

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER  
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 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

Additions/changes to agenda: Event Permit at OQ Farm 9/13/2025, will address under Clerk time

Owen moved to accept the minutes of August 12, 2025 as written. Steve seconded the motion and motion carried.

**Scheduled Visitor:** None

**Highway Report:** Randy reported that the crew have been graveling the Barnard Chateaugay Road using river gravel stored on his field. North Bridgewater Road will be graveled using Markowski material, will not gravel in front of the Shurtleff property. Bridgewater Hollow erosion project should be completed within the next week, almost to the top of the road, will need to clean up around site and remove temporary road.

Grading has stopped due to dry conditions. Forks have been repaired, working around shop getting things cleaned up. Randy will be on vacation next week; crew have projects lined up to do.

Steve asked if Road Crew should mow around the new Atwood Cemetery annex. Cemetery Commissioners are taking care of the mowing.

Nope asked about the status of the Peterson culvert project. 60-day time frame to either fix to town specifications or remove is about up. Steve will follow up with the Peterson's.

**Treasurer's File:** Expense warrant #26-04 was reviewed and signed. (e-ck #'s 2976-2981 and ck's 22006-22030). A check to the VT Dept. of Health is on this order sheet from the Opioid Settlement in the amount of \$4,214.21. The Town of Bridgewater's allocation will now be sent to the Dept. of Health. A check to Vern Doyle is also on the warrant as building has been washed and cleaned.

Payroll warrant #26-02 (August) was reviewed and signed (ck's 5355-5362 and e-ck's 4303-4322).

A current year (2 months) budget status report was given to the board to review.

Melissa reported that the engineering report from the Hale Hollow Bridge has come in and is being reviewed by Chris Bump (VTRANS) and Jim Tonkavich (VEMS) to determine if funding is available to rebuild the bridge through mitigation or repair the abutment and close out the project.

Melissa has gotten preliminary loan rates for salt shed or bridge if board is still interested in moving forward with shed. Current rates are between 4.9-5.%. Plan was to get concrete prices for shed before making any decisions.

**Clerk's File:** An event permit was approved for a wedding at OQ Farm being held on Sept 9, 2025.

An excess weight permit was signed for McElwain Contracting LLC.

Nancy reported that towns have received notice from the State that the State Ethics Commission has suspended most municipal services due to lack of staffing. Elected officials could still be taking the training and getting their certificates to Nancy. Nancy has link to training site if anyone needs it.

August 26, 2025 minutes cont.

**Old business:** Board confirmed meeting time will revert back to 4:30 pm with the September 9<sup>th</sup>. meeting

**New business:** Town has been sent notice of hearings taking place in September regarding replacing the Route 100S bridge. First meeting is scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at the bridge site. Nancy has bridge plans on file if anyone wants to review them.

**Visitors:** None

Being no other business, Owen moved to adjourn at 6:52 pm. Steve seconded the motion and motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy Robinson*

Nancy Robinson,  
Clerk