

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 5/28/2026

MINUTES

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Pat Austin (PA). Present were Selectperson Tim Jenness (TJ); Road Foreman Wendell Hastings (WH); Property Owners Kathryn Sloan and Mary Sloan; Town Clerk & Treasurer Teri Gray (TG); and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg (CK).

Under changes to the Agenda, the Chair indicated that Executive Session would be held at the end of the meeting so that in-person attendees and any telephone participant would not have to be excluded and then re-included.

TJ moved to approve the May 14, 2026 meeting minutes as written. PA seconded. The motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Sloan said she met with WH to learn more about the planned project on Mill Street and appreciated the information received. She requested signage to slow traffic on the road, including stop signs and a “Deaf Child” or similar sign. WH noted ongoing speeding concerns that may increase once the road is improved. The Board supported a stop sign for motorists turning from Mill Street onto Church Hill Road, a possible yield sign for those turning onto Mill Street, and additional signage from both directions encouraging slower speeds for the safety of deaf residents. PA asked WH to consult VTrans for optimum sign choice and placement. He informed the Sloan family that the signs would be ordered and installed as soon as possible.

ROAD REPORT

- WH reported that the crew has started work on East Echo Lake Road and pulled shoulders along most of the length to restore drainage. They changed one culvert and will inform the office so the inventory can be updated. TJ commented that the work looks good.
- Minor issues occurred where grading cut into a new lawn and where fence posts are in the right-of-way. WH has been informing property owners about the drainage practices being implemented on all properties. The crew will not spread surface gravel until all three trucks are operating. The new truck must go to Burlington next week for warranty repair of a sensor affecting the Jake Brake.
- Mill St. property owners have made good progress removing stored items in preparation for the road project. WH needs to call VEC about lifting a service cable that is too low for trucks.
- TJ asked if there had been further feedback from property owners about the maintenance work on Gratton Hill Road. PA reminded everyone about best practices for tree removal within the right-of-way.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer Teri Gray provided year-to-date Expense and Revenue reports for review. She noted that expenses, especially wages, are on track for this time of year. She also reviewed a list of

unbudgeted revenue received, including a return of school funds from last year and the final FEMA state share and administrative costs assistance payments from previous disasters.

BILLS & ORDERS

Two Selectboard Orders totaling \$8,603.51 and three Road Orders totaling \$18,232.75 were approved and signed by all members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Charleston LEMP was accepted by the state. Copies were provided to Board members for reference in emergencies.

TJ made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a matter relating to the Barton Gravel Pit. The motion was seconded by PA. The motion was approved, and Executive Session began at 6:21 p.m. and ended at 6:38 p.m. with no action taken.

Seeing no other business, TJ moved to adjourn. PA seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on June 11, 2026. A Planning Commission meeting will also be held that night at 5:30 p.m.

Approved this 11th day of June 2026:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston