

TOWN OF WOLFEBORO
Select Board
September 2, 2026
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Paul O’Brien called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

- Barry Muccio called for a non-public under 91A:3Ili - Consideration of Matters and Preparation of Emergency Functions.
- John Thurston called for a non-public under 91A:3CIIa - Employment

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

- **August 19, 2026**
 - Correct all misspellings of Geoff O’Connell
 - Correct all misspellings of Paul O’Brien - specifically lines 202, 231
 - Line 310 - correct spelling of Madeline Long
 - Lines 652 & 653 correct Bobbi Boudman was attributing the budget committee comments to Brian Deshaies, not Paul O’Brien.
 - Line 633 & 634 Brian Deshaies – remove from “on prom night”.

It was moved by Linda Murray to accept the minutes as amended. Brian Deshaies seconded. All were in favor.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Paul O’Brien-Chair, Brian Deshaies-Vice Chair, Dave Senecal, Linda Murray, John Thurston-Members

Staff Present: Barry Muccio-Interim Town Manager, Suzanne Murdough-Recording Secretary

PUBLIC INPUT

- Timothy from WACM/WCTV informed the Selectboard of their new name and rebranding to Wolfeboro Area Community Media. He said it covers more of what they are doing such as broadcasting on cable TV and online as well as website update, an app and on-demand coming soon.
- David Shannon— said that he and his wife live on Sewall Road in Wolfeboro and are representing residents, property owners, and regular users of Sewall Road to submit a signed petition with 75 signatures requesting measures to improve safety on the road. He said this road is scenic and used by walkers, joggers, families with young children in strollers, cyclists, and local track teams. He said that the road also carries significant commercial traffic with large trucks making deliveries as well as other vehicles servicing properties along the road. Mr. Shannon said traffic monitoring shows that traffic volumes have exceeded 1000 vehicles per day and speeding. He said some residents have posted “Please Slow Down” signs. He presented the characteristics of the road that affect visibility. The signers of the petition are asking the town to take the following steps: Lower the speed limit (reduce from 30-25 mph), enhance signage and pavement markings, targeted enforcement from the Wolfeboro PD.

- Doug Breskin, resident of Wolfeboro encouraged the Selectboard to deny the Thomas Dambo Troll statue to be placed on town property. He said there has already been a lot of controversy over the Libby Museum placing a burden on the town and feels the Dambo Troll will cause a continued or additional burden and potential liability on the town.
- Sebastian Tordonoto announced the formation of a new 501(c)(3) named Friends of the Old Firehouse Wolfeboro Community Center and said its mission is to provide support for the Old Firehouse Community, engaging in renovation, maintenance, community use, and support of the Old Firehouse Wolfeboro Community center. He said he will be writing the Board a letter to officially announce it.

Roger Murray closed public input at 6:12 PM

Brian Deshaies moved to adjust the agenda, moving the “Thomas Dambo Troll on Town property update” up. The artist’s wife is here to speak and needs to catch a plane back to Denmark to her two small children. Linda Murray seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS - Thomas Dambo Troll on Town Property update

Alexa Piekarski told the Board that she grew up in New Hampshire and has dreamed of bringing a troll to her home state. She said people love the trolls because of the happiness, joy, and economic drivers they bring to a town. She said they use local volunteers for the community to bring people together and there is significant impact for the economy when they bring the sculpture. She discussed the joy and increased revenue for businesses such as hotels, ice cream shops, and bakeries. She mentioned a recent exhibition in Milwaukee and an estimated \$4 million increase in economic measurement in the first month and the success at the Coastal Main Botanical Garden. Alexa Piekarski said they use approximately 95% of recycled materials in construction of the trolls.

Catherine Dragonfly said she and Alexa Piekarski looked at several spots today. She said she would like to have this settled as soon as possible so she can start the fundraising this fall. She said they would like a 2027 installation with a soft opening in the fall and winter because in the beginning so many people come and the committee doesn’t want to compete with summer tourism. Ms. Dragonfly said her co-chair Peg has been traveling around viewing the trolls. She said they are finding tremendous draw, and this is a gift to the town. She said it will not cost the town anything, they are only asking to use town land. Ms. Dragonfly said they are a 501(c)(3) and will cover all of the legal and insurance costs involved. Alexa Piekarski explained the Dambo Troll Hunters community that follow these on the map.

Paul O’Brien asked the board members for input. Linda Murray said they need to find another site before they take action. Ms. Dragonfly and the board discussed site research.

Mr. Thurston said he did research and looked at town infrastructure and the number of people coming to town.

It was moved by Dave Senecal to table the Dambo Troll discussion until a suitable site is found. John Thurston seconded.

Brian Deshaies thanked Alexa Piekarski for visiting with the Select Board and Town of Wolfeboro, NH.

All were in favor.

94 PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 95 I. The Wolfeboro Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 2,
96 2026, on or about 6:00 PM at the Wolfeboro Town Hall Great Room, 84 South Main
97 Street, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire to receive public comment on changing the street
98 name, "Square Hill" to "Square Hill Road" in accordance with RSA 231:133 as
99 requested with Applications for Voluntary Change of Address forms received to the
100 Department of Public Works from the following address on Square Hill:

- 101
102 • 78 Square Hill Tax Map 132 Lot 2
103 • 85 Square Hill Tax Map 132 Lot 5
104 • 115 Square Hill Tax Map 132 Lot 1 sub lot 1
105 • 118 Square Hill Tax Map 132 Lot 1

106
107 No public comment

108
109 Linda Murray said she does not have any issue; she looked on the GIS maps and the four houses listed
110 are the only ones on the road.

111
112 It was moved by Brian Deshaies to change "Square Hill" to "Square Hill Road" in accordance with
113 RSA 231:133 as requested with Applications for Voluntary Change of Address forms received to the
114 Department of Public Works from the following address on Square Hill (for addresses listed above).
115 Linda Murray seconded. All were in favor.
116

117 UNANTICIPATED FUNDS

- 118 I. The Town of Wolfeboro to hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 6:00 PM
119 for the acceptance of unanticipated funds in less than \$10,000 in accordance with RSA 31:95b
120 III (a), for donations received for the repairs/upgrades of the Old Firehouse Community Center
121 from the following:

122 Karen Haskell - \$1000.00

123 Karen Paige - \$25.00

124 Christopher & Lisa Lawler - \$500.00

125 Cash donations collected by Geordy Hutchinson @ Lake - \$50.00

126 Winni Day
127

128 It was moved by Brian Deshaies to accept the donations of unanticipated funds for the
129 repairs/upgrades of the Old Firehouse Community Center as listed above. Linda Murray seconded. All
130 were in favor.
131

132
133 ALOCHOL PERMIT

- 134 I. The Wolfeboro Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday September 2, 2026, on or
135 about 6:00 PM at the Wolfeboro Town Hall Great Room, 84 South Main Street, Wolfeboro, New
136 Hampshire to consider the application for an issuance of an Alcoholic Beverages Permit to the
137 Wolfeboro Historical Society for their Summer Lecture Series on September 7, 2026, at the
138 Clark House Complex from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

139
140 Paul O'Brien said this is a recurring annual event.

Brian Deshaies stated that Mrs. Shannon called and regretted not being able to attend tonight and wanted to thank the board for their consideration.

It was moved by Linda Murray to issue the alcohol permit to the Wolfeboro Historical Society for their Summer Lecture Series on September 7, 2026 at the Clark House Complex from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Brian Deshaies seconded. All were in favor.

TEMPORARY EVENT PERMIT

- I. Consider a Temporary Event permit for the Wolfeboro Historical Society to host the Summer Lecture Series “Brewing in NH” an informal history of beer in the Granite State on September 7, 2026 from 7 PM to 9 PM at the Clark Museum Barn 233 South Main Street. Permit #

Brian Deshaies moved to approve the Temporary Event permit for the Wolfeboro Historical Society to host the Summer Lecture Series “Brewing in NH” an informal history of beer in the Granite State on September 7, 2026 from 7 PM to 9 PM at the Clark Museum Barn , Linda Murray seconded. All were in favor.

BULK VOTE

- I. Weekly Manifests
 - i. August 7, 2026 \$ 522,754.75
 - ii. August 14, 2026 \$ 534,691.34.

It was moved by Brian Deshaies to accept the bulk vote. Linda Murray seconded. All were in favor.

It was moved by Linda Murray to move into the Libby Trustee meeting. Dave Senecal seconded. All were in favor.

LIBBY TRUSTEES MEETING

Paul O’Brien said they are going to discuss what has been heard in the prior two public hearings, then they will come out of the Libby Trustees meeting and take their vote as a board based on what they feel is the right thing to do.

The board members read their statements from those who spoke with them and gave a summary of their activities as trustees of the Libby museum.

Paul O’Brien explained the risk that the board still carries as trustees until new trustees take over and gave an update on the removal of the collection.

It was moved by Linda Murray to leave the Libby Trustee meeting. Brian Deshaies seconded. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval: Follow up: Vote on status of Libby building after two public hearings.

It was moved by Linda Murray to not demolish the Libby museum building based on the public input at the Select Board meetings dated August 5, 2026 and August 19, 2026 and to send a letter to request a meeting

189 with CTU with Friend of the Libby Museum and the Libby Museum Preservation Society in order to lay out a
190 path forward to remove the board of selectmen as the Libby Museum trustees. Brian Deshaies seconded.

191
192 Discussion

193
194 The board discussed whether they need to add wording to hand over to successor trustees.

195
196 Paul O'Brien said he accepted the modification to the motion.

197
198 Brian Deshaies said the meetings were about the building and not about the Selectboard handing over to
199 new trustees. He said they discussed handing it over but that was not what was on the agenda as purpose
200 of the meeting.

201
202 Earlier motion and second was withdrawn by both parties.

203
204 **It was moved by Linda Murray to not demolish the Libby museum building based on the public input at the**
205 **Selectboard meetings on August 5, 2026 and August 19, 2026. John Thurston seconded. Roll call vote:**
206 **Dave Senecal-yes, Brian Deshaies-yes, Linda Murray-yes, John Thurston-yes, Paul O'Brien-yes. Motion**
207 **passes (5-0-0).**

208
209 **It was moved by Linday Murray to send a letter requesting a meeting with the Charitable Trust Unit of the**
210 **Attorney General's office with the Friends of the Libby Museum, the Libby Museum Preservation Society in**
211 **order to lay out a path forward to remove the Board of Selectmen as Libby trustees and hand the**
212 **trusteeship over to another entity. John Thurston seconded.**

213
214 Paul O'Brien said this motion is basically saying that the board is going to request the CTU sit down with the
215 preservation society and

216
217 **Roll call vote: Dave Senecal-yes, Brian Deshaies-yes, John Thurston-yes, Linda Murray-yes, Paul O'Brien-**
218 **yes. Motion passes (5-0-0).**

219
220 Paul O'Brien thanked everyone.

221
222 **B. Discussion: Wolfeboro Chamber of Commerce lease renewal for 2027.**

223
224 Linda Murray said she wanted this on the agenda because she and Dave Senecal were to meet with the
225 Chamber of Commerce to discuss the new lease and she believes the board needs to provide direction. She
226 presented the various rental options to the board for discussion and asked what the town's commitment to
227 the information booth is. She said Barry Muccio provided the floorplan and percentage of space.

228
229 Barry Muccio explained the previous lease and presented the current information he gathered. He said he
230 corrected the square footage information on the floorplan.

231
232 The board and Mr. Muccio discussed market value, community service and methods of calculating rent and
233 rental terms and the town's information booth. Linda Murray said she believes it is important to keep the
234 information booth there.

Paul O'Brien explained the information booth is a keeper and summarized the discussion. He further pointed out there are some parts that may need refreshing.

Linda Murray pointed out maintenance needed if rent is raised.

John Thurston suggested having a realtor give a market rate.

The board discussed the maintenance needed on the building and how it should be paid for. They summarized the details, discussion points, and term of lease.

C. Discussion: Select Board meeting minute attachment process

Paul O'Brien pointed out the basket at the end of the table and said a lot of people want to leave announcements that are not relevant to what they are doing as a board. He said they will take them but not attach them to the minutes. He said information that is relevant to what is on the agenda can be attached.

John Thurston said people are giving their time and feedback and he feels the information they give is important to them and should make its way into the minutes.

Linda Murray said the conversation from the person will be in the minutes whether the attachment is there or not. She said it is important that what they say should be in the minutes. She said she is comfortable making the decision each time and the chair ask the board if the item should be attached by consensus.

John Thurston asked what the drawback is of putting it in the minutes.

Paul O'Brien said it is the board's meeting and agenda and a record of what they are doing, it is the record of what they are doing to conduct the business of the town. He said they are trying to make the minutes reflect the business on the agenda. He said unless this board says it should go in the minutes it will stay in that basket as information.

John Thurston said it is public input and public input is on the agenda.

Paul O'Brien said what they said during public input is recorded in the minutes and if they want to give the board something to attach and this board wants to attach it to the minutes, he will entertain the motion.

The board members continued to discuss attaching the items and how it should be handled. It was determined that the information submitted will be approved for attachment on a case-by-case basis.

D. Approval: Employee Day September 23, 2026

Barry Muccio said they have traditionally have a day each fall to honor employees. This year will be a half day meet for a cookout on September 23 around 11 AM. He said the Selectboard will be grilling.

It was moved by Linda Murray to have an Employee Appreciation Day September 23, 2006 from noon until the end of the day. Brian Deshaies seconded. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

284 **A. Carry Beach Petition from August 5, 2026 meeting update**

285
286 Paul O'Brien said the board received a petition on Kerry Beach. Christine Collins provided an update by
287 letter.

288
289 Linda Murray said Christine Collins sent a letter to a state and Ms. Murray read the response from the state.

290
291 Linda Murray said they still need to move forward with moving the swim buoys and no anchor or rafting area
292 in Winter Harbor.

293
294 Paul O'Brien said two elected colleagues are pushing the state to provide the town with the steps to petition
295 to have those done.

296
297 Linda Murray said she would like to send the memo to Ginger Hopkins who brought the petition so they have
298 a clear understanding of what they can do.

299
300 Paul O'Brien asked if there is a objection to transmitting it over to her. No objection.

301
302 Ginger Hopkins thanked the selectboard. She said this is an example of good government. She said a bunch of
303 citizens did some work, came to the selectboard, made a request and you acted on it. She said she and her
304 granddaughter appreciate it.

305
306 **OTHER BUSINESS**

307
308 **It was moved by Brian Deshaies to allow a large percentage doner the naming rights for the community center**
309 **project if such a doner should come forward. Linda Murray seconded.**

310
311 Linda Murray said they have done this for all their other projects, such as town hall, library and the Pop Whalen.

312
313 **All were in favor.**

314
315 **A. Town Manager's Report**

- 316
317
 - Barry Muccio said they are going out to bid for assessing services next week and a RFP will be listed.
 - He said they will be meeting with department heads to review presented budgets in the next two
 - He thanked Brenda LaPoint for 45 years of service to the Town of Wolfeboro. He said

318 weeks.
319
320 congratulations to Brenda.
321
322

323 **B. Committee Reports**

324
325 Dave Senecal said he went to the event for Brenda LaPoint. He went to a Conservation Commission
326 meeting.

327
328 Brian Deshaies listed the following:

- 329
 - Attended DOT prehearing and discussed how project is going to be presented.
 - Attended Brenda LaPoint's event at Back Bay Boathouse and Saturday retirement party.
 - Town Manager recruitment meetings.

330
331

- Two meetings of the Community subcommittee, things are going along exceedingly well.
- Two troll committee meetings. He said it is a struggle, but he has confidence they will find the right location.
- Department Head meeting.
- Meeting to introduce the new town manager.
- Hot dog day at the town docks on September 18 to introduce the new town manager, new finance director, new rink director, and the new planning director.
- He publicly thanked all the sponsors and people who helped with Lake Winnepesaukee Day.

Linda Murray said attended a meeting to announce James Wheeler as the town manager to the department heads. She attended a Community TV governance committee meeting, and they are working on the bylaws. She attended a meeting with Brian Deshaies and Jordy to talk about the community center.

John Thurston said he attended a Planning Board meeting and had a meeting with Jeffrey Hinderliter, Director of Planning and Development.

Paul O'Brien commented on the cleanliness of the area after Lake Winnepesaukee Day and how there were no issues and how well the day ran. He said he attended the Planning Board, they are two meetings into the CIP, attended the Police Commission meeting and went to Brenda LaPoint's event at the Back Bay Boathouse.

C. Public Input

Bill Trevor spoke to the board about the information that goes into the basket and cautioned that they read it thoroughly before voting it into the minutes and offered some observations on how the meeting is conducted. He asked that after discussion on a motions, the motion be reread and the vote taken so that the public understands what is voted on. His third observation is regarding the rental to the Chamber of the Commerce and their subletting to other businesses.

Catherine Dragonfly said she took Alexa to Front Bay Park, she liked it. She said she is asking the board what they need to discuss this.

Paul O'Brien said the motion was tabled. He suggested she take it to the sponsor and come back to the board.

It was moved by Linda Murray to go into non-public session at 7:42 PM. Brian Deshaies seconded. All were in favor.

It was moved by Paul O'Brien to seal the September 2, 2026 non-public minutes at 9:06 PM. John Thurston seconded. All were in favor.

It was moved by Dave Senecal to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM. Paul O'Brien seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Murdough

Suzanne Murdough, Recording Secretary