



GEORGIA VERMONT

Selectboard Regular Meeting Monday, May 12, 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, Kellie Bosenberg, Paul Jansen, Carl Rosenquist

STAFF PRESENT

Todd Cadieux, Lori Hobart, Stacy Katon, Cheryl Letourneau (via Zoom)

PUBLIC PRESENT

Suzanna Brown, Dick McAvenia, David Davio, Charlie Hancock, Alysia Catalfamo, and Ken Minck

PRESENT VIA ZOOM

Richard Bidwell, Bonnie Boomhauer and Donna Lafountain

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CHAIR UPDATE

Chair Senna wished a Happy Birthday to Kellie Bosenberg.

3. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- S. Katon requested the addition of Warrant #2514
- S. Katon requested, on behalf of Keith Baker, approval to hire a new cadet.
- B. Dunsmore requested the discussion on hiring personnel at Georgia Beach.

Motion to add the above items to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by Rosenquist.

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 April 28, 2025

Motion to approve with minor changes.

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

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

Voting Abstaining: P. Jansen

B. Approval of Liquor Board Special Meeting April 28, 2025

Motion to accept minutes with no changes.

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

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

Voting Abstaining: P. Jansen

C. Approval of Warrants #2513

Motion to approve Warrant #2513

L. Hobart answered questions on the warrant.

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

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

Motion to approve Warrant #2514

L. Hobart answered questions on the warrant, all for the Town of Georgia Fire Department.

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

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 complimented the committee on the flowers and landscaping around the Memorial. Chair Senna also complimented the Girl Scouts who planted flowers at the Fire Station.
- S. Brown questioned the Ethics Policy and the language adopted by the Selectboard in the policy, which is stricter than what is indicated in the chart. Selectboard will take drafting a new chart under advisement.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- ##### A. Go Gov--Mobil App for Town of Georgia--Alexandra from GoGov would like to demonstrate to the board the app via zoom at another designated regular meeting in June. This is for informational purposes.

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Motion to move **Board Business** before **Unfinished Business** to accommodate guests present for Board Business topics.

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

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

- A. Velco-ROW-SLW-Easement Deed for Permanent Access--Draft Easement is still under review with attorney.
- B. Bridge #10 (Highbridge)--Update--Contractor was onsite on Tuesday May 7th, for Site Investigations and removal of the peeling epoxy and inspection of the deck and concrete condition. Still awaiting a date for construction to begin.
- C. Bridge #28 (Mill River Bridge)-Update-Engineer spoke with Archeology Program, the study will be completed (weather permitting) by mid May and the archaeological report should be done within a few weeks of finishing the study.
- D. Parcel ID 112260000-Robert Peet Lot-TOG Lot-Board to decide what to do with it once new regulations are complete.
- E. Closing of Perrigo
 - See Minutes below, Discussion GDIC- Hiring a Consultant for Water Treatment Facility
- F. American Tower
 - Communication received to the Selectboard by email.
- G. ACO-Boarding Options @ Old Town Garage
 - Animal Control Officer is returning to the Selectboard with additional information for a kennel at the Old Town Garage at the May 28th Selectboard meeting.

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

- A. Town Highway Paving Bid Opening
 - Four (4) bids were received for Town highway paving. Chair Senna opened the bids, including Hungerford Paving, Pike Industries, Whitcomb and S. D. Ireland.

Motion to take the bids under advisement and allow T. Cadieux and S. Katon to discuss and accept a bid.

Motion made by P. Jansen, Seconded by K. Bosenberg.

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

- B. Public Works Director Update--Discussion about Mill River Bridge Project
 - T. Cadieux was present to give an update on the Town garage and staff. They are preparing for paving, signs are to be put up, a new culvert will be installed in front of the old Town garage. He is working with Tyler on the Bridge #28 (Mill River Road) project to see if there is any work the highway staff can do to save the Town money.
 - Discussion on the seasonal work needed at the Town Beach and delegation of duties.
 - Options for cleaning crews for the Town Beach bathrooms were discussed.
 - T. Cadieux was approached for permanent nets for the pickleball courts at the Town Beach. Can be revisited for next year's budget.

- C. Silver Lake Woods Revised Forest Management Plan-Charlie Hancock the county forester, shares a short story map (and management plan).
- Charlie Hancock, FPR gave an introduction on Silver Lake Woods, his work with the Georgia Conservation Commission and the updated forest management plan.
 - Goals and objectives of the plan include encouraging a diverse and resilient forest to maintain the forest ecosystem long-term; protect biodiversity, provide public recreation opportunities, and demonstrate ecological forest management.
 - Plans for Silver Lake Woods in the coming years include a planned commercial timber harvest to match the structure of old forests which are more resilient to the impacts of climate change and biological stressors. Work on the planned harvest can start as early as this summer.
 - The Forest Management Plan is typically updated every 10 years. The Selectboard and C. Hancock discussed the logistics, costs and approvals needed for the project.

Motion to approve the Georgia Conservation Commission to continue moving forward with the County Forestry recommendations.

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

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

- D. Georgia Conservation Commission-Bidwell Land
- Chair Senna explained emails exchanged about the Georgia Conservation Commission and Town's purchase of the Bidwell property. Attorney Triggs is unable to assist in the purchase due to a conflict of interest.
 - On advice from the Town's Attorney Rugh, the estate should be settled through Probate court before the property is offered to the Town for purchase.
 - Bonnie Boomhauer, executor of the estate, and Donna Lafountain, landowner (via Zoom) clarified the land cannot be donated as it is part of the estate, sale of the property is necessary. An email from the family was sent. They are working with an attorney on ways to work with the GCC and Town, as it was the wishes of the Bidwell family for the Town to have the land.
- E. Georgia Conservation Commission-Additional Trails at SLW along of Velco ROW-Discussion
- The Selectboard questioned why the easement for trails was not presented to the Town attorney for review. A. Catalfamo with the GCC explained there were two separate trail issues, both unresolved with the attorney. Velco does not want any structure in the way of their right of way. However, the GCC would like to have a path at Silver Lake Woods to the Beaver pond, which would cross over wetlands, so a bridge may be necessary.
- F. Georgia Conservation Commission-Request to install "No Parking Sign" at the bottom of the class 4 road that goes to Silver Lake Woods
- The sign requested will be a "No Parking Beyond This Point" on the Class 4 road, to indicate there are no cars allowed beyond the allowed parking area. Something is needed as the boulders will not be replaced after Velco work. The sign will be placed near the old kiosk location.

Motion to allow the installation of the "No Parking Beyond This Point" sign as described above.

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

- G. Removal of Town Trail #4 Sign--Speak with GCC regarding the removal of the Town Trail #4 Sign that has incorrect information.
- Similar to Falls Road Trail, the sign has incorrect information on the bottom. Selectboard is asking that the bottom portion be changed by placing a sticker over the incorrect information with the correct information.
- H. Sherwood Forest 3 Acre Rule-Storm Water Inspection Discussion
- C. Letourneau explained this was a yearly State inspection until the 3 Acre rule brought up concerns by the Town Attorney. Under his recommendation, the Town has not had the stormwater inspected until the State gives more guidance on the 3 Acre rule. The information from the attorney will be shared with the Selectboard.
- I. Electronic Sign--Action to Approve and Order
- Chair Senna introduced the estimates from sign companies for the potential electric sign to be installed at the library. S. Katon gave additional information and answered questions for the Selectboard.

Motion to approve and order the electric sign from LED Sign City.

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

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

- J. Facilities Use Policy - Review of Edits
- The Facilities Use Policy and the Personnel Policy were discussed. Chair Senna requested a policy subcommittee for policy review to collect information before brought to the Selectboard meeting Agenda; or to hold a special policies meeting to work on the policies together. A meeting to discuss the policies will be scheduled.
 - The Selectboard discussed deposit fees, C. Letourneau thinks there will be a decrease in rentals and rental income from excessive fees and insurance recommendations.
 - A refundable deposit in the amount of \$100 will be necessary for the Town Beach, with \$250 fee for residents and \$500 for non-residents. A refundable deposit in the amount of \$100 will be necessary for the Fire Station Community Room, with a \$100 reservation fee. And a \$50 refundable deposit for the Library Community room, with a \$50 reservation fee. Georgia Elementary and Middle School is exempt from fees.
 - Businesses, groups, and organizations renting Town facilities are subject to insurance policies. This is also applicable to individuals serving alcohol while renting Town facilities. Additional edits and small changes were made to the document.
- K. Personnel Policy-Review of Edits and Comments from Department Head
- A separate Special Selectboard Meeting will be scheduled for discussion of the Personnel Policy.
- L. Discussion GIDC-Hiring of Consultant for Water Treatment Facility
- Chair Senna and C. Rosenquist met with the GIDC regarding the water treatment facility after Perrigo leaves and what the Town is interested in pursuing. Discussion on

hiring a consultant for a Feasibility Study to investigate options for the Town to use water and/or sewer facilities. GIDC can pay for a scope of work to begin on a possible feasibility study.

Motion to accept GIDC's offer of hiring a consultant.

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

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

M. Upon the request of Fire Chief Keith Baker, he would like the Selectboard's approval to hire a new fire cadet.

Motion to approve the hiring of the new cadet.

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

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

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TREASURER AND SELECTBOARD SUB COMMITTEES REPORTS

A. Treasurer

- L. Hobart is waiting on audit information, which was estimated to be available mid-May.

B. Committees at the direction of the chair--Georgia Public Library Building Revitalization Project.

- Vice Chair Dunsmore brought P. Jansen up to speed on the Library Building Revitalization Project and the most recent meeting for building improvement.

10. OTHER

11. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA

A. May 28, 2025 (Wednesday)

B. Personnel Policy Meeting scheduled for Tuesday May 20 at 6pm at the Town offices, to meet in the Clerk's office as the DRB will be in the meeting room.

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

A. Personnel-Leave Of Absence

Chair Senna would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Personnel-Leave of Absence 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 8:33pm

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

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

Motion to invite S. Katon to join the Executive Session

Motion made by P. Jansen, 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 8:56pm
Motion made by P. Jansen, Seconded by C. Rosenquist
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen

Action taken following Executive Session:

Motion to approve Leave of Absence
Motion made by P. Jansen, Seconded by C. Rosenquist
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, C. Rosenquist, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen

13. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 8:57pm
Motion made by P. Jansen, 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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