

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2025

DRAFT

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Owen Astbury, Chair

Present: Steve Tarleton, Selectboard Member, Nope Martin, Selectboard Member, Melissa Spear, Treasurer, Randy Kennedy, Road Foreman and Nancy Robinson, Clerk

Visitors: None

Visitors via Zoom: Dennis & Joan Wideman & George Spear

Additions/changes to agenda: None

Nope moved to accept the minutes of July 22, 2025 (agenda noted August 12, 2025 in error) as written. Steve seconded the motion and motion carried.

Scheduled Visitor: None

Highway Report: Randy reported that the company that was hired to do the Hale Hollow Bridge engineering has asked for an extension to get the work completed (originally due by August 15th.) Melissa has checked with VEMS (Vermont Emergency Management (Jim Tonkovich) and they have approved extending the project until September 2nd.

Board members reviewed an access application for the Merriam family for a lot that is selling on Gold Coast Road. The buyers are asking for an approved access as part of the sale. Randy has met with the Merriam's and has explained what requirements are necessary for the application to be approved. Owen moved to approve the application, Steve seconded and motion carried.

Board members reviewed a Right of Way application for repairs to a stone wall at the VanAlstyne property on Bridgewater Center Road. Randy has met with the property owner and explained the necessary requirements in order to get the application approved. Owen moved and Steve seconded to approve the ROW application. Motion carried.

Crew have been doing ditch work on Hale Hollow and Richmond Hill Roads as part of a grant that was awarded last year and has to be completed by September 2025.

Ford has had to have a new windshield and is going for inspection at Jim Morgan's. New truck is going to Earle's for inspection later this week.

Randy would like to order this year's sand from D & D. Cost has increased from \$19.75 to \$20.25. Would like to order 2000 yards. Board supported Randy getting sand ordered.

Center lines have been painted on the Bridgewater Center Road and North Bridgewater Road.

Town has been awarded a grant for stone line ditching in the amount of \$29,000 to be completed by September of 2026. Board signed grant documents.

Treasurer's File: Expense warrant #26-03 was reviewed and signed. (e-ck #'s 2972-2975 and ck's 21973-22005). Payment to Vermont Roadworks LLC was made for paving the North Bridgewater Road (Grant Reimbursement) Hubbard, Jenne, Holiday Farm and Oak Chapel Bridges. Jenne and Holiday Farm Bridges paid for by FEMA funds. Partial payment made to Noyes for work on Bridgewater Hollow erosion project. Payroll warrant #26-01 (July) was reviewed and signed (ck's 5342-5354 and e-ck's 4280-4302).

Brief discussion of previous employee seeking Unemployment coverage from the town for work completed earlier this year, employee quit to go to another position. Board authorized Melissa to dispute this claim.

August 12, 2025 minutes cont.

Clerk's File: Owen moved and Steve seconded to approve a Catering application for a wedding to be held at the OQ Farm on August 30th. Motion carried. August and September calendars were reviewed. Selectboard meeting time will return to 4:30 pm beginning with September 9th meeting.

Old business: Three companies were contacted regarding cleaning-power washing the Southgate Building. Only one responded, Vern Doyle Painting Inc. Vern quoted a price of \$800.00 to remove mold and stains on the north and west sides of the building. Nope moved to approve the offer of Vern Doyle Painting, Steve seconded the motion and motion carried.

New business: None

Being no other agenda business to address, Owen moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:02 pm per 1 V.S.A. 313 a-3 to discuss a personnel – employment item and asked that the Treasurer and Clerk join the board. Motion carried.

Owen moved to return to open meeting at 7:52 pm. Owen made the following motion - that the board extend an offer to Natasha Bocklov in her current position as Data Clerk at \$45.00 per hour. Steve seconded the motion and motion carried.

Steve then moved to authorize Owen to talk to Natasha. Nope seconded this motion and motion carried.

Being no other business, Owen moved to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Steve seconded the motion and motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Robinson

Nancy Robinson,
Clerk