



THE MILLER'S RUN

Wheelock Community Initiative Website <https://wheelockcmt.org/>

Email: wheelockcmt@gmail **Phone:** 802-626-3109, leave message

DEC./JAN. CALENDAR



SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

**ALL Meetings Remote
None In-Person @ Town Hall**

**Working Budget Sessions for
Fiscal Year 21 held on...**

WED. 12/16, 6:00 PM

And if needed on...

WED. 1/6, 6:00 PM

WED. 1/13, 6:00 PM

REGULAR MEETINGS

Third Monday of the Month

MONDAY 12/21 5:30 PM

(earlier start to fill vacancy)

For Zoom and Call-in Info

Town Website has details at

<https://bit.ly/39QXN5C>

**Hard copy details of the
agenda/call info are posted at
the Town Hall message board**

Selectboard Holds Special Vacancy Meeting

Wheelock Selectboard Chair, Jason DiGiulio, tended his resignation to board members notifying them that he and Kris will move soon to their new home in Barton.



Selectboard:

Ann Lawless
Bobbi Jo Norcross

Following state statutes for accepting the resignation and filling the vacancy, the Selectboard held a special meeting on Dec. 9. and will consider applicants at its regular meeting on Dec. 21 at 5:30pm. The person appointed will serve until a town election is held. Persons interested in being appointed to fill this vacancy should submit a letter of interest to:

**Town of Wheelock, PO Box 1328, Lyndonville, VT 05851
no later than Dec. 21, 2020 at 2:30 pm or by email to
wheelocktown@gmail.com**

Citizens also have the right to petition for a vote to replace the Selectboard's appointee at a special town meeting by presenting a petition to the Town Clerk, signed by 5% of Wheelock legal voters, prior to the next Town Meeting. If a special town meeting is called, the newly elected officer will remain in office for the balance of the unexpired term. If a special Town Meeting is not called, the Selectboard's appointee will remain in office until the next annual Town Meeting.

Message From Town Clerk Vanessa Seguin



Town Clerk's Office Holiday Hours:

Open Monday 12/21 9:00-2:30

Closed Thursday Dec.24

Open Monday 12/28 9:00- 2:30

Closed Thursday Dec. 31

❄️❄️ Happy Holidays! ❄️❄️

NEK BROADBAND BUILD OUT



The new “**NEK Broadband Feasibility Report**” identifies 23 towns as the first sites to receive partial fiber build-outs through **NEK Community Broadband**, the communications union district (CUD) that was formed in March 2020. Find the full feasibility report at: <https://bit.ly/3nov6ac>

The district expects to start construction on those projects in July, 2021 involving 571 miles of fiber.

Wheelock voters approved joining the 27 member CUD, but the town will not be part of this phase. The CUD plans to use wireless broadband to serve those areas outside this initial build-out. CUD details are at:

<https://nekbroadband.org/>

📖 GOT HISTORY? 📖

There’s no time like the present to learn more about Wheelock’s past.

“**Wheelock: Bicentennial Edition**” Allis Reid, Editor (1985); is available in a pdf on the WCI website:

<https://bit.ly/3grYKmr>

The website also has a link to **Town of Wheelock: Vermont’s Gift to Dartmouth College**, Eleanor Jones Hutchinson (1961)

Covid Concerns for 2021 Town Meeting

Town governments across Vermont are considering how to safely hold their 2021 Town Meetings in compliance with mandatory Covid restrictions. Current guidelines place the maximum occupancy limits at 50 percent fire safety capacity, i.e., one person per 100 square feet, with a maximum of 75 people indoors. Therefore Wheelock’s Town Hall can only host 35 people.

At the special Selectboard meeting on Dec. 9, members discussed, but did not vote to move Town Meeting to Australian ballot. It will be on the agenda for the regular Selectboard meeting on 12/21.

The Vermont Legislature will consider possible statutory changes that would allow for options such as temporary, voluntary authority to hold 2021 town meetings remotely or postponing a town’s annual meeting to another date. The Vermont League of Cities & Towns has more information: <https://bit.ly/2JKrtM1>

Wheelock Hazard Mitigation Plan

With the help of the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA), the towns of Burke, Sheffield, Sutton, and Wheelock collaborated to develop a Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan to become less vulnerable to disasters caused by natural hazards. The plan identifies each town’s natural hazard risks (such as winter storms, high winds, and extreme cold) and determines how best to minimize the risks.



Projects such as installing a generator for backup power at the fire station, renewing the Village Center designation, and identifying a location for the town garage out of the floodplain are included in the plan.

The plan is available for review and comment by the public before it goes to the Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security for their review. Their approval and the town’s adoption of the plan make each town eligible to apply for pre-disaster federal funding. This funding may be used to mitigate risks associated with natural hazards.

The plan is available for download on Wheelock’s town website at: <https://bit.ly/2VVgOMc>

Please send comments to Vanessa Seguin, Town Clerk, at wheelocktown@gmail.com before Dec 31.