Greensboro Selectboard

June 10, 2026 – Minutes

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: MacNeil, Mike Metcalf, Judy Carpenter, Tim Brennan, Ellen Celnik (joined remotely)

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT in person: Chris Roy, Erika Karp, Stew Arnold, Paul Brierre, Mary Young, Wayne Young, Renee Circosta, Gary Circosta

OTHERS PRESENT remote: Jennifer Lucas, Lise Armstrong, Janet Long, Janet Patterson, Brian Titus, Christine Armstrong, Aileen Gebbie

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:34 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- Library Trustee appointment
- Selectboard meeting schedule
- Beaver deceiver – Craftsbury Rd
- Schedule bank run gravel days

CONSENT AGENDA

A. 5/27/26 Selectboard minutes (second monthly meeting)

B. Orleans County Sheriff – monthly report

C. Treasurer's monthly report

D. FY26 budget status report and May check warrants

E. Liquor licenses: Willey's Store (2nd Class); Highland Lodge (1st and 3rd Class Hotel, Outside Consumption Permit); Hill Farmstead (1st Class restaurant/bar; 2nd Class, Special Events Permit, Outside Consumption Permit); Wilson Herb Farm (2nd Class)

The Board agreed to remove items A and E from the consent agenda. After discussion, Ellen made the following motion:

> *The board approves the 5/27/26 minutes as amended.*

Mike seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair). Judy made the following motion:

> *The board approves liquor licenses for Willey's Store, Highland Lodge, Hill Farmstead Brewery, and Wilson Herb Farm.*

Mike seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

PUBLIC CONCERNS

1. **Gary Circosta.** Gary said it's been 17 days since the Board received his second allegation of an Open Meeting Law (OML) violation, and according to statute the board is supposed to respond publicly to an allegation within 10 calendar days. Gary said it appears to him that the Board made a decision, outside of a warned meeting and possibly over email, to instruct the staff to not warn the special town meeting. Gary said that according to the OML, Board members are not allowed to discuss town business at a forum outside

of a warned meeting. Tim said that agenda-related items are allowed to be discussed over email and are not violations of the OML.

MacNeil said no decisions were made by the Board outside of a warned meeting. Everyone understood that there was likely an OML violation at the May 13 meeting, and there was a presumption that the special town meeting would not take place as warned. There was no reason to warn a special town meeting that would not ultimately occur.

After reviewing emails written by Mike and Judy after the May 13 meeting, Renee said she was disappointed to find that they had abstained from the warning vote not because of OML concerns, but because they supported floor voting over Australian Ballot voting. She said that focusing on the Board's actions encourages transparency and encourages the Board to follow the processes required by the OML.

Janet asked Gary and Renee what they are trying to achieve by continually bringing up these process issues. Gary said he hopes that the Board will either acknowledge or deny the alleged OML violation, learn from this situation, and move on. Tim said that not responding to the alleged violation publicly is considered to be a denial, and that's what the Board did.

2. **Janet Long.** Janet said some people are not in favor of the town authorizing the Conservation Commission (GCC) to use glyphosate. She asked what she can do to ensure this issue is publicly discussed. MacNeil suggested that she bring her concerns to the GCC. Janet said this has already been done. MacNeil said as far as he knows, the board is not considering taking any action on this issue. When Janet asked how she can encourage the Board to discuss this issue, MacNeil suggested she submit an agenda item request for a future meeting.

ROADS

1. **Open roadside mowing bids.** Two bids were received, from Patenaude Bush Hogging, Newport ($19,840) and Jeff Masure Excavating, Wheelock ($17,860). After discussion, Judy made the following motion:

   The board accepts the Masure bid conditioned on a favorable recommendation, otherwise the Patenaude bid will be accepted.

   Mike seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

   Tim suggested that generally, after a public bid opening, action be delayed until the next Board meeting. This would give the Board some time to review the budget and consider contractor selection more thoughtfully. Other Board members thought this was a good idea.
2. **Bank run gravel days.** Tom suggested scheduling bank run gravel days for July 6,7,8, and 9. The Board supported this plan, and town staff will advertise. A bank run gravel request form must be filled out prior to ordering gravel; this is available on the town website or from the town office.
3. **Beaver deceiver.** A beaver deceiver was installed on a Craftsbury Rd. culvert. The FY27 budget includes $5k for this expense. Ellen thanked MacNeil, the road crew, Jane Hoffman, and John Schweizer for helping make the install happen.

TOWN CLERK

Mowing bids for town properties. The properties included in this contract are the Village Green, Willey Beach Park, Town Park, Bend Park, Grange, Ballfield, and Firehouse. One bid was received from Kyle Drown ($5,600/yr.). Mike made the following motion:

The Board accepts Kyle Drown's bid for mowing town properties for a period of three years at $5,600 per year.

Judy seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Caspian Lake Dam Committee.** Chair Stew Arnold requested that the board amend the committee charter to reduce membership from 7 to 5, accept resignations from Chris Steel and Naomi Ranz-Schleifer, and appoint JoAnn Hanowski to the committee.

   Stew said at their first official meeting, it was agreed that the committee would function better with a smaller number of appointed members and an informal advisory committee. Judy made the following motion:

   > *The board amends the Caspian Lake Dam Committee charter, changing membership from 7 to 5 members; accepts resignations from committee members Chris Steel and Naomi Ranz-Schleifer; and appoints JoAnn Hanowski to the committee.*

   Tim seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

   Stew said the committee is doing a lot of listening right now, and that a key to success is working closely with the Town of Hardwick.

   There appears to be more grants for dam removals than for repairs or replacements. Stew added that Greensboro Association (GA) funds could be used as an incentive for both Greensboro and Hardwick to include exploratory funds in their upcoming budgets. Stew said the GA could also undertake a fundraising campaign.

   Ellen thanked Stew for his work on the committee.

2. **Caspian Arts – authorize Arts Fest banner.** Caspian Arts treasurer Isa Oehry requested approval to hang a banner across from the Grange to advertise their second annual Arts Fest, to be held Aug. 15. To hang the banner Hardwick Electric Dept. is requesting authorization from the Selectboard and payment of a $100 fee. Isa said Caspian Arts will pay the fee, and requested that the Board approve the banner installation for a three-year period, since the Arts Fest is an annual event. After discussion, the Board agreed that a one-year approval was preferable. Tim made the following motion:

   > *The Board approves Hardwick Electric Dept. hanging a banner over Craftsbury Rd. for the 2026 Caspian Arts Fest.*

   Mike seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

3. **Lamoille County Sheriff's Dept. – approve dispatch contract.** After the new contract was reviewed, Board members had questions about the contract's costing formula. Tim made the following motion:

   > *The board will table approval of the LCSD dispatch contract.*

   Judy seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair). Brett agreed to follow up with LCSD.

4. **LVRT trailhead project - waive purchasing policy.** Josh explained that due to factors outside the town's control, grant-funded work on the LVRT trailhead in the Bend must be completed by June 30. One of the projects is estimated to cost somewhat more than $5,000, which is the threshold for putting projects out to bid according to the Town's purchasing policy.

   Putting the project out to bid at this late date will make it difficult to complete the project on time, and Josh recommended that the Board waive the purchasing policy in this case. Mike made the following motion:

   > *The Board waives the purchasing policy for the trailhead project.*

   Ellen seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

5. **Library Trustee.** Trustee Fan Watkinson has resigned, and Jennifer Lucas requested that alternate trustee Tanya Thomas be appointed. Tanya was invited by the library board to be an alternate trustee and she's currently in training to take over as treasurer when Jennifer steps down in March 2027.

   Judy said the Board is trying to be consistent and is asking anyone interested in serving on boards and committees to submit a letter of interest. The Board agreed to table the appointment and will ask Tanya to submit a letter of interest.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Contracting with Acrisure to assist Town with health insurance options. Tim reported that VLCT contracts with a consulting firm called Acrisure to help towns compare carriers and plans and present money-saving options. A contract with Acrisure would cost $1580/yr., and Tim felt that this service would likely save the town at least that much money.

Brett said the decision should be made soon whether to contract with Acrisure. Employee health care is expensive and the public expects the board to thoroughly research heath insurance options.

Ellen said she'd like to discuss Acrisure with towns that have contracted with them previously. Tim agreed to provide Ellen with some contacts.

The Board authorized Tim to continue his research into Acrisure.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Upcoming: public hearing on zoning bylaw amendments.** The selectboard will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the *Flood Hazard Area Regulations* section of the zoning bylaw on June 24 from 6-6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall meeting room. This hearing has to be repeated due to lack of a quorum at the Board's 5/18 bylaw hearing. A presentation put out by the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation called "Choosing Flood Resilience" is available on the town website, and speaks to many of the proposed bylaw amendments.

   The hearing will be followed by the Board's second monthly meeting.
2. **Selectboard meeting schedule.** MacNeil suggested that July's second monthly meeting be cancelled. Judy made the following motion:

   > *The Board will cancel July's second monthly meeting.*

   Tim seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).
3. **Mary and Wayne Young; Janet Long – public comment.** Mary said she appreciates Selectboard members' intelligent input, questions and proposals. It's really good to come and sit here and see what you all do to keep this town rolling, she said. Wayne agreed and thanked the board for their public service.

   Janet agreed that the board is doing a great job.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Town Administrator position

Mike made the following motion:

> *The Board will enter executive session at 8:14 p.m. to discuss the town administrator position, with Kim Greaves present.*

Judy seconded the motion which carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

The board left executive session at 8:43 p.m. Mike made the following motion:

There were eight candidates considered for the position of town administrator and interviews were offered to three, with two candidates declining. Josh Karp accepted, and the hiring committee felt that he answered their set of questions very well. The Selectboard offers Josh Karp the position of town administrator starting July 1, 2026 at the rate of $30/hr.

Judy seconded the motion. Tim said that the hiring committee was impressed overall with Josh's written and oral presentation, and that he has the skills, experience, and commitment to the town to make an outstanding town administrator.

The vote was held and the motion carried (Celnik, Brennan, Metcalf, Carpenter in favor; MacNeil not voting as chair).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk

AMENDED 6/25/26 J.K.
AMENDED 7/9/26 J.K.