

# Waterford Selectboard Working Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 09, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

Davies Library

In Attendance: Tim Yarrow, Wade Cochran, Shawn Hallisey, Kathy Hodgdon, and Will Jones.  
Attendance list attached.

Chair Tim Yarrow called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

## Modifications to Agenda

- No modifications were made.

## Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Will Jones moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2026 meeting. Wade Cochran seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1.
- Will Jones moved to approve the minutes as amended of Pre Town Meeting. Wade Cochran seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1.
- Kathy Hodgdon moved to approve the minutes as amended of the March 4, 2026 meeting. Will Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

## Festival Permit (Discussion/Action)

- The Board reviewed the festival permit request from Northeastern Speedway.
- Will Jones moved to approve the festival permit for Northeastern Speedway. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. All Board members signed the permit.

## Vacancy (Discussion/Action)

- Town Clerk Deb Benoit announced that Kathy Hodgdon resigned from her previous position as an Auditor. The vacancy will be posted on Facebook, the town website, and in the lobby of the Clerk's Office. Volunteers are welcome to come forward. Appointment is scheduled for the next Selectboard meeting on 03/23/26.
- Will Jones volunteered to post the same vacancy notice on Front Porch Forum.
- Shawn Hallisey moved to approve the advertisement of the Auditor vacancy. Will Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Chair Tim Yarrow signed the vacancy notice.

## Town Garage Mold (Discussion/Action)

- Tim Yarrow spoke with a firm in St. Johnsbury about the mold issue in the Town Garage. The quote received in 2022 stated about \$24k to take care of the mold. The firm estimated the current cost would be around \$29k, depending on how the mold has

changed since the original quote. They recommended conducting a visual mold inspection to determine its current state. A visual mold inspection costs \$175 and includes a brief summary of the findings.

- Shawn Hallisey moved to hire Top Cleaning & Restoration to do a visual mold inspection on the Town Garage for \$175. Will Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- The Board considered purchasing new air samples for the Town Garage. Each air sample costs about \$150-\$200, and multiple air samples are needed for significant findings. The previous air samples showed normal levels of background mold. The Board will reconsider taking new air samples when the results of the visual mold inspection arrive.

#### Town Garage Project (Discussion/Action)

- Tim Yarrow summarized his perspective on the current state of the Town Garage Project. The two options available are to either renovate the current garage or build a new one. Tim does not believe they have enough information to make a decision.
- Shawn Hallisey agreed with Tim's summary. He suggested the Board establish a timeline of their goals to track their progress and maintain accountability for meeting the deadlines of the project.
- Will Jones moved to approve Marcel Lapierre and Shawn Hallisey to contact firms to get a cost estimate for feasibility studies. Kathy Hodgdon seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

#### Appointments (Discussion/Action)

- Town Grand Juror- Will Jones moved to appoint the incumbent Beth Kanell. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Emergency 911 Coordinator- Will Jones moved to appoint the incumbent Taran Gillander. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Animal Control Officer- Will Jones moved to appoint the incumbent James Gingue. Wade Cochran seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Cemetery Committee- Will moved to appoint all incumbent members, Mark Harpin, Ashley Whitehill, Deb Benoit, Lyn Fleming, and Gary Allard. Kathy Hodgdon seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Tree Warden- Will Jones moved to appoint the incumbent Mathew Lewis. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Ethics Liaison- Shawn Hallisey moved to appoint Wade Cochran. Kathy Hodgdon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-2. Wade Cochran accepted the appointment.
- Emergency Management Coordinator- Will Jones moved to appoint incumbent Roger Leroux. Tim Yarrow seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Emergency Coordinator- Will Jones moves to appoint the incumbent Tim Yarrow. Kathy Hodgdon seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1.

- Green Up Chair- Incumbent Robin Migdelaney asked not to be reappointed. She agreed to work with the new appointee to get them up to speed. Will Jones volunteered to see if Jennifer Woods is interested. Deb Benoit will post the vacancy on Facebook.
- CT River Joint Commission- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint the incumbent Roberta Gillot. Kathy Hodgdon seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Communication District Representative- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint the incumbent Mike Barrett. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Communication District Representative Alternate- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint the incumbent Bill Piper. Will Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- CALEX Representative- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint incumbent Roger Leroux. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- NVDA Representative- Kathy Hodgdon moved to appoint Will Jones. Wade Cochran seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1. Will accepted the appointment.
- NVDA Alternate- Kathy Hodgdon moved to appoint the incumbent Wade Cochran. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1. Wade accepted the appointment.
- NEKWMD Supervisor- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint the incumbent Rick Stodola. Will Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- NEKWMD Alternate- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint the incumbent Clem Gray. Kathy Hodgdon seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- NEKWMD 2nd Alternate- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint the incumbent Howard Remick. Will Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Planning Commission- Tim Yarrow moved to appoint both incumbents, Bob Cushing and Kim Willey, and Roberta Gillott. Kathy Hodgdon seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Town Clerk Deb Benoit volunteered to inform all appointees they got the position.

#### Citizens' Concerns

- Dave Morrison asked the Board to consider his previous suggestion about changing road signage at the end of Duck Pond Rd onto Lower Waterford Rd. He also suggested the Board determine if it is appropriate for the library to supply water to the church considering it is now privately owned. Town Clerk Deb Benoit agreed to forward Board members the church deed to investigate.
- Maria Dantos read a statement regarding her experience during and after a recent mediation session. She accepted a request to mediate ongoing disputes within town offices. Mediation occurred during Executive Session of the February 18, 2026 Special Meeting. Maria outlined five main conflicts that were confronted during mediation and explained the issues she found within them. Following the meeting, she submitted her Mediation Report to the Board and received criticism from Wade Cochran. In response to

the criticism she believed to be unjust, she announced her intentions to submit the official Mediation Report to the Caledonian Record for publishing.

- Board members deliberated on how to respond to Maria's statement and heard comments from citizens. The Town Attorney will be consulted. Will Jones requested the attorney be included in a discussion with the full board present. No decision was made nor action taken.
- Town Clerk Deb Benoit shared a friendly reminder that Selectboard Training with VLCT is held on March 18 from 10:30am-12:00pm and again at 6:00pm-7:30pm.
- Wade Cochran had to leave early in response to an urgent family matter.

#### Agenda Items for Next Meeting March 23

- Town Meeting Synopsis
- Appoint Auditor
- Personnel Policy
- Town Investment Fund
- Town Garage

#### Executive Session 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(B) - Personnel

- Shawn Hallisey moved to enter Executive Session. Will Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. The group entered Executive Session at 8:03pm.
- The Group exited Executive Session at 9:42 pm. No action was taken.

#### Adjourn

- Kathy Hodgdon moved to adjourn the meeting. Shawn Hallisey seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 pm.

Selectboard Meeting March 9, 2026

Sign In Sheet

Name

Signature

~~Clem LIA~~

David E Morrison

Maria Dantos

Jim Hayes

Jenny Williams

GERARD JONES

Priscilla Foster

Debbie Allard

~~Clem LIA~~

David E. Morrison

Maria Dantos

Jim Hayes

Jenny Williams ☺

Gerard Jones,

Priscilla

Debbie Allard