Volume 2, Issue 9 September 17, 2021

## THE MILLER'S RUN



Wheelock Community Initiative <a href="https://wheelockcmty.org/">https://wheelockcmty.org/</a> Email <a href="wheelockcmty@gmail.com">wheelockcmty@gmail.com</a> Phone: 802-626-3109, leave message



#### **COMMUNITY MEETING**

\* MONDAY, Sept. 27, 6:00 pm, In Person: Wheelock Town Hall

See details on page 2

## TOWN HALL ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

• TUESDAY, Oct. 11, 6:00 pm

By Zoom: <a href="https://bit.ly/3Cjhxe5">https://bit.ly/3Cjhxe5</a>
Passcode: 427773
By Phone: +I-646-558-8656
Meeting ID: 881 8512 3235

#### WHEELOCK SELECTBOARD

\* TUESDAY, Oct. 5, 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

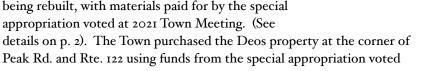
By Zoom: https://bit.ly/2SHCVar Meeting ID: 792 190 6991

Passcode: iN9YcK

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

### Selectboard News and Notes

everal notable repair projects and improvements to town properties have been completed this summer. Ron Comeau was contracted to repair the roofs of the town garage and the "Hearse House" (next to the town garage) and the town garage had a new furnace installed. The Sulphur Spring Pavilion is being rebuilt, with materials paid for by the special appropriation voted at 2021 Town Meeting. (See



at Town Meeting 2021. The Stannard Mountain Road bridge project is proceeding on schedule with a planned completion date of October 1.

#### Property Tax Bills Due Friday, Nov. 5, 2021

he Town of Wheelock now accepts property tax payments 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 the credit/debit card service.

The Town Clerk's Office will have special office hours to accept payments on Friday November 5, 2021 from 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Tax bills were mailed 8/30/21, so if you have not received your tax bill, please contact the Town Clerk's Office to confirm your mailing address.

#### 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



Selectboard:

Ann Lawless, Chair

Bobbie Jo Norcross

Jim Blackbird



To the **Fire Department** for cleaning the Hearse House and the volunteers who helped clean out the town garage and for all the town improvements—big and small—that were completed this summer.

Volunteer Opportunity: W. Wheelock Cemetery workday Oct. TBA

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## American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund Wheelock's Total Appropriation \$246,912.91

Local = \$86,472.08

1st Payment = \$43,236.04 (Aug. 2021) 2nd Payment = \$43,236.04 (Aug. 2022)

County = \$160,440.83

1st Payment = \$80,220.41 (Sept. 2021) 2nd Payment = \$80,220.42 (Sept. 2021)

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns provides information and advice on how towns can use the money and must report on their expenditures:

#### American Rescue Plan Act | Vermont League of Cities and Towns (vlct.org)

Using funds is very restricted, so towns are encouraged to practice "good governance" by seeking community ideas and building consensus on how to spend these monies.



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

#### **Sulfur Springs Pavilion**



Wheelock voters appropriated \$5000 at the 2021 Town Meeting to rebuild the historic Sulfur Springs springhouse or "pavilion" at the

north end of the village. The work of creating a new structure is nearly complete. Selectman **Jim Blackbird** is the point person for the project with help from **Richard Norcross**.

The September issue of Danville's "The Northstar Monthly" includes an article by Sylvia Dodge about the long and fascinating history of the people, events, and businesses connected to Wheelock's Sulfur Springs.

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

Residents and landowners are strongly encouraged to attend a community discussion of the two design options to address. Wheelock's 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 a code-compliant facility supported by a majority of Wheelock voters. The majority of respondents to the **May 2021 Project Survey** chose two distinct design concepts: "make it better" and "combined facilities".

The **Wheelock Accessibility Project Committee**, appointed by the Selectboard and supported by grant funds, has been working with a professional design team over many months to create these two designs. (The committee's minutes and materials are available on the Town website at: <a href="https://townofwheelockvt.org/agendas-minutes/">https://townofwheelockvt.org/agendas-minutes/</a>.).

Residents recently received a mailer announcing the meeting with detailed information about the concepts. A digital version of the announcement mailer is available on the Town website. A timeline of the Town Hall history, prior efforts to address ADA access, and recent developments can be found at: <a href="http://placesense.com/wheelock/">http://placesense.com/wheelock/</a>

Discussion and feedback from the community will help determine which concept to develop into a single proposal for the DOJ. KATV (Kingdom Access TV) is providing a video "walk-through" before the meeting and recording the event so it will be available for viewing on their website and on YouTube. The Project Committee is also creating additional ways for residents to comment on the designs; options will include a website page that will be available for entries until 10/17.

#### Next Steps and Key Dates required by the DOJ agreement:

- **December 31, 2021:** The Selectboard completes an accessibility proposal and shares it with the Department of Justice.
- **March 2022 Town Meeting:** The Town seeks voters' authorization to move forward with an ADA-compliant project.
- August 31, 2022: The Town contracts with experts to create the construction bid documents.
- **December 5, 2022:** If necessary, the Town proposes a bond vote.
- July 31, 2023: Deadline for construction to begin.



Happy 150th Birthday Wheelock Town Hall! 1871-2021



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