Forum](#)

Re: Invasive Knotweed Removal

R Kirsten Tyler • Member, Conservation Commission, Westford

Discussion

Westford neighbors,

The Conservation Commission has hired an invasive species specialist to treat the invasive

knotweed at two town-owned sites: 1705 Rte 128 (the large patch north of the garage) and a smaller patch off the Riverside Trail near the new bridge in the Misty Meadows Town Forest (behind the school).

Two targeted treatments were planned this year using glyphosate- and triclopyr-based herbicides. This is the first stage of a multi-year effort to control the knotweed. The first treatment occurred Thursday, August 20. The second (and last) treatment will occur today, September 7. I just got word from the specialist doing the work and sharing it with you!

Signs are posted before treatment and remain until herbicide has dried. Please avoid the marked treatment areas while the signs are up. The trails will remain open unless otherwise posted.

Let us know if you have questions!

[Contact Author](#)[Reply to Forum](#)

Right of Way Town Trail Closures Petition

Barb Peck • VT Rte 128, Westford

Discussion

In regards to the issue of closing Public Trails in the fall (for hunting Season) in Westford:

There is a distinction to be made for the public's use of Private Land versus the public's use of Public Trails.

Private land Owner permission must be given to use private land whether it be for walking, horseback riding, Mtn Biking, skiing and more. Private Land owners can give permission and revoke it at will. Vermont Town Select Boards (SB) have no jurisdiction either way regarding private land owner permissions.

Public Trails are deeded Rights of Way (ROW) that "run with the land", giving the public the use of the trail. A deeded ROW that "runs with the land" means the land owners who own the land the trail runs thru do not have the right to give or retract permission for the public to use the trail. VT statute gives Select Boards some power over Public Trails with a priority given for maintaining public access. The Select Board works closely with the Conservation... [read more](#)

[Contact Author](#)[Reply to Forum](#)

Meet and Greet

Brenda Steady • Candidate for State Representative, Chittenden-25 House District

Election

Summer is winding down, the children are back in school, and it's time to start looking ahead to fall.

I've scheduled a Meet and Greet at the Red Brick Meeting House, located at 1685 VT-128 in Westford, on Sunday, September 13th from 4:00–6:00 PM. I will be there, running for re-election as State Representative, as will Representative Ashley Bartley, running for the State Senate, and Lieutenant Governor John Rodgers as our special guest, who is running for re-election. Candidates from other districts will also be joining us.

Come enjoy free hot dogs, chips, soda, water, and cupcakes, along with live country music.

If you're unable to attend, you can always reach me by phone at 802-338-8374 or by email at steadyforhouse@gmail.com. My website, <https://www.steadyforvthouse.org/>, is updated frequently.

I look forward to connecting with you — in person, by phone, or by email.

Sincerely,
Representative Brenda Steady

Paid for by Steady for House, PO Box 324, Milton, VT 05468

Contact Author

Reply to Forum

Check out these new local listings in FPF's Directory!

Rodrigues House Cleaning

House cleaning • Colchester, VT

EF High School Exchange

Youth organization • Fairfax, VT

G Navari Lawn Care

Landscaping or brush clearing • Colchester, VT

Explore Directory

Add Your Business

Bicycle & Sewing Machine Collection Sept. 12

Bob Thompson • Deer Run Ln, Westford

Announcement

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a bicycle and sewing machine collection on Saturday, Sept. 12 at Paul's Car Wash at 1261 Main Street (Rt. 104) in Fairfax from 9 AM to 11 AM. Sewing machines in working condition and bikes in reasonable condition will be collected for Pedals for Progress and Sewing Peace (www.p4p.org). Items will be shipped to developing countries to help families earn an income and improve their quality of life. We ask for a \$20 donation with each item to help defray the tremendous cost of shipping. To learn more about the collection or the program please call Bob Thompson at 802-238-6225. Thank you for your donation!

[Contact Author](#)[Reply to Forum](#)

Honky Tonk + New Sunday Morning Schedule at WCH

Eileen Nehme • Back Forty Ln, Westford

Announcement

~~Keep reading for information on the Westford Honky Tonk and new start times for both Pop-Up Yoga and the Westford Buddhist group~~

***Honky Tonk! Join your neighbors for a fundraiser party with Vermont favorites Coane, Rowell & Schabner, plus Nick Aloï on drums. Longtime fans will know Danny Coane from the Starline Rhythm Boys. Tickets are limited and we expect to sell out, so get yours today!

-Doors open at 6:00 pm, two-step dance lessons 6:30–7:30 pm, band 7:30–9:30 pm

-Enjoy cash bar and small bites by Westford Provisions, a 50/50 raffle, photo booth, fun atmosphere for socializing, and a real dance floor

-Buy tickets in person at Westford Provisions, 26 Common Rd to get a real paper ticket, stamped with a hand-carved print

Or purchase online at sevendaystickets.com/e/westford-honky-tonk-night

***The Buddhist meditation and study group is back to its usual 10:30 to 12 time

***Pop-up yoga meets this Sunday at a new time, 9 to 10am

[Contact Author](#)[Reply to Forum](#)

Community Calendar

Westford Public Library Trustee Sept. Agenda

Sep 9, 2026, 7 to 9 PM

Selectboard Meeting

Sep 10, 2026, 6:15 to 9 PM

Stop by CSWD During Art Hop!

Sep 11 to 12, 2026

[See More Events](#)

[Add Event](#)



Explore Postings from Neighboring Forums

[View All Nearby Postings](#)

Cambridge

Hunter Ceiling Fan with Light • Dottie Norris

[Find this posting and others](#)

Essex Town

Lost Wallet at Jolley's • Nancy Renaud, Nancy Renaud Yoga

[Find this posting and others](#)

Fairfax

Inspection Stickers • Faith and Nick Hadden

[Find this posting and others](#)

Fletcher

Driveway & Snowplowing • Jason Lawton, Integrity Lawn Care

[Find this posting and others](#)

Jericho

Lock & Keys • Bob McLoughlin

[Find this posting and others](#)

Milton

Kitchen Aid Stand Mixer Metal Food Grinder • Cathy Gibson

[Find this posting and others](#)

Underhill

Garage Door 9x9 Manual Lift • Addison Ashbaugh

[Find this posting and others](#)

© 2006-2026 Front Porch Forum® All rights reserved.

Front Porch Forum® is the registered trademark of Front Porch Forum, Inc.

This email was sent to you because you are a member of Front Porch Forum. You can [manage your account](#) or [unsubscribe from this Email Forum](#).

This neighborhood forum is a community service provided by FPF. We are open to your suggestions for improvements. We reserve the right to edit/decline submissions and to limit participation. All content is user-generated and reflects solely the experiences and opinions of the user and not FPF. We do not attest to the truth of any user statements. For complete FPF Terms of Use and Privacy Policy, see frontporchforum.com.

Thank you for participating!

Front Porch Forum, PO Box 64781, Burlington, VT 05406-4781

Compose Help Center Contact Donate Advertise

Tommy O'Connor

From: leemcclenny@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2026 5:56 PM
To: selectboard; TownAdmin
Subject: For your information....copy of my post on FPF.

Re: Right of Way Town Trail Closures Petition

Lee McClenny • Seymour Rd. Westford

Discussion

I share Dick Lovell's opposition to closing Town trails during hunting season, and I urge the Select Board to reverse course on this matter.

I'm perplexed by the Select Board decision, because we already amply respect the questions around Open Land, Town trails and hunting season years ago, when we brought Maple Shade/Water Meadows. We concluded then that respectful hunters and respectful outdoorspeople can enjoy the woods that we all own, together. Common sense prevailed. For years, the same principle of a mutually respectful relationship guided how we managed all Town trails, including Schultz, Goodrich and Seymour, until a couple of large landowners started pressuring the Select Board to change that.

If it's a hunter, myself, I share the petitioner's love of the outdoors and reverence for Nature, just as I fully support their right to hunt, whether on their own land or on public land, or with permission on the private land of others. But demanding the closure of Town trails reflects an unwelcome, exclusionary attitude that is definitely not shared by ALL hunters. As a practical matter, one of the petitioner's owns or co-owns over 500 combined acres of woodland, while the other owns an adjoining parcel of 300 acres. I'm confident, frankly, how small numbers of respectful to all outdoors have any meaningful impact on the two petitioners safely harvesting a few deer each fall.

The recent Fairbridge decision by the Vermont Supreme Court made clear something we all already instinctively know - that Schultz, Goodrich and Seymour Trails belong to all of us. These ancient tracks appear on the oldest existing map of Westford, they are a part of our history, patrimony and heritage, and for 200 years or more - until last year, and repeated again a few weeks ago - they have remained open year-round for the free use of all Westford residents and visitors. As a matter of principle, I believe they should remain so, open and forever. We are, after all, free people with a long-standing, fundamental right to walk on our own trails.

I urge the Select Board to reverse the petitioner's demand to close Town Trails during hunting season.

[Reply to Forum](#)

Sent from my iPad

Tommy O'Connor

From: Pat Haller
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 6:49 PM
To: Dave Lavallee; selectboard
Subject: RE: Trail Closures

Dave,

Thanks for your involvement and interest. I'm acknowledging that we got your email.

Sincerely, Pat Haller

From: Dave Lavallee <cdzgang@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 5:49 PM
To: selectboard <selectboard@westfordvt.us>
Subject: Trail Closures

Dear Members of the Westford Selectboard,

We are writing to request that the Board reconsider its recent vote regarding the closure of public town trails.

Restricting access to these trails is neither fair nor neighborly to the residents and visitors who regularly utilize and care for them. It appears this decision was made primarily to appease a small number of landowners under the guise of public safety during hunting season. However, if safety were the true driving factor behind this decision, it stands to reason that all comparable locations would be treated equally. For instance, the Misty Meadows trails remain open despite the fact that hunting is also permitted there, presenting the exact same environmental conditions and potential "safety risks".

Because of this inconsistency, the current policy feels like an arbitrary restriction rather than a balanced, data-driven safety measure. I believe the Board's decision was misinformed, represents unnecessary municipal overreach, and unfairly chips away at the public liberties and recreational freedoms of Westford residents.

We strongly urge the Board to add this item to the upcoming agenda, reconsider the vote, and look for alternative solutions that preserve public trail access for everyone.

Sincerely,
Dave & Cheryl Lavallee
Westford Residents

Tommy O'Connor

From: James Hazen <jhazenvt@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2026 5:17 PM
To: selectboard
Subject: Trail Closure During Hunting Season
Attachments: Goodrich_Trail_Traffic_2024-2025.pdf

Dear Selectboard members,

It has come to my attention that there is a petition to override the Selectboard's decision to temporarily close the trails during hunting season.

Clearly there is passion on both sides and for me it boils down to deciding if the Town wants to work with landowners who own the vast majority of town trails. Signing a petition takes less time than deciding what's on the dinner table. People can support the general idea without knowing the facts or looking at how frequent the trails are actually used. When confronted with a petition it is actually easier to sign than have an uncomfortable moment.

Some recent history.... Late in July 2024 there was a meeting on the Goodrich Trail with landowners, Conservation Commission members, and the Selectboard. It was an open forum and was well received. During that meeting it came up that an "ask" of landowners (myself) would be a "temporary closure" during hunting season and new trail documents drafted.

What followed was unusual. That fall of 2024, use on the Goodrich Trail rose, including a spike on opening weekend of rifle season. Over 40% of all recorded visits in a five-month period occurred that weekend (November 16–17, 2024: 15 of all 35 people). The timing — a surge after the closure was raised as a landowner request — is hard to ignore. It looked less like ordinary trail use and more like a reaction to the ask itself.

The Goodrich Trail and other trails have very limited use. The Goodrich trail from August 1, 2024 through January 1, 2025 (154 days):

- Activity on only 14 of 154 days
- 140 days with no observed use
- 35 people recorded in total
- Visitors were not exclusively Westford residents

Goodrich Trail traffic summary

Metric	Value
Period start	2024-08-01
Period end	2025-01-01
Days in period	154
Days with activity	14
Days with zero traffic	140
Total people recorded	35
Peak day count	14
Average people per day (all days)	0.23
Average people on active days	2.50
First activity date	2024-09-21
Last activity date	2024-11-25

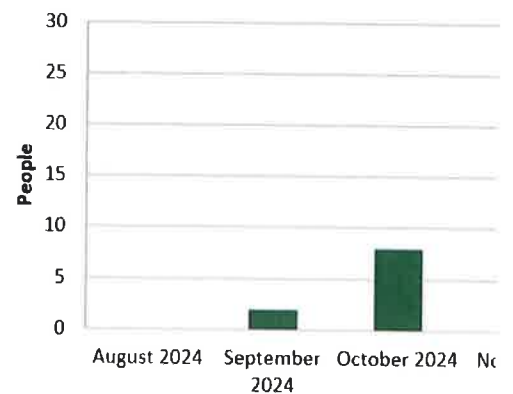
Monthly totals

Month	People	Active days
August 2024	0	0
September 2024	2	1
October 2024	8	6
November 2024	25	7
December 2024	0	0
January 2025 (1st only)	0	0
Total	35	14

Days with recorded traffic

Date	Weekday	People
2024-09-21	Saturday	2
2024-10-05	Saturday	1
2024-10-08	Tuesday	2
2024-10-13	Sunday	2
2024-10-19	Saturday	1
2024-10-23	Wednesday	1
2024-10-26	Saturday	1
2024-11-01	Friday	1
2024-11-03	Sunday	1
2024-11-10	Sunday	4
2024-11-16	Saturday	1
2024-11-17	Sunday	14
2024-11-20	Wednesday	3
2024-11-25	Monday	1

People by month



Since that 2024 meeting, landowners have kept the trail passable without being prompted and in good faith: maintained access, worked with neighbors, and honored the process. Last year's decision to close the trails during hunting season was met with no complaints.

Here in 2026 since June 1st (111 days) - 2 people have used the trail, while 1 couple illegally used it on a ATV.

Bringing this back now to this week's Selectboard meeting, without use data and at the request of a small number of people, is asking the Town to spend valuable time and taxpayer attention on a issue that has already been decided (albeit temporarily) with almost no impact on the public. Keeping the seasonal closure in place is a simple request. It affects very few people and sends a clear message that the Town and trail users can share these trails in harmony.

Thank you for the prior decision and common sense approach to this matter.

James Hazen

Westford Resident

Goodrich Trail — Traffic Report

Daily traffic compiled from listed observations · August 1, 2024 through January 1, 2025

This PDF is a print-ready copy of the four workbook sheets (Summary, Observations, Notes, and Daily Traffic). Attach it to an email or print it as a standing record.

1. Summary

Metric	Value	Metric	Value
Period start	Aug 1, 2024	Peak day count	14
Period end	Jan 1, 2025	Average people per day (all days)	0.23
Days in period	154	Average people on active days	2.5
Days with activity	14	First activity date	Sep 21, 2024
Days with zero traffic	140	Last activity date	Nov 25, 2024
Total people recorded	35		

Monthly totals

Month	People	Active days	Share of total
August 2024	0	0	0%
September 2024	2	1	6%
October 2024	8	6	23%
November 2024	25	7	71%
December 2024	0	0	0%
January 2025 (1st only)	0	0	0%
Total	35	14	100%

Days with recorded traffic

Date	Weekday	People	Note
Sep 21, 2024	Saturday	2	
Oct 5, 2024	Saturday	1	
Oct 8, 2024	Tuesday	2	
Oct 13, 2024	Sunday	2	
Oct 19, 2024	Saturday	1	
Oct 23, 2024	Wednesday	1	
Oct 26, 2024	Saturday	1	
Nov 1, 2024	Friday	1	
Nov 3, 2024	Sunday	1	
Nov 10, 2024	Sunday	4	Two listings of “two people”
Nov 16, 2024	Saturday	1	
Nov 17, 2024	Sunday	14	Peak day (7 listed observations)

Date	Weekday	People	Note
Nov 20, 2024	Wednesday	3	
Nov 25, 2024	Monday	1	

Highlight: November 17 accounts for 14 of 35 recorded people (40%). November as a whole accounts for 25 of 35 (71%). No traffic was recorded in August, December, or on January 1.

2. Source observations

Source observations (as listed) — summed by date on Daily Traffic sheet

November 10 appears twice ($2 + 2 = 4$). November 17 / 1117 appears seven times ($2+2+2+5+1+1+1 = 14$).

#	Date	People	Original wording
1	Sep 21, 2024	2	September 21, two people
2	Oct 5, 2024	1	October 5 one person
3	Oct 8, 2024	2	October 8 two people
4	Oct 13, 2024	2	October 13 two people
5	Oct 19, 2024	1	October 19 one person
6	Oct 23, 2024	1	October 23 one person
7	Oct 26, 2024	1	October 26 one person
8	Nov 3, 2024	1	November 3 one person
9	Nov 1, 2024	1	November 1 one person
10	Nov 10, 2024	2	November 10, two people
11	Nov 10, 2024	2	November 10 two people
12	Nov 16, 2024	1	November 16 one person
13	Nov 17, 2024	2	November 17 two people
14	Nov 17, 2024	2	1117 two people
15	Nov 17, 2024	2	November 17 two people
16	Nov 17, 2024	5	November 17 five people
17	Nov 17, 2024	1	November 17 one person
18	Nov 17, 2024	1	November 17 one person
19	Nov 17, 2024	1	November 17 one person
20	Nov 20, 2024	3	November 20 three people
21	Nov 25, 2024	1	November 25 one person

Same-day rows were added together on the Daily Traffic sheet. Green rows are the November 10 pair; darker green rows are the seven November 17 listings.

3. Notes on data handling

Period

Chart covers every calendar day from August 1, 2024 through January 1, 2025 inclusive (154 days). Days with no listed observations are plotted as 0.

Aggregation rule

Each phrase in the source list was treated as one observation. Counts on the same calendar date were added together.

November 10

Listed twice as “two people”. Interpreted as two observations of 2, totaling 4 people that day. If this was an accidental duplicate, change the Daily Traffic cell for 2024-11-10 from 4 to 2.

November 17 / 1117

“1117” was read as November 17. Seven separate counts were listed for that date (2, 2, 2, 5, 1, 1, 1) and summed to 14. That is the busiest day in the series.

Year

All listed months fall in 2024. January 1 is 2025 and has 0 recorded people.

Color on Daily Traffic

Green rows = at least one person. Darker green = 5 or more people. Light rows = zero traffic.

Blue numbers

People counts on the Daily Traffic sheet are inputs (aggregated from the Observations sheet). Summary metrics use Excel formulas so they update if you edit a daily count.

4. Daily traffic log

Same-day observations were summed. Days with no recorded traffic are shown as 0. See Notes sheet for how listed counts were parsed.

Each month is shown as a calendar. A number in a cell is the people count that day. Blank cells are days outside the month. Unshaded days had zero traffic. Light green = 1–4 people; darker green = 5 or more.

August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 2
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 1
6	7	8 2	9	10	11	12
13 2	14	15	16	17	18	19 1
20	21	22	23 1	24	25	26 1
27	28	29	30	31		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 1	2
3 1	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 4	11	12	13	14	15	16 1
17 14	18	19	20 3	21	22	23
24	25 1	26	27	28	29	30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

[illegible]

Full daily table (every calendar day)

Included so the PDF still matches the Daily Traffic worksheet row-for-row.

Date	Day	Ppl	Cumul.	Date	Day	Ppl	Cumul.
2024-08-01	Thu	0	0	2024-10-17	Thu	0	7
2024-08-02	Fri	0	0	2024-10-18	Fri	0	7
2024-08-03	Sat	0	0	2024-10-19	Sat	1	8
2024-08-04	Sun	0	0	2024-10-20	Sun	0	8
2024-08-05	Mon	0	0	2024-10-21	Mon	0	8
2024-08-06	Tue	0	0	2024-10-22	Tue	0	8
2024-08-07	Wed	0	0	2024-10-23	Wed	1	9
2024-08-08	Thu	0	0	2024-10-24	Thu	0	9
2024-08-09	Fri	0	0	2024-10-25	Fri	0	9
2024-08-10	Sat	0	0	2024-10-26	Sat	1	10
2024-08-11	Sun	0	0	2024-10-27	Sun	0	10
2024-08-12	Mon	0	0	2024-10-28	Mon	0	10
2024-08-13	Tue	0	0	2024-10-29	Tue	0	10
2024-08-14	Wed	0	0	2024-10-30	Wed	0	10
2024-08-15	Thu	0	0	2024-10-31	Thu	0	10
2024-08-16	Fri	0	0	2024-11-01	Fri	1	11
2024-08-17	Sat	0	0	2024-11-02	Sat	0	11
2024-08-18	Sun	0	0	2024-11-03	Sun	1	12
2024-08-19	Mon	0	0	2024-11-04	Mon	0	12
2024-08-20	Tue	0	0	2024-11-05	Tue	0	12
2024-08-21	Wed	0	0	2024-11-06	Wed	0	12
2024-08-22	Thu	0	0	2024-11-07	Thu	0	12
2024-08-23	Fri	0	0	2024-11-08	Fri	0	12
2024-08-24	Sat	0	0	2024-11-09	Sat	0	12
2024-08-25	Sun	0	0	2024-11-10	Sun	4	16
2024-08-26	Mon	0	0	2024-11-11	Mon	0	16
2024-08-27	Tue	0	0	2024-11-12	Tue	0	16
2024-08-28	Wed	0	0	2024-11-13	Wed	0	16
2024-08-29	Thu	0	0	2024-11-14	Thu	0	16
2024-08-30	Fri	0	0	2024-11-15	Fri	0	16
2024-08-31	Sat	0	0	2024-11-16	Sat	1	17
2024-09-01	Sun	0	0	2024-11-17	Sun	14	31
2024-09-02	Mon	0	0	2024-11-18	Mon	0	31
2024-09-03	Tue	0	0	2024-11-19	Tue	0	31
2024-09-04	Wed	0	0	2024-11-20	Wed	3	34
2024-09-05	Thu	0	0	2024-11-21	Thu	0	34
2024-09-06	Fri	0	0	2024-11-22	Fri	0	34
2024-09-07	Sat	0	0	2024-11-23	Sat	0	34
2024-09-08	Sun	0	0	2024-11-24	Sun	0	34
2024-09-09	Mon	0	0	2024-11-25	Mon	1	35

Date	Day	Ppl	Cumul.	Date	Day	Ppl	Cumul.
2024-09-10	Tue	0	0	2024-11-26	Tue	0	35
2024-09-11	Wed	0	0	2024-11-27	Wed	0	35
2024-09-12	Thu	0	0	2024-11-28	Thu	0	35
2024-09-13	Fri	0	0	2024-11-29	Fri	0	35
2024-09-14	Sat	0	0	2024-11-30	Sat	0	35
2024-09-15	Sun	0	0	2024-12-01	Sun	0	35
2024-09-16	Mon	0	0	2024-12-02	Mon	0	35
2024-09-17	Tue	0	0	2024-12-03	Tue	0	35
2024-09-18	Wed	0	0	2024-12-04	Wed	0	35
2024-09-19	Thu	0	0	2024-12-05	Thu	0	35
2024-09-20	Fri	0	0	2024-12-06	Fri	0	35
2024-09-21	Sat	2	2	2024-12-07	Sat	0	35
2024-09-22	Sun	0	2	2024-12-08	Sun	0	35
2024-09-23	Mon	0	2	2024-12-09	Mon	0	35
2024-09-24	Tue	0	2	2024-12-10	Tue	0	35
2024-09-25	Wed	0	2	2024-12-11	Wed	0	35
2024-09-26	Thu	0	2	2024-12-12	Thu	0	35
2024-09-27	Fri	0	2	2024-12-13	Fri	0	35
2024-09-28	Sat	0	2	2024-12-14	Sat	0	35
2024-09-29	Sun	0	2	2024-12-15	Sun	0	35
2024-09-30	Mon	0	2	2024-12-16	Mon	0	35
2024-10-01	Tue	0	2	2024-12-17	Tue	0	35
2024-10-02	Wed	0	2	2024-12-18	Wed	0	35
2024-10-03	Thu	0	2	2024-12-19	Thu	0	35
2024-10-04	Fri	0	2	2024-12-20	Fri	0	35
2024-10-05	Sat	1	3	2024-12-21	Sat	0	35
2024-10-06	Sun	0	3	2024-12-22	Sun	0	35
2024-10-07	Mon	0	3	2024-12-23	Mon	0	35
2024-10-08	Tue	2	5	2024-12-24	Tue	0	35
2024-10-09	Wed	0	5	2024-12-25	Wed	0	35
2024-10-10	Thu	0	5	2024-12-26	Thu	0	35
2024-10-11	Fri	0	5	2024-12-27	Fri	0	35
2024-10-12	Sat	0	5	2024-12-28	Sat	0	35
2024-10-13	Sun	2	7	2024-12-29	Sun	0	35
2024-10-14	Mon	0	7	2024-12-30	Mon	0	35
2024-10-15	Tue	0	7	2024-12-31	Tue	0	35
2024-10-16	Wed	0	7	2025-01-01	Wed	0	35

Tommy O'Connor

From: andersonfamilyvt@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2026 10:02 AM
To: selectboard
Cc: john.cooley@uvm.edu; girrdr24@gmail.com; ridgerunner@gmavt.net; Jim Anderson (jimanderson@gmavt.net)
Subject: Landowner Letter in Response to Trail Petition
Attachments: 20260921 Ltr fr landowners in response to petition.pdf

Dear Selectboard Members,

Please see the attached letter that collectively comes from multiple landowners impacted by rights-of-way on their property. We would ask that a Selectboard member read this statement on our behalf as we are not able to join the meeting on Thursday.

We deeply appreciate all of your time and consideration and know that these issues are complicated and fraught with emotion.

Thank you
Kati & Jim Anderson
Rachel & David Girr
Amy & James Hazen
John Cooley

Thank you for reading this statement in response to the petition concerning the seasonal closure of the trails crossing private property.

We recognize that many people have signed the petition because they value these trails and would prefer that they remain open year-round. We respect that and are not asking the Board to disregard those voices, but we believe there are important considerations that should also weigh heavily in this discussion.

First, these are rights-of-way across private property. They are not public or town land. We respect the public's legal right to use the established rights-of-way. But that right does not convey ownership or control of the surrounding property to the public, nor does it require the landowners to manage that surrounding property as a public recreation area. We pay the taxes, maintain the land, manage the forest ecosystem, live on the property and deal with the consequences of what happens here.

The seasonal closure from October 1 through December 15 is a reasonable compromise. It does not eliminate the underlying right-of-way or permanently deny public access.

Seasonal restrictions on trails crossing private property during hunting season are not unusual in Vermont and this is not an unreasonable or unprecedented request. Hinesburg and Jericho both close trails on **town-owned** land to recreational use during hunting season. There are legitimate **safety concerns** when hunters and recreational users, including dogs, share the same property. There are also logical wildlife-management concerns.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife recognizes that hunting is the primary tool to manage Vermont's deer herd, keeping both wildlife and forests healthy. The Department also recognizes that excessive deer browsing affects forest regeneration and the health of forest ecosystems. That matters directly to us.

We manage a large area of forest and deer numbers have a clear effect on our ability to regenerate and maintain that forest over the long term. We give hunting permission to a select number of people who help us on the property to maintain a healthy ecosystem.

This is just a portion of what is required in managing a private forest, managing deer impacts on that forest, and using regulated hunting as one of the tools available to accomplish that management.

There is also considerable **unauthorized vehicle traffic on sections of these trails**, which the town does not have the ability to police. In the 2024 hunting season, 35 unauthorized vehicles drove up Goodrich Trail. That vehicle traffic degrades the access to our land, and we bear the cost of restoring that access.

The seasonal closure provides a defined period during the primary hunting season when people and dogs are not continually moving through the middle of the property which affect wildlife well beyond the physical width of the right-of-way. Closure decreases disturbance, reduces conflicts between recreational users and hunters, and provides an opportunity to conduct wildlife and forest management on our land.

There is also a property-rights issue here.

The existence of a public right-of-way does not extinguish the property rights of the landowners through whose property it passes. That distinction is important.

For many years, we have accommodated recreational use because we try to be good neighbors and recognize that people value these trails. But voluntary accommodation should not be confused with permanent public entitlement. We retain the right to use and manage the land surrounding that right-of-way for all legitimate purposes, which include hunting, forestry, agriculture, habitat, and wildlife management.

We are not asking the town to take away the public's access to the right-of-way. We are asking the town to recognize that land surrounding rights-of-way remains private property.

The question for the Select Board should be:

What problem does overturning the seasonal closure solve, and who bears the consequences of solving it?

The benefit of overturning the closure is approximately ten additional weeks of recreational access on private land. The public will also bear an increased risk of a hunting accident.

The other consequences fall primarily on the landowners through more interaction between hunters and recreational users, and continued people, dogs, and noise moving through the middle of private properties during the hunting season, increasing disturbance of wildlife.

We also want to be clear about what happens if the seasonal compromise is overturned.

We are not talking about blocking or obstructing the legal right-of-way.

We are talking about exercising our ordinary rights to manage our land outside the right-of-way. Forestry, agricultural, habitat, and wildlife-management work alongside the trail may result in trees, vegetation, fencing, plantings, or other ordinary features that reduce visibility into the property to lessen the noise and disturbance reaching it—including the disturbance caused by people and dogs.

If that makes the trail less open or less attractive, that is not retaliation. It is simply a natural consequence of private landowners managing their property for its legitimate purposes rather than maintaining the surrounding land for the recreational preferences of people passing through. We would much rather avoid that outcome.

Finally, we want to address what we believe should happen going forward.

We understand that the Selectboard has considered addressing this through a town ordinance rather than through the trail-use guidelines, and **we support that approach.**

We ask that an ordinance be established for October 1 through December 15 seasonal restriction of public recreational use of legal trails crossing private property, preserving existing property access and landowner permissions.

This would not eliminate the underlying rights-of-way or prevent anyone with a legal right to use a particular right-of-way from doing so. It would simply establish a predictable seasonal restriction on general recreational use during the period when hunting, wildlife management, and stewardship take place safely.

We believe this is better than revisiting the same question every fall. The trails will still cross private property, hunting season will still occur, and the need to manage wildlife and the land will still exist.

An ordinance would give everyone clear expectations: the public would know when the trails are available for general recreational use, landowners would know when they can manage their property with less disturbance, and the town would have a consistent rule.

We are not asking Westford to choose between public access and private property rights. We are asking the Town to establish a sensible balance between them. We believe the Selectboard found a reasonable middle ground with the temporary closure. The public's rights-of-way remain intact. The legal trails on private property remain available for most of the year. Public trails on town-owned land remain available year-round.

The right-of-way is public. The land under it and surrounding it is private. Those two things can coexist.

We believe this is a fair, predictable, and sustainable solution for Westford.

Thank you,

James & Katherine Anderson

David & Rachel Girr

John Cooley

James & Amy Hazen

Tommy O'Connor

From: Wendy Doane <vtdoane@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2026 1:20 PM
To: selectboard; TownAdmin
Subject: Town Trails

Dear Westford Selectboard:

You have my support choosing to manage the town trails by listening to all interested parties. This issue has been difficult for our town for decades, and in the course of that time, expensive lawsuits have followed because of many misunderstandings and unhappy landowners and unhappy town residents. The decision by The State of Vermont Supreme Court gave a clear ruling that it is the responsibility of the Selectboard to manage the trails.

Like most resources that are shared, the rules-of-use of those resources cannot and will not make everyone happy. The Town Trails are a shared resource. The Town Trails exist on land that is privately owned. The landowners maintain the town trails and they work with the town to keep them open and walkable. I appreciate the large tracts of land that they hold that maintain contiguous forests. The forest supports healthy wildlife populations, protects watersheds, and silviculture economies, and carries on the green of the Green Mountains. For this I am grateful to the landowners.

I agree with the Selectboard's decision to support the requests of the landowners who own the land and work with the town to maintain the trails throughout the year, to close them for specific dates during deer hunting season. Closing the town trails that are on private land for deer season is a compromise worth respecting and one way we can work together with our neighbors.

Respectfully,
Wendy Doane

You have my permission to read this at the September 24th SB meeting as I will not be able to attend. Thank you.



Town Administrator Report

September 24th, 2026 Selectboard Meeting

The past month has been busy with the Town Administrator Office and work on several upcoming projects began as well.

The staff has agreed to a new schedule for staff meetings. The staff will be having a monthly meeting with specific agenda items and conversations on how to better improve our work for the residents as well as the respective boards and commissions in town.

In my continued conversations with other Town Administrators there have been a few topics that have come up that will need to be addressed soon. The first is that there has been a recommendation to have a cyber security/internal messaging audit. This audit is recommended to happen every few years and looks over processes as it pertains to changing statutes and regulations. The current tech company that the Town contracts with has begun parts of this process and will continue as we need. The review currently is looking at the email addresses and their “associations”. An association is how things are linked to an address such as a login or subscription.

One other item that came up that all Towns in Vermont are now working on is the compatibility of the public website for new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). There is a new law that focuses on needed changes to municipal websites and in particular the compatibility with text reading and image identifying code. The League of Cities and Towns has offered a free software program that analyzes our website and identifies any item that is considered not in compliance with the new law. The plan is to run the website through the software and work with Callie and others to make the appropriate changes.

This week we began our on-site portion of the audit for FY-26. The audit team is planning on three days working with staff to get what is needed in person. The remaining time will be split between phone conversations and emails.

I was able to take part in the most recent meeting of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission’s 1705 Outreach Team. The group did a readthrough of the current status of plans and identified potential areas of edits. The meeting was very productive, and I was pleased that there were members of the Planning Commission in attendance as well adding their valued expertise to the conversation.



Work that is coming up:

- Budget Preparation/Budget Presentations
- Continued Audit
- CCRPC Grant Meetings and Outreach
- Training and Professional Development
- Upgrades and Safety Audits of Website/Emails

Respectfully Submitted

Tommy O'Connor
Town Administrator

Planning & Zoning Report

To: Selectboard

From: Administrative Officer/Planning Coordinator

Reporting Period: August 8, 2026 to September 18, 2026

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

August 24, 2026 meeting:

- Held a public hearing for a **Conditional Use & Waiver Review** application. The application was for a property off Osgood Hill Road in the Village, R10, and WRO Zoning Districts. The applicant requested conditional use approval to construct a driveway in the WRO. The applicant also requested a waiver to construct a principal residential structure outside the district maximum setback. The decision for this application is still being drafted for the DRB's approval.

Upcoming Meetings:

- A public hearing has been warned for **September 28, 2026** to hear an application for conditional use to construct a driveway within the Water Resource Overlay (WRO).
 - An application for final subdivision review has been submitted. The hearing will *likely* be scheduled for **October 26, 2026**.
-

PLANNING COMMISSION

August 17, 2026 PC Meeting Highlights:

- The PC reviewed the proposed amendments to the regulations and decided to move to the public hearing phase. A public hearing will be scheduled for **October 5, 2026**.
- The PC discussed options for hiring a Town Planner, with a new option to share a Town Planner with the Town of Fairfax.
- The PC discussed communications, with some new guidelines on commissioners posting meetings summaries to FPF.

UPWP Projects:

- **1705 Outreach Assistance:** Kirsten and Ben are point persons on this project, and they have had initial meetings with CCRPC.

- **Grant Writing Assistance:** Max and Harmony have met with Maya Balassa (CCRPC) to discuss an upcoming Municipal Planning Grant, which opens on October 1st.
- **Brookside Pedestrian Pathway Scoping Study:** Tommy, Sean (Road Foreman), Will (PC), and Harmony met with CCRPC and Hoyle, Tanner, and Associates (HT) to discuss this project. HT plans to take photos and gather preliminary data prior to a “local concerns” meeting to kick off this project. Harmony will send out notices to the affected landowners in the area, and notice will also be posted on FPF.

ZONING

Permits:

During this reporting period, 9 zoning permits were issued for the following projects:

- 1 new accessory dwelling unit (ADU)
- 1 new accessory structure (garage)
- 1 permit to add square footage to a previously permitted garage
- 1 permit for adding >50 cubic yards of fill (driveway upgrades)
- 5 permits for additions/alterations to principal structures

1 Certificate of Occupancy was issued).

6 Certificates of Compliance were issued.

Permit activity has remained steady compared to recent months.

Enforcement:

There are currently 7 active and/or perceived zoning violations:

Parcel #05OC024

- Perceived Violation: Unpermitted sheds located in setback; Unpermitted culvert and parking area within Water Resource Overlay (WRO).
- Warning of Violation issued May 2, 2023.
- During a phone conversation on June 1, 2023, the landowner indicated that the two unpermitted sheds were used to store equipment that would be moved to the new garage once construction was finished. Landowner indicated that the culvert is pre-existing, but it does not appear on 2013 grading plans & state wetland permit. Landowner indicated that wetland buffer area is not being used for parking.
- Zoning Administrator requested permission to conduct a site visit to verify that the structures have been removed but was not granted access to the property. **Compliance has therefore not been verified.**

- Selectboard has asked ZA to reach out to this landowner once more, and has offered to accompany the ZA to any site visits. A follow-up letter was emailed to the landowner on September 17, 2026.

Parcel #10OS071

- Violation: Failure to Cure Sign Violation.
- Warnings of Violation issued September 15, 2023, August 2, 2024, and October 10, 2024.
- **Formal Notice of Violation (NOV) issued July 21, 2025.** NOV was not appealed. Landowner never communicated whether they intended to clear up the violation.
- Visual inspection by ZA confirmed that the hanging sign was removed, but signpost remains in the ROW. Town Attorney has confirmed that the violation exists as long as the signpost remains in the ROW.
- The cure period has expired. Pursuant to Section 454.B(3) of the WLUDR, the Selectboard must determine whether and how the Town will pursue enforcement. The Selectboard discussed the violation at its May 28th meeting and sent correspondence to the landowner. **Further enforcement has been delayed until second landowner returns home in November 2026.**

Parcel #09PT015

- Perceived Violation: Unpermitted campground, lack of state wastewater permit
- Warning of Violation issued July 19, 2024.
- Landowner began compliance measures by obtaining DRB Conditional Use approval on March 12, 2025.
- Violation will not be cured until a zoning permit is obtained for the campground.
- A zoning permit cannot be issued until the landowner obtains a VT State Wastewater permit, as well as access permits from the Selectboard.
- To ZA's knowledge, the **campground continues to operate without the required zoning and State wastewater permits.**

Parcel #02CM036

- Perceived Violation: Unpermitted ditching and culverts within the Water Resource Overlay (WRO) and state wetland buffer.
- Warning of Violation issued August 22, 2025.
- District Wetland Ecologist Krystal Sewell has provided directive to either restore the property to its previous condition OR obtain a wetland delineation and apply for permits. Restoration is encouraged, as the activity in the wetland is unpermissible.
- **Ms. Sewell hopes to conduct a site visit to close out the inspection after restoration is complete.**

Parcel #07SE018

- Perceived Violation: Unpermitted accessory dwelling unit (ADU) (apartment above garage) discovered during town-wide reappraisal.

- Warning of Violation issued January 14, 2026.
- Current septic capacity/water supply are insufficient to support an ADU.
- Landowner will need to amend WW permit and apply for zoning permit, OR remove facilities for sleeping, cooking, and eating.
- Landowner has spoken with septic engineer and is deciding the best path forward.

Parcel #06EL015

- Perceived Violation: Unpermitted ADU (apartment in basement) discovered during town-wide reappraisal.
- Warning of Violation issued February 26, 2026.
- Current septic capacity will not allow for ADU.
- Landowner is in the process of obtaining an amended WW permit, after which a zoning permit application may be submitted.

1 perceived violation was **cured** during this reporting period:

Parcel #06RU005.X

- Perceived violation: moving more than 50 cubic yards of fill without zoning permit.
- Landowner obtained a permit, which cured this violation.

Zoning Administrator Education:

September 10, 2026

Signs of the Times: Mastering Content-Neutral Ordinances

Webinar by Northern New England Chapter American Planning Association (NNECAPA)

Items for Selectboard Awareness:

- Following the Planning Commission's public hearing (10/5/26) to adopt amendments to the Westford Land Use & Development Regulations, they will submit the amended regulations to the Selectboard. The Selectboard will then need to hold a public hearing within 120 days of the document being submitted to them.
- Maya Balassa (CCRPC) intends to attend the October 22 Selectboard meeting to review the Municipal Planning Grant application and have the Selectboard sign the resolution.

1705 Property Existing Conditions Summary

Westford, Vermont

Last updated: August 24, 2026

Anne Nelson Stoner, Outreach & Engagement Manager, CCRPC

anstoner@ccrpvt.org

Maya Balassa, Planner, CCRPC

mbalassa@ccrpvt.org

Project Overview

Why the Town acquired the property

The Town of Westford acquired the property at 1705 Route 128 to preserve a prominent historic property in the heart of Westford Village and create an opportunity to address future community needs. Located adjacent to the Town Offices, Library, Town Common, and Browns River, the site offers a rare opportunity to potentially support long-term municipal goals, such as historic preservation, municipal facilities, housing, recreation, and public access.

Previous planning efforts identified the property's potential but were ultimately not pursued due to environmental contamination, infrastructure limitations, building conditions, project costs, and a lack of community consensus. With the property now in public ownership, the Town has the opportunity to revisit these possibilities using updated technical information and meaningful community engagement to guide future decisions.

Future use of the property will need to consider physical and regulatory constraints, including environmental contamination, wetlands, river corridor and floodplain protections, archaeological resources, limited wastewater capacity, existing stormwater infrastructure, and the condition of the historic buildings. At the same time, its central location presents opportunities to support a range of community goals, including municipal facilities, historic preservation, recreation, housing, and improved public access to the Browns River.

Purpose of project

This project represents **Phase 1 of a multi-year planning effort** to evaluate the future of the property. Rather than selecting a preferred alternative, this phase is intended to:

- Build a shared understanding of the property's history, existing conditions, opportunities, and constraints.

- Gather and organize existing information from previous planning efforts.
- Identify community priorities.
- Educate residents about the physical, environmental, financial, and regulatory constraints affecting future uses.
- Develop a community-informed vision that can guide future planning, funding, and implementation.

Goals & deliverables

- Existing Conditions Summary (*this document*)
- Community Engagement Plan
- Stakeholder contact list
- Educational materials explaining opportunities and constraints
- Community engagement activities
- Community Engagement Summary Report
- Roadmap for Phase 2: future planning, technical studies, and funding opportunities

Property Background

Property Description

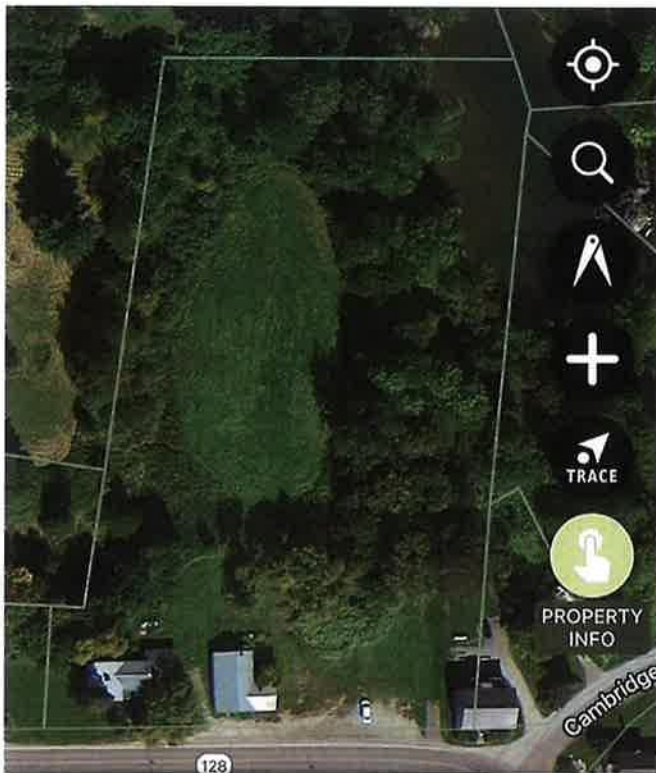


Figure 1 Approximate boundary of 1705 Route 128 Property

The 1705 Route 128 property is a 3.3-acre site located in the heart of Westford Village, immediately adjacent to the Town Offices, Library, Town Common, and Browns River. The property contains a historic residence built around 1850, a detached garage formerly used for bus and automotive repair, and open land extending north toward the river. The site is

The property occupies a prominent location within the Village Center and **surrounds (is this accurate? surrounds?)** municipal facilities and public spaces. Because of its size, location, and history, it has long been viewed as one of the few remaining sites capable of accommodating significant community investment or redevelopment.

Historical Significance

The property at 1705 Route 128 has been an important part of Westford Village for more than 170 years. Developed by at least the mid-1800s, the site has served a variety of uses over time, including as a residence, general store, gasoline station, bus company operations, and automotive repair facility. The

existing house is a mid-19th century Greek Revival residence that retains many of its original architectural features, including its side-hall floor plan, staircase and banister, original trim, and much of its timber frame. A 2025 technical assessment prepared for the Preservation Trust of Vermont concluded that, despite significant foundation and drainage issues, the building retains substantial historic integrity and contains architectural features that contribute to its significance, such as the timber frame, the staircase and banister, the trip and interior details, and portions of the original windows.

The property also contains possible archaeological resources. A 2021 Archaeological Resources Assessment determined that while the developed area near Route 128 has been sufficiently disturbed and that additional archaeological work is generally not anticipated, much of the northern portion of the property remains sensitive for pre-Contact Native American archaeological resources. Future ground disturbance in these undisturbed areas will likely require additional archaeological investigation.

Today, the property's historical significance extends beyond the buildings themselves. Its location at the center of Westford Village and its long history as a place of commerce, transportation, and community activity make it an important cultural resource for the Town.

Previous Planning Efforts – Timeline

- **2019 – VCRD Community Visit**

- The Town partnered with the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) to conduct the [Westford's Future community process](#) to engage residents in reviewing these assets, addressing challenges, and setting and advancing key priorities for the future. More than 200 residents participated in forums and community meetings, identifying improvements to the Village Center as a community priority.
- The Pigeon Property emerged as a key opportunity to support future community goals such as housing, recreation, and village revitalization.
- CCRPC initiated a [Brownfields Phase I Environmental Site Assessment](#), identifying historic commercial uses, including a gasoline station and bus repair garage, and recommending further environmental investigation.

- **2020 – Site Investigation & Planning Begins**

- Westford received a Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) Planning Grant to evaluate future uses of the property.
- Environmental investigations continued, including a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and removal of a 1,100-gallon underground gasoline storage tank.
- Initial site analysis documented opportunities and constraints related to environmental conditions, infrastructure, historic resources, and redevelopment potential ([2020 Wetland Delineation](#)).

- **2021 – Community Planning & Technical Studies**

- The Town engaged SE Group to lead [a community planning process](#) that included a public survey (327 responses), community meetings, and concept development.
- Multiple redevelopment concepts were evaluated, including affordable housing, municipal facilities, public access to the Browns River, and mixed-use development.

- Supporting technical work included [an archaeological resources assessment](#), additional environmental investigations, preliminary engineering, and continued brownfield cleanup.
- Approximately 81 tons of petroleum-contaminated soil were removed from the property as part of the approved corrective action plan.
- **2022 – Preferred Concept & Environmental Cleanup**
 - A preferred redevelopment concept was developed that combined affordable housing, public open space, and river access.
 - Additional environmental remediation removed a second underground gasoline storage tank and approximately 21 additional tons of contaminated soil.
 - Despite extensive planning, the project did not move forward due to environmental constraints, wastewater limitations, infrastructure costs, building rehabilitation needs, funding challenges, and implementation complexity.
- **2024 – Property Acquisition Planning**
 - The Town began actively pursuing acquisition of the property.
 - A Wastewater Alternatives Committee evaluated the site's ability to accommodate a replacement municipal wastewater system.
 - Krebs & Lansing completed [wastewater feasibility work and preliminary septic design](#).
 - The Town applied for and [was accepted](#) into Vermont's Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act (BRELLA) program, providing liability protection and establishing a pathway for future remediation.
 - At a Special Town Meeting, voters approved using \$150,000 from the Town's unassigned fund balance toward purchasing the property by a vote of 120-28.
- **2025 – Town Acquires the Property**
 - The Town purchased the property for \$300,000, funded through \$150,000 in ARPA funds and \$150,000 from the Town's unassigned fund balance.
 - Krebs & Lansing completed additional [wastewater engineering](#) and prepared [a conceptual septic system](#) capable of supporting approximately 495 gallons per day for municipal facilities.
 - A new [Phase I Environmental Site Assessment](#) and [a Preservation Trust of Vermont Technical Assistance Survey](#) documented existing environmental conditions and the historic condition of the buildings.
 - With ownership secured, the Town shifted its focus from acquisition to long-term planning.
 - [2025 Wetland Delineation](#)
- **2026 – Current planning effort begins.**

What We Know Today: Existing Conditions

Existing Buildings / Archaeological



- The property contains two buildings:
 - A historic mid-19th century residence fronting Route 128.
 - A detached garage historically used for bus storage and automotive repair.
- The residence retains many original historic features, including:
 - Original timber frame.
 - Side-hall floor plan.
 - Original staircase and banister.
 - Historic trim and interior details.
 - Portions of the original windows and finishes.
- [A 2025 Preservation Trust of Vermont Technical Assistance Survey](#) found:
 - The building's primary structural issue is deterioration of the rear foundation caused by poor drainage and water infiltration.
 - The timber frame remains largely sound.
 - Rehabilitation is technically feasible, but significant investment would be required.
 - Preliminary rehabilitation costs were estimated at approximately **\$170,000–\$200,000** (2025 estimate), excluding renovations needed for future use.
- The detached garage has historical significance related to the property's bus and automotive repair history but has less architectural significance than the residence and would require substantial improvements for use. **The Town has indicated that the garage will be removed from the site.**
- Archaeological Resources
 - [A 2021 Archaeological Resources Assessment](#) found that the developed portion of the property near Route 128 has been sufficiently disturbed by previous construction and utility work that additional archaeological investigation is generally not recommended in these areas.
 - Much of the undeveloped northern portion of the property (including the western side yard, backyard, terraces behind the garage, and land extending toward the Browns River) was identified as archaeologically sensitive for potential pre-Contact Native American sites.

- A Phase I archaeological survey is recommended before any future ground disturbance in these sensitive areas and will be an important consideration when evaluating future building locations, parking areas, trails, utilities, or other site improvements.

Environmental / Wetlands / Floodplain

- The property is a designated **Brownfields** site due to historic commercial uses, including a gasoline filling station, bus garage, and automotive repair facility. Environmental investigations have been completed since 2019 to characterize contamination and support future redevelopment.
- Two abandoned underground gasoline storage tanks (1,100-gallon and 2,000-gallon) were removed in 2020 and 2022, along with more than 100 tons of petroleum-contaminated soil.
- Remaining environmental contamination consists primarily of:
 - Petroleum-related compounds in groundwater near the former underground storage tank area.
 - Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) contamination in shallow soils north and northeast of the garage, associated with historic storage of buses, automotive equipment, and fill material.
- Annual groundwater monitoring indicates that contamination remains contained on-site and has declined significantly following cleanup activities. The magnitude of groundwater contamination has decreased by approximately 70% since 2020, and the dissolved contaminant plume is expected to continue decreasing through natural attenuation. Private drinking water wells have not been impacted.
- The Town's participation in [Vermont's Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act \(BRELLA\) program](#) provides liability protection for eligible future owners and developers while improving access to state and federal cleanup funding. Environmental conditions are now well understood and can be incorporated into future planning and redevelopment.
- [A 2020 wetland delineation](#) identified wetlands on the property that, together with steep slopes, limit the amount of land available for future development. These natural resources will influence the location of buildings, parking areas, trails, and other site improvements.
- The property slopes north toward the Browns River and includes a ravine that conveys stormwater from the Town Common. Portions of the property are affected by FEMA flood hazard areas and river corridor protections, requiring careful consideration of future site design and permitting.

Water / Wastewater / Stormwater

- The property is served by a private well and septic system and currently has a state wastewater permit for up to 490 gallons per day, providing flexibility for future uses but not enough capacity to support all potential redevelopment scenarios.
- Existing municipal facilities have significant wastewater constraints:
 - The Town Offices and Library currently share a septic system with a permitted capacity of approximately 90 gallons per day, which is inadequate for current operations and does not accommodate future growth.

- The existing system is nearing the end of its useful life, and approximately \$60,000 has been set aside in the Town's Capital Reserve Fund for replacement.
- In 2024 and 2025, Krebs & Lansing evaluated wastewater alternatives for the municipal campus and prepared a conceptual design for a replacement septic system serving the Town Offices and Library. The recommended mound system would provide approximately 495 gallons per day, with the potential to increase capacity to approximately 576–603 gallons per day through the addition of pretreatment.
- Long-term wastewater capacity is one of the primary factors influencing future uses of the property. Any redevelopment must consider opportunities to coordinate wastewater infrastructure across the broader municipal campus rather than planning for individual buildings independently.
- The property also contains the Town Common stormwater outfall. A culvert carries runoff beneath Route 128 and discharges through a ravine on the property before reaching the Browns River. Public ownership provides an opportunity to better manage this existing stormwater infrastructure and address long-term drainage and water quality concerns.
- Future planning should evaluate water supply, wastewater capacity, and stormwater management as integrated infrastructure systems, as they will significantly influence redevelopment costs, permitting requirements, and the range of feasible future uses.

Municipal Facility Needs

- The property is located immediately adjacent to the Town Offices, Library, Town Common, and Brick Meeting House, making it one of the few locations where future municipal facility needs could be addressed as part of a coordinated civic campus.
- Previous planning efforts identified several challenges with the Town's existing municipal facilities, including:
 - Limited office space for current and future staff.
 - An aging records vault that is expected to reach capacity in the coming years.
 - Insufficient meeting space for Selectboard, committee, and public meetings.
 - Limited opportunities to expand the existing Town Office because of site constraints and wastewater limitations.
- Recent wastewater planning has reinforced that **the Town Offices and Library require a replacement septic system regardless of whether the Pigeon Property is redeveloped**. This creates an opportunity to evaluate municipal infrastructure needs across the broader campus rather than on a building-by-building basis.
- Previous planning concepts explored relocating or expanding municipal facilities onto the property, either by rehabilitating the historic house or constructing new facilities elsewhere on the site. While no preferred alternative has been selected, the property remains one of the few locations in the Village Center with the potential to accommodate future municipal needs.
- Future planning should consider not only current space deficiencies, but also how municipal facilities may need to evolve over the next 20–30 years, including opportunities to improve accessibility, operational efficiency, public meeting space, records storage, and coordination among Town-owned properties.

Community Context / Engagement Results

- [2019 Westford's Future Report and Action Plan](#)
 - Phase 1: 120 residents, community forums and potluck
 - Phase 2: 100 residents, community meeting
 - Three priorities- Task forces were created to carry these forward
 - Improve traffic safety, walkability, and bikeability
 - Boost local business and economic development and improve broadband and cell connectivity
 - Advance the arts, community events, and communications
- [SE Group Engagement Results](#)
 - Priorities: Public access to Browns River; Post office; Restaurant/Cafe; Workforce/affordable housing
 - 40% say saving and rehabilitating historic homestead is important
 - People want street trees, traffic calming and streetscape improvements
 - Which is your preferred plan: 66.1% said "Combination/Other"

Possible Directions: Benefits & Challenges

The table below summarizes the potential uses that have been explored or suggested for the property through previous planning efforts, community engagement, technical studies, and recent discussions. It identifies the specific opportunities, limitations, costs, infrastructure requirements, and community considerations associated with each.

Option	Description	Benefits	Challenges
Municipal / Civic Campus Expansion	Use some or all of the developable portion of 1705 to address long-term Town Office, Library, meeting, storage, parking, wastewater, or other civic needs as part of the existing municipal campus. This could range from relatively modest improvements to eventual construction of a new or expanded municipal facility.	• Addresses documented space needs w/o relocating municipal offices (adds to a coordinated civic campus) • Supports long-term municipal operations; • Proposed wastewater system was specifically evaluated for municipal uses; • Town already has \$60,000 in capital reserves earmarked for replacement of Town/Library septic system. • Using a shed or other structure for Parks &	• Septic upgrade remains to be a constraint on scale and use (495 GPD as max capacity, assuming only 10 employees plus 86 public users per day with no feed service); • Pretreatment was estimated to increase capacity only to approximately 576–603 GPD and was not considered cost-effective by the engineer. • A major new municipal building would require substantial funding (a new Town Office would

		Recreation/storage could free space in existing municipal buildings at relatively low cost.	be approximately \$5 million) • New construction, parking, wastewater, and other improvements would compete for the relatively limited unconstrained portion of the site; • A new drilled well would be difficult to locate because of environmental constraints and required setbacks.
Historic Preservation & Adaptive Reuse	Preserve and rehabilitate the Pigeon House for an appropriate future use, potentially residential, civic, community, office, or another low-intensity use.	• Preserves the circa-1850 Greek Revival building (potential important piece of historic Village Center) • The house retains significant historic features, including the original stairway and balustrade, doors, windows and trim, and evidence of an early basement kitchen/bake oven. • The Preservation Trust assessment found much of the timber frame in good condition and the building generally square and plumb except for the failing rear portion. • Adaptive reuse could preserve the historic elements while accommodating civic, community, office, residential or other low-intensity uses. • Preservation could potentially be paired	• Significant rehabilitation costs (The Preservation Trust's 2025 estimate totaled between \$160,000-\$190,000 for structural work alone). Others have estimates just under \$500,000 for structural work alone. • Additional rehabilitation costs would include: asbestos/hazardous materials remediation, ADA compliance, code compliance, energy upgrades, bathrooms and interior alterations. • Preservation does not itself answer the long-term use question; the Town would still need to identify a viable purpose and responsibility for ongoing maintenance.

		with historic-preservation funding.	
Affordable or Mixed-Income Housing	Develop housing on the property, either through reuse of the existing house or new construction.	• Addresses a documented local housing need. • Would add housing in Village Center rather than in a more rural location. • Could increase local tax base and support local businesses. • Reuse land that historically included a residence.	• Multifamily housing does not appear feasible under the site's current wastewater limitations (the permitted 490 GDP system was sized for a four-bedroom single family residence). • Multifamily housing would require community wastewater infrastructure. • Would have to contend with brownfield remediation, limited buildable land, water supply, wetlands/river corridor, and archaeological sensitivity. • Community opposition to multifamily housing. • Funding challenges.
Public Open Space, Recreation & River Access	Make portions of the property available for public use, potentially including trails, river access or overlooks, lawn/open space, picnic areas, gathering areas, or other low-impact recreation.	• Responds to previous community interest in public access to the Browns River and outdoor recreation. • Could include a trail, river overlook, picnic/seating areas, lawn, informal recreation, or connections between the Village Center and river. • Portions of the property poorly suited to buildings may still be useful for low-impact recreation. • Could complement the Common rather than requiring another major building or intensive use.	• Steep slopes (greater than 20%), wetlands and floodplain areas, drainage ravines, and erosion-prone areas potentially dangerous. • Ground disturbance in these areas could require further archaeological surveys. • Downstream Class III rapids cause liability concerns. • Could require substantial trail design, gradings, railings, drainage, signage, and ongoing maintenance. • Adjacent property owners have raised concerns about increased activity near the river, including traffic,

		• Low impact on archaeologically sensitive land. • Low-intensity recreation could require little or no wastewater capacity and could be combined with municipal or historic uses on the more developable frontage.	noise, unsupervised youth, and partying. • Community trauma around death of a child.
Conservation / Natural Resource Protection	Protect environmentally and archaeologically sensitive portions of the property from development, particularly wetlands, river corridor/floodplain, steep slopes, riparian areas, and sensitive archaeological areas. Public access would be secondary and could be limited.	• Protects portions of the property that are most environmentally constrained and least appropriate for intensive development, including wetlands, river corridor/floodplain, steep slopes, riparian areas, and drainage features. • Avoiding disturbance in sensitive portions of the site could reduce permitting, erosion, archaeological, and construction complications. • Protects the Browns River corridor and maintains open land behind the Village Center. • Could be targeted to the northern and environmentally constrained portions of the property while allowing civic or other uses closer to Route 128. • Could complement recreation by protecting natural	• Would not address documented municipal facility, parking, housing, or community-space needs • Permanently restricting portions of the property could reduce flexibility if future infrastructure or municipal needs change. • Some portions of the site already face substantial regulatory constraints, meaning formal conservation may provide less additional protection than it would on otherwise developable land • Town would need to determine the appropriate level of public access: conservation does not necessarily mean a public park or river-access area • Long-term stewardship, invasive-species management, vegetation management, and other responsibilities would still need to be assigned

		resources while allowing carefully located trails or overlooks where appropriate.	
Shared Parking	Use a portion of the property for shared parking serving the Town Office, Library, Common, community events, and/or other future uses. This is most likely a supporting component of another direction rather than a stand-alone use.	• Could support the Library, Town Office, Common, community events, etc. • Shared Village Center parking • Could reduce pressure to use more environmentally sensitive portions on the site or elsewhere for parking.	• Actual amount of parking the land could accommodate is unknown. • Would compete with other priorities for the site's most developable land. • Would require stormwater management. • Could weaken the historic character of the Common and Village Center.
Event Gathering / Event Space	Create a dedicated outdoor or indoor space for community gatherings, performances, events, or programs. This could range from a lawn/pavilion to a more formal amphitheater or event facility and would likely be combined with another direction.	• Creates flexible space for meetings, events, performances, and community activities; • Little or no wastewater needs; • Slope could lend itself to informal terraced seating or small performance area • Increase community gathering and connection.	• Construction and operating costs; • Ongoing programming and maintenance responsibilities; • Would require additional parking somewhere; • Unsure whether parking AND an event area could be accommodated.

Combination Options

The property will most likely accommodate multiple uses. The combinations below assume that **a new wastewater system will be incorporated into any future site plan and that the existing garage will be removed**. Given the site's wastewater limitations, multifamily housing is not included as a redevelopment option.

- Remove the Pigeon House + shared parking + picnic/gathering space + open space/river access
- Remove the Pigeon House + new or expanded municipal/civic facility + shared parking + open space/river access
- Remove the Pigeon House + shared parking + community gathering/event space + open space/conservation

- Preserve the Pigeon House as a single-family residence + limited shared parking + open space/river access
- Preserve and adaptively reuse the Pigeon House for municipal/community use + shared parking + open space/river access
- Preserve the Pigeon House + new or expanded municipal/civic facility elsewhere on the site + shared parking + open space/river access
- Minimal development: remove or stabilize the Pigeon House + shared parking + picnic/gathering space + open space/conservation/river access
- Phased approach: shared parking + open space/recreation improvements in the near term, while preserving space and flexibility for a future municipal/civic facility

Remaining Questions

Site Capacity & Feasibility

- How much of the property is actually developable? Once wetlands, required buffers, river corridor/floodplain, steep slopes, archaeological sensitivity, contaminated soils, wastewater infrastructure, well setbacks, stormwater infrastructure, and required access are accounted for, how much usable land remains and where is it located?
- What can physically fit on the site?
- Which of the identified combination options are actually feasible given the amount of land that is workable?

Parking

- How many additional parking spaces could realistically fit on the property, both with and without the Pigeon House?
- How much shared parking is actually needed?

Slope, River Access & recreation

- To what extent does the slope actually limit the use of the northern property? Which areas much be unsuitable for buildings versus difficult but potentially useable for trails, gathering spaces, or other recreation?
- What type of river access is realistically feasible and safe?
- What would be required to provide ADA-accessible recreation or river access given the steep slopes?
- What are the actual safety, liability, emergency-access, maintenance, and management implications of providing public river access?
- Could a picnic/gathering area, pavilion, or small performance area realistically fit, and how much parking would be needed for each?

Pigeon House

- What specific renovations are needed for use of the first floor?
- What is a realistic all-in cost to preserve and reuse the Pigeon House?
- What uses of the Pigeon House are actually feasible given its layout, accessibility requirements, wastewater demand, parking, etc.?

- If adapted for municipal/community use, what functions could realistically fit in the house and would doing so meaningfully address the Town's documented facility needs?

Municipal Facility Needs

- What are the Town's actual space needs over the next 20–30 years?
- Is a new Town Office or major expansion a realistic medium- or long-term possibility given the estimated cost, or should engagement focus primarily on smaller improvements that could actually be funded?
- What lower-cost changes—storage relocation, shared meeting space, records storage, parking improvements, or reconfiguration of existing buildings—could address the most pressing municipal needs without constructing a new building?
- Which municipal needs are urgent, desirable, or long-term, and which should actually influence decisions about 1705 today?

Wastewater, Water & Stormwater

- What uses and combinations of uses can actually be supported within the approximately 495 GPD wastewater capacity?
- With the proposed mound system, what land would become unavailable for other uses?
- If the Town wanted to increase density in the Village Center in the future, what would a wastewater solution look like?
- What improvements are needed to the existing stormwater runoff, what would they costs, and do those improvement impact other uses?

Environmental, Archaeological, & Regulatory Constraints

- What contamination remains, exactly where is it located, and what does it mean for each likely redevelopment scenario?
- What additional remediation is required regardless of future use versus remediation that would be triggered only by particular redevelopment activities?
- Which areas specifically would trigger a Phase I archaeological survey if disturbed?
- What are the actual regulatory implications of the wetlands, floodplain, river corridor, and steep slopes? Distinguish between areas where development is prohibited, heavily constrained, permitted with review, or simply more expensive/difficult.

Other

- What level of cost information should accompany each option so residents can weigh benefits against realistic financial implications? What costs, if any, would fall on taxpayers?

Westford 1705 Property Public Engagement Plan

Last updated: September 14, 2026

Anne Nelson Stoner, Outreach & Engagement Manager, CCRPC
anstoner@ccrpvt.org

Maya Balassa, Planner, CCRPC
mbalassa@ccrpvt.org

Purpose

This project represents Phase 1 of a multi-year effort by the Town of Westford to determine an appropriate future for the property at 1705 Vermont Route 128. Phase 1 will build a shared understanding of the property's history, existing conditions, opportunities, and constraints; compile information from previous planning and technical studies; and educate the community about the physical, environmental, financial, and regulatory factors that may affect future uses.

CCRPC will support the Town through community education, information gathering, and a broad range of engagement activities designed to reach both regular participants in Town processes and people who may not typically participate in public meetings. The process will provide clear, transparent information about the property's opportunities, potential uses, and physical, environmental, financial, and regulatory constraints. Through conversations and other engagement activities, CCRPC will gather qualitative input about what residents value, hope to see, and believe could be possible for the property, while also collecting quantifiable input through rankings of potential uses and directions. Together, these results will provide the Selectboard with a clear picture of community priorities and preferences that can help guide decisions about next steps, while making clear where community priorities may be limited by known site constraints or other considerations.

The project will conclude with a Phase 2 roadmap that summarizes community priorities, identifies potential directions and next steps, and highlights outstanding information, technical, funding, or implementation needs. The intent is to provide the Town and Selectboard with a clear, community-informed foundation for future decision-making.

Guiding Principles

Consistent with the principles and practices outlined in CCRPC's Public Participation Plan, this engagement process will:

- **Be clear, accessible, and transparent.** Participants will understand the purpose of the process, what questions are being considered, what is and is not within the scope of the project, and how their input will be used. The Selectboard's role in making the final decision will be clear.

- **Provide information and support informed participation.** CCRPC will provide clear, accessible information about the property's existing conditions, opportunities, constraints, potential uses, estimated costs, and tradeoffs before asking participants to evaluate options or establish priorities. Information will be presented in practical and visual formats whenever possible.
- **Reach broadly and reduce barriers to participation.** CCRPC will use multiple outreach methods, settings, and formats to reach people who may not participate in traditional public meetings. Where appropriate and within the project budget, the process will provide supports such as food, childcare, participant stipends, and other accommodations that make participation easier.
- **Create meaningful opportunities for public input.** Engagement will include both broad and targeted opportunities for participation, including public meetings, small-group conversations, events, on-site activities, surveys, and individual conversations. Engagement will focus on questions that community members can meaningfully answer and will provide consistent opportunities to express, explain, and prioritize their views.
- **Represent and communicate the range of community perspectives.** The process will seek to identify areas of broad agreement while also documenting meaningful differences, concerns, and minority perspectives. Input will be compiled and analyzed in a consistent manner so that the Selectboard can understand both overall priorities and important differences in perspective.
- **Close the loop.** CCRPC will clearly communicate what was heard, how community input was considered, and what questions, tradeoffs, or implementation issues remain for the Town to address.

Community Context & Previous Engagement

The Town of Westford purchased the approximately 3.3-acre property at 1705 Vermont Route 128 in 2025 following several years of investigation, planning, and consideration of potential uses. Located in the center of Westford next to the Town Offices, Library, Town Common, and Browns River, the property includes the historic Pigeon House and a former garage. With the property now under Town ownership, the focus has shifted from whether to acquire the property to determining how it should be used and what investments, improvements, or other actions may be appropriate.

The property has significant potential as a village-center asset, but its future is affected by a number of physical, environmental, historic, financial, and municipal considerations. Previous studies have documented wetlands, river corridor and floodplain considerations, challenging soils and water-table conditions, archaeological sensitivity, historic resources, petroleum contamination and cleanup requirements, wastewater and water-supply limitations, and constraints on building placement, parking, and access. The Town is also considering how the property relates to existing municipal facilities and longer-term community needs.

Wastewater is a particularly important consideration. The Town has been exploring the property as a location for wastewater serving the Town Offices and Library. Recent engineering work indicates that a

conventional mound system could support approximately 495 gallons per day. A new wastewater system is imminently needed for the municipal building and library. This means that wastewater will be a fundamental part of evaluating what combination of uses are selected for the property.

The Pigeon House is another significant consideration. The building is a mid-19th-century historic residence with a number of original architectural features. A 2025 preservation assessment found that rehabilitation is technically feasible but that the building has significant structural and maintenance needs, including deterioration of the rear foundation. The building's future—whether it should be preserved, rehabilitated for a particular use, or removed—is therefore an important question for the community and the Town.

The purpose of Phase 1 is not to select a final design for the property. Instead, the process will help the Town understand which community priorities and potential uses warrant further consideration, given what is physically, environmentally, financially, and operationally feasible. The engagement process will therefore ask residents to consider both what they value and what tradeoffs they are willing to make.

ASSESSMENT OF PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

The Town has already gathered community input that provides an important starting point for this process. Two prior efforts are particularly relevant to understanding community priorities: Westford's 2019 Westford's Future Report and Action Plan and the 2021 engagement conducted as part of the earlier 1705 VT Route 128 planning project. In addition, the Town provided information and held public discussion around the proposed acquisition of the property in 2024.

The 2019 Westford's Future process engaged approximately 120 residents in its first phase and approximately 100 residents in its second phase through community forums, a potluck, and a community meeting. The process identified three broad community priorities: improving traffic safety, walkability, and bikeability; supporting local business and economic development and improving broadband and cell connectivity; and advancing the arts, community events, and communications. These priorities provide broader community context for considering the role of 1705 within the village center.

The 2021 1705 VT Route 128 planning process included a public meeting and community survey with 327 responses. The process explored several potential redevelopment concepts and found strong interest in public access to the Browns River, a post office, a restaurant or café, and workforce or affordable housing. Forty percent of respondents indicated that saving and rehabilitating the historic homestead was important. When asked to select among three concepts or a combination/other option, 66.1% selected "Combination/Other." The results therefore suggest interest in multiple community benefits rather than a single-purpose redevelopment approach. The Town's project materials describe the 2021 process as an effort to explore a combination of public access to the Browns River, affordable homeownership, and expansion or replacement of the Town Offices.

The 2024 acquisition process generated another substantial public discussion, although its primary purpose was to inform an advisory vote on using \$150,000 in unassigned funds toward the purchase rather than to determine the property's future use. Approximately 150 people attended the October 22, 2024 Special Town Meeting, where the advisory article passed 120–28. During the discussion, residents raised questions and concerns about the cost of future improvements, potential grants, wastewater and water supply, contamination and environmental risks, flooding, the future of river access, archaeological resources, and whether the Town had enough information to proceed. Other residents emphasized the property's potential to address long-standing municipal wastewater and Town Office needs and supported public access to the river and other community benefits.

The acquisition discussion also reinforced an important limitation of the previous engagement: the Town had not yet determined what the community wanted to do with the property, making it difficult to establish the ultimate cost or feasibility of redevelopment. As the Selectboard explained at the meeting, cleanup costs and other project costs would need to be revisited once a future use or plan was identified. The Town's current project materials similarly identify a range of potential community benefits—including river access, municipal facilities, parking, conservation, and environmental improvements—rather than a single predetermined use.

Taken together, these efforts provide a useful but incomplete picture of community priorities. They show meaningful interest in the property's role in the village center and identify several recurring ideas, but they do not provide a current, comprehensive ranking of potential uses or a clear understanding of how residents weigh those uses against one another, particularly when cost, feasibility, environmental constraints, and other tradeoffs are considered. The current process will therefore build on this existing input rather than starting from scratch, while giving residents an opportunity to revisit earlier ideas in light of what is now known about the property.

How These Assessments Shape the Engagement Approach

The current engagement process will build directly on what Westford residents have already said while recognizing that the circumstances surrounding the property have changed. Previously identified interests—including Browns River access, preservation or reuse of the Pigeon House, recreation and gathering space, municipal needs, village-center activity, and potential housing or commercial uses—will inform the options and questions presented to the community. The process will not assume that previous preferences remain unchanged or that any one of these ideas should be pursued.

A key difference from previous engagement will be the emphasis on both informed discussion and prioritization. Residents will have opportunities to describe what they value, hope to see, and would like the property to contribute to the community. At the same time, the process will provide clear information about the property's known opportunities and constraints—including environmental conditions, wastewater capacity, flooding and wetlands, the condition and potential reuse of the Pigeon House, parking and access, costs, and other feasibility considerations—so that residents can evaluate potential directions with a realistic understanding of what each may require.

The process will also use consistent ranking questions across engagement activities to generate quantifiable results alongside qualitative feedback. This will make it possible to identify both broad areas of community support and areas where preferences differ, while preserving the context and reasoning behind those preferences. The resulting priorities will provide the Selectboard with a clearer basis for determining which directions warrant further investigation in Phase 2 and what additional technical, financial, or implementation information is needed before decisions can be made.

Engagement Questions & Flow

Engagement will follow a progression from broad community priorities to informed evaluation and prioritization.

Opening: Project Overview & Decision-Making

CCRPC will provide a clear overview of the project, including its purpose, what is known about the property, the role of community input, how feedback will inform the Phase 2 roadmap, the Selectboard's role in decision-making, and what happens after the engagement process. The team will also explain how feedback will be documented and reported back to the community.

Brainstorming: What matters to the community?

The initial questions will focus on what residents value about Westford and the Village Center and what they hope the property could contribute. Questions include:

- What do you value most about the Village Center?
- What do you hope comes out of this process?
- What community needs or opportunities do you hope the property could help address?
- If you imagine the Village Center in 20 or 50 years from now, what do you hope it looks and feels like?

Education: What is realistically possible?

Residents will be provided with accessible information about the property's opportunities and constraints. Questions include:

- Do you understand the major constraints and opportunities affecting the property?
- What questions remain?
- Which potential uses appear compatible with those constraints?
- Which potential uses appear less feasible or no longer realistic?
- What tradeoffs are you willing or unwilling to make?
- Which community benefits are most important to you for the future of the 1705 property?
- What additional information may be needed before moving forward?

Decision-Making: What should the Town prioritize?

After participants have had an opportunity to learn about the property, they will be asked to identify and rank their preferred potential directions.

A consistent prioritization exercise will be used across engagement activities. Participants will be asked to identify a top preference or rank their top three priorities from a menu of potential and compatible uses or combination of uses.

For each preference, participants will also have an opportunity to identify:

- Conditions that would affect their support
- Questions that would affect their ranking
- Concerns about the option
- Other information they believe the Town should consider

Additional questions may include:

- What is your biggest concern about the property's future?
- What do you hope, regardless of other considerations, does NOT happen at the property?
- What, if anything, do you hope the Town does next?

Note: CCRPC's engagement team will keep a running list of participant names to avoid duplication of results.

Interested & Affected Parties (IAPs)

CCRPC will seek broad participation from Westford residents while conducting targeted outreach to people and groups with particular interests in the property. Given the amount of previous engagement, CCRPC will prioritize broadening participation to ensure that perspectives not typically represented in public meetings are included.

IAPs include:

- Residents who live near the Town Common and 1705 property
- Residents who do *not* regularly attend public meetings
- Seniors
- Youth
- Families, parents, and newer residents
- Residents of multifamily housing
- Planning Commission
- Selectboard
- Town Common Committee
- Conservation Commission / Trail Maintenance Committee
- Recreation Department

- Historical Society / Brick Meeting House Society
- Public Library
- School community
 - Barn School
 - Westford Elementary
- Low[er]-income communities
 - 4-unit multifamily - “The Hotel”
 - 3-unit structure in Village Center
 - Off of North Street
- Businesses:
 - Westford Provisions / Ruby’s Ice Cream
 - Trents Bread
 - Morgan Brook Farm
 - Adam’s Turkey Farm
 - Rover’s North
 - Dandelion Farm
 - Rocky Hill Farm
 - Nonconformist Farm

Community Engagement Activities

EDUCATIONAL & ENGAGEMENT MATERIALS

CCRPC will develop a coordinated set of materials, including:

- **Existing Conditions Summary** — A summary of the property's history, previous planning, opportunities, constraints, and potential uses. This will be used to inform educational materials and conversations.
- **Presentation / Slide Deck** — A visual overview that can be used for community presentations and small group discussions.
- **Educational Handout / Pamphlet** — Plain-language information about the property and the major factors affecting potential uses, including a map and description of opportunities and constraints.
- **Property Map (Printed and Online)**— A clear map showing relevant site features and constraints.
- **Flagged Site** — Physical delineation of relevant site features and constraints to support property walk-throughs.
- **Discussion/Facilitation Guides** — Consistent materials and questions for events, small groups and informal conversations.
- **Art / Design Map Materials:** Show scaled items and a base map that people can “design” their own combination of uses – to be used in advance of ranking /prioritization exercise.

- **Prioritization / Ranking Materials** — A standardized ranking/voting worksheet that can be adapted for in-person and online participation.
 - Ranking handout
 - Ranking survey for online / virtual participation
 - Could also have version on sticky notes for events, or use pom poms in jars, etc.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

CCRPC and the Town will use multiple communication channels to promote engagement and make information available throughout the process. Potential communication channels include:

- Flyers with project details and a QR code to the Town Webpage (to be posted around town, shared virtually through communication networks and to be mailed to households). FYI: There are 980 parcels in town / ~\$800 to send a flyer to each home
- Front Porch Forum (FPF)
- Town website and newsletter
- School newsletter and other communication channels
- Library communications
- Community organizations and existing networks
- Direct outreach to targeted residents and groups via email, telephone, etc.

CCRPC will coordinate monthly meetings with the Town project team to ensure major engagement opportunities are well coordinated and publicized and to keep everyone abreast of project developments.

EDUCATION + ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES / TIMELINE

Engagement Type / Activity	Target IAP	Timeline	Notes / Advertising Strategy
PUBLIC MEETINGS / BROAD ENGAGEMENT			
Property Walk-Through #1	Broad community	November?	Guided site walk focused on helping participants understand existing conditions, opportunities, and constraints, followed by ranking activity. Advertising Strategy: FPF, Town Newsletter & Website, Library & School Newsletters, Flyers
Property Walk-Through #2	Broad community	February?	Guided site walk focused on helping participants understand existing conditions, opportunities, and constraints, followed by ranking activity. Advertising Strategy: FPF, Town Newsletter & Website, Library & School Newsletters, Flyers
FOCUS GROUPS / SMALL-GROUP CONVERSATIONS			
Targeted Focus Group #1 / Senior Luncheon	Seniors	TBD	Small-group discussion (8-12 participants). Offer food and stipends. Advertising Strategy: Trusted community leader, Town Newsletter, Library Newsletter.

Targeted Focus Group #2	Youth	TBD	Small-group discussion (8-12 participants). Offer food. Use Map Design engagement activity. Advertising Strategy: Work through the school to potentially join a class or two.
Targeted Focus Group #3	Small Businesses	TBD	Small-group discussion (8-12 participants). Offer food, childcare, and stipends. Advertising Strategy: Direct email outreach.
INDIVIDUAL CONVERSATIONS / INFORMAL OUTREACH			
~10 One-on-One Conversations / Open Hours	Residents and other IAPs who may not participate in formal meetings	TBD	Approximately 10 conversations using a consistent interview guide. Could include scheduled conversations and/or open office hours at the Library or General Store. Advertising Strategy: FPF, Town Website & Newsletter, Library Newsletter, Flyers, direct outreach.
Door-to-Door Outreach / Neighborhood Tabling	Westford neighborhood residents / Low(er)-Income	TBD	Targeted outreach to walkable areas of Westford to target those who may be less likely to participate in Town meetings. Advertising Strategy: Flyers posted in the neighborhood; Potentially spread the word through trusted community leader in the area.
EXISTING COMMUNITY EVENTS / GATHERINGS			
Westford Food Shelf	Low(er)-Income; Renters	Wednesdays, 9:00am-12:00pm; 4 th Saturday of the month, 8:30-10:30am	Table at the local food shelf to talk to clients as they come and go. Provide brief project information and a simple prioritization activity. Advertising Strategy: Coordinate with food shelf volunteer.
Library: Coffee & Cards	Adults / seniors / regular library users	Tuesdays, 10:30am-12:00pm	Short, informal engagement opportunity incorporated into an existing library program. Advertising Strategy: Library Newsletter, Town Website & Newsletter.
School Event / Spots Game	Youth, families, parents	TBD	Coordinate with the school around an existing event, such as youth sports games. Advertising Strategy: School newsletter.
Westford Winter Festival	Broad community	January 31, 11:30am-4:00pm	Table or offer a site walk-through and engagement activity as one of the festivals offerings. Advertising Strategy: FPF, Town Website & Newsletter, Flyers, Library & School Newsletters; Lean on existing advertising for the event.
COMMITTEE / ORGANIZATIONAL ENGAGEMENT			
Planning Commission / Town Committee Meetings	Planning Commission, Town Common Committee, Conservation Commission, Recreation,	TBD	Provide project updates and seek targeted input where committee expertise or responsibilities are relevant. Advertising Strategy: Town committee leads.

	Historical Society, Library, etc.		
EXTERNAL COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES			
Youth Essay Contest	Youth	TBD	Organize a youth essay contest to garner youth support and investment in the site.
University / College Archaeological Dig			Approach academics at the University of Vermont and/or Middlebury College in the areas of archaeology and/or Native American studies – see about arranging an archeological "dig" for next summer.

Looking Beyond Engagement

The purpose of engagement is to move from individual comments and ideas toward clear, community-informed priorities that can support Selectboard decision-making. Every engagement activity will include a consistent prioritization exercise, allowing CCRPC to capture both quantitative results and qualitative feedback across different settings and audiences.

Following the engagement process, CCRPC will:

- **Compile and analyze input** from all engagement activities, combining quantitative prioritization results with qualitative feedback.
- **Identify community priorities and areas of agreement or disagreement**, including significant concerns or conditions raised by participants.
- **Consider community priorities alongside known site constraints and feasibility considerations** to identify a manageable menu of potential directions for the property.
- **Prepare a Community Engagement Summary Report** documenting what was heard and how community input shaped the potential directions identified.
- **Develop a Phase 2 Roadmap** outlining the additional technical, financial, planning, design, funding, or engagement work needed to evaluate and advance potential directions.
- **Present the findings and roadmap to the Selectboard** to support its determination of next steps.
- **Close the loop with participants and the broader community** by sharing the engagement findings, potential directions, and next steps so participants can see how their input was used and what will happen next.

Tommy O'Connor

From: Jim Benson <jbj102jr@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2026 11:32 AM
To: Tommy O'Connor
Subject: Animal Control

Good morning,

My name is Jim Benson. I am an Animal Control Officer. I have worked for the St Albans Police Dept for 9 years. I also do the towns of S. Hero, Alburgh, Isle La motte, Swanton, St. Albans Town Sheldon, Berkshire, Fairfax and back up for Georgia, N. Hero, and Grand Isle. I have a SUV setup for Animal Control and carry chip readers, catch poles, dog collar, leads, and much more. I have an Ipad that has all licensed dogs and town ordinances. I can enforce Town ordinances, do dog bite investigations, find the owners of dogs, I can also give rides to a prearranged town dog pound. I also work with VSP, Fish and Wildlife, and Police on animal abuse cases. I have taken more than 15 work related training sessions. I charge \$60.00 a call, 60.00 an hour and .76 a mile, and expenses. Normally there are not any expenses though. It sounds like a lot but I answer my phone 24/7.

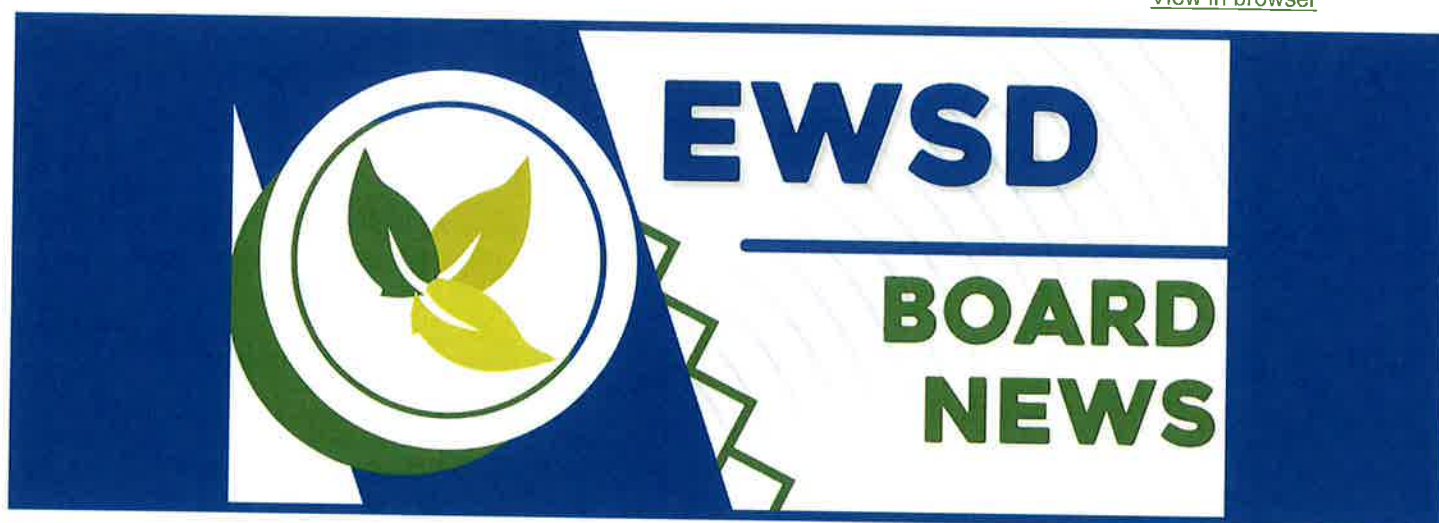
Thanks for considering me,
Jim

Jim Benson
1st Constable
North Hero, Vermont
802-238-3246
jbj102jr@gmail.com

Tommy O'Connor

From: Essex Westford School District <communications@ewsd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 12:00 PM
To: selectboard
Subject: EWSD School Board Newsletter: September

[View in browser](#)



Updates from the School Board September 2026



While the Champlain Valley Fair signals the end of summer, it is worth reflecting on our 2026 graduates who are, in one way or another, out in the world in a whole new capacity.

We wish them all the best and take this moment to appreciate their creativity and humor, as shown in their caps. 2026 grads, we are thinking of you and wishing you all the best.



Last year, Essex Town, Junction, and Westford [voted to consolidate voting on the annual school budget](#) from April to March to coincide with Town Meeting Day. Consequently, we are starting to build our 2027/28 district budget earlier than usual.

To inform our work, the Board releases an anonymous survey to understand voter priorities for the following year's school budget. Our EWSD Budget Survey is intended to collect your thoughts, priorities, and concerns.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete the budget survey.

[BUDGET SURVEY](#)

At our first Board meeting of the 2026/27 school year, we were delighted to continue Superintendent Dr. Holodick's tradition of opening our meetings by recognizing students. At this meeting, we recognized team and individual student-athletes from spring 2026 championships in Baseball, Girls' Tennis, and Boys' Track and Field.



As always, we aim to serve. Please [contact the Board](#) at board-all@ewsd.org with your questions and feedback.

Sincerely,

The EWSD School Board

Anne, Charlotte, Christine, Cyrus, Dawn, Emma, Emma, Gretchen, Jemima, Laura, Marilyn, Marlon, Robert, and Scott

EWSD School Board newsletters are sent to all EWSD families and staff. Everyone is welcome to subscribe.

SUBSCRIBE

Student Board Representative News



Hello EWSD Community,

We hope that everyone is enjoying the first days of the 2026-2027 school year! This year, we are excited to welcome two new student representatives to the EWSD School Board, Essex High School Juniors Emma Cross and Charlotte Sonnick.

Our primary goal going into this school year is the creation of the "Student Voice Association," a student-led group that will be working as a conduit between the student body and the EWSD School Board to increase student knowledge of Board activities and address student goals and concerns. Other upcoming goals include continuing to track education legislation, working in our respective Board committees, and preparing for the budget season.

Finally, we are excited to announce that due to the passage of the "Student Representatives on the School Board" policy, Student Representatives in EWSD now have the ability to cast advisory votes in both committee and full-board meetings. These votes do not count toward decision-making but they allow Student Representatives to express their opinions officially.

Cyrus Lynch, Emma Cappelluti, Charlotte Sonnick, and Emma Cross

Committee Reports

We now have four committees: Advocacy, Facilities, Finance, and Policy, and meeting schedules and notes can be found [here](#).

ADVOCACY

The Advocacy Committee met on 8/31 and determined goals for the 2026/27 school year. These goals will be shared in the 9/1 Board meeting and are available in meeting notes. In general, the Committee is dedicated to following and influencing legislation that impacts our students' education by working closely with the community and district legislators.

FACILITIES

The Facilities Committee wrapped up its school facility tours, including a visit to Burlington High School, and continued planning with Freeman French and Freeman Architects for the next phase of the long-range facilities process. FFF has begun stakeholder outreach with EWSD staff, with broader community engagement and visioning work getting underway this fall.

A full update from FFF will be presented to the School Board on Tuesday, Sept 15th.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee has finalized the annual [Budget Survey](#) to gather community input around the upcoming FY'28 school budget. Community members will be able to take the survey from now through October 15th. Please share your thoughts with us!

The committee will meet every 2 weeks throughout the fall as we prepare the upcoming budget with the goal of finalizing in January, with the community voting in March.

POLICY

During the summer, the Policy Committee completed a reorganization with Dawn Irwin becoming Chair and Robert Carpenter becoming Vice Chair. The committee worked on member engagement and governance norms to create expectations and supports for School Board members. We also reviewed the District Facilities Policy and the Student Representative Policy. Congratulations, Student Representatives, on gaining advisory votes during Board meetings!

District Calendar

2026-2027 EWSD Family Calendar



August

26: First Day of School for Students
31: First Day of School for PreK Student

September

4: No School
7: Labor Day (No School)
21: Yom Kippur (No School)

October

22: Family Conferences (No School)
23: No School

November

10: Diwali (No School)
23-27: Fall Break (No School)

December

24-31: Early Winter Break (No School)

January

1: Early Winter Break (No School)
18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)
19: No School (Inservice)

February

22-26: Winter Break (No School)

March

1: Winter Break (No School)
2: No School (Inservice)
10: Eid al-Fitr (No School)
26: Family Conferences (No School)

April

19-23: Spring Break (No School)

May

31: Memorial Day (No School)

June

15: Last Day for Students* (half day)

Contact the EWSD:
Essex Westford School District
76 Pearl Street, Suite #201
Essex Junction, VT 05452

Phone: 802.878.6166
Website: www.ewsd.org



On each Wednesday, there will be a one-hour early release

*Subject to change - as of: 05/21/26

Meetings

Committee Meetings:

- Advocacy Committee- 6:30 PM- 9/14, 9/28, 10/19, 11/2, 12/7
- Facilities Committee- 3:45 PM- 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14
- Finance Committee- 4 PM- 9/17, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 12/3, 12/17
- Policy- 3 PM- 9/10, 10/8, 11/5, 12/10

School Board Meetings- 6:30 PM- 9/1, 9/15, 10/6, 11/17, 12/15, 1/12, 1/26

Meetings are run according to Robert's Rules of Order, which have nothing to do with our Board Chair, Robert, except for the name.

School Board Meetings are held in the Essex High School library. Everyone is welcome, and there is dedicated time at the start and end of every meeting for public comment. You can watch via Media Factory on Facebook. If you're unable to attend a meeting, please look for the Board at Open Houses and district-wide events- and come and say hi! Last year we attended events approximately every three days- and we want to connect with everyone!

Committee Meetings are typically held virtually unless otherwise announced. Everyone is welcome, and like full Board meetings, there is time for public comment at the start and end of every meeting. You can find committee meeting agendas and links to join virtually on the School Board page on the EWSD website.

Board and Committee meeting minutes are found under the School Board tab.

The EWSD School Board

Board Officers

Robert Carpenter - Co-Chair rcarpenter@board.ewsd.org

Marlon Versamy - Co-Chair mverasamy@board.ewsd.org

Jemima Talbot - Vice Chair jtalbot@board.ewsd.org

Anne Marie Sharp- Clerk amsharp@board.ewsd.org

Board Representatives

Gretchen Bates - gbates@board.ewsd.org

Scott Brown - sbrown@board.ewsd.org

Christine Gaynor-Patterson - cgaynorpatterson@board.ewsd.org

Dawn Irwin- dirwin@board.ewsd.org

Marilyn McConnell- mmconnell@board.ewsd.org

Laura Taylor - ltaylor@board.ewsd.org

Student Representatives

Charlotte Sonnick- crsonnick@vt.ewsd.org

Cyrus Lynch- clynch@board.ewsd.org

Emma Cappelluti - ecappelluti@board.ewsd.org

Emma Cross- ecross@board.ewsd.org



Recap of Abandoned Car on Seymour Trail

On Monday, September 14th, the Town of Westford received an email and a call about an abandoned car at the end of Seymour Trail on the Underhill side. On Tuesday, September 15th, the Town Administrator and Road Foreman went to investigate the information and found an abandoned Chevrolet sedan. The only identification information was the Vehicle Identification Number. That was shared with the Chittenden County Sheriff's Office, and it was found to not be under any form of criminal investigation, and the Town was instructed to remove it.

The Town Administrator contacted Bushey's Auto at the end of Seymour Rd, and they were unwilling to remove the car. The second contact was Fairfax Salvage, and they sent a tow truck right away. The vehicle was removed by the end of the afternoon.

Two landowners/residents on Seymour Rd. contacted the Town Administrator to thank the Town for acting so quickly.

The matter is considered resolved as of now.

Tommy O'Connor

From: Town Clerk
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 1:12 PM
To: selectboard; Conservation Commission (westfordcc@googlegroups.com)
Subject: Seymour Trail Complaint/Concern

Hi All,

I just wanted to keep you in the loop on a complaint/concern I just received about Seymour Trail. Jason and Michaela Crooks walk their dog frequently on Westford roads and trails. There is a potentially abandoned vehicle 30 feet up from the trailhead on Seymour Trail that's been there since at least Friday and is still there now. This is not the first time we've received a complaint about the state of the trailhead here. We received a similar complaint on September 1st from Allie Gordon, who reported a potentially stolen vehicle and lots of needles at the trail head. Because of the report of needles we had directed her to contact the police, but had not heard of any resolution. With this second complaint I'm guessing there was not resolution. We are going to be contacting the police about this new complaint as well, please let me know if you think of anything else in regards to this.

Callie Hamdy

Town Clerk – Westford, VT
802-878-4587
<https://westfordvt.us/>



Recap of Abandoned Car on Seymour Trail

On Monday, September 14th, the Town of Westford received an email and a call about an abandoned car at the end of Seymour Trail on the Underhill side. On Tuesday, September 15th, the Town Administrator and Road Foreman went to investigate the information and found an abandoned Chevrolet sedan. The only identification information was the Vehicle Identification Number. That was shared with the Chittenden County Sheriff's Office, and it was found to not be under any form of criminal investigation, and the Town was instructed to remove it.

The Town Administrator contacted Bushey's Auto at the end of Seymour Rd, and they were unwilling to remove the car. The second contact was Fairfax Salvage, and they sent a tow truck right away. The vehicle was removed by the end of the afternoon.

Two landowners/residents on Seymour Rd. contacted the Town Administrator to thank the Town for acting so quickly.

The matter is considered resolved as of now.



