



**Town of Whitingham
Office of the Selectboard**

MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2025

These Minutes are considered a DRAFT until accepted into the public record (with any corrections noted) at a future meeting of the Whitingham Selectboard.

The Whitingham Selectboard held a regular meeting at 6:30pm in the Selectboard office of the Whitingham Municipal Center on Wednesday, August 8, 2025.

Selectboard members present: Scott M Reed, Chair; James Weber, Vice Chair; and Lyman (Skip) Tefft, Jr.

Others present: Gig Zboray, Selectboard Administrator; Stanley Janovsky, Jr., Road Commissioner/Fire Chief; Doug Dix, ACO.

Call to Order. Additions or Changes to Agenda

Scott M. Reed called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Hearing of Visitors for concerns not on the agenda

Doug Dix questioned what progress was made on the farm dog issue, Gig provided a copy of the letter that was sent to the dog owner. Mr. Dix can start ticketing for the barking dog on September 1st.

Mr. Dix noted that his company, Deerfield Valley Property Maintenance, mows the town cemeteries, two of which are landlocked by Great River Hydro lands. It has never been an issue before, but this year he had to go through Matt Cole to get access. He would like this issue cleared up before Mr. Cole retires. Mr. Dix keeps a small 4-wheel drive (42" wide atv) specifically for this purpose so he can get some equipment in, three times a year. He says he doesn't mind coming in from Readsboro to access one of the cemeteries, but the other is more convenient coming in by the dam. Gig will contact Mr. Cole about the issue.

Accept resignation of Travis Wheeler, review and sign Notice of Vacancy

Travis Wheeler sent a text of resignation from the Selectboard on July 30, 2025. Because Town Meeting is 7 months away the board will appoint. **A motion was made by James Weber to accept the resignation of Travis Wheeler from the Selectboard effective July 30, 2025, and to appoint Scott M. Reed to sign the Notice of Vacancy, seconded by Skip Tefft, all in favor.**

Highway

Nothing

Fire Department

Chief Janovsky presented a contract for the installation of mini-split units at the Jacksonville Fire House as discussed at the last meeting. The contract is for \$13,500, not including electrical work. The deposit required to start the job of \$6,750 is included on the payables warrant. **A motion was made by James Weber to approve the contract with Kingsley Plumbing & Heating, LLC in the amount of \$13,500 to install mini-splits at the Jacksonville Fire House, and to appoint Scott M. Reed to sign the contract, seconded by Skip Tefft, all in favor.**

Sewer

Although we don't have the official approval of the new sewer loan yet, the risk is minimal that it will not be approved. The board would like the engineers to approve shop drawings to keep the project on track for completion this year or early next.

Old Homeweeek bookkeeping

For prior Old Home Week planning a treasurer volunteered or was appointed, monies from the Old Home Week Fund were transferred to a checking account and the OHW treasurer signed checks after expenses were submitted to the OHW committee. After OHW was over the OHW treasurer submitted reports and receipts to the town treasurer. The board suggested that an OHW warrant be provided to the Selectboard on a regular basis for review after checks have been disbursed.

Ratify approval of liquor license for Blueberry Festival

JG Store, LLC applied for a 3-hour special liquor license on July 24th specifically to be able to sell alcoholic drinks during the Blueberry Festival on the Municipal Center lot. Gig reached out to board members on that day, and they individually approved. **A motion was made by Scott M. Reed to ratify the approval of the special 3-hour liquor license for JG Store, LLC for July 25, 2025, seconded by James Weber, all in favor.**

Chief Janovsky noted that there was a fire call during the Blueberry Festival, and the fire house garage bays were blocked by parked cars of people attending the event. In future years we need to do a better job of preventing that.

Health Order

Nicole Gamache Rice has installed a septic system at her property located at 7783 VT Route 100. An installation certificate was filed by the contractor with the state, but the state has not yet certified the installation. Gig asked Attorney Fisher if we can seek reimbursement of our legal expenses on this case. Mr. Fisher answered that there is a small possibility of seeking that with the court. Gig questioned the board if they want to pursue it if the opportunity becomes available or are they happy with compliance? The board would like to seek legal fees if possible, without costing more money to the town.

Approval of Payables Warrant – August 7, 2025

A motion was made by Skip Tefft to approve Payables Warrant #W2606 dated August 7, 2025, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.

Approval of Payroll Warrant – August 7, 2025

A motion was made by Scott M. Reed to approve Payroll Warrant #W2605, dated August 7, 2025, seconded by James Weber, all in favor.

Review and approve Minutes of July 23, 2025

A motion was made by James Weber to accept the Minutes of July 23, 2025, as written, seconded by Scott M. Reed, all in favor.

Other business:

Library changed plans for a full building addition to now thinking of a deck with a retractable awning in the space instead. Kristine Sweeter, Librarian, will come to the next meeting to discuss, but wanted to know any board questions beforehand so she can be prepared with answers. She is wondering if this is something Pete would build or if it should be put out to bid. There is a possible grant through T-Mobile.

Discuss tear down of dilapidated shed on Town Hill the town owns a swath of land from Town Hill Common down to North-South Road, on that land adjacent to North-South Road is a small structure that is dilapidated and dangerous. The neighboring landowner, Chris Wasley, has chased kids away from it because it is dangerous. He has requested permission to tear down the structure. Mr. Weber suggested we continue discussion at the next meeting.

Tractor trailer parking on Rt 112 a complaint was received about a very large moving van parking for weeks on end on Route 112 near the old Honora Winery. There is no signage against long term parking, he is not doing anything that is illegal. The board would like to write a letter suggesting perhaps he can make an agreement to park on Jesse Boyd's property or the dome property.

Collection of tires across street Complaints were received about the large collection of tires building up across the street at Maty's Repair. Gig will write a letter.

Culvert Project tonight we received an email requesting a signature on an Army Corps of Engineers application to allow for the contractor to disturb the stream past October 1st. The board approved and told Gig to sign it.

Gig will research if there is a park and ride paving grant to repave the parking lot after construction. Mr. Janovsky will have the signs on the utility poles taken down so the poles can be removed.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Scott M. Reed, seconded by Skip Tefft, all in favor.

Scott M. Reed adjourned the meeting at 7:07pm

Respectfully submitted,
~Gig Zboray