

Minutes of September 9, 2025 Meeting
Warren Select Board
-draft-

Members Present: Camilla Behn, Devin Klein Corrigan, Kalee Whitehouse

Staff Present: Brent Adams, Town Clerk; Andrew Bombard, Road Foreman; Sandra Brodeur, Lister; Jeff Campbell, Fire Chief; Rebecca Campbell, Town Administrator; Dayna Lisaius, Town Treasurer; Ruth Robbins, Zoning Administrator

Others Present: Laura Arnesen (Mad River Recreation District, CRV), Perry Bigelow, Jim Crafts, Sheila Getzinger, MRVTV, Keith Streeter, David Campanelli

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.

Public Comment

Keith Streeter spoke of checking the municipal building for compliance with fire safety codes, and also of his concerns regarding speed bumps and the potential for law enforcement to be more effective.

Dave Campanelli seconded Mr. Streeter's comments regarding a lack of law enforcement.

Agenda Changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

Mad River Conservation and Recreation Visioning Update

Laura Arnesen provided a presentation on the work of the Conservation and Recreation Visioning (CRV) group that took place under a VOREC grant, working to address the need for balance between ecological integrity and outdoor recreation in the Mad River Valley. She outlined that 15 different organizations were involved in this work, which provided three deliverables: an online mapping tool depicting ecological features to be considered when planning trails; a shared vision, values, and guiding principles statement; and a recreational trail development process guide. Laura then explained that this work is moving into another phase, CRV 2.0, which will be under the management of the MRVDP, and will be addressing the priorities that were agreed upon during the first phase of this work. The group will now be holding quarterly meetings, and the first one is scheduled for September 23, 2025.

Clerk Update

Mr. Adams offered a reminder of the deadlines for various milestones in planning for the Garage bond vote; it was confirmed that there will be finalization of some material in time for review at the September 23 Selectboard meeting.

Mr. Adams reported that things are going well with the Clerk's office, that he appreciates the new laptop he has been issued, and that he is planning to attend some upcoming trainings.

Listers Update

Ms. Brodeur outlined two corrections proposed for the Grand List, one related to Keith Streeter's Veterans status and one related to a Current Use situation (which will require review by the BCA).

MOTION: *Mr. Blake moved to recognize Veteran status for Keith Streeter for the 2025 tax year, and adjust the Grand List and Mr. Streeter's tax amount accordingly. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whitehouse, and passed unanimously.*

Ms. Brodeur reported that the reappraisal process is progressing, and should be completed in time for lodging the 2026 Grand List; she outlined some of the logistics involved in transitioning to the updated Grand List.

Treasurer Update

Ms. Lisaius provided copies of various financial reports, and explained that she will be working to determine the information needed for the bond vote.

She then spoke of the upcoming celebration of completion of the Pavilion and the information contained in the associated Festival Permit application.

MOTION: *Ms. Whitehouse moved to waive the application fee for this application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blake, and passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *Mr. Taplin moved to approve the Festival Permit for the Pavilion Celebration to be held on September 13, 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blake, and passed unanimously.*

Highway Department Update

Mr. Bombard reported that many projects have been completed, including the wrapping up of repairs related to damages to multiple roads caused by this summer's flooding, road resurfacing, culvert replacement, and mowing. There was some discussion of the potential for a second mowing where there is potentially a population of poison hemlock, in order to prevent the spread of seeds of that invasive species. Ms. Klein Corrigan will ask Jito Coleman to confirm the identity of this plant population.

Mr. Bombard then outlined upcoming projects, to be completed during the current season or to take place next year. He explained that he continues work to address the regular debris accumulation at the culvert near the top of the Sugarbush Access Road; the silt, trash, and other debris coming from Sugarbush operations frequently blocks the culvert from performing adequately, and he needs to clear it out. He anticipates that this culvert will either be sleeved or lined at some point in the future.

Offering a sign-on bonus as an incentive was suggested as a strategy for filling the vacant Road Department position.

Fire Department Update

Mr. Campbell reported that calls are up about 8% this year, with a total of 98, although total hours are down at this point. He suggested that it is likely this will even out.

He also noted that a recent elevator training, attended by several departments, was very beneficial; the annual pancake breakfast (Indigenous People's Day Weekend) will be held in the Village this year; there are a couple of new members of the FD; and the new utility truck will likely be put into service in the next two or three weeks.

Mr. Campbell explained that there has been no movement on the effort to have Town staff telephones integrated into a fully connected system, noting that the process would be expensive and there were pertinent questions which could not be answered.

Board members expressed that they found the recent ICS training helpful.

Mr. Streeter reiterated his concerns regarding some fire code issues in the municipal building; Mr. Campbell explained that the State Fire Marshall inspects the building at least annually.

Zoning Administrator Update

Ms. Robbins reported that 36 zoning permits have been issued so far this year, and more than \$32K in fees collected through the end of August, which is more than what had been received at the same point last year.

She noted that there have been eight subdivisions so far this year, most of them 2-lot subdivisions. Ms. Robbins also indicated that the PC will be applying for a Municipal Planning Grant to cover the costs of working with a consultant on the upcoming Town Plan update.

Short Term Rental (STR) Ordinance Fee Schedule

Ms. Klein Corrigan provided some background information and summarized the discussion held at the previous Selectboard meeting. It was agreed that a flat fee in an amount sufficient to cover software and administrative costs would be designated at this point, with the potential in the future to refine the fees in order to reflect hosted/unhosted properties as well as the number of bedrooms rented.

MOTION: *Mr. Blake moved to set the STR Fee at \$200 per unit rented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whitehouse, and passed unanimously.*

Other Business

Ms. Klein Corrigan reported that some feedback had been received from residents on the southern end of Main Street, indicating that a speed hump in that area may not be necessary. She also pointed out that two locations have been suggested for speed humps on Brook Road, rather than the one that was included in the plan approved recently. She indicated that there is a better location for the upper structure, above Dump Road, and that there is the potential to install a hump just before the bridge, this will help with slowing traffic as it leaves the Village area. She noted that a significant portion of speed complaints are related to the Dump Road intersection, which is where children are often walking. It was also confirmed that the proposed change will have no impact on the budget approved for this project.

MOTION: *Mr. Blake moved to change the configuration of speed humps as proposed, eliminating the one on the south end of Main Street and adding one to Brook Road. The motion was seconded by Ms. Klein Corrigan, and passed with Ms. Whitehouse abstaining.*

Administrative Items

MOTION: *A motion to approve the payroll warrant in the amount of \$31,081.17 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to approve the accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$38,180.59 passed unanimously.*

Executive Session Real Estate

MOTION: *A motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate per 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(2), inviting Sheila Getzinger to join, passed unanimously.*

The meeting entered Executive Session at 8:48 pm and returned to open session at 9:40 pm.

Ms. Campbell will schedule a special Select Board meeting with Jito Coleman and Sheila Getzinger to discuss real estate.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Chamberlin

The Warren Selectboard

Devin Klein Corrigan, Chair

Camilla Behn, Vice Chair

Kalee Whitehouse

Joel Taplin

Harvey Blake