Wolcott Selectboard Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2026

Held at Wolcott Town Office and via Zoom: 6:00 p.m.

All Minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard: *Please see October 21, 2026 Minutes for final approval.*

Selectboard:	Linda Martin, Michael Paradee, Allen Carpenter, Dolan Patrick, Kurt Billings
Guests:	Peter Lazorchak [Stone Environmental], Mike Green [Wolcott ACO and Health Officer], Jim Holton [Fire Chief], Christa Lowell [Cemetery Committee Chair], Michael Thomas
Present:	Michelle Gudorf, Karen McKee, Curtis Lanphere, Helen Billow, Monica Cross

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Watch the recorded meeting for the complete discussion: Visit or Subscribe to Town of Wolcott, VT on **Youtube**

Martin called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Adjustments to the Agenda:

- Approve the Agreement for Administrative Services between LCPC and Town of Wolcott authorizing Alec Jones to administer BRIC grant for Flat Iron Rd
- Changes to Grand List: Amendment to change Listers errors and omissions for 969 Cross Rd property (Brown)

Approve Selectboard Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2026: Motion by Paradee to approve the Minutes of September 16, 2026. Seconded by Patrick. Discussion: correct typos on page 4. Voting: 5 in favor.

Correspondence/Comments from the Community:

Comments from the Community:

- Lanphere: Removed most of items from town property. Camper and hay equipment will be moved this week. They will submit a plan for the garden so Martin can submit to FEMA.

Wastewater Construction Update [Peter Lazorchak, Stone Environmental]: Final push to wrap up the project for the winter shutdown. Had a few issues with installation of drop tubing at school. The subsurface soil had larger gravel and rocks than anticipated making it difficult to pull the tubing through the soil. Found pockets of unsuitable fill that they hadn't predicted, so they had to remove it and replace with suitable soil. Ongoing conversations with the School staff. Additional costs with these issues. LCPC has been working hard to find other funding and grant opportunities to cover this (~$900,000) which will also add to the funding reserves. Installed 2-10,000 gallon tanks at school. Good progress has been made along forest main, and along Flat Iron and East Hill Rd. Decision made to hold off constructing Zone 6 to save $100,000. Zone 6 is 5,000 gallons/day. Even without it, we'll still have capacity for 25,000 gallons/day which exceeds current predicted flows for all registered recipients. Connections will begin in spring. Forest main now installed on School St bridge and is ready for Manosh to connect. Cindy Parks is construction engineer with VT DEC and is working on this project. Martin is working with FEMA for permission to use 64 School St. Gudorf will draft MOU between Manosh and Town to use that property during installation.

Budget Hearings:

- Health Officer [Green] same as last year ($500)
- Animal Control Officer [Green] same as last year ($8,921.98)
- Fire Warden [Holton] Same as last year ($900). No assistant fire warden is needed at this time.
- Cemetery Association [Lowell]: requesting a $1000 increase to $12,700 due to significant increase in mowing contract.

Selectboard Admin Report:

- Closed out MOU with CCS for use of 64 School St property as staging ground (as of 9/26/26).
- FEMA:
    - #960052 East Hill Rd: grant nearly complete-still awaiting installation of guardrails - this needs to occur before 10/31/26. Wilson signed off on the final invoice for Bob Edwards and Son. FEMA finally obligated the funds: $13,875.26 for engineering design were paid out on 10/23/25 (FEMAS 75% of total). **FEMA will be issuing a check for $128,308.54** for this project. Project is pending large project review with the state.
        - Project 960052 has cost the town $114,025; however, there will likely be one final invoice from Bob Edwards and Son for $17, 107, and one from Wilson Engineering (Cost unknown). States share is $23,697. We will have ~ $20,000 to apply to other road repair projects that will improve resilience. Likely apply to the repairs to asphalt on East Hill Rd from 2026 flooding. Town must maintain documentation of how and where these excess funds were applied.
    - #798673: Cafferky and road crew completed the culvert on Marsh Rd 4-25. Will complete 9-25 (not on stream) sometime this month, and will complete road work on Keller Pond and Flat Iron Rds. Wilson Engineering will have designs for Marsh Rd culvert 5-25 and Town Hill culvert 9-6 completed soon. ACOE permits acquired. Awaiting word from Brunelle (ANR-DEC). Once plans are received, Gudorf will work on any required easements. Construction of these two final culverts will begin in either spring or July 1 (depending on precipitation in spring). RFPs will go out in Jan/Feb 2027. Once this work is completed, the state closeouts can begin for final 12.5% payments on all 4 2024 flooding projects.
- Grants:
    - MERP: New boiler will be installed Thursday 10/8. Propane line installed Friday 10/9.
    - LVRT: Met with Jackie Cassino and Josh (VTrans), and Tori Hellwig (LCPC) for review of LVRT trailhead improvements grant. There are still funds available in grant. Considering the following: Bike rack, Small signage for placement on kiosk with pointers toward forest, parking, and library/old depot, Add staymat to lead into foundation for ADA accessibility, Build wooden structure around/over portolet.
- School St Bridge opening: Bridge opened to through traffic on 9/26. The Town held an inauguration ceremony on October 3. Attended by Mayor Jax, both newspapers, Wolcott Selectboard and residents (about 35 people). Many thanks to all present-the day was perfect!
- Spoke with Sargent Law Office (TIm Sargent) regarding ordinance enforcement and encroachment on town land. He is looking into our questions and will get back to us.
- Champlain Oil property: Closing requires a renewed appraisal-Keller will do so free of charge and submit to Sargent . Closing will be scheduled once appraisal is received (Monday 10/12).
- Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund CCIF is due 10/14. This would allow us to create a mobile solar powered trailer for use by the Fire Department for emergency wifi on North Wolcott Rd, and outdoor bands. Trying to figure out the number of panels and batteries we'd need to power a band. We would need a trailer as well.
- Highway:
    - Hauled sand
    - Signed salt contract with Cargill (price increased from $103.25/ton to $111/ton.
    - Finished up Morey HIll Rd for Grant in Aid
    - 2018 truck body repair work not yet complete
    - Installed the Marsh Rd culvert 4-25 for the FEMA DR4810 2024 project funds
    - Grading/berm removal of roads
    - Asphalt on East Hill to repair the east side of the road wasn't completed when the road was closed -installer blew it off. Cafferky making calls-needs to occur in next month.

Selectboard Review/Action:

a. **Correspondence:**
    - Clegg submitted 2025 and 2026 year to date for Profit and Loss Budget to Actuals
    - LC Sheriff's Dept August 2026 report
    - 2026 Annual Progress Report for Energy Action NEtwork (Energy, Affordability, and Emissions)
    - Vote for VLCT rep to VT Employment Resource and Benefits Trust (VERB)

- Vote for VLCT res (up to 4) for PACIF insurance
- VLCT is in negotiations with VERB and PACIF over PACIF and VERB requests to have more day-to-day control over VLCT operations that directly and indirectly affect insurance and risk management programs (70% of VLCTs operations). To accommodate these proposed changes, VLCT may need to change or reduce the services offered to members, including charging fees for trainings, reducing the number of educational and networking opportunities offered, reevaluating the types of enquiries they can answer, and creating and updating fewer resources, models, and templates. Can attend the PACIF or VERB annual meeting in person on Nov 18 10am at 33 College Street in Montpelier. Or, respond with questions: see Gudorf for link to question form. Martin: feels it will hinder our assistance and therefore our ability to operate. Martin will call VLCT and board can draft a letter.
- Greensboro Planning Commission Notice of Public Hearing for public feedback on draft 2026 Town Plan: Wed 11/4 at 6:30pm at Fellowship Hall/Greensboro United Church of Christ. Plan available on their website.
- Clegg applied for and was awarded a $5000 grant (no match required) from US Alliance for Election Excellence. Will be used for election training for poll workers.
- Designated Title VI Coordinator needs to complete the required Title VI training, quiz, and questionnaire by October 30, 2026. Town needs to designate a Title VI Coordinator, please do so before beginning these activities. Your participation helps identify and remove transportation barriers, supports compliance monitoring and technical assistance, and keeps grant eligibility and reimbursement on track. As a direct recipient of federal aid and assistance, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) may delegate project management responsibilities to subrecipients—including cities, towns, municipalities, nonprofits, and other entities. Subrecipients, like direct recipients, must carry out federally funded activities in accordance with all applicable federal requirements, including Title VI and the ADA. These requirements are covered in the training. Paradee was designated Coordinator and will take training by the due date.
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield 2027 health insurance rate increase: Total increase for Highway Dept (currently for 2 employees) will be $311 annually.

b. **Campaign road signage discussion** [Thomas]; Thomas feels targeted by town people because his signs are being taken. Board will create a campaign sign policy.

c. **MOU between Town and Wolcott Community Trust:** Motion by Pardee to approve the MOU between the Town of Wolcott and the Wolcott Community Trust for the Wolcott Schoolhouse Revitalization project. Seconded by Patrick. Voting: All 5 in favor.

d. **New Cannon lease:** Replacing the 5 year Canon printer we have been leasing for 5 years. Proposed purchasing the old Canon for the Listers office for $740 (using Office Equipment funds with remaining funds of $4192). It is still in fairly good shape and will serve the Listers well. Proposed leasing a new Canon printer for TC and Office use that will cost $20/month more (total $100/month for 5 years). Motion by Paradee to purchase the old Cannon printer/copier for $740 and lease new Cannon printer/copier for $100/month for 5 years. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: 5 in favor.

e. **Formalize vote for heat pump award** (confirming 9/23/26 board email vote): Heat pump under contract with Four Seasons for $21,773. Selectboard voted via email on 9/23/26 to approve the award of the Heat pump installation to Four Seasons (Martin, Paradee, Carpenter). Motion by Patrick to approve the email approval to hire Four Seasons to install the 2 heat pumps at the town offices for $21,773 to be paid for with MERP grant funds. Seconded by Paradee. Voting: All 5 in favor.

f. **Wolcott Recreation Committee AARP Winter placemaking grant**: applying for $2000 grant (no match) to hold 16 Movement for Healthy Living classes from Nov 2026-February 2027, organize a weekly walking club to explore Wolcott Forest trails and LVRT, and to fund the purchase of snacks for each activity. Motion by Paradee to approve the Wolcott Recreation Committee grant submission to AARP for $2000-no match. Seconded by Martin. Voting: All 5 in favor.

g. **Wolcott Arts Collaborative AARP Winterplacemaking grant:** WAC is applying for a $950 grant (no match) to purchase art supplies for winter 2027 arts classes (barn quilting and water color painting supplies). Motion by Pareadee to approve the Wolcott Arts Collaborative grant submission to AARP for $950 with no match. Seconded by Martin. Voting: All 5 in favor.

h. **Discussion of ideas for LCPC New disaster recovery grant** (10/14 special meeting with LCPC). LCPC received a $1 million planning grant. 50% to cover staff assistance to towns and 50% for consultants to be used to assist all LC communities. Ideas discussed:
   - Design for culvert replacement for culvert near 4740 North Wolcott Rd
   - Design or repair of slumping of slope ne Jen ALlens Bridge North Wolcott Rd
   - Design for Sand HIll Rd embankment slumping
   - Tie in with Four Wheel Drive grant

i. **Updates:**
   - Partial change in Emergency Services: Town Public Hearing on 10/21. Martin attended Morristown Selectboard meeting Monday. Morristown provided a new formula: 50% of the Rescue budget is applied toward readiness (training, building, equipment), 50% of budget toward service calls. They estimated Wolcott's 142 homes held 312 residents.. They estimated an annual rate of $31,500 for services provided to the 142 houses in western Wolcott. At the October 21st SB meeting, we will hold a public hearing to discuss this issue. Need to discuss the equitable nature of the difference in services as well as the time to reach calls. Need to have a decision to Morristown by end November, 2026.
   - Approve the Agreement for Administrative Services between LCPC and Town of Wolcott authorizing Alec Jones to administer BRIC grant for Flat Iron Rd ($3750 for the administration): Motion by Paradee to approve the Agreement for Administrative Services between LCPC and Town of Wolcott that authorizes Alec Jones with LCPC to administer the BRIC grant for the Town of Wolcott. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 5 in favor.
   - Changes to Grand List: Amendment to change Listers errors and omissions for 969 Cross Rd property (Brown). Listers adjusted square footage of house. Motion by Paradee to accept the changes to the grand list for the property located at 969 Cross Rd (Brown), due to square footage adjustment. Seconded by Patrick. Voting: All 5 in favor.
   - Billings requested a no parking sign at the end of guardrail on west side of bridge at VT 15 outside of state ROW, but inside of guardrail. May not need a breakaway post.

Motion by BIllings to enter Executive Session with Gudorf present at 7:56pm. Seconded by Patrick. Voting: All 5 in favor.

Motion by Martin to exit Executive Session at 8:39 pm. Seconded by Patrick. Voting: All 5 in favor.

No Action taken.

Motion by Paradee to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Gudorf

The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting is October 21, 2026 at 6:00pm at Wolcott Town Office.

There will be a special Selectboard meeting on ed October 14, 2026 at 6:00pm to discuss flood resilience grant ideas with LCPC.