

Wallingford Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2026

Selectboard Chair Kathy Luzader called the Selectboard meeting at Wallingford Town Hall to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Others present at the Meeting: Sandi Switzer, Erika Berner, Heather Johnson, Lt. Andrew Cross, and Greg McCormack from Peg TV.

Agenda Amendments. Addition by consensus of Change Order 1 related to automatic flagger for School Street sidewalk project.

Minutes. A. Awad made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to approve the 05/04/26 Meeting Minutes. Motion approved (5-0).

Pay Orders. G. Mayer made a motion that was seconded by A. Awad to approve pay orders totaling \$67,461.45. Motion approved (5-0).

Rutland County Sheriff Patrols. Lt. Andrew Cross provided an overview (as he did at budget time) of a cooperative patrol arrangement between the Town and Clarendon. He said it would make a deputy available to both towns beyond a dedicated shift. He said as an example if an officer was in Clarendon and got a call in Wallingford, the officer would respond. Lt. Cross said the cooperative arrangement would not impact budget costs.

R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to authorize the cooperative patrol arrangement. Motion carried (5-0).

Road Commissioner's Report. None. G. Mayer noted the sand shed had been taken down and construction debris removed in preparation for construction of the new structure. The salt shed had been taken down. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said Road Crew member Charlie Woods and Road Commissioner Phil Baker recommended a roll off be rented for the town garage site for debris disposal. Board members agreed by consensus.

The town administrator said Mr. Baker advised the roadside mowing rate this year was \$160 per hour.

The town administrator said Mr. Baker would meet with Road Foreman Steve Lanfear to select roads to be paved this year.

Honorable Mentions. Bruce and Maureen Duchesne for installing the tennis court net; Bruce Duchesne for filling in at the transfer station; Bruce and Maureen Duchesne for helping to open up the public beach concessions stand for the season; John McClallen for putting up the US flags in the village and E. Wallingford; Ed and Patricia Loree for their generous donation to the Boy With the Boot fund in memory of Amanda Rae Loree.

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Public Comments. None.

Tier 1B Opt-In Resolution. The Board reviewed material sent by Rutland Reg. Planning Commission's Devon Neary regarding the Tier 1B Opt-in Resolution for the Town to sign and return. (Vermont municipalities can "opt-in" to Tier 1B status under Act 181 to ease Act 250 jurisdiction for housing, allowing up to 50 units in designated areas with water/sewer capacity). G. Mayer said he initially was in favor of it, but he said the Town does not have the infrastructure (water/sewer) for sizable housing projects. He noted Fire District #1 operated the water/sewer systems. A. Awad said the age and capacity of those systems were concerning. K. Luzader added she was concerned about system capacities. R. Barker said Act 181 was well intended but loosened up rules and he added he was happy with Act 250. C. Behrendt said there were pros and cons of the law.

After further discussion, R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to not Opt-In to Tier 1B as part of Act 181.

Municipal Appointment/Resignation. The Board by consensus accepted Cheyenne LaRose's resignation from Wallingford Day Committee.

By consensus, the Board followed the Development Review Board's recommendation to appoint Tammy Burdick to the DRB.

Vertex Cell Tower – Certificate of Public Good Application. The Board was in receipt of Vertex – Vermont Towers Certificate of Public Good application for the East Wallingford cell tower project on the Seward property. The Board agreed the public hearing last January answered many questions and took no action on requesting another public hearing.

Sidewalk Project Manager Contract Extension. The Board reviewed an amendment from Rutland Reg. Planning Commission's (RRPC) Steffanie Bourque to increase the funding for Municipal Project Management (MPM) services for the School Street Sidewalk project. This amendment was reviewed and approved by VTrans Jon Lemieux. The MPM amendment would mean the total spent on the project manager would be \$37,674.

By consensus, the Board authorized K. Luzader to sign Amendment 1 with RRPC.

Summer Rec Salaries. The Board by consensus set Summer Recreation Program hourly rates as follows: Program Director Lawrie Roundy was paid \$21.50/hr; Counselor Olive Skiathitis \$17.75; and Counselor Ben Luzader \$16.50.

Agenda Building. A. Awad asked for the Boy With the Boot fountain repairs be added to a future next agenda;

Selectboard Comments/Concerns. R. Barker made a motion to indefinitely table an ATV Ordinance to allow use of ATVs on Town roads. He said there was no groundswell of support from residents. There was no second to the motion. A. Awad said the item and a review of a draft road map would be on the June 1 agenda.

A. Awad said she recently received a copy of the amended Town Plan but could not find planning commission minutes on the municipal website that would detail meetings and work on the document. K. Luzader asked the town administrator to contact all municipal groups and remind them of the state Open Meeting Law requirements that minutes be posted within 5 days of a

meeting. She noted several of the municipal committees and commissions were very good at adhering to the requirements.

Other Business. None.

Wallingford Day – Bounce Houses. Wallingford Day's Heather Johnson said Mt. Bouncers was the new vendor for bounce houses at the annual event. She said the cost was \$3,000 and that a copy of the waiver had been submitted to the Town. G. Mayer said the waiver included odd language making people using it liable for injury/damages. There were also questions about Mt. Bouncers providing face painting yet making users and the Town responsible for face paint damage to the bounce houses. A. Awad said the Town should not be responsible if someone vandalized the unit. The town administrator said the \$3,000 cost was similar to the price paid last year to another vendor who provided employees to operate it. Ms. Johnson said she was unsure whether Mt Bouncers provided staff.

The item was tabled until Wallingford Day members provided more details to the Board regarding staffing and operational concerns, face painting, and a revised waiver (and whether the Town's waiver would suffice with the addition of the vendor).

There was a question about the Wallingford Day minutes indicating there was no insurance coverage for fireworks at previous annual events. Ms. Johnson said the minutes were incorrect and there were Certificates of Insurance.

Town Plan Update – Public Hearings. Planning Chair Erika Berner provided an overview of the updated Town Plan with substantial assistance from Sean Beatty of Rutland Reg. Planning Commission (RRPC). She said the document aligned with state requirements. She requested permission to schedule the planning commission's public hearing for Tuesday, July 14th. She said the Selectboard would then receive the revised document in August and schedule their own public hearing.

A.Awad asked if Tom Fort and the Energy Committee had been consulted for the energy section. Ms. Berner said they wrote that section. She added other municipal groups such as Conservation and Recreation had been contacted as well.

After further discussion, the Board by consensus approved scheduling a planning commission public hearing for July 14th.

C. Behrendt made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. Motion approved (5-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 1st Day of June in the year 2026:

Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Rob Barker _____

Anne Awad _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Glenn Mayer _____