

Franklin Selectboard Meeting
September 2, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.
Town Office/Zoom hybrid

SB Members Present: Michael Grant, Jay Hartman, Brooks Sturtevant, Lisa Larivee, clerk

Guest: none

Virtual: Jeremy Barnum-Highway Foreman

SB Meeting Called to order: at 6:03 pm by Brooks; pledge of allegiance said.

Agenda amendments: Highway add: salt contract discussion; Jette/Dewing Rd intersection; Ash tree removal on Dewing Rd. Town Clerk add: library window repair quote.

Public comments: none

Approve minutes from August 19th: Jay/Mike made a motion to approve the August 19th minutes. All members voted in favor; motion passed 3-0.

Highway Department:

- **Rte 236 culvert project update:** culverts were scheduled to go in Tuesday this week; hope to have the road closed in by Sat this weekend. Contractor had some concern with over cost of replacing pavement and guardrail reinstall; engineer reached out to State VTrans for additional funding for the project and were advised there was no funding in the budget for this additional work, contractor would need to work it out.
- **Salt Contract:** this is a State contract with Compass Mineral that is renewed annually with the State; last year we purchased at \$93.38, this years price is \$106.45. Also have a contract with Cargill if needed at \$111.25.
- **Jette/Dewing Rd intersection:** Jeremy talked to A&D Excavation and they will do the work the week of Sept 14th of the intersection restructuring.
- **Ash Tree removal-Dewing Rd:** Jeremy advised while the excavator is on the road, they will remove a few of the dead ash trees that are of safety concern to property owners. A resident also called today about a large branch that is broken and hanging over the road on Gallup Rd, needs to be removed.

5199 Main Street Updates:

- **Porch grant update-** no updates. Will look into funding for the brick work that should be done prior to the porch while it is removed. Lisa will also work on the planning grant with NRPC for a complete project study/scope and a timeline of work. Brooks has heard concerns from citizens on the project movement and no rental income. Should do a large public meeting to inform public what the status is to date, board agrees a public meeting should be held soon.
- **Rental updates;** no inquires; the price may be too high for the area, may need to consider dropping the rental rate.

Old Business:

- **Brick quotes- Haston & 5199-** still waiting for notification of the library grant application for the Haston repair project. VT Custom Masonry is a much cheaper price for the brick work; Lisa has spoken to a few references and the vendor on quality, historic product specs etc for work; others have been happy with the work done. Library building is priority for completing work. The 5199 Main St grant funding still needs to be secured for the work.

Town Clerk Concerns:

- **Opioids fund use-** Brooks has not spoken with Joyce at school or Red Dept yet; funds of \$1800 for drug awareness have been received from a State opioid lawsuit settlement.
- **Alum project loan amendment-** The loan of the project needed to be amended to add \$11,500 of funds to cover the required town audit costs; total loan of \$2,697,193 with 100% forgiveness. Mike G/Jay H made a motion to approve the loan amendment of \$2,697,193 for the alum project. All members voted in favor 3-0; motion passed. Board signed the loan docs.

- **Library window-** quote from Acme is \$554; got a second quote from Ben Weed of \$370. Need to get the repair done before winter, Lisa will reach out to Ben Weed to do the work.

New business-

- **Clock tower painting quote-** the church is being painted, they reached out about having the town clock tower painted at the same time. Cost is \$750 to paint and \$700 for the split share of the lift, total of \$1450. Will cost us more if/when we need to do the project ourselves. Jay H/Mike G move to approve the sum of \$1450 to paint the clock tower at the church which portion is owned by the town. All members voted in favor 3-0; motion passed.

Review bills and warrants: Done by board members.

Treasurer's Report: no report for this meeting. Budget committee will start working on FY28 budget in Oct. Taxes are coming in well, with mailing bills a month early hope that makes it more convenient for folks.

Possible executive session: none

Member concerns/Other business:

- **North beach dock discussion-**VCT gave their input regarding the towns liability with a dock on town property; need to have specific documents/agreements with owner to cover the town. Want to have a public meeting for input on this prior to agreeing to installation. A new Fish & Game dock is also being updated/installed next year to make that access much more user friendly.

Adjournment: Mike G/Brooks made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

The next meeting will be on September 16, 2026 @ 6:00pm at the Town Clerk's Office and virtual.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
September 3, 2026

These minutes are not official until approved at the next regular Selectboard meeting.

These minutes were approved at the Selectboard meeting on September 16, 2026.