

# THE MILLER'S RUN



**Wheelock Community Initiative** <https://wheelockcmty.org/> **Email** [wheelockcmty@gmail.com](mailto:wheelockcmty@gmail.com)  
**Facebook** <https://bit.ly/3weRn94> **Phone:** 802-626-3109, leave message



## TOWN HALL ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

- **MONDAY July 12, 6:00 PM**  
Via Zoom; use the **Selectboard Zoom information**

## CEMETERY TASKFORCE

- \* **TUESDAY July 13, 4:00 pm**  
Wheelock Village Cemetery  
New members always welcome!

## WHEELOCK SELECTBOARD

- \* **TUESDAY July 20, 6:00 pm**
- \* **TUESDAY August 3, 6:00 pm**
- \* **TUESDAY August 17, 6:00 pm**

**In Person:** Wheelock Town Hall  
Masks/social distancing required

**By Zoom:** <https://bit.ly/2SHCVar>  
Passcode: iN9YcK

**By Phone:** +1-646-558-8656  
**Meeting ID:** 792 190 6991  
**Passcode:** 408329

All meeting information is posted at the Town Hall message board and on the Town's website.

## Selectboard News and Notes

**W**heelock Town is contracting with Austin Construction of Concord Vermont to **repair the Stannard**



**Mountain bridge** this summer. Work is expected to begin around August 1 and be completed by October 1. A detour will be built thanks to the neighboring landowners. There will be no work done on Class 4 roads at this time.

Access to Town Hall through the front door has been blocked due to safety concerns with the **front steps and landing**. The Selectboard is seeking proposals and bids for the repair work that will make them functional again. Until these repairs, and other safety and liability issues are addressed, the Town Hall will be unavailable to rent for functions (tables and chairs will not be available for rent either). Also open for bids—repairs to the **town garage roof**. Bidding details for all these projects are available from the Town Clerk.

The **Sulphur Springs Pavilion** repair work will be completed with community volunteers organized by Jim Blackbird. The snow roller will be temporarily stored at the Clark property during the project.

Wheelock's allocation from the **Federal "American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)"**, should be \$86,000, which can only be spent on COVID-related expenses and upgrades.

**Patti Baker**, a volunteer with the South Wheelock Cemetery, is hiring Vermont Monuments to re-set the Pinkham headstone at her expense. Selectboard members **Bobbie Jo Norcross** and **Jim Blackbird** improved the Town Hall's appearance, and with **Dean Davis**, Highway Supervisor cleaned out the town garage.



## Town Clerk Vanessa Seguin

**Office Hours:** Tues. 12:00-5:30; Wed./Thurs. 9:00-2:30  
**Email:** [wheelocktown@gmail.com](mailto:wheelocktown@gmail.com)  
**Phone:** 802-626-9094  
 P. O. Box 1328, 1192 Route 122, Wheelock VT 05851



## SHEFFIELD FOOD PANTRY NEW HOURS



**Starting July 14**  
**Open Every 2nd Wednesday**  
**11:30-2:30**  
**Sheffield Town Hall**

*The Pantry also serves Wheelock residents. If the town hall driveway is full, park at the turn around across from Miller's Run school.*

### **GOT HISTORY?**

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

This summer the **Cemetery Taskforce** has been assessing the town's cemeteries and creating an inventory for each. Recently they met for a walk-through of the **South Wheelock Cemetery on Jill's Hill**.

Volunteer Patti Baker joined them. She has the burial book, researched the history of the families buried there, and is very familiar with the site's overall condition and its 253 stones (including a **War Soldier Monument**). Signage is good, as is access to the site because volunteers keep the area mowed. Most of the stones, however, are in fair to poor condition and need attention.

The Taskforce is planning a variety of ways to engage experts who can guide the work and bring attention to this important part of Wheelock's history.

## Town Hall Accessibility Project Update

**R**esidents and landowners (80+) shared their ideas and concerns about the Town Accessibility Project by responding to the **“Wheelock Community Survey”**.

The survey was conducted for the Town Hall by *PlaceSense* from April 26 through May 21 on-line (44 responses) and by mail (36 responses) to households using the grand list and current voter checklist.

The majority of respondents seem well-informed about the project; many stated they had voted on the last Town Hall proposal in 2018 and were likely to vote on the new proposal when it comes up in early 2022. They also agreed that Wheelock needs an accessible public meeting space that can accommodate 200 people. Although agreement on five of the 18 statements was evenly split, the other responses gave some clear direction to the project committee and the consulting designers.

Of the four possible approaches to addressing the accessibility issues, **52% selected Combined Facilities, New Buildings** *Make accessibility and other improvements to the Town Hall so it can serve as meeting space. Build new town facilities (office, garage) adjoining the Town Hall; and* **48% selected Make It Better** *Make accessibility improvements to the Wheelock Town Hall, expand office and vault space, and upgrade facilities so the building can be used for more activities.*

A clear majority also support meeting the town's needs within the property the town currently owns rather than seeking another site. Many respondents offered additional comments with their survey response. One comment “Nothing extravagant, but functional and sound” neatly represented this view and a common theme.

### Next Step: The Community Meeting

**T**he next step for the consulting designers, **MAKE Architects and VIS Construction Consultants**, is to incorporate the survey results into two distinct design concepts (“make it better” and “combined facilities”) and present them at a **Town Hall community forum on Sunday, September 12 in the afternoon**.

To read the survey results in more detail go to the town's homepage <https://townofwheelockvt.org/> and for the committee's agenda and minutes: <https://townofwheelockvt.org/agendas-minutes/>

This newsletter, the WCI Facebook page, and Front Porch Forum will carry more information about the project—so stay tuned.

To join our email list, write to [wheelockcmty@gmail.com](mailto:wheelockcmty@gmail.com)



**Happy 150th  
 Birthday 🎂  
 Wheelock  
 Town Hall!  
 1871-2021**

