Minutes of October 13, 2026 Meeting
Warren Select Board

Members Present: Devin Klein Corrigan, Jeremiah Kemp, Joel Taplin
Staff Present: Rebecca Campbell, Town Administrator; Ruth Robbins, Zoning Administrator
Others Present: Michelle Bennett (Planning Commission), Perry Bigelow, Alice Cheney, Jim Crafts (Planning Commission), Jenny Faillace (Planning Commission), John (MRVTV), Christian Meyer (CVRPC), Michael Miller

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

Perry Bigelow asked whether any expenses related to the current Garage site were included in the new Town Garage budget. Michelle Bennett explained that the PC was working to obtain grant funding for needed environmental evaluation of the current site, and also working to obtain quotes from engineering firms for other feasibility study matters, with a goal of designing a planned unit development for the site.

Agenda Changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

CVRPC Regional Plan

Michelle Bennett provided feedback from the PC regarding a letter that had been distributed by Cabot, addressing the timing of the Regional Plan development, adoption of which by the end of the year provides for acceptance of the Future Land Use (FLU) Map which allows Warren and other towns to transfer their Village designations to the new Tiered classification system. Christian Meyer pointed out that the Regional Plan contains no increased regulation over rural areas.

Ms. Bennett then addressed the second point of the Cabot letter, explaining that adoption of the Regional Plan does not lead to towns' losing authority over local zoning. She indicated that this is a minor revision, mostly addressing statutory changes, and that the Plan is generally a guiding document. Jim Crafts noted that the most restrictive language in the Plan is related to public utilities, and Mr. Meyer provided some details regarding the energy chapter included in the Plan.

Ms. Klein Corrigan asked about it being circulated that there has been a lack of response to comments provided regarding the Plan; Mr. Meyer explained that because the current iteration has been warned for a hearing and adoption, no edits may be made at this point. He indicated that all feedback being received is being compiled for further review during the next iteration of Regional Plan development.

There was some commentary regarding the balance between promoting development in certain areas of Warren and not restricting the use of land for more traditional purposes such as agriculture and forestry. It was indicated that in some respects the goals of Act 181 are catching up with Warren's protection of wildlife corridors and habitats, and noted that in these matters the Town sets the tone, not the Regional Plan.

There was an explanation of Tier 1B status provided, along with some discussion of other areas in Warren where there might be locations suitable to be designated as Village areas. The FLU Map amendment process, the Energy Plan/Chapter, and other aspects of the Regional Plan were discussed as well.

Special Appropriations Request Process

Ms. Campbell had provided an example of another town's process for reviewing annual requests for funding; it was agreed that there is not time to institute a new process for the upcoming budget preparation, but that the Board will be developing a new protocol to provide additional accountability in upcoming years.

RFP Approval for Town Garage Work

The RFP for building envelope testing and mechanical commissioning, provided by Steve Roy, was reviewed; no edits were suggested other than ensuring that due dates are accurate.

MOTION: *Mr. Kemp moved to approve the RFP for publishing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taplin, and passed unanimously.*

Town Green Usage Roundtable Date

It was agreed to schedule this event for the morning of November 7, from 10 to 11:30 am, and to post information widely so that the conversation is well-attended.

Other Business

Halloween Road Closure – The Board agreed to authorize the Fire Department to close Main Street from Fuller Hill to Brook Road, and Brook Road from Main Street to School Road, on October 31, 2026 from 5 pm to 7 pm.

STR Update – STR data was reviewed, with it being acknowledged that at this point the costs of administering the system have not fully been covered. Mr. Bigelow asked for some clarification on the numbers reported, and was advised to consult with Kerry Newton. Ms. Klein Corrigan noted that there is more manual data gathering needed to ensure the actual number of STRs is accurate, and asked that the MRVPD be consulted for assistance in understanding the data.

Town Garage Update – The building and salt shed have both been erected; the project is on or ahead of schedule, and on budget. The newest well site has been located, but the well has not yet been drilled.

Town Administrator Follow Up – It was noted that speed bumps are to be reinstalled, with appropriate striping.

Administrative Items

MOTION: *A motion to approve the payroll warrant in the amount of $46,872.53 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to approve the accounts payable warrant in the amount of $533,789.20 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to approve a 1st and 3rd Class Liquor License Renewal for Chez Henri passed unanimously.*

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Chamberlin

The Warren Selectboard

Devin Klein Corrigan, Chair

Joel Taplin, Vice Chair

Harvey Blake

Jeremiah Kemp