

Present: Chairman Dan Haskins, Selectman Seth Alexander, Town Administrator Ronald Boucher, BRPC Representative Courtney Morehouse, Clarksburg Agricultural Commission Member Martha Tanner, and Diana Worth of Clarksburg Animal Control.

Absent: Selectman Andrews.

I. Call to Order.

Chairman Haskins called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and called roll call.

II. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Approve Meeting Minutes from January 5th.

MOTION: Selectman Alexander motioned to approve the meeting minutes from January 5, 2026.

SECOND: Chairman Haskins seconded.

VOTE: All were in favor.

IV. Courtney Morehouse of BRPC – H&H Study and MVP Four Corners / BRIC Briggsville Water District Grant.

Ms. Morehouse presented the Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) study focused on flooding impacts in the Four Corners area, including Hudson Brook and Tamarack Brook. She explained the modeling used to analyze 25-year and 100-year storm events and reviewed flood depths and backflow issues between the two brooks. Ms. Morehouse stated that Town Field is not fully inundated during major storm events, but undersized culverts and slow water velocity contribute to localized flooding.

Potential mitigation options discussed included upsizing culverts and extending berms to improve water flow and reduce flood risk. She noted that future phases would require additional grant funding for engineering and permitting.

Ms. Morehouse also announced a Playground Design Workshop scheduled for February 28, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Clarksburg School cafeteria. Lunch will be provided.

V. Martha Tanner – Chapter 61A Agricultural Land Withdrawal Process.

Ms. Tanner of the Clarksburg Agricultural Commission presented a written guide outlining the procedure for landowners withdrawing property from Chapter 61A, 61, or 61B programs.

The document included timelines, notification requirements, and the role of Town boards in the process. The Board requested that the guide be reviewed by the Town’s legal advisor prior to adoption and agreed to revisit the item at a future meeting.

VI. Follow Up on N. Eagle Street Dog Situation.

Animal Control Officer Diana Worth reported that there have been no new complaints since November 22, 2025. She stated the dog owner has addressed the issue and conditions have improved. The Board requested continued monitoring and updates if further incidents occur.

VII. Continued Discussion on Department of Conservation and Recreation Land Acquisition.

Ms. Jennifer Soper of the Department of Conservation and Recreation joined the meeting by phone and provided notice of DCR’s intent to acquire approximately 45 acres in the Town of Florida and 0.28 acres in the Town of Clarksburg for conservation and recreation purposes.

Chairman Haskins informed Ms. Soper that the Board had received and reviewed a written letter of concern from Mr. John Morris of 935 Mohawk Trail regarding the proposed land acquisition. Chairman Haskins read the letter aloud during the meeting. In his letter, Mr. Morris expressed concern about the presence of pollution and potential water contamination affecting the parcel and surrounding properties. He stated that his family’s property is located at the base of a waterfall that flows from the land in question and raised concerns that any unresolved environmental issues could continue to flow downstream and impact neighboring residents. Mr. Morris also noted that he is currently involved in legal proceedings related to the matter and emphasized the importance of ensuring that environmental conditions are properly addressed prior to any final agreements or transfers.

Mr. Morris' letter requested that the Selectboard delay signing or approving any agreements related to the DCR acquisition until further environmental review and clarification can be provided.

Ms. Soper responded that DCR's environmental assessments have indicated the property is clean and free of contamination. She explained that the acquisition is intended for conservation and recreational purposes and that standard environmental due diligence has been completed as part of the process.

The Board acknowledged Mr. Morris' concerns and indicated that it would continue to monitor the situation and seek further clarification as needed. No formal action was taken at this time.

VIII. Appoint Kyla Davis to Vacant Seat on Board of Health (Elected Position) to Expire May 2026.

MOTION: Selectman Alexander motioned to appoint Kyla Davis to the vacant Board of Health seat through May 2026.

SECOND: Chairman Haskins seconded.

VOTE: All were in favor.

VIII. Appointment of Michael Williams to the Board of Assessors.

MOTION: Selectman Alexander motioned to appoint Michael Williams to the Board of Assessors.

SECOND: Chairman Haskins seconded.

VOTE: All were in favor.

IX. Discussion on FY27 Budget Schedule.

The Board discussed the proposed FY27 budget timeline. Department heads have been asked to submit their budget requests by the end of the week. The Board will set the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) at the next scheduled meeting.

Chairman Haskins stated that a draft budget review is scheduled for **March 2, 2026**, followed by a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on **March 16, 2026**. The Board anticipates a final budget to be completed by **April 20, 2026**.

The Town Administrator reported continued progress on the Cherry Sheets, free cash certification, and departmental budget reviews.

X. Discuss Route 8 Bridge Closure.

Chairman Haskins provided an update on discussions with MassDOT regarding the Route 8 bridge closure. Topics included the potential installation of a temporary bridge, a projected two-month closure, emergency vehicle access, and truck detour routes.

He also reported that the state has committed to repairing the Middle Road Bridge at no cost to the Town. Further updates will be provided as timelines are finalized.

XI. Town Administrator Updates.

Mr. Boucher announced a Master Plan Public Meeting scheduled for February 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM at the Community Center. He also reported that the Clarksburg Elementary School roof project has been completed at a final cost of \$457,311, and remaining funds have been transferred to the School Stabilization Account for future building repairs.

XII. Public Comment.

Chairman Haskins opened the floor to public comment. There were no comments.

XIII. Adjourn.

MOTION: Chairman Haskins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 PM.

SECOND: Selectman Alexander seconded.

VOTE: All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Markell Shea

Town Executive Assistant

Selectboard,

Dan Haskins, *Chair*

Colton Andrews, *member*

Seth Alexander, *member*