

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

DRAFT

Meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm by Owen Astbury, Chair

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

Visitors: Cindy Ansardy, Chris Stevens, Michael Caduto and Bruce Maxham

Visitors via Zoom: Dennis & Joan Wideman & The Martins

Additions/changes to agenda: Bridgewater Area Community Foundation – Efficiency VT Project

Nope moved to accept the minutes of August 26, 2025 as written. Owen seconded the motion and motion carried.

Scheduled Visitor: Chris Stevens, President of the Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department came before the board to ask the board to authorize reimbursement of FEMA funds from the July 2023 flooding event in the amount of \$50,886.59. These funds were reimbursed to the town from FEMA for Emergency Protection Measures and Dry Hydrant damages. Owen moved and Nope seconded to authorize payment of these funds to the Fire Department. Motion carried.

Michael Caduto, on behalf of the Bridgewater Area Community Foundation, presented the board with information regarding Efficiency Vermont's (EVT) pilot project allowing the community center to install customized controls to integrate the new energy systems that have been installed so that they will be synchronized to work together more efficiently. The original cost was approx. \$15,000, no expense due to pilot program. Nope moved to authorize BACF to move forward with the EVT pilot project. Melissa asked if this was a grant that had to be administered through the town. This is not a grant, BACF will take care of all administration. Owen seconded the motion and motion carried.

Highway Report: Randy reported that they have completed graveling the North Bridgewater Road to the town line. Bridgewater Hollow erosion/FEMA project has been completed. Needs final inspection by the State. VOSHA representative stopped by town office last week. Left information for Randy to call to set up an appointment. D & D has begun delivering winter sand. Spreading chloride on areas near houses, very dry everywhere. Shaun is taking a couple of days off this week. Hale Hollow/Earle's Bridge engineering report is being reviewed by the State and VTRANS. Still trying to determine if the abutment can be repaired or if FEMA will pay for a new bridge. Hopefully by next meeting we should have a scope of work and time frame drafted. Nothing will get done until next spring or summer. Melissa is sending engineering report to board members (55 pages). Nope asked about status of culverts on the North Bridgewater Road. Nothing to report at this time.

Treasurer's File: Expense warrant #26-05 was reviewed and signed. (e-ck #'s 2982-2983 and ck's 22031-22055). Melissa gave the board a copy of an invoice for calcium chloride that a private citizen had purchased and would like to be reimbursed for the amount of \$84.00. Board did not take any action. Sheriff's invoice was for 2 months (July & August). Paying USDA loans. Noyes final payment for work completed in Bridgewater Hollow (FEMA project).

September 9, 2025 minutes cont.

Melissa has a copy of the FY '25 draft audit. Board signed representation letter. Final audit reports will be sent out once representation letter is received.

Clerk's File: A 3rd class liquor license was approved for Mountain Brewers.

Old business: None

New business: None

Visitors: None

Being no other business, Owen moved to adjourn at 5:00 pm. Nope seconded the motion and motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Robinson

Nancy Robinson,
Clerk