

THE MILLER'S RUN



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



TOWN HALL ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

• **TUESDAY, Sept. 13, 6:00 pm**

By Zoom: <https://bit.ly/3Cjhx5>

Passcode: 427773

By Phone: +1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 881 8512 3235

COMMUNITY MEETING

* **MONDAY, Sept. 27, 6:00 pm,**

In Person: Wheelock Town Hall

Details on page 2

WHEELOCK SELECTBOARD

* **TUESDAY, Sept. 7, 6:00 pm**

In Person: Wheelock Town Hall

Masks/social distancing required

By Phone: +1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 792 190 6991

Passcode: 408329

By Zoom: <https://bit.ly/2SHCVAr>

Meeting ID: 792 190 6991

Passcode: iN9YcK

Meeting information posted at the
Town Hall message board and at
<https://townofwheelockvt.org/>

Selectboard News and Notes

The Selectboard has hired Mark Buonanno as a Highway Maintenance Worker. He will start his position on August 23.

Austin Construction of Concord VT will begin work soon on the bridge at the foot of Stannard Mountain Road, thanks in part to a VTrans grant. A detour will be built.

Wheelock tax rates were set at the 7/20 Selectboard meeting: General fund .2207; Highway fund .4598; and Local .0052. The Vermont Tax Department sets Wheelock's education tax rates: homestead education 1.4419/non-homestead 1.6308. (A one-time income of \$23,000, from the education reconciliation, is factored into the education rate.)

There will be no penalty for late homestead filing for the 2021 tax year.



Selectboard:

Ann Lawless, Chair
Bobbie Jo Norcross
Jim Blackbird

Pay Your Property Tax Bill with Your Debit/Credit Card

The Wheelock Clerk/Treasurer's Office announces a new program offering the option to pay online, over the phone, or in the town office with your credit/debit card. A nominal fee will be payable to the vendor (not the Town), for this convenient service.

The program will be up and running for property tax payments due and payable on November 5, 2021. More information will be coming.

Town Clerk Vanessa Seguin

Office Hours: Tues. 12:00-5:30; Wed./Thurs. 9:00-2:30

Email: wheelocktown@gmail.com

Phone: 802-626-9094

P. O. Box 1328, 1192 Route 122, Wheelock VT 05851



Patti Baker, Liz Muckerman, and Norma Twombly for taking the training in safe gravestone cleaning techniques with professional sexton, Joan Alexander. **Jim Blackbird** for his time and equipment to complete the Sulphur Springs and "Deos Property" projects.



Recycling News

NEKWMD Board of Supervisors voted on 7/20/21 to **discontinue accepting plastic bags/film for recycling.**

Brokers and facilities that accepted or paid for these materials are no longer interested. NEKWMD is still seeking a buyer for 40-60 tons at their Lyndon location. Plastic film storage containers will be removed from all recycling centers in a few weeks.

Plastic film recycling will still be available at local retail locations including Price Chopper, Hannaford's, and Shaw's. You can find out more information about what is accepted at these locations at [recycle.trex.com](https://www.recycle.trex.com). Unacceptable items may be trashed.

📖 GOT HISTORY? 📖

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

The **Cemetery Taskforce** has been touring the town's cemeteries and creating a needs assessment for each. Taskforce members Steve Amos and Liz Muckerman continued the work by visiting the **Drown Cemetery** on Morgan Road East on 7/27. This site is so overgrown it was difficult to assess the number and condition of stones. Many were broken or not upright.

A **fall 2021 cleanup day** (after a frost) will be scheduled to clear the site so a proper census can be completed. All Taskforce meeting minutes are at

<https://townofwheelockvt.org/agendas-minutes/>

Next Meeting: Tuesday 8/24, 5:30 pm
West Wheelock Cemetery

Community Meeting To Consider Wheelock Town Hall Accessibility Design Options Monday Sept. 27, 6:00-7:30 PM

Residents and landowners are invited to participate in a facilitated community discussion of two design options to address the lack of ADA access to town government functions.

The town entered into an agreement with the **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)** in May 2020. It requires us to have a proposal for an accessible, code-compliant facility supported by a majority of Wheelock voters. This proposal is due by the end of this year to avoid legal action.

To meet this goal the Selectboard appointed a **Project Committee** of volunteers and obtained grants to contract for the technical services of consulting designers, **MAKE Architects, VIS Construction Consultants, and Place Sense.** (The complete record of the Project Committee's materials is available on the Town website at:

<https://townofwheelockvt.org/agendas-minutes/>.)

The majority of Wheelock's respondents to the May 2021 Project Survey chose two distinct design concepts: "make it better" and "combined facilities" (see survey results at <https://bit.ly/3fR5AFV>). They also shared feedback and ideas included in the design options that will be presented at the September 27 meeting.

Detailed information about this Community Meeting will be available in mid-September with a postal mailing, posters, and handouts. Your attendance at the meeting will help determine the final design and the DOJ-mandated Town Hall Accessibility Proposal by the end of the year.

With a proposal and cost estimates in hand, the town anticipates seeking authorization from the voters at the **March 2022 Town Meeting** to move forward with a project. (A proposal/cost estimates allows a more effective search for outside funding for the project.)

The DOJ agreement also requires:

- If voters approve the proposal, then the Town will contract with experts to create construction bid documents by **August 31, 2022.**
- If necessary, the Town will propose a bond to the voters for the purpose of funding the project by **December 5, 2022.**
- If the Town voters approve the Town Hall Accessibility Proposal and the bond, then the Town will begin construction on the Town Hall Accessibility Project no later than **July 31, 2023.**



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

