Select Board Members
___ Liz Scharf, Chair
_X_ Zara Vincent, Vice Chair
__X_ Stacey Skadberg
__X_ Larry Rooney
__X_ Paul Cerminara

Middlesex Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 7, 2025
Meeting Minutes

5:00 **Call to order and welcome guests -** Bill Preis on Zoom, Steve Dennis, Aaron Weed, Shelley Desjardin, Samantha Beaudoin, Blanch Laforest, Eric Metevier

- Zara Vincent chaired in Liz's absence
- Approve minutes of September 16, 2025 meeting
  - Paul moved to approve minutes, Larry seconded, motion approved
- Approve agenda for October 7, 2025 regular select board meeting
  - Town hall weatherization budget adjustment to not exceed $15,000
  - Larry moved to approve agenda with change, Paul seconded, motion approved

5:05 Highway report and FEMA roadwork update from Eric Metevier and Zara Vincent

- **Update on next steps for Old Brook Road and other updates**
  - Prepped for lower part of McCullough for paving – will start on the 20th of Oct.
  - Crew is in the pit getting ready for sand
  - Signs being stolen – about 10 total have been stolen – Cost to town is $60 per sign plus labor to reinstall
  - Zara asked towns people to be on lookout for stolen signs
- **Update on FEMA payments**
  - On hold with FEMA due to gov. shutdown
  - $1.4M for Brook Rd and is the only 2024 project remaining
  - 2023 everything is obligated except for Lower Sunny, East Hill, and Portal
  - Waiting for about $3M total from 2 floods back from feds
- **Update from Zara about the project for signs on Center Road**
  - Much discussion about the work the state is doing
  - Town was told by VTRANS they were keeping the stop sign on Center Rd and it has disappeared
  - Zara reached out and left message
  - New arrow sign at intersection making Center Rd the main thoroughfare is confusing
  - Eric – coming up Brook Rd there's a new sign that says "Changing Traffic Pattern Ahead"
  - Yield sign is very high up and should be lowered – Zara asked Aaron to send her a picture of the yield sign
  - Aaron asked why the end of Molly Supple doesn't have a stop sign – Paul said it has been a yield in his time working on roads – future agenda item to discuss what is needed at that intersection – Zara will bring to Roads Committee
  - Shelly – on Notch Rd culvert issue – Zara reported that the Roads Committee will be talking about culverts and thanked her for letting her know about this issue
- **Update on meeting with Keith from CVRPC regarding culvert inventory grant**
  - Zara reported that town applied for and won a grant
  - Keith has written up a rating system – that considers size and condition of all town's culverts
  - Sometime this fall/early winter will have an inventory so town can create a multi year plan

- **Heating unit emergency replacement for town shed post-ordering approval**
    - Eric reported that he was able to get 2 quotes – ended up picking vendor who can do job $4,000 cheaper than other one
    - $7,700 cost – Towsley Heating and AC – to replace what's there
    - Paul made motion for approval to spend up to $8,500, Larry seconded, motion approved

5:16 Approve town hall weatherization project

- 3 quotes obtained to do attic
- Bids were lower than expected
- Paul mentioned that if excavation was needed he doesn't have time to get that done before winter
- Paul moved to approve materials expense for weatherizing the attic not to exceed $15,000, Larry seconded, motion approved

- **Orders –** none received

- **Correspondence –Mead Road equity concerns; follow up findings from Kevin Thompson regarding fence**
    - Kevin Thompson, zoning administrator, participated by Zoom
    - Kevin's findings were sent out to the select board
    - On 9/2/25 and 9/18 he inspected a fence on Mead Road – he found the fence in question meets the exemption from town regulations
        - Zara stated that if the fence doesn't get in the way, the town is ok with it
    - Email sent on 9/22 from Samantha Beaudin – most select board members hadn't received it in advance – Samantha read her message aloud (was from September – we had received but was reread out loud)
        - Expressed concerns about findings in Kevin's report and what she believes is a lack of equal consideration by town of her and her neighbors – other issues raised in her communication
    - Kevin responded to question about why this is a zoning issue – fences are a structure according to definitions and that's why zoning is involved and reiterated his findings that the fence is not interfering with safety or sight on Mead Road
    - Zara explained that the board members present cannot resolve other issues raised by Samantha and Steve at this meeting and they will have to be discussed at a future meeting when Liz is present

- **Any other matter that may come before the Board**
    - Zara reminded the board about the October 14 special meeting at 8:30 a.m. to visit box culverts with ANR representatives

5:41 Adjournment

- Paul moved to adjourn, Stacey seconded, motion approved

Submitted by: Carol Maloney

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ELIZABETH SCHARF, CHAIR

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ZARA VINCENT, VICE CHAIR

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STACEY SKADBERG, MEMBER

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LAWRENCE ROONEY, MEMBER

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PAUL CERMINARA, MEMBER