



Alburgh Selectboard Meeting
Held in Person and/or via Zoom – Town Conference Room
Monday, April 27, 2026, at 6:00PM

Minutes

Meeting Time and Date: April 27, 2026, at 6:00PM

Meeting Location: Alburgh Town Office (Conference Room) - 1 N Main Street

Public Officials Present: Alex McCracken, Chair (via zoom); Russell Duchaine, Vice-Chair; Jim Hokenberg, Member; Walter Kane, Member; Tom Ward, Member

Public Officials Absent: None

Staff Members: Amanda Costello, Town Administrator; Margret Brescia, Town Treasurer

Public Present: See Sign-In Sheet

1) Call to Order:

R. Duchaine called the meeting to order at 6:01PM

2) Agenda Review & Adjustments:

Remove agenda item #6 FY26 GICSD Contract Amendment is no longer being requested currently.

Motion by J. Hokenberg to approve removing the FY26 GICSD Contract Amendment from the agenda at 6:03pm with a second by W. Kane. Motion passed unanimously.

Request by Mary-Kay Raymond of Northwest Fiberworx to move the executive session to item #6 slot on the agenda.

No changes to executive session were made.

3) Public Forum:

None.

4) Approval of Minutes:

Motion by J. Hokenberg to accept 04/13/2026 Selectboard minutes as written at 6:05pm with a second by W. Kane. Motion passed unanimously.

5) LT. Mike Kamerling Station Commander Vermont State Police Introduction:

Lieutenant Mike Kamerling and Trooper Jared Blair of the Vermont State Police gave introduction in an effort to reach out to the rural communities served by the VSP. A summary of services and schedules were provided. Eighteen Towns are served by VSP through Franklin & Grand Isle County. Staffing at VSP is down. Typically, 17 Troopers are staffed. Currently there are 11 Troopers. Two new Troopers from the academy will be onboarding in the summer. Last year there were 9,500 calls for service out of the St. Albans barracks. 537 calls in Grand Isle County, 262 calls for service were in Alburgh. Most calls are

handled by the Grand Isle County Sheriff's Department. Kamerling emphasized the importance of coverage from the local Sheriff's departments as a valuable asset to their operations. Operation Stone Garden hours have ended, possibly coming back in the summer and/or 2027. Operation Stone Garden is an initiative through border patrol which provides funding to support joint efforts to secure the United States' borders along routes to and from international borders.

Alex McCracken thanked VSP for coming and asked about what they are doing to improve staffing. Kamerling advised that applicant pools have shrunk over the last 4-5 years, they are hiring, but with less applicants.

George Boutah asked about which department to call for non-emergencies. VSP & Grand Isle have the same dispatcher, call 802-524-5993 to get connected with someone. For emergencies call 911.

Matt LeFluer asked about outreach to schools for potential future applicants. Annually they make a connection with the schools to update information and check in on plans. If asked, VSP can attend schools to provide more information.

6) FY26 GICSD Contract Amendment Request:

Item removed. No longer being requested.

7) FY26 Budget Status Update:

Town Treasurer provided current budget status report and summary of budget lines.

8) Town Building & Infrastructure Upkeep:

Library step repair update provided.

Bell property reviewed, options for what to do with the property were raised. To be further discussed at a later date.

9) Social Media Policy Draft Review:

Town Administrator provided overview of the draft Social Media Policy which is a guideline for the creation, modification and monitoring of Town social media. Selectboard requested further time to review. To be discussed at a later date.

10) Highway Updates:

- **Paving Contract**

Town Administrator presented draft contract for Pike Industries related to the bid for the FY27 paving project on Lake Street. Road Commissioner to discuss the re-basing work schedule with Road Foreman prior to signing.

- **Equipment Update**

Grader is back from Munsons, turn table repaired. Repair costs for turntable was substantially under previous estimates. The cylinders still need to be repaired.

Road Commissioner took pictures of the equipment previously discussed for potential sales. Process for sealed bid or sale otherwise will be drafted by Town Administrator and Road Commissioner.

11) Town Administrator Updates

- **Reschedule for May 25th Meeting**

Second meeting in May will fall on Memorial Day. Board discussed alternatives dates for rescheduling or canceling.

Motion to cancel Selectboard meeting for May 25th, 2026, and authorize Jim Hokenberg to sign any necessary warrants between meetings as needed on the board's behalf at 6:54pm with a second by A. McCracken. Motion approved unanimously.

- **Senior Center Electric Sign**

The Senior Center has purchased a 3x8ft electric sign. They are currently getting quotes for the frame/base to construct the electric sign. The Senior Center is requesting approval on the location of the sign. Either between the two trees on the green space between the driveway or the right side of the building near the bordering fence. If in the green space, the trees will potentially need to be removed or trimmed. George Hakey from Highway noted that the sight visibility for plow truck drivers needs to be considered during the location selection. The Selectboard will coordinate a site visit for further determination.

- **Firepit Roof Construction at Park**

Town Admin has reached out to VLCT about roof over the park firepit. There will be some changes to the insurance policy, Town Treasurer aware. Town Admin reached out to the Assistant State Fire Marshal for guidance on regulations or state fire codes for the construction/design of the roof, waiting to hear back.

- **Tax Sale Update**

First stage letters were sent out last Thursday by the Tax Sale Attorney's office. These letters are going to property owners with delinquent taxes of or more than \$1,500 with delinquencies more than one year old. Some payments have been received but there are about 32 potential tax sale properties.

13) Liquor & Tobacco Control Board Meeting:

Motion by R. Duchaine to recess Selectboard meeting and commence Liquor & Tobacco Control Board meeting at 7:08pm.

Liquor & Tobacco Control Board meeting adjourned at 7:13pm, Selectboard meeting resumed thereafter.

14) Consent Agenda

- **Approval of Warrants**

Warrants were reviewed and approved.

15) Proposed Executive Session - Confidential Attorney-Client Communications

Motion made by J. Hokenberg to enter executive session at 7:17pm to discuss Contracts under the provisions of 1 VSA 313 (a)(1) of the Vermont Statutes; inviting Town Administrator, A. Costello, Executive board member of Northwest Fiberworx, Cheryl Dunn and Northwest Fiberworx Rep Mary-Kay Raymond. Second by W. Kane. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion made by A. McCracken to exit executive session at 8:13pm. Second by R. Duchaine. Motion approved unanimously.

No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

16) Adjournment

Motion by J. Hokenberg to adjourn at 8:15pm with a second by W. Kane. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned by A. McCracken.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Costello

APPROVED MINUTES: _____ Date: _____
Alex McCracken, Chair

Filed with the Alburgh Town Clerk's Office on this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST: _____, Alburgh Town Clerk