



GEORGIA VERMONT

Selectboard Regular Meeting Wednesday, May 28, 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 6:01PM

BOARD PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Doug Bergstrom, Todd Cadieux, Kollene Caspers, Lori Hobart, Stacy Katon

GUESTS PRESENT

Tyler Billingsley (via Zoom)

PUBLIC PRESENT

Chuk Cross, Dayle Goad, Kyle Grenier, Monica Hill, Scott and Lorrie Rainville

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CHAIR UPDATE

- Chair Senna thanked the Public Works Department for all their hard work taking care of the Town of Georgia.
- Logan Grimm with Georgia Boy Scout Troop 42 is hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for his Eagle Scout project- the electric sign at Georgia Elementary and Middle School- is this Thursday May 29th from 5-7pm.

3. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

4. SELECTBOARD MINUTES AND WARRANTS

- A. Approval of Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes for May 12, 2025

Motion to approve minutes with minor changes.

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

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

B. Approval of Selectboard Special Meeting Minutes May 20, 2025

- Minutes were not included in the meeting packet; approval of minutes will be moved to the next regular Selectboard meeting.

C. Approval of Warrants #2516

Motion to approve Warrant #2516

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

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 announced the Georgia Community Events Committee (GCEC) has decided to cancel the Memorial Day Parade this Saturday May 31st and will reschedule to Flag Day, June 14th.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

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

Motion to move Bridge #28 discussion to the start of Board Business.

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

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

A. Bridge #28 (Mill River Bridge) – Project Update

The archaeological study for Bridge #28 (Mill River Bridge) has been completed. Tyler Billingsley of East Engineering PLC reported that the UVM archaeologists have cleared the Mill River Road site. Official documentation is forthcoming, and the necessary permits are expected to be issued in the coming weeks. This brings the project close to being bid-ready. The next step is for the Board to discuss the three bidding options presented by the engineer.

- Tyler Billingsley, via Zoom, gave an update on the options for bridge work now that UVM has completed the archaeological and historical preservation study.
- There are a few different options to bidding and construction. T. Billingsley will meet with T. Cadieux to discuss how the Public Works Department can assist with the project. They will give an update at the next regular Selectboard Meeting.

B. Zoning Administrator-Discuss/Update Development Regulations-Doug Bergstrom will give update on the new zoning regulations, as well as update on the progress of the new cloud permitting software.

- D. Bergstrom gave the Selectboard an update to the new Development Regulations Draft. The Planning Commission approved the Draft on 5/27/2025. There will be a public planning meeting on 6/24/2025 to discuss the regulations and public comment will be available. The Selectboard members were given copies of the draft regulations.

- Cloud Permit, the new Zoning software, is being built to go with the new development regulations. Permits, land use and licensing are the three sections of the software being built.

C. 2025 VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Grant Opportunities - Discussion

- Chair Senna clarified the grant's parameters and the Town's portion would be 20% of any proposed project(s). The Selectboard discussed the pros and cons of any future Bicycle and Pedestrian projects.
- D. Bergstrom explained the language in the new Georgia Town Plan for increased bicycle and pedestrian paths, and the trend by Regional Planning Commissions for towns to increase these types of paths.
- According to Town of Georgia's ordinance, the maintenance of sidewalks/paths is the responsibility of the property owner where the path or sidewalk is located; unless it is a path the Town takes over.
- D. Goad spoke on the burden of maintenance of sidewalks or paths in residential areas outside of the South Village, especially for elderly homeowners.
- Scott Rainville would be in favor of lines painted on roads to allow for a bicycle or pedestrian path in lieu of paving a separate path.
- K. Grenier spoke on the different ways the grant funds can be used to benefit the Town, including a feasibility study for connecting the sidewalks.
- M. Hill wondered if the path could be gravel for less cost and maintenance. The paths would have to be ADA accessible.

Motion to decline applying for the grant this year, but the Selectboard will revisit the proposal next year.

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

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

D. Public Works Department Update

Motion to add T. Cadieux and the Public Works update to the agenda.

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

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

- T. Cadieux gave an update on the road crew projects and training. They will be meeting next week with Regional Planning at the Town garage.
- Paving began last week, but mechanical troubles from S.D. Ireland and another large project has stalled the work. It will be one-to-two months until paving will resume.
- Bird activity has caused damage to the main breaker line at the fire station. The line may have to be replaced. The Selectboard instructed him to reach out to the insurance company.
- Still looking for contractors to complete the work at the Town Beach. The water will not be turned on, the Town will let anyone who is renting the Beach Pavilion know there will be no water.

E. Electronic Sign-Discuss Placement of Sign

- D. Bergstrom passed out a handout of the library property delineating VTrans right-of-way for Route 7. Discussion was had on where the new sign can be best placed and any potential electrical work needed.

- T. Cadieux and K. Bosenberg will coordinate a mock-up of the sign on the property for the Selectboard to view sometime before the June 9th Selectboard meeting.
- F. Encore Renewable Energy-Discussion for Groundbreaking Ceremony
- The Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held sometime in August, the \$20,000 donation for the new Town electric sign will be given at that time.
- G. Sherwood Forest-2025 SW Reporting-Discussion/Direction
- D. Bergstrom gave the update that the 3 Acre Rule deadline has been extended by the State of Vermont until October, 2028.
- H. N.E. Archaeology Research Center-Artifacts from VELCO Line K80 Project-Decision On Handling Of Artifacts
- The ceramic shards and coins found during the archaeological study are available to the Town of Georgia or donated to the State of Vermont. This will be addressed at the next Georgia Historical Society meeting and revisited at the next regular Selectboard meeting.
- I. Facilities Use Policy-Final Review and Action to Approve
Motion to adopt the Facilities Use Policy.
Chair Senna clarified the insurance language was included in the policy.
Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by P. Jansen.
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist
- J. Cell Phone Use Policy-Review/Next Steps
Motion to adopt the Cell Phone Use Policy.
Motion made by C. Rosenquist, Seconded by Vice Chair Dunsmore
- Discussion on waiting to approve this policy until the new Personnel Policy is approved.
- C. Rosenquist withdrew the motion.
- K. Local Emergency Management Plan-Review
- S. Katon explained the Local Emergency Management Plan.
- L. Request to Waive Rental Fees-Beach Facilities -Cub Scout Pack 842, requesting fees waived for use of the Beach Facilities on May 31, 2025.
Motion to waive fees for Cub Scout Pack 842 to rent the Beach Facilities.
Motion made by Vice Chair Dunsmore, Seconded by K. Bosenberg.
Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, K. Bosenberg, P. Jansen, C. Rosenquist

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Beach Bathroom Renovations-Discussions/Next Steps
- Vice Chair Dunsmore gave an update on the renovation. A new contractor is needed, and payment made for materials purchased.
- B. ACO - Boarding Options @ Old Town Garage
- ACO officer has not given an update to the Selectboard. This potential project is still in an information gathering stage.

- K. Grenier has concerns as an abutting property owner for noise; as well as the building being habitable for animals.
- C. Velco-ROW-SLW-Easement Deed for Permanent Access--Draft Easement is still under review with attorney
- D. Bridge #10 (Highbridge)- No update.
- E. Parcel ID 112260000-Robert Peet Lot-TOG Lot-Board to decide what to do with it once new regulations are complete
- F. Closing of Perrigo
 - C. Rosenquist gave an update on efforts to set a meeting for feasibility study discussion.
- G. American Tower
 - Chair Senna spoke on an email received for an offer to take over the lease.
- H. Resurfacing of Courts-Update
- I. Boat Docks-Update
- J. New Gate for Beach-Update
 - Quotes are being gathered for the new gate. One quote is \$8,150. There is a budgeted amount of \$7,750. T. Cadieux has 15 days to make a decision on the gate.
- K. Georgia Public Library Building Revitalization -
 - P. Jansen gave an update, one quote for scope of work was received, and the Committee is waiting on another quote.

9. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- A. June 9, 2025
 - Franklin Countay Sheriff will be present at the meeting to give an update and advice on disposing of drug paraphernalia.
 - The Selectboard will also discuss the new sign location and policies.

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

11. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:57PM

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

Voting Yea: Chair Senna, Vice Chair Dunsmore, 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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