Minutes of September 8, 2026 Meeting
Warren Select Board
-draft-

Members Present: Harvey Blake, Devin Klein Corrigan, Jeremiah Kemp, Joel Taplin
Staff Present: Andrew Bombard, Road Foreman; Jeff Campbell, Constable; Rebecca Campbell, Town Administrator; Ruth Robbins, Zoning Administrator
Others Present: Perry Bigelow, Jim Crafts, Misha Golfman (MRPA), John (MRVTV), Shannon Konvicka, Jon Rickard, Amber Weston

Ms. Klein Corrigan called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The meeting was held in person at the Warren Town Offices and online via Zoom.

Public Comment
Nobody requested time to address the Board.

Agenda Changes
No changes were made to the agenda.

Selectboard Candidate Interview
Amber Weston provided some background information, and answered several questions for Board members.

Long Range Planning – Mad River Path
Mr. Golfman presented information about MRP accomplishments and upcoming plans in Warren. He reported on the completion of the Kingsbury Greenway work completion, that the Clay Brook bridge is almost finished, and that the Cloudwater Farm bike and backpacker campsite is up and running. Mr. Golfman further noted that no notification had yet been received regarding the Bike/Ped Grant which had been submitted, and that applications for the Route 100 demonstration projects had been submitted for VTrans review. He reported that there is a full-time trail user counter at Blueberry Lake, and that a survey is being conducted at trailheads and online; additional volunteer time would be helpful in gathering survey responses from area visitors. Mr. Golfman also explained that grant applications are being prepared for potential additional (inflational overrun) funding for the Sugarbush Access Road project; associated paperwork will be provided to the Town for legal review.

Mr. Golfman then outlined priorities for the upcoming year, including completion of the demonstration projects, completion of the Path section from Kingsbury Bridge to Madbush Falls, and applying for grant funding to develop the first mile of the Path to Riverside Park, plus any associated Village improvements. More details were provided, along with information regarding potential funding, including opportunities made available through connection/coordination with the Velomont Trail organization and what may be possible to pursue with VTrans for navigating the Kingsbury bridge if the Path is completed to the bridge from both directions.

Mr. Golfman indicated that he would like the Board to consider four requests when planning for next year's municipal budget. These include continued funding of the Implementation Coordinator position, $20K for matching construction funding, assistance with mowing expenses, and voter approval for a local match of $400K for the first mile of the Path as it leaves the Village. Mr. Golfman also explained the he would like to have further discussions with the Conservation Commission (CC) regarding the potential to extend the trail behind the school to reach and construct a bridge to cross the river near Riverside, eliminating the need to develop the more complicated route through the Village, across Route 100 to West Hill Road, and cross again north of Ellen Lane. It was noted that CC has reservations about use of this area for a trail, as it contains some significant wildlife crossing areas, but that the safety provided by this alternate route makes it something worth discussing further with the CC.

Short-Term Rental Update

The Board reviewed a report which had been provided by Kerry Newton, noting that the compliance rate is at 36%, that the receipts to date have not quite covered the Granicus software expenses, and reviewing the letters which have been sent through the system. It was discussed that the goal of reaching 90% compliance, in order to have sufficient data to perform some analysis on the impact of STRs on long-term housing, had not been met. Mr. Crafts indicated that much of the information needed is in the database, even for those properties who have not yet registered.

Ms. Klein Corrigan explained that she, Ms. Campbell, and Ms. Newton had met with an alternative software vendor, and indicated that this firm places more focus on data analysis. There was some discussion of the benefits and drawbacks of continuing the registration process and data gathering using a new platform; it was agreed that further discussion is needed to determine what aspects of this work are of PC interest and what are Selectboard matters, and whether the Ordinance should be extended beyond its current sunset date.

Town Hall Step Replacement

Options for replacement of the stairs was discussed, with Board members expressing a preference for a wooden structure. It was agreed to remove the existing concrete, and remove the basement windows at the stair location, blocking up that wall. An RFP for this work, along with the building of a new wooden stairway, will be published, with the goal of having the work completed before winter.

Other Business

Town Garage Update – The steel frame is currently being erected.

Time Capsule Update – Shannon Konvicka provided an update on the gathering of items for the capsule, and indicated that it would be sealed on September 17 and buried on September 19. She proposed that it be buried in front of the Blair Barn, with a marker installed; it was agreed that this would be the most suitable location for burial, and Ms. Konvicka indicated that she would have one final check performed for wires or wastewater lines in that area. There was some discussion regarding who might have the equipment and time available to dig the hole and bury the container.

Administrative Items

MOTION: *A motion to approve the payroll warrant in the amount of $35,645.78 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to approve the accounts payable warrant in the amount of $102,245.85 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to approve the minutes of August 25, 2026 passed unanimously.*

Executive Session

MOTION: *A motion to enter Executive Session passed unanimously.*

The meeting entered Executive Session at 8:23 pm and returned to open session at 9:04 pm.

MOTION: A motion was made to assign Jim Crafts additional responsibilities related to the Short-Term Rental process, including working with the STR Administrator, coordinating with the Mad River Valley Planning District and state officials, seeking assistance from the Town's state representatives, and keeping the Selectboard informed as appropriate.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Chamberlin

The Warren Selectboard

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Devin Klein Corrigan, Chair	Joel Taplin, Vice Chair
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Harvey Blake	Jeremiah Kemp