



GEORGIA VERMONT

Selectboard Regular Meeting Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM Chris Letourneau Meeting Room and via Zoom Minutes

Zoom Details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6165843896?pwd=STduU2JzTmpiVmE1MXZSaWZWVadz09>

Meeting ID: 616 584 3896 | Passcode: 5243524

Dial by your Location: 1 929 205 6099 (New York)

CALL TO ORDER 6:00PM

SELECTBOARD PRESENT

Chair Kristina Senna, Vice Chair Brian Dunsmore, Paul Jansen, Carl Rosenquist

STAFF PRESENT

Todd Cadieux, Kollene Caspers, Lori Hobart, Stacy Katon

PUBLIC PRESENT

Sara Currier (Town ACO), Kellie Bosenberg, Noah Lavallee, Heather Dunsmore, Joe Cowhigs (via Zoom)

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CHAIR UPDATE

3. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- S. Currier, Town of Georgia Animal Control Officer, will present at the next Selectboard meeting.

4. OTHER

A. Review Selectboard Member Letters of Interest.

- Kellie Bosenberg introduced herself and explained her interest in joining the Town of Georgia Selectboard. This position will assume the remainder of the 1-year Selectboard vacancy.

Motion to appoint K. Bosenberg to the Town of Georgia Selectboard.

Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by P. Jansen.

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (For items not on agenda)

All participants must clearly state their names. Appropriate actions will be considered once the Selectboard has reviewed the information provided and necessary subsequent research.

6. SELECTBOARD MINUTES AND WARRANTS

A. Approval of Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes for March 24, 2025

Motion to approve the March 24, 2025 Selectboard Meeting minutes with minor changes.

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by P. Jansen.

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

B. Approval of Selectboard Special Meeting on April 7, 2025

Motion to approve the April 7, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes with one minor change.

Motion made by P. Jansen, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore.

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

C. Approval of Warrants #2510

Motion to approve Warrant #2510.

Selectboard asked clarifying questions about the line items.

Motion made by P. Jansen, Seconded by C. Rosenquist.

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

7. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Vermont Department of Children and Families Notice-Informational Notice on General Assistance Emergency Housing Program

- Informational notice only, no action necessary.

8. BOARD BUSINESS (Public comment on agenda items limited to 5 minutes)

A. Public Works Director-Action to Approve Bid Process For Town Highway Paving for 2025
Todd will have a list of roads he would like to get bids on for Highway Paving projects for 2025.

- T. Cadieux had questions about the total paving amount in the Town budget as well as grant funds as he entertains road paving bids.
- L. Hobart will follow up with T. Cadieux with that amount.
- No Motion needed to approve bid process for Town paving because it was in the approved budget.

B. Public Works/Grounds/Recreation--Todd Cadieux will update

- The Road crew has been busy with clean up from the branches and downed trees with recent winds and weather. They have also been working on fixing the hot box and the grader has been out spreading gravel.
- The crew will be working on ditching soon. Discussion on ditch dirt and offering it to other people in the Town, where can it be stored and not moved around. Ethics concerns were voiced, T. Cadieux is working with S. Katon on a policy for this fill and a waiver form available to sign if someone is interested in the ditch dirt.
- Speed Limit Signs will be completed within the next week to fulfill the grant.

- C. Town Electronic Sign Town Electronic Sign-Discussion and Plans--Todd met with the state, we need to decide on placement, # of signs, time frame.
- Signs to be purchased with donation from Oncore, who is questioning timeframe, costs, and what department will control the sign.
 - K. Senna clarified the electric sign at the library would be operated by the Town of Georgia.
 - T. Cadieux met with a representative from the State regarding the ROW on the Library property. They identified a location for the sign that would not need a State permit. The maple tree may be a problem for visibility.
 - Z. Werts had expressed interest in a similar sign for Georgia Market. P. Jansen asked S. Katon to check in with him again.
 - The Selectboard requested S. Katon to reach out to the GEMS School Board to determine if the GEMS sign will allow Town information to be shared on their new electric sign.
 - As required by the purchasing policy, S. Katon will get a couple more quotes for an electric sign.
- D. Bridge #10 - High Bridge--Contractor for bridge 10 will be Blow and Cote Inc. We expect to hear in the coming weeks when the work on the bridge will be done.
- S. Katon and T. Cadieux have accepted the quote with Blow and Cote, Inc. The contract was received. The company recommended a change order for any changes in the contract to track contract changes for transparency.
 - A plan should be put in place and advertised for the closing of the bridge for repairs, for traffic flow and in case of emergency.
- E. Forest Glen and Hidden Woods 3 Acre Rule Stormwater Permitting- Need the Chair of Selectboard to sign the permit, so it can be filed with Town Clerks office.
Motion to have Chair Senna sign the stormwater permit so it can be filed with the Town Clerk's office.
Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore.
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg
- F. Fire Chief Baker-Action to Approve hiring of Aaron Martin for Town of Georgia Fire Department-
Motion to approve Aaron Martin for Town of Georgia Fire Department
Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore.
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg
- G. Fire Chief Baker-Action to Approve New Gear, not budgeted, to come out of Departments Impact Fees
Motion to approve \$12,000 in Impact Fees for Three (3) new sets of fire gear, as there are more fire fighters on staff.
Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by P. Jansen.
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg
- H. Permit to Operate Motor Vehicle on Falls Trail, presented by Anthony Heinlein
Motion to approve the permit application of A. Heinlein to operate a motor vehicle on a Town owned trail.
- B. Dunsmore explained the reason behind the Trail Ordinance and permit for any motorized vehicle on the trail.

Motion to approve A. Heinlein Trail Permit Application

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by P. Jansen.

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

I. Steve Cushing-St. Albans Area Watershed Association-Presenter--2024 Weed Harvesting Project Completion Report and Appreciation for continued support.

- S. Cushings did not respond to S. Katon for presentation at this meeting, she will follow-up with him to reschedule. The Town of Georgia will continue to support the project.

J. Facility Use Rental Agreement-Discussion on Porta Potty for Large Groups--

- Discussion on the use of facilities and large groups at the Georgia Town Beach for events.
- For reservations of the Pavilion, a new maximum number of people for use should be set (200).
- If the event is over 100 people, an additional fee will be charged for use of the portable toilets.
- Two (2) portable toilets should be installed at the Beach until it opens, around May 15th, then another two (2) portable toilets will be added, for a total of 4 portable toilets at the beach for the duration of the season.
- Chair Senna proposed a new rental fee structure: \$250/ rental for Georgia residents. \$500/rental for non-residents.

Motion to make changes to the Facility Use Rental Agreement as listed above.

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by P. Jansen.

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

K. Ordering 2 Porta Potties for Little League-Action to approve

- Two (2) portable toilets should be installed at the Beach until it opens, around May 15, 2025.

L. Waive Facility Use Fees for Celebration Of Life for Sara Nye Vester on July 6, 2025-Action to Approve

Motion to waive fees for Celebration of Life for Sara Nye Vester on July 6, 2025.

Motion made by P. Jansen, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore.

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

M. VSP Contract Expiration

- Contract with State Police will expire on May 31, 2025. Additional hours will be patrolled by the Franklin County Sherref, so VSP service is no longer needed. No action necessary.

N. Bovat Road, CL4 follow Up Discussion

- N. Lavalley and J. Cowhigs were present to discuss the Bovat Road project, who explained the HOA has met and some members have discussed the hiring of attorneys and closing off the road to the cell tower.
- There is no agreement among residents for paying for the new culvert at \$1400 per property, as estimated. Bovat Road is a Class 4 road, the local properties owners are responsible for the road. The Town has a ROW for the cell tower and natural area, but the Town does not maintain Bovat Road.
- Chair Senna stated the Town legal representatives recommended the Selectboard take this information into advisement, but no decisions will be made until all relevant information is reviewed.

- O. Reports from Franklin County Sheriff Qtr 1 2025
 - C. Rosenquist is impressed with the reports from the Sheriff's offices. Sheriff Grismore was invited to come to a Selectboard meeting in the near future, perhaps June.
- P. Velco-ROW-SLW- Easement Deed for Permanent Access-Action to Approve and Sign
 - S. Katon reached out to the Town attorney for additional information about the Mylar to be signed by the Selectboard. Discussion on the history of the easement and document to be signed, and the requested change by VELCO on the document.
 - Original easement documents are from the 1970's. L. Hobart will look into legal bills from 2024 and S. Katon will look into the land records.
 - This will be added to unfinished business for the next meeting.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Bridge #28 Mill River Bridge- New Updates-Gordan Babcock, signed Easement, we are still awaiting weather to break so archaeology study can be done.
- B. GPL Building Revitalization Project-Update from Brian & Paul
 - Committee members and Library Director met on Monday 4/7/2025 with VLCT representatives to talk about the building project. P. Jansen will invite T. Cadieux in case he is able to make it to meet with an engineer.
- C. Town Garage 2025 Manual Transfer Switch-Contractor was chosen at Monday April 7th Selectboard Special Meeting PD Electric LLC will be contractor-Todd is starting the process, and working with contractor to get the project completed.
- D. Sherwood Forest 3 Acre Rule
 - No updates.
- E. Purchase of Bidwell Parcel #108110000 by GCC
 - GCC has hired Dan Triggs as attorney to do the property title search.
- F. Parcel ID 112260000-Robert Peet Lot-TOG Lot-- Board to decide what to do with it.
 - No updates.
- G. Closing of Perrigo-Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant--Feasibility study, ideas for future, uses and plans
 - No updates.
- H. Animal ordinance-No Petitions Received by April 9, 2025 deadline--Ordinance goes into effect on Friday April 25, 2025
- I. Impact Fee Ordinance-Updates-No Petitions Received by April 9, 2025 deadline--Ordinance goes into effect on Friday April 25, 2025

10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TREASURER AND SELECTBOARD SUB COMMITTEES REPORTS

- A. Treasurer-Discussion on DTC (Delinquent Tax Collector) Processes and an Auditor Update.

- The Auditor was in today, L. Hobart and S. Katon submitted all requested additional information needed for the audit. This should be completed by Mid-May.
- Discussion with the Selectboard on Tax Collection process, Kevin Webster was working with a copy of the Town's database which caused confusion. L. Hobart will have to process the changes that K. Webster makes in the database under the current process.

B. Committees at the direction of the chair

11. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA

A. April 28, 2025

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A sec 313)

Chair Senna would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Evaluation of Public Official and Contracts Pending Litigation which premature disclosure or discussion may be detrimental to the board in itself and/or individuals involved.

Chair Senna would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the above with Town Administrator S. Katon under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes.

Motion to Move into Executive Session at 7:33pm

Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by C. Rosenquist

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

Motion to invite S. Katon to join the Executive Session

Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by C. Rosenquist

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

Motion to exit from Executive Session at 8:09pm

Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by C. Rosenquist

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

Action taken following Executive Session:

Motion for Chair Senna to sign and send letter to Public Official, after S. Katon updates drafted version with dates and addresses.

Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by P. Jansen

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist

K. Bosenberg recused herself from discussion and vote.

Motion to have the lawyer sign and send the letter to Contractor, after S. Katon updates drafted version with date and emails.

Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by C. Rosenquist

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist

K. Bosenberg recused herself from discussion and vote.

13. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn at 8:12pm

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg

Agendas are posted to the Town website, four designated places within the Town of Georgia (Town Clerk's Office, Georgia Public Library, Maplefields & Georgia Market), and e-mailed to the local media.

Minutes and meeting videos are posted on the Town of Georgia website.

Signed: Stacy Katon, Town Administrator

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