

Wallingford Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2026

Selectboard Chair Kathy Luzader called the regular Selectboard meeting at Town Hall to order at 5:30 p.m.

Selectboard Members Present: Anne Awad, Rob Barker, Carolyn Behrendt, Kathy Luzader and Glenn Mayer.

Others present at the Meeting: Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Michael Sanderson, Heather Johnson, Carol Tashie, Peg Soule, Susan Kramer, Live Lane, Melissa Chesnut Tangerman, and Greg McCormack from Peg TV.

Agenda Amendments. None.

Minutes. G. Mayer made a motion that was seconded by A. Awad to approve the 01/19/26 Minutes. Motion approved (4-0). C. Behrendt abstained as she was not at the meeting.

A.Awad made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to approve the 01/20/26 Minutes. Motion approved (4-0). C. Behrendt abstained as she was not at the meeting.

Pay Orders. R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to approve pay orders totaling \$16,428.56. Motion approved (5-0).

Road Commissioner's Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said the road crew had been hauling sand, there was some equipment breakdowns but everything was repaired, and there was little road salt but an order was on the way.

~ Sand Shed Replacement. The Board reviewed the following proposals:

Whitetail Construction - \$121,118.57

Bud Carpenter - \$248,225.83 then revised to \$165,807.

Green Mt Welding (bid from last summer) \$199,525.30 plus \$14,715.80 for galvanized primary framing.

It was noted the estimates did not include a foundation (estimated at \$40,000). Town Administrator Sandi Switzer asked if materials and load ratings were comparable. Both G. Mayer and P. Baker confirmed they were. After further discussion, G. Mayer made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to accept the low bid by Whitetail Construction of \$121,118.57 to replace the sand shed pending voter approval of a special article for a bank loan on the Town Meeting ballot. Motion approved (5-0).

~ Bridge 15. R. Barker read aloud a letter he had drafted to be sent to the state Agency of Transportation (AOT) following the January 20th public hearing on Bridge 15 in East Wallingford. The letter supported intersection improvements as well as total bridge replacement and opposed a pedestrian bridge. After some discussion, board members agreed to assist Mr. Barker with revisions to the letter.

Honorable Mentions. Charlie Woods, Phil Baker, Brian Roberts and Ethan Pepin for assisting with the VTrans Small Scale Local Highway grant application; Wallingford Volunteer Fire Dept. for shoveling snow away from hydrants.

Public Comments. None.

Town Hall Use Request. Live Lane, Co-Director of Theatre in the Woods, and Melissa Chesnut Tangerman requested use of Town Hall May 5,6,7,8,9,10,15,16,and 17 for a theatrical production. The town administrator said the group agreed to provide a Certificate of Insurance. After a brief discussion, the Board approved the request by consensus with a \$50 fee for both weekends. K. Luzader advised the group they were responsible for a “leave no traces” event whereby the group cleaned up. Live Lane agreed and requested permission to leave the set on stage between weekend productions. The Board agreed.

Recreation Committee Appointment. The Board reviewed a request by Recreation Committee Chair Brian Ferguson to appoint Michael Sanderson to one of two vacancies on the committee. Mr. Sanderson said he had been involved in Little League for a number of years and was interested in creating more recreation opportunities for all ages. The town administrator provided Mr. Sanderson with a copy of the Recreation Mission Statement. After further discussion, K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by A. Awad to appoint Michael Sanderson to a three-year term on Recreation. Motion approved (5-0).

Heather Johnson said she had been denied appointment to the Recreation Committee multiple times because she lived in neighboring Mount Tabor. She said her research indicated there was no residency requirement to be on the Rec Committee. She said state statute required Conservation Commissioners to be residents, but no such statute existed she said for Recreation. She added she was the Co-Chair of Wallingford Day, a Recreation subcommittee. K. Luzader asked about the process for appointing new members. The town administrator said historically a committee recommended an appointment then the Selectboard acts on the recommendation. However, Rec had not met recently due to quorum issues. After further discussion, A. Awad made a motion that was seconded by R. Barker to appoint Heather Johnson to the Recreation Committee for a three-year term. Motion carried (5-0).

Town Hall Use Request. Susan Kramer, Carol Tashie and Peg Soule requested use of Town Hall on April 10, 11 and 12 for Wallingford University – a new educational initiative offering free classes to Wallingford residents. The idea was based on similar initiatives in the towns of Bethel and Middletown Springs. Ms. Kramer said Wallingford University would include an annual weekend event at multiple locations – Town Hall, the library and Rotary but could evolve into multiple classes/guest lecturers every other month. By consensus, the Board approved the Town Hall Use request at no cost. Following a brief discussion regarding liability insurance, the Board agreed Wallingford University would be a subcommittee of the Conservation Commission and covered under municipal insurance. The town administrator said the subcommittee would be subject to the Open Meeting Law requiring agendas and meeting Minutes.

Road Erosion Agreement Amendments. The Board reviewed Amendment #1 for a Road Erosion Inventory agreement between the Town and Rutland Reg. Planning Commission (RRPC). The amendment calls for a lump sum payment of \$8,096 (the Better Roads Grant amount) upon completion of the work. The current agreement is time and materials. By consensus, the Board authorized K. Luzader to sign Amendment #1.

State of VT Grant Agreement CA0724 Amendment 1 (Sidewalks). The Board reviewed Amendment #1 for Grant Agreement CA0724 forwarded by AOT Contract Specialist Heather Collier regarding additional funds awarded to the Town for School Street sidewalks. The amended

agreement detailed the initial \$435,000 award plus the \$373,398 supplemental funding requiring a total local match of \$202,100. G. Mayer made a motion that was seconded by A. Awad authorizing the Selectboard chair to sign Amendment #1. Motion approved (5-0).

CAI Technology Property Mapping Agreement. This item was tabled until more information can be obtained on two “non-applicable” items listed on the agreement.

Rutland Reg. Planning Agreement to Update Local Haz Mitigation. By consensus, the Board approved an agreement between the Town and Rutland Reg. Planning Commission to update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) for a lump sum of \$11,865 (to be paid by a Municipal Planning Grant plus a 10 percent local match included in the FY’27 budget). G. Mayer volunteered to participate on the LHMP planning team.

Second Meeting in February. The Board by consensus moved the second meeting in February to Tuesday, Feb. 17th due to the federal holiday.

Agenda Building. None.

Selectboard Comments/Concerns. C Behrendt said she heard comments that Wallingford roads were the best maintained municipal roads during the recent snowstorm.

Other Business. K. Luzader said she had read the article A. Awad had included in the packet regarding road closures in Morristown.

K. Luzader acknowledged the Boy With the Boot update – the 3D scan was completed.

K. Luzader said the town administrator had submitted a grant application to repaint village crosswalks along with tree removal projects on Haven Hill and Church Street. No local match was required.

G. Mayer noted a change in Summer Recreation Program payment requirements. The town administrator said full payments were due by May 28th at the request of Director Lawrie Roundy. She said Ms. Roundy planned staffing and materials based on attendance and “no shows” with no notification impacted the program.

R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion approved (5-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 17th Day of February in the year 2026:

Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Rob Barker _____

Anne Awad _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Glenn Mayer _____