

# WHEELOCK NEWS



Wheelock Community Initiative on the Web: <https://wheelockcmtv.org/> and on Facebook!

Email: [wheelockcmtv@gmail.com](mailto:wheelockcmtv@gmail.com) Phone: 802-626-3109, leave message



Meeting notices are on the Town Hall message boards and online <https://townofwheelockvt.org/>

Join **regular Selectboard meetings** by phone or remotely. On the town website click on the **“Government”** drop down, then **“Agenda & Minutes”**

The agenda document for each meeting lists **unique** phone numbers, Zoom links, meeting IDs, passcodes

## TOWN MEETING

**Tues. March 4 9:00 AM**  
**SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE**  
**Polls Open 10:00 - 7:00**

## SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

- **First & Third Tuesdays**  
 Tues. Mar. 4 is Town Meeting Day, so March meetings are moved to **Tues. Mar. 11 & 18 @ 6:00 pm**  
 Wheelock Town Hall

## SHEFFIELD FOOD PANTRY

Sheffield Town Hall

Also serves Wheelock residents  
**2nd and 4th Wednesdays**

- **Feb. 26, March 12 & 26**  
**11:30-1:00**  
 Please bring your own boxes/bags

## WHEELOCK COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

- **Thursday March 13, 2:30 PM**  
 Meets in person at Town Hall  
**All are welcome!**

## Selectboard News and Notes

The Selectboard’s brief summary in the Town Report of 2024’s challenges does not fully capture the long work hours by our elected officials, town staff, volunteers, and contractors through a challenging year. Wheelock is fortunate to have so many generous and caring people who contributed in countless ways. We thank you! And special thanks to the kind person (or persons) who digs a path to **WCI’s little library** at Town Hall. You help us access free books through these cold winter days!



**Selectboard:**  
 Ann Lawless, Chair  
 Mike Richardson  
 Scott Lange

Wheelock anticipates a **vacancy in one of the Highway Maintenance Worker** positions this spring. Pay range is \$25 to \$30 per hour, depending on abilities and experience. For more details: <https://bit.ly/430FUwP>



## Kingdom East School District FY’26 Vote

The FY’26 school budget that will be voted on at Town Meeting by **Australian Ballot** seeks voter approval to expend \$50,349,157 with a per pupil education spending of \$13,767, which is 6.95% higher than the per pupil spending for the current year. Hard copies of the KESD’s report are available at Town Hall with a pdf version on the KESD website: <https://bit.ly/43doJF8>

## Write-In For Wheelock’s Rep on KESD Board

The seats up for re-election on the KESD board this year include a **two-year term for a Wheelock rep** (Karianne Scott is departing). **Norma Twombly** has expressed interest in serving, but missed the petition deadline to appear on the ballot, so she is a write-in candidate. Norma has two granddaughters at Miller’s Run. Norma shares: *“I am a 7th generation Wheelock resident, firmly believe in small community schools, and will diligently work to see all schools in the Kingdom East District provide the best possible education for all children. Presently children in our district are fortunate to have school choice within the seven elementary schools. I have 40 years of teaching experience in grades 2-4, 7-12, (all subjects at different times), teaching education and mathematics courses for NVU at Lyndon and Johnson and for Community College of Vermont. I have also supervised student teachers for NVU Lyndon.”*

**Town Clerk/Treasurer: Erin Swigart**



**Hours:** Tues./Thurs. 8:30-3:00; Wed. 10:30-5:30  
**Email:** [wheelocktown@gmail.com](mailto:wheelocktown@gmail.com) **Phone** 802-626-9094  
**P.O. Box 1328, 1192 Route 122, Wheelock VT 05851**

**GOT HISTORY?**

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

**The First Town Meeting**

After the State of Vermont granted our town, then known as **Bamf** to Dartmouth College (see our January '25 history column), Pres. John Wheelock hired **Abraham Morrill**, a surveyor, to assess the gift. He eagerly awaited Morrill's report, in case it might nullify the college's agreement with the state. He could not have been too pleased with the letter he received from Morrill regarding his unfavorable impressions of the land.

In the interest of creating a good settlement, however, Morrill evidently kept his fears about what he called the **"Dark and swampy land"** to himself. He was also charged with developing the town overseeing the building of grist mills and saw mills, laying out the roads, and generally encouraging new settlers.

Progress in the settlement went forward and the **1790 census lists 32 settlers**. On **March 12, 1792** Morrill warned the first town meeting held at *"10 in the morning in the dwelling of Dudley Sweaty."*

Later town meetings were held at Lt. James Glines home, and from 1794 to 1801 at Col. John Bean's dwelling and tavern. After 1801, meetings were held at the **'new Meeting house'** just south of Bean's on the County Road. It was torn down in 1833 and a smaller town house, using the same timbers, was built on the same spot. Town meetings were held in it until 1854: after which town meetings were called at the Hollow.

Over the years the business of town meeting has been the election of town officers, care of the roads, provision for schooling, support of the poor and ill, and the occasional special issue to be solved by residents, just as it is today.

*"Town of Wheelock : Vermont's Gift to Dartmouth College"*  
by Eleanor Jones Hutchinson

**Warning For the 2025 Annual Town Meeting** *(lightly edited)*

**H**ard copies of the **Wheelock Annual Report** are available at the town office, transfer station, and the Wheelock Village Store (not yet available electronically). The Wheelock Community Initiative will have coffee and baked goods available.

**ARTICLE 1:** To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE 2:** To hear the reports of the Town Officials.

**ARTICLE 3:** To elect all town officials required by law.

**Town Clerk, Treasurer, 1st & 2nd Constable:** One-year terms.

**Selectboard Members:** One 3-year term and one 2-year term.

**Listers:** One 3-year term and one 1-year term **Auditor:** One 3-year term

**Delinquent Tax Collector:** 1 year term

**ARTICLE 4:** Shall the voters authorize total General Fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$292,041, of which \$98,961 shall be raised as taxes and \$193,079 by non-tax revenues?

**ARTICLE 5:** Shall the voters approve highway fund expenditures of \$511,805, of which \$419,305 shall be raised by taxes and 2,500 by non-tax revenue?

**ARTICLE 6:** Shall the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for deposit to the Bridge and Major Road Repair Reserve Fund?

**ARTICLE 7:** Shall the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for deposit to the New Road Equipment Reserve Fund?

**ARTICLE 8:** Shall the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for deposit to the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance and Repair Reserve Fund?

**ARTICLE 9:** Shall the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for deposit to the Town Hall Project Reserve Fund?

**ARTICLE 10:** Shall the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,130.20 for the operating expenses of Lyndon Rescue, Inc.?

**ARTICLE 11:** Shall the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,67 for the operating expenses and equipment replacement fund of the Sheffield/Wheelock Fire Department?

**ARTICLE 12:** Shall the town raise and appropriate a total of \$39,064.22 for the Town's Share of Transfer Station expenses?

**ARTICLE 13:** Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes on or before October 15, 2025, with USPS postmarks accepted, and with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent (1%) per month and with a seven percent (7%) penalty charges against them from the due date pursuant to 32 VSA Sec 5136?

**ARTICLE 14:** Shall the town allow a grace period from the due date for current taxes to December 15, 2025, during which the Delinquent Tax Collector shall charge a 1% penalty on payments made in full pursuant to 32 VSA Sec 1674 (3)(B)?

**ARTICLES 15-21:** ...\$600 to Umbrella...\$300 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice...\$300 to NEK Council on Aging...\$500 to Darling Inn Senior Meal Site...\$1133.00 to Fairbanks Museum...\$1000 to Powers Park...\$1200 for the Cobleigh Library..

**ARTICLE 22:** To enact any other business. **ARTICLE 23:** To adjourn.

**Window Dressers Community Build**

It has been an especially cold winter with temperatures well below freezing and heating bills rising. Get a head start on next winter by improving your home's warmth and reduce heating bills with low-cost insulating window inserts. WindowDressers brings community volunteers together to create and install them.

They are **free to you** when you participate in the community build in October. Slots fill up fast! **For more information, contact:**

Pam Parker – [plparkervt@gmail.com](mailto:plparkervt@gmail.com)

