



GEORGIA VERMONT

Selectboard Regular Meeting Monday, June 23, 2025 at 6:00 PM Chris Letourneau Meeting Room and via Zoom Minutes

Zoom Details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6165843896?pwd=STduU2JzTmpiVmE1MXZSaWZWZVadz09>

Meeting ID: 616 584 3896 | Passcode: 5243524

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

CALL TO ORDER 6:01PM

SELECTBOARD PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Todd Cadieux, Kollene Caspers, Lori Hobart, Stacy Katon

PUBLIC PRESENT

Noah Lavallee (via Zoom), Tyler Billingsley (via Zoom)

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CHAIR UPDATE

- Gatherings on the Green have started again, the next concert and gathering will be on Wednesday July 2, 2025 in front of the Georgia Town offices.
- Congratulations to Gary Baker for 50 years with the Georgia Fire Department.
- Congratulations to Isaac Ellis on successfully completing the Firefighter One exam and obtaining state certification as a firefighter for the Georgia community.
- Congratulations to Owen Baker for graduating from Cadet to Probationary Firefighter.
- The Baker family has a combined 300 years of experience with the Georgia Fire Department.

3. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- S. Katon requested to add an Executive Session for Personnel: Employee Sick Time.

- S. Katon also would like to correct the next regular Selectboard Meeting will be held on July 14th, and not July 7th as listed in tonight's agenda.
- L. Hobart requested the addition of a second warrant, Warrant #2518B.

Motion to add the above items to the agenda.

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

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

4. SELECTBOARD MINUTES AND WARRANTS

A. Approval of Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes for June 9, 2025

Motion to approve minutes from June 9, 2025 with minor changes.

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

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

B. Approval of Warrants #2518

Motion to approve Warrant #2518

- L. Hobart answered questions on the warrant from the Selectboard.

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

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

Motion to approve Warrant #2518B in the amount of \$3020.18

- L. Hobart explained the warrant and answered questions from the Selectboard.

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by K. Bosenberg

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, K. Bosenberg, 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.

- C. Rosenquist attended the funeral service for Richard "Dick" Howrigan, a long time Vermont House Representative in Fairfield. The service was very nice, including tributes from the Fire Department and the National Guard.
- N. Lavallee gave an update on the Bovat Road culvert repairs, which will begin this summer.
- T. Cadieux let N. Lavallee know the work will need a road permit for Town records and it is necessary to request the road closure for emergency personnel/ rescue/ sheriff.
- N. Lavallee pushed back on completing the permit with the Public Works Director and road closure form for emergency personnel/ rescue/ sheriff, citing differences in opinions with the Selectboard on the responsibility of upkeep for Bovat Road.
- Chair Senna referred to the Class 4 Road Agreement and explained penalties and fines if the HOA does not complete the permits for road closure.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Preservation Trust of Vermont-Letter with Contribution Consideration

- Contribution request letters were included in the meeting packet. No action will be taken, as it is not in the Town's budget for 2025.
- S. Katon will send a letter with information on how the organization may request contributions in the future.

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

A. Bridge #28 (Mill River Bridge)-Scope Of Work-Presentation by Tyler Billingsley of East Engineering PLC and Todd Cadieux Director of Public Works-

- Engineer Tyler Billingsley was present via Zoom to give an update on the project. He met with T. Cadieux to discuss potential work the Department of Public Works (DPW) could provide for the project to save the Town money.
- A rough estimate of \$750,000 was calculated, close to the \$1,000,000 expected for the bridge work. This estimate does not include T. Billingsley's engineering fee or the archeological study.
- T. Billingsley recommended purchasing some of the materials this year. The digging and installation will occur in 2026.
- T. Cadieux explained the schedule and ability of the DPW to assist in the project next year. The rough estimate does not include labor prices or Town equipment over the course of two months.

Motion for T. Billingsley & T. Cadieux to move forward with the DPW arrangement including purchasing equipment and materials for the project.

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

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

B. Fire Department Notifies Public-Aerial Truck Bid Choice

- The Georgia Fire Department chose Desorcie Emergency Products LLC. This bid was the lowest and there was an additional \$6000 discount. Vice Chair Dunsmore signed the paperwork before the bid deadline expired, as Chair Senna was out of town.

C. Public Works Director Update

1. Resident Request for permanent pickle ball net, if funds were raised by individuals.

- A Permanent pickleball net offering was discussed, as there has been temporary nets erected currently. Different options for pickleball nets were discussed.
- One basketball hoop will be removed in the fenced area, the hole from removal will be filled before resurfacing the area.
- The Selectboard will continue with the Beach project as originally anticipated, as no pickleball nets are in the Town budget. T. Cadieux will follow up with the individual who offered to buy the net.

2. DPW Update

- The paving project has finished and was completed under budget. Any unused funds will be rolled into next year's paving fund.
- Sand will be moved tomorrow. The road crew will take frequent breaks to keep safe in the heat and will be treated to ice cream on Wednesday by the "Scoops for Safety" program through the State of Vermont.
- The community has been notified of the Bridge #10, Highbridge closure between Georgia Mountain Road and VT Route 104A for the bridge work June 30th through September 8th.
- T. Cadieux will meet with Milton tomorrow to go over the emergency services plan while the road is closed. Fairfax rescue will still cover the area, by an alternate route.
- The installation of the Town Garage generator caused problems with circuits which caused some damage to other electronics. T. Cadieux is working with the insurance company and will ensure the generator will function as intended.

D. Boat Docks-Review/Discussion Estimates for Replacement

- Two estimates for boat docks at the Georgia Beach were received for review, one a floating dock and one a stationary dock. Discussion on the benefits and drawbacks to each, as well as installation options.
- Dock Doctors would be able to install the dock this summer if the Selectboard decides to move forward with the project.
- The Selectboard has concerns with liability for the dock currently in the water.
- P. Jansen will reach out to Dock Doctors for additional information on maintenance and installation/removal every season, as well as the disposal of the dock currently in place.

E. Budget Planning Development/Timeline Discussion

- L. Hobart has started a timeline for budget discussion by Department, starting in October.
- L. Hobart will also plan for Capital Improvement discussions.
- A written timeline of the Budget process will be shared with the Selectboard at the next meeting.

F. Discussion on Change from Fiscal Year to Calendar Year for Town

- Primary concerns with moving from a fiscal year to a calendar year for the Town include the impact to Veterans credits and Homestead declarations for the State. The Selectboard would like some answers to these concerns before moving forward.
- This change will have to be a floor vote, and not a vote by Australian ballot, as it is not number based.
- L. Hobart will talk with Chip at NEMRC and Town Assessor Terri Sabens for more information.
- Discussion was held on best approach for a Town budget following the conversion from calendar year to fiscal year budget.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Bridge # 10 (Highbridge)-Closed Starting June 30, 2025

- See DPW report by T. Cadieux regarding the road closure.
- S. Katon has been speaking with Georgia residents who have concerns with the bridge and road closure. Detour routes and emergency services have been addressed.

B. Town Electronic Sign- Assembly Completed-Design & Placement at Town Hall Discussion

- S. Katon reported the sign has been assembled and will be shipped shortly. The Selectboard will need to determine where the sign will be located at the Town offices, so an electrician can ensure proper power source.
- The sign's installation will not be placed too close to the Memorial, so as not to block it from view and enjoyment.
- D. Bergstrom is looking into where the ROW lands for Route 7. The area for installation is limited further by gas and sewer lines.
- Three potential areas will be identified and presented to the Selectboard at the next regular meeting.

C. Parcel ID 1122600000-TOG Lot-Awaiting Development Regs

- No updates.

D. Beach Bathrooms Renovation

- There is potential for an additional estimate for bathroom repair from a family member to T. Cadieux. There is no conflict of interest for the business to offer an estimate to the Town.
- S. Katon will reach out to the Fire Marshall again to follow up on permitting.

E. Closing of Perrigo-Reach Out to Amazon-

- S. Katon will send a letter to the project managers of the Amazon facility this week.

F. Velco-ROW-SLW-Easement Deed for Permanent Access-Out To Attorney

- The Town attorney will have an update at the next meeting.

G. ACO-Holding Facility Options-

- ACO is building a basic plan for Holding Facility at Old Town Garage, she is still working out the options.

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TREASURER AND SELECTBOARD SUB COMMITTEES REPORTS

A. Town Administrator – Increased Speed Complaints on Georgia Shore Road

- S. Katon has received complaint calls about speeding on Georgia Shore Road. There are signs and information shared on Facebook reminding drivers of the 25 mph limit.
- The Sheriff's office has been notified of the speeding.

B. Treasurer--Internal Controls Checklist

- L. Hobart shared the Internal Controls Checklist with the Selectboard. S. Katon will be looking over bank accounts and reconciliations with L. Hobart to comply with the checklist.
- Chair Senna read through the checklist to ensure compliance and applicability.

Motion to approve the checklist for Chair Senna to sign.

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by K. Bosenberg.

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

- L. Hobart explained the school cash flow check, \$116,000 was overpaid, similar to last year. She will get the check next week.

C. Personnel--Background Checks All Staff working with At Risk Folks-Discussion

1. Personnel--The Georgia Public Library Board of Trustees has officially adopted the new (6/9/2025) Town of Georgia personnel policy--

- S. Katon explained that any employees who work with at-risk individuals- children, seniors, persons with disabilities, or other members of the vulnerable population- should have a background check. This primarily includes Georgia Public Library workers, who host story times and other library programs.
- K. Caspers informed the Selectboard the Georgia Public Library Trustees are aware of the need for background checks for employees and volunteers, and the library was recently awarded a grant that can be used to fund the background checks for 2025.

- S. Katon requested guidance on how to proceed when new GPL employees are hired and come to the Georgia Town offices for new hire information.
- The Selectboard agreed for the Trustees to use grant funds for background checks in 2025, and going forward, the Town will cover the costs of background checks for GPL employees, as part of the administrative services and so long as the GPL Trustees opt into Town services in writing, per the Personnel Policy.
- An addendum to the Personal Policy will address the future of background checks for employees and volunteers.

2. Personnel-Discussion on implementing a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and Library.

- The GPL Trustees are working on a Memo of Understanding outlining the responsibilities of the Trustees, Town and Library staff for the GPL. S. Katon will investigate Memo options and work on this for the late August Selectboard meeting.

D. Northeast Archaeology Research Center – Artifacts from VELCO Line K80 Project-Update

- The Georgia Historical Society will take the artifacts. All items will be shipped to the Town offices before they are given to C. Rosenquist for delivery to the Historical Society.

E. Committees at the direction of the chair- GPL Revitalization Project

- The committee met with another engineer last week. To date they have received one complete proposal, and they are waiting for the next estimate from the most recent engineer.

10. OTHER

- Chair Senna addressed N. Lavallee's question in the Zoom chat, there is one other Class 4 road with a municipal park, Silver Lake Road to the Town Forrest. There are no other Class 4 Roads in the Town of Georgia that receive any revenue.

11. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA

A. July 14, 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 Personnel: Sick Time 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 and Public Works Director T. Cadieux under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes.

Motion to Move into Executive Session at 7:50pm

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by K. Bosenberg

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

Motion to invite S. Katon and T. Cadieux to join the Executive Session

Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen

Motion to exit from Executive Session at 8:23pm
Motion made by Chair Senna, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen

Action taken outside of Executive Session:

Motion to approve employee sick time.
Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen

13. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm
Motion made by K. Bosenberg, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist

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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