

Minutes**Marlboro Select Board Meeting****Thursday, August 14, 2025, 6:00pm**

Attendees: Molly Welch – Chair; Jeff Skramstad – Vice-Chair; Kate Kirkwood – Member; Nick Morgan – Town Administrator/SB Assistant; Andrew Richardson – Road Foreman; Clarence Boston – Constable; Allison Turner – Marlboro EMS; Margo Ghia – WRC LHMP Coordinator; Alexis Audette, Sunny Tappan, Nat Waring – Residents.

BEGIN ZOOM RECORDING:

(Please note: As these minutes are not intended to be a “transcript” of the meeting, a complete Audio recording of the meeting can be found on the Town’s Soundcloud page here: <https://soundcloud.com/marlboro-select-board>).

Call to Order @ 6:00pm**Sign Guidelines of Conduct - Done****Regular Select Board Meeting Agenda**

Identify Any Changes to Agenda: None

Scheduled Business:**Unscheduled Open Public Comment:**

Sunny Tappan read a statement in strong support of and praise for the road maintenance work being done on Stratton Hill and Adams Brook Roads this summer, including some historical perspective on the growth of residents along these roads over the year, which by its very nature, necessitates increased maintenance. She noted that the maintenance work was needed. Ms. Tappan expressed her appreciation for the maintenance being done as it has and will improve(d) the road(s), ensuring their stability and ability to withstand excessive waterflow due to weather as well as allowing for proper snow removal during the Winter. Both Nat Waring and Alexis Audette, also residents along these roads, echoed Ms. Tappan’s thoughts. The Board thanked them all for their comments. *(Nick noted that he would retain Ms. Tappan’s actual written statement, should anyone wish to see it in its entirety.)*

Approval of Minutes from July 24, 2025 **(Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)**

Signature of Pay Orders - Done

Document Signatures & Approvals

- **Motion: Approve FUA for Muster Field for Civil Rights for All (Woody Bernhard) – 10/18/25 from 9a-5p, pending acknowledgement of proper liability insurance coverage. (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)**
- **Motion: Approve FUA for Marlboro Park for Wedding Event on 10/11-10/13/25 (Brian & Suzanne Whitehouse), pending acknowledgement of proper liability insurance coverage. (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)**
- **Motion: Approve Caters Permit – DLL Application #63574 - for Wilmington in on Upper Dover Road. (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)**

New Business**Initial Review of LHMP with WRC:**

To be in compliance with State regulations and mandates and for the Town to be able to submit applications for various State (and Federal) grants, the Town is required to create and approve a Town Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). With funding from FEMA, the Town contracted with the Windham Regional Commission to create this LHMP. Margo Ghia from the WRC handled this process and came before the Board for the review of the 2025 LHMP with the meeting acting as a final public hearing after a public comment period. Ms. Ghia reported that she had received many comments from the public and made the appropriate changes to the LHMP she was presenting to the Board at the meeting. Ms. Ghia, the Board, and those present reviewed the LHMP “action item checklist” commenting on several items which Ms. Ghia would incorporate into the final document to be submitted to the State. *(Note: the LHMP does not create mandatory actions, but instead, is a list of items that the Town can work on over the next few years to improve the Town’s resilience and ability to weather hazardous natural situations.)*

Ms. Ghia outlined the next steps in the process:

- Select Board comments will be incorporated into the LHMP.
- The Board will make a final review and approval of the 2025 LHMP at their 8/28/25 meeting.
- The LHMP will be submitted to Vermont Emergency Management for their review and approval.
- Once approved and accepted by the VEM, the LHMP will be presented to FEMA for final approval.
- Schedule regular reviews of the LHMP (every 6 months) noting projects started and/or completed.

New Business (continued)Initial Review of LHMP with WRC: (continued)

Ms. Ghia noted that she would incorporate the comments and suggestions from the meeting into the final document, reach out to VEM to ensure proper submission, and provide the Board with a final document for the Board in time for them to review and approve the 2025 LHMP. The Board thanked Ms. Ghia for her efforts and advised that they would take the actions necessary to provide final approval and work to implement the LHMP going forward.

Highway Department:

GMP Ames Hill Road Project – Road Foreman Andrew Richardson reported that the GMP Resiliency Project on Ames Hill Road is proceeding. Mr. Richardson noted that most of the “trenching” on the Cowpath 40 to South Road segment has been completed, and they are moving onto the culvert work which should continue for about a week or more (note after the meeting it was determined that this work would most likely continue through 8/29/25). He reported that he has received some complaints from residents, but they are lessening as time moves on. Both he and Mr. Morgan are working with GMP (continuously) to be advised when work could cause a closure so Mr. Morgan can update the notice to residents on the Website, Facebook, and Front Porch Forum. Once the current segment has been completed, GMP will advise the next work segment and Mr. Richardson and Mr. Morgan will keep the residents advised. Allison Turner and Mr. Richardson discussed the best practice for handling the situation with Emergency Vehicles. Mr. Richardson noted that should a vehicle come upon a culvert replacement, the workers will usually rapidly fill in the open ditch so the emergency vehicle can get past, but would probably take about 3-5 minutes, so the determination to use the detour (Fox – McArthur Roads) or go directly on Ames Hill is really up to the “responders”. Mr. Richardson suggested that since the Emergency Services is in direct contact with GMP, it might be best when a call comes in, to reach out and advise they are on the way, so that the workers can start preparing and limit the delay time while the “ditch” is “filled in” to let them pass.

All present agreed that while the not the best situation, the work being done is very important to maintain the reliability of the Town’s electrical grid and by staying in contact with GMP and advising residents of the situation the Town can continue to work toward making the impact on residents as little as possible. Mr. Richardson noted he would keep the Board apprised and advise if there was a situation that needed their attention.

Planning Commission:

While unscheduled, Planning Commission Chair, Tim Segar, made a brief appearance to advise the Board that the PC’s work on updating the sub-division sections of the Zoning Regulations was taking more time than anticipated and that he would outline the PC’s time line at the 8/28/25 meeting that has already been coordinated with SB Assistant, Nick Morgan.

Old BusinessTown Administrator Report:

New Opioid Settlement – Mr. Morgan reported that he had received another notice of a Class-Action Opioid Settlement, and that once information is provided on amount, timing, etc. he will advise the Board at which time the Board can decide how to proceed.

Determine Dates for Info Meetings – Mr. Morgan asked the Board to set the dates for the Informational Meetings leading up to the 2026 Town Meeting Elections. The Board decided on the following tentative schedule:

- 10/25/25 – Meeting Topic: Non-budgetary Ballot Articles (both Resident & Board proposed)
- 12/13/25 – Meeting Topic: Highway Department – General discussion on Town Roads and on upcoming work including Summer’26 maintenance MRGP project.
- 1/17/26 – Meeting Topic: Discussion on 2026 budget both Town & Highway.
- 2/28/26 – Statutory Informational Meeting to discuss WARNING/TOWN REPORT prior to Election Day.

The Board discussed having BCTV do the live feed for these meetings as the quality in the MCC environment will greatly improve the experience for those residents joining via ZOOM. The Board asked Mr. Morgan to consult with the Treasurer about the small cost for this.

Regional Dog Ordinance – Mr. Morgan advised the Board that he is in contact with the WCSO regarding their idea to have generalized (and coordinated) Dog Ordinance for several neighboring towns in Windham County (i.e. Marlboro, Halifax, Dover, Guilford, Putney, etc.) to standardize fees, rules, etc. The Board noted that they were open to reviewing this “generalized Dog Ordinance” and the WCSO’s idea of a regional ACO using the WCSO ACO deputy. The Board agreed that prior to any decision, they will discuss it with Marlboro ACO, Peggy Tiffany, before committing to anything. Mr. Morgan advised that he would keep the Board advised of further developments.

Select Board Statement on the Highway Department and its Summer'25 project:

The Select Board Chair (Molly Welch) read the following statement into the record: The Select Board would like to address the matters raised by David Manning, Jr., regarding the ditching project along the road where Mr. Manning resides. Pursuant to Mr. Manning's complaints, members of the Selectboard have investigated this matter and the Board finds that the ditching project has been performed entirely within the town right of way and that the ditching project has proceeded in accordance with the State of Vermont approved plans for the project. The Town Highway Crew has performed the work and said work has been inspected by Chad McGann from the State. All work has been conducted in a workmanlike manner and consistent with the laws pertaining to highways in the Town. Therefore, for the record, the Selectboard hereby disagrees with the allegations made by Mr. Manning (both in person and written statement) concerning the Town's work on the ditching project and further rejects any notion that the Town Highway Supervisor, Andrew Richardson, harassed Mr. Manning.

Following the read through of the statement, a request for any discussion was made, there being no discussion, the Board moved onto executive session.

Executive Session

Executive Session if needed – Motion Language below:

Motion: Fining that premature knowledge of the topic that we need to discuss now would be deleterious to the public & town the Select Board deems it necessary to hold an Executive Session. & Motion: That we move into executive session to discuss personnel issues according to Vermont Statute 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(a) @ 7:08p (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

Motion to return to regular session @ 7:19p (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

Any Items Arising Out of Executive Session - none

Motion to Adjourn @ 7:20p (Welch/Kirkwood – Passed unanimously)

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