

Town of Burke
212 School Street
West Burke, VT 05871
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Burke Community Building
December 1, 2025 - 5:00 PM Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Jerry Booth, Mark Daigle: Selectboard

Guests: Geoff Boone, Henry Butler, Bob Gondar, Brett McCready, Diane Wells

Linda Hackett-Corey: Town Clerk, Cathi Feeley Town Treasurer, Gail Weed, Clerk and Treasurer

Assistant, Mike Harris: Zoning Administrator, James Sullivan: Town Administrator,

Dave Kaufman: Road Foreman

Valerie Desmarais: Minutes Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:00. The meeting is being recorded.

Mark asked for any agenda amendments, there were none.

Mark asked for a motion to approve 11/3 regular meeting minutes, Jerry motioned, Mark seconded, so moved.

Mark asked for a motion to approve 11/14 special meeting minutes, Jerry motioned, Mark seconded, so moved.

Mark asked for a motion to approve 11/21 special meeting minutes, Jerry motioned, Mark seconded, so moved.

Mike introduced (via Zoom) Chloe Hulsizer (State of Vermont) and Andrea Day (Dufresne Group) re: the West Burke Wastewater state environmental review process and hearing. Due to the project receiving federal funding, an environmental review is required. The project studies have resulted in a finding of no significant impact to the system area as outlined. Ms. Day outlined what is included in an environmental review; the project includes the wastewater collection and the disposal system at the new Town Garage site. Geoff Boone asked what happens to the existing systems; Mike explained that new systems will be constructed, and the entire existing septic systems need to be removed and disposed of.

The Environmental Review assesses the following: Environmental Justice* Cultural and Archeological* Land Use* Intergovernmental Review* Wetlands, floodplains, coastal zones, wild and scenic rivers* Fish, Wildlife and Endangered Species* Drinking water and ground water protection* Air Quality, noise and emissions* NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act).

Dave Kaufman gave the road report: Dave reported that the ton truck is having an electronic issue, one of the 10 wheeler dump trucks sustained some damage; it can still be used for sanding but the damage is extensive. Dave asked about putting an insurance claim in, Linda clarified that the deductible is \$1000.00. It is functioning but it does need to be addressed. Deflector posts have been installed on Newland Road and Calendar Brook Road. We need more to finish Brook Road. Jim will order these. Some grading has been done but that is done for the season. The ROW permit was

signed for the broadband cable burying; the ditch for this can be bored and not trenched. Dave and Jim Sullivan have been brainstorming areas where a grant be applied for.

The culvert at 2517 Brook Road was discussed, it is not flowing properly. Dave will take a look at it to see what can be done.

James gave the Town Administrators report: James noted that the Church Street Bridge has been completed; the State of Vermont had asked for an update on the costs associated with the 07/10/25 storm and is appealing the FEMA denial. The Planning Commission has been working on the new town plan; there is a public meeting scheduled in January 2026, with another public meeting scheduled for March 2026. The Planning Commission is working on editing the inaccuracies out of the plan; there is a deadline to get this accomplished. Jim shared the final numbers for the 07/10/25 disaster. The town is currently contributing 20% but Jim is continuing to provide input and that number may go down.

Mike gave the Zoning Administrators report: building and subdivisions permits remain steady. This year has seen an increase in rental registrations which has led to more rental permit requests. There is a town garage construction meeting tomorrow; Morton Buildings have installed some foundational components; that portion of the project is moving in accordance with the schedule. Re: the sand & salt shed: Dubois has submitted the majority of the plans for V-Trans review. Mike reiterated the timeline for the wastewater project that is slated for spring 2026 construction. The West Burke Feasibility Study is almost complete; there may be a presentation at the next meeting.

Diane Wells of the Conservation Committee came before the board to thank the board for supporting the Town Forest project through the process of acquisition of the Willey Woods parcel from Mr. Newell on Newark Street. Matt Langlais coordinated with the state to review options for a bridge over the Roundy Brook to join the parcels. The Conservation Committee applied for a grant for 2 bridges, to accommodate the land access from Newark Street as well. There may be a requirement for a match from the town and / or Conservation Committee. The Newark Street side is envisioned as winter access; Geoff Boone asked about egress there. It is agreed that there is a "blind spot", the line of site can be improved through some tree clearing. Mike recommended that a site visit be scheduled. Jerry noted that the Newark Street Bridge needs to be re-engineered, and the projects can be coordinated. The engineering can be planned for 2026 with the work being done in 2027. Mike will check with Nate Sicard to confirm availability and timelines.

Jerry motioned to accept the contract for the New England Municipal Consultant. This is a 3-year contract. Mark seconded, so moved.

Review and approve the SWIP: Jerry motioned to approve the 2025 SWIP (solid waste implementation plan). This is a state of Vermont requirement that all solid waste districts develop a plan that outlines how waste will be managed and reduced. Mark seconded, so moved.

Jerry motioned to close the meeting. Mark seconded.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:11.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Desmarais
Minutes Clerk

DRAFT