

Select Board Meeting Notes

October 5, 2026

Select Board in Attendance: Harry, Nate & Nancy

Attendees: 12

The Meeting was called to order at 6pm by Board Chair Harry

Auditor Luke asked to be added to the agenda. Resident Jim A asked for Maillet Road to be added to the agenda. Harry noted we could cover that under the Highway discussion. Rep. John Kacenska was in attendance and asked to be added to the agenda.

Board member Nate made a motion to approve the minutes of the September Board Meeting. Board member Nancy seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Rep. John encouraged people to vote in the upcoming general election on November 3rd. On our ballot, John will be listed as both a Democrat and Republican candidate because he received votes on both parties' ballots during the primary. John noted that Vermont has received funding to provide better support for healthcare in rural communities. All Vermont hospitals have received their budget approvals from the Green Mountain Care Board, with an emphasis on cutting costs by at least 1%. The Chair of Green Mountain Care Board will be leaving his position, and a committee has been formed to interview a new Chair and make a recommendation to the Governor for appointment.

Better Connections Community Engagement: Clerk Gary distributed a flyer for the second community engagement meeting for the Better Connections Gilman Village Revitalization Plan which will be held on Tuesday, October 27th at 6 pm at the Gilman Senior Center. The meeting will include an important discussion on possible action plans for Gilman Village and comments from those in attendance will be included in the final Revitalization Report, to be issued in February 2027. All are encouraged to attend. Free food and raffle prizes will be included.

RTT Update: Task Force Chair Kate was unable to attend the meeting but provided an information sheet from which Clerk Gary shared highlights. Reminder of the October Vest Ribbon Cutting event this Saturday, October 10th, 4-7pm at Fox Field and Forest. Will be a great celebration and the weather looks great. Attendees are encouraged to wear a festive vest! Gary also shared some updates on grant work, including the South Forest Loop Trail grant.

NVDA Update: Clerk Gary shared information from our NVDA Board representative Kate about the October 15th meeting held in Newport and available via Zoom. This will be the last opportunity for community comment on the revisions to the updated NVDA regional plan.

CESER Task Force: Task Force Chair Liz noted the Fall Newsletter will be sent in 3 different parts because the full document is too large to email as a single file. Liz reminded people that Lunenburg's Trunk or Treat is being held on October 25th and that the CESER Glow Night has been moved to November 20th. Liz noted that a task force member was approached about a possible donation of utility poles that could be used in the pavilion structure at Fox Field & Forest. CESER is looking at grant opportunities to continue their work and being cautious about match funding that may be required from the Town.

Justice of the Peace Elections: Clerk Gary reminded people that our 3 existing Justice of the Peace have chosen not to run for reelection. Lunenburg can have as many as 5 JP's. There will be a separate ballot at the November 3rd General election with 5 write in blanks for JP candidates. Write in candidates do not need to register ahead of the election since the deadline to register has passed. Any write-in candidate will need at least 12 votes to be elected to a JP position. JPs fulfill several responsibilities, including sitting on the Board of Civil Authority that hears tax abatement appeals and helps maintain Lunenburg's voter checklist.

Placement of Welcome Signs: Clerk Gary asked attendees to weigh in on the placement of the new Lunenburg welcome signs purchased using the same grant funding as the new sign at Fox Field and Forest. Options include locations closer to the Village Center or at the boundary line between the neighboring communities of Concord and Guildhall. Most felt the signs were best located closer to the Village Center. Clerk Gary and Road Crew Foreman Gregg will work together to identify the best locations and gain approval from landowners. Signs should be installed within the next 2 weeks.

General Election: Clerk Gary reminded attendees that General election voting will take place at the Lunenburg Elementary School on Tuesday, November 3rd. Polls will be open from 9am – 7pm. Gary also noted that the State mails every registered voter a ballot for the November election. Contact the Clerk's office if you haven't received one.

Gary reminded people that Property taxes are due on Friday, 10/9/26. Voters did approve a 5-day grace period for payments at the March Town Meeting so late and collection fees will not be applied until 10/15/26. The Clerk's Office will be open extended hours for the

remainder of this week and on Tuesday, October 12th. Extended hours include evenings on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday until 8pm and Friday until 9pm.

Walker Pitt Agreement: Clerk Gary provided an update on the FEMA buyout of 11 Walker Pitt Road. The owners who lost their home due to flooding in 2023 have accepted FEMA's property appraisal for the buyout. Logistics of the buyout will have the Town receiving the appraisal buyout funds and, in turn, will reimburse the property owner. Buildings remaining on the property will be dismantled through FEMA funding and the property will be turned over to the Town. The Town agrees not to develop the property in the future and to keep it mowed.

Auditors: Auditor Luke reported that the monthly Auditors meeting will move to quarterly meetings. Luke reported that monthly audits have uncovered few questions and those questions have been resolved by Clerk/Treasurer Gary in a very short timeframe. The Auditors will continue their monthly audits of financial statements and transactions, but they will only report on a quarterly basis via meetings to residents.

Highway:

Maillet Road: Resident Jim A reported that the Road Crew had done a good job on the upgrading of Maillet road but was still concerned with the overall condition of the road. Jim explained that he had spoken with Road Crew Foreman Gregg about taking care of potholes and deteriorating conditions in 2025. Jim had the understanding that his concerns would be taken care of in 2025. He reported that didn't happen. In conversations with Gregg in 2026, he understood maintenance would happen by the end of September to address significant potholes and other issues. Since this had not happened, Jim asked for an update on when the maintenance work would happen. Gregg reported that there had been work done on Maillet Road in the last 2 years, including a most recent grading project. The Road Crew has secured materials that they hope to put on Maillet road when they have the time, but since no one lives on the further end of Maillet Road it's a lower priority over roads that are heavier traveled. Jim noted that the Town receives funding to maintain Maillet Road and he felt that 2 years was too long to wait for much needed repairs. Board Chair Harry asked Gregg if maintenance work could happen by the end of October. Gregg responded "yes", if time allowed. Gregg reiterated that maintenance must be done on the heaviest traveled roads before less traveled roadways. To end the discussion, Harry confirmed with Gregg that Maillet Road will be graded before real snow flies.

A new industrial tarp has been ordered to replace the salt shed that was damaged during a windstorm last winter.

The Town needs to purchase a ditching bucket for the new excavator and then that piece of equipment will be fully operational.

Gregg reported that residents seem to like the new material that he's using on the road to help with dust and stabilization.

Gregg noted the need for a gas card so he can stop using his personal card and wait for reimbursement. Clerk Gary will work with Gregg and Mascoma Bank to obtain a card.

Community Concerns: KESD Superintendent Jen Botzjorns attended the Board meeting and announced that she will be hosting a community informational meeting on Monday, November 2nd, immediately following the Select Board meeting in the Community Room. She provided handouts that addressed various questions she's heard from the community, including information on class size in Lunenburg and how expenses are compiled to draft the budget. Jen will be happy to answer all questions she can at the November 2nd meeting and encourage all to attend. (If you'd like a copy of the handouts, just stop by the Clerk's Office and we'll give you one).

Health Office Luke asked to have a conversation with the Board about a potential health violation property after the meeting and Board Chair Harry noted, as long as no decisions were required, the Board would meet with Luke after the meeting adjourned.

There was no other business and Board member Nate motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:52pm. Board member Nancy seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.