

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 8/27/2026

MINUTES

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chair Pat Austin (PA). Present: Selectperson Tim Jenness (TJ); Road Foreman Wendell Hastings (WH); and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg (CK). Selectperson Terry Rollins was absent.

No changes or additions to the agenda were made.

TJ moved to approve the August 13, 2026 minutes as written; PA seconded; carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ROAD REPORT

WH reported Class 4 road surfacing using a screened mix of ditch material and processed tailings (2" and smaller). Bly Farm Road and Dolloff Mountain Road are complete (about 20 loads each). Town Farm Road is complete from Hudson Road about one-half mile to the cable, with the ditch stone-lined. The work was checked in heavy rain the evening of the meeting and was holding. TJ noted the material packs well and is not getting muddy.

Crawford Hill Road and Crowe Hill Road remain. That material is not recommended for Allen Farm Road or Batchelder Road. About 115 loads have been produced; weekly cost is about \$6,000. PA asked that an average cost per yard be calculated and carried forward with CPI and pay increases.

Used culverts and check dams are also being installed. PA stated maintenance is the town's responsibility and that a good used culvert is acceptable. PA asked that a 100-year storm be considered.

East Echo Lake Road was inspected after heavy rain. No water ran down the concerned landowners' driveway. TJ reported the road was in good condition and grass is coming in nicely.

A paving top coat at the office and garage is needed to maintain the existing surface. The Board agreed the work may proceed if it can be completed within the budget quote.

No action was taken on the proposed Better Roads Category D grant application for the Westmore Road culvert. WH will continue to research costs and an engineer's availability to assist with an Army Corps of Engineers permit.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Current Use Enrollment: Robert Burke, the consulting forester who prepared the previous forest management plan and Current Use submittals for the parcel acquired adjacent to the Town's pit in Barton, is providing the documents required to continue Current Use enrollment under Town ownership. PA moved to adopt the existing forest management plan; TJ seconded; carried. The plan was signed.

UVM Gravel Extraction Agreement: PA moved to direct the town attorney to continue to pursue the matter and move the agreement forward; TJ seconded; carried.

Gravel Crushing RFP: The Board discussed quantity, timeframe, and start and finish dates. WH reported about 10,000 yards are being processed now from the point area; 6,000 yards have been done and the material is good. Current fee is \$6.75 per yard. A possible bid quantity of 10,000–15,000 yards was discussed. No RFP was issued. The item will remain on future agendas and may be passed over if not ready.

PA moved to reschedule the next regular meeting to 6:15 pm, Tuesday, September 8, 2026; TJ seconded; carried.

BILLS & ORDERS

Three Selectboard Orders totaling \$7,856.79 and three Road Orders totaling \$27,207.78 were approved and signed by the members present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

September 8, 2026: 5:00 pm Planning Commission Hearing on the Proposed Town Plan; 6:00 pm Planning Commission Meeting.

TJ moved to adjourn; PA seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm. Next regular meeting: 6:15 pm, September 8, 2026.

Approved this 8th day of September 2026:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston