

**Town of Woodstock  
Selectboard Meeting  
October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
4:00 PM  
Town Hall & Zoom  
Minutes**

**Draft minutes are subject to approval.**

**Present:** Chair Ray Bourgeois, Laura Powell, Greg Fullerton, Vice Chair Susan Ford

**Staff:** Eric Duffy

**Public:** Butch Sutherland

**Call to order**

1. Chair Ray Bourgeois called the Selectboard meeting of October 7<sup>th</sup> to order at 4:00 PM

**A. Additions to & deletions from posted agenda**

**Staff Announcement**

**Discussion and potential vote on Bridge Work**

**Vondell Cobb Public Forums**

**B. Citizen's Comments- None**

**C. Discussion**

**Staff Announcement**

Eric Duffy announced that Greg Fullerton has agreed to become the new Public Works Director, with a start date around November 1st. Eric Duffy noted that Greg has already been helping and brings valuable knowledge of the job, the people of Woodstock, the roads, and the crew. Greg will resign from the Selectboard at a time of his choosing before he starts in his new role.

**Award of FY 26 Sand, Salt, Gravel Bids**

The board discussed bids for sand, gravel, and snow removal services. The recommendation was to award D&D the contract for screened sand, and Pike Industries for manufactured sand (wash stone screens), 3/8" stone, and various gravels (crushed stone base, crushed bank run gravel). The board also discussed awarding Kurtzhazl Excavation the contract for snow removal assistance on an hourly basis, noting they were the only bidder and had been used in the previous year.

Motion: by Susan Ford to approve the bid of D&D for the screened sand, Pike Industries for all other materials (wash stone screens, 3/8" stone, and gravels), and to approve Kurtzhazl Excavation for snow removal.(4:09 PM)

Seconded: by Laura Powell

Vote: 3-0-0, passed (Greg Fullerton abstained)

### **Bond Vote Date for Main Waste Water Plant Renovation**

Eric Duffy explained that the bond vote for the main wastewater plant renovations was originally scheduled for March 2024, then moved to November 2024, and is now being considered for the March 2026 town meeting. Hoyle Tanner, the firm partnered with for the project, is working as if the March vote will take place.

The board discussed several factors in deciding the timing, including:

- The possibility of the school also having a vote on the ballot in March
- Concerns about whether there's enough time between now and March to adequately prepare, given budget discussions and the need to determine allocation between users and non-users
- The need for public education and advocacy similar to the water bond vote
- Concerns about having multiple large items on the same ballot
- The potential for increasing costs if the vote is delayed further

The board ultimately decided to postpone the decision until the next joint meeting when they could get more information, including where Keri Cole stood on the issue.

### **Bridge Work Discussion**

Eric Duffy presented a quote from Daniel's to replace broken cables on the covered bridge that are currently hanging off the structure.

The Board was informed there is about \$149,000 in bridge repair capital reserves available for this work.

Board members discussed the need to follow their recently adopted procurement policy requiring more than one bid. Eric Duffy acknowledged this could be considered an emergency repair but agreed to seek additional bids over the next two weeks. They agreed the repairs should ideally be completed before winter, and Daniel's had indicated they could complete the work within about a week.

The Board postponed a decision pending receipt of additional bids.

### **Vermont Land Trust Public Forum Discussion**

The Board discussed scheduling public forums to get feedback on the Vermont Land Trust and conservation concerning the Vondell Cobb property. They decided to schedule three forums:

1. October 15th at the South Woodstock Fire Station (evening)
2. October 22nd at a location to be determined
3. October 29th at a location to be determined

The board agreed they didn't all need to attend every forum as the purpose was primarily to listen to residents' feedback rather than to advocate. The Town Manager agreed to prepare materials with input from Susan.

### **Public Comment**

Byron Kelly commented on Greg Fullerton's appointment as Public Works Director and potential resignation from the Selectboard. He expressed concern about mandating resignation rather than recusal, noting that historically in Woodstock, elected officials who became department heads (including George Finn, Glenn Frederick, and Butch Sutherland) would recuse themselves from relevant votes rather than resign entirely. He argued that department heads bring valuable "behind the scenes knowledge" to the Board and questioned where such a policy would end, mentioning Dave Green who steps in as acting Town Manager.

#### **D. Proposed Executive Session 1 V.S.A 313**

Motion: by Susan Ford To enter executive session under 1 VSA 313 to discuss the appointment or evaluation of a public officer or employee provided that the public employee shall make final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and explain the reasons for its final decisions during the open meeting.(4:38 PM)

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

Motion: by Susan Ford to exit executive Session (5:04 PM)

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

#### **E. Other Business -None**

#### **F. Adjournment**

Motion: by Susan Ford to adjourn the meeting at (5:04PM)

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton

Vote: 4-0-0, passed

*Respectfully submitted,*

Kitty Mears Koar