

**TOWN OF WHEELOCK  
JOINT MEETING OF SELECTBOARD, ROAD COMMISSIONER, ROAD CREW  
AT WHEELOCK TOWN GARAGE**

**Minutes, Draft for Distribution**

Present: Selectboard: Jason Bora, Ann Lawless (chair), Mike Richardson (arrived at 10am). Road Commissioner Glenn Cole. Road crew: Sean Dernago, Luke Stevens

Ann called the meeting to order at 9:01, asking for agenda items. Jason proposed the topic of what to do tomorrow. Ann proposed discussing a new time to meet with Logan Perron (VTrans District 7), the role of the Road Commissioner, emergency road closure info, truck purchase, grants, and any other issues.

Meeting with Logan: Ann will propose to Logan next Thurs afternoon

What to do tomorrow: Tandem grading, from the blacktop up to Wheelock Way, and Peak, if practicable, given current road conditions

Road Commissioner Job Description: The current one allows for the RC to take and pass on comments to the road crew. Glenn suggested serving as the liaison between the road crew and selectboard.

Truck Purchase: Sean has researched purchasing a 10 wheeler instead of the 6 wheeler under contract. Proposals will be ready for the Selectboard meeting April 2. Issues discussed included additional cost, getting out of current contract, what the voters approved at town meeting, advantage of 10 wheeler over 6 wheeler, standard vs automatic, current routes & trucking (both routes have steep hills), delivery dates.

Additionally: has anyone been engaged for plowing narrow roads? This was discussed by selectboard 12/5/2024 but no action was taken at the board level.

Additionally: advantages/disadvantages of purchasing gravel at Riendeau pit past W Burke (45 mins trip), quality of materials.

Gravel stockpiled: 2 ½ loads from Gingue, 3 loads of 1 ½ for emergencies, 2 piles of mixed fill

Grants: discuss current awarded grants and whether any might be canceled, without damaging the town's credibility as an awardee. To be voted 4/2/2024 Selectboard meeting. Ann explained the Grants in Aid program is to prevent erosion from roads into the watershed, and it is tied in to the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) and the Road Erosion Inventory, which itemizes 300 foot segments and classifies them as to their needs. GA grants are for making these improvements. Photos are to be uploaded every year along with the town submitting an annual report.

- GA 0699, FY 24. This grant-in-aid is for work on Vertical Mile, E Morgan side, up to Potter's sap run. \$10,000, with a match of 20% cash or in-kind. Approved and under contract, but no pre-construction site form has been issued, and no work authorization. Discussion: consider getting out of this contract.
- GA 0467, FY 23. This grant-in-aid is for work on Sutton Rd. \$12,500 with match of \$3,125. Approved, under contract, with pre-construction site form in place. No work authorization. Discussion: consider getting out of this contract.
- Class 2 Roadway, FY24, PO2067, South Wheelock Rd. Awarded \$130,315. Work is partially completed, reported and reimbursement has been received for guardrails and ditching. To Do: Resurfacing. Discussion: complete this project.
- Class 2 Structures, FY 2024, BC 2278. Awarded \$10,000 for engineering on bridge on Minister Hill, corner S Wheelock. Nate Sicard, Ruggles Engineering, could do the engineering for under \$4K. Selectboard voted to get out of this award 3/19/2024 because we have too much other work catching up from the July disaster and it would be better to get the engineering done when we are in a better situation to fix the bridge.

Other issues:

- Guidance from Glenn:
  - Let the garage answering machine take messages
  - Do not stop to talk to people while driving town equipment. This is a safety issue.
  - Do not turn the grader in someone's driveway
- When to start summer hours (4 ten hour days): TBD.
- Volvo grader: supposedly has a transmission leak. Cracked exhaust manifold, cost. est \$10,000, 60-90 days to repair.

Adjourned: 11:12am

Respectfully submitted, Ann Lawless

---

Ann Lawless (chair)

---

Mike Richardson

---

Jason Bora