Select Board Members
___Liz Scharf, Chair
___Zara Vincent, Vice Chair
___ Stacey Skadberg
___ Larry Rooney
___ Paul Cerminara

Middlesex Select Board Meeting

5:00 PM
Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Middlesex Town Hall and via Zoom*
5 Church Street
Middlesex, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-5915

5:00PM
Call to order and welcome guests. Welcoming and Introducing new Town Administrator, Liam Abbate. Approving the minutes of the September 1, 2026 Regular Select Board meeting. Approving Agenda for the September 15, 2026, and considering any amendments to the agenda. Action Likely.

5:05 Highway report and FEMA roadwork update. Updates on FEMA from Zara. Update on Box Culvert stonework repair schedule per ANR directives. Action Possible.

5:15 Fire Department Update, Action Unlikely.

5:20 Mark Harris and Budget Committee members to discuss the introduction of a multi-year capital planning approach, Action Unlikely.

5:45 Update from FIT team, including the future of the Town Garage given the wetlands location, Action Possible.

6:00 Planning Commission update on what the PC is up to & to share information about the Community Forum about housing and flood resilience on Tuesday October 13th at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall that the PC is hosting. Action Unlikely.

6:20 Update from Liz on 2025 Emergency Watershed Program (EWP) 4 projects and next steps for Landowners/Town/RFPs, Action Unlikely.

6:30 Town Clerk's Update, Action Unlikely.

6:40 Discuss Cemetery Commission's email concerns of camping near entrance to North Branch Cemetery; No Action.

6:45 Consider adjourning Regular Select Board meeting to move to BCA Meeting, Action Likely.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Orders
- Correspondence-any correspondence between board members and the public
  - Email update on moving from .org to .gov
- Any other matters that come before the Board

- **ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS**

To attend this meeting via Zoom, go to:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86303217560
Meeting ID: 863 0321 7560 One tap mobile OR 1-646-931-3860

Select Board Goals for 2026-27 term

- Future of Town Hall and municipal offices and Town Garage
- Personnel policy
- An ordinance to address litter/illegal dumping in the Town's right of way

- Updating and correcting the Town's speed ordinance
- Updating Town's website
- Town Hall Next steps for heating system

Middlesex Projects 2020 - 2026

	Project	Status	Next Step	Notes
				Updated September 8, 2026
CURRENT				
2026-27	2026 Municipal Planning Grant	work ongoing through 2026	outreach, zoning for density & Great Brook erosion hazards	project materials here
2023-27	Walking Paths / Safety near Rumney	Neighbors researching options following PC meeting at Rumney; Updated signs part of Road Budget 2025-26	Work with road crew & neighbors on permanent signage 2025. Implement any options; draft plan here	Initial ideas collected here: Shady Rill Safety Proposals - MPC Jan 2024
2022-27	VTrans Demonstration / Crosswalk & traffic calming	after many delays, demonstration project tabled by PC due to reduced scope, limited function & work needed to meet VTrans requests. May pick up (in distant future) in connection with Mad River Path work (multi year project).	keep abreast of Mad River Path work	2025 Summary - Middlesex Village Concept Proposal
2020-?	Route 2 & River Trail Scoping Study	Completed by D&K & endorsed by SB and PC; application denied to add to Central VT Priority list;	Explore with CVRPC options for phasing & funding; likely impelmentation as part of Rte 2 work the State may do	Final report here
2024-26	Village water & sewer	Galaxy of Yes water system development for their property. Possible opportunity for town to connect &/or have municipal water system	keep aware of opportunities for Village area to connect with water system	survey results here - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1OUsVhq9Y1MiBiTwi23rUv9n3xnsxSokI?usp=share_link
2024-2027	Workplan / Town Plan Implementation	Town Plan identifies potential strategies to pursue	Develop workplan & Include implementation tasks for each year	Implementation Maxtrix here
2025	FY 2026/27 Capital Budget Items	requests due to Budget Committee June 30	determine any possible projects & amounts for capital budget	

Middlesex Projects 2020 - 2026

	Project	Status	Next Step	Notes
2025	Proposed Cell tower Extension on East Hill	comments requested		
2025	Zoning update / Industrial area on west side of town	Changes finalized; effective July 8	file GIS map & materials with the State.	Public Hearing notice & more information here -
2025	Rules of Procedure	Adopted in April	none	Final rules available here:
2023-24	Worcester Range / State Land Plans	PC Comments submitted on draft plan for management of state lands to Forest, Parks & Recreation; PC provided testimony to VT House Committee	Plan finalized Sept 26 available here: https://fpr.vermont.gov/worcester-range-management-unit	
2024	Bears	education table at Energy Fair on keeping bears out of trash & compost	interference is growing; opportunities for continued outreach & education?	
2022-23	Conservation & Outdoor Recreation	CVRPC completed updated maps & draft Town Plan language. workplan; May presentation & survey results; June map presentation;	incorporate in next Town Plan update	
2023	rules of procedure	final adopted May 2023	None	
2022	Municipal Planning Grant Application	Middlesex Town Hall Stratgic Planning Study	Grant awarded; SB in lead; PC drafted resolution in support	link to resolution draft
2022-23	Retail Cannabis	no PC action; SB created local cannabil commission	None	
2020-23	Zoning Update	Approved by Voters March 2023	none	Final for Vote
2022	Middlesex Town Plan & Enhanced Energy Plan	CVRPC Approved Compliance 9/13/2022	none	

Town of Middlesex

Building a Resilient Community Forum

October 13, 2026

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Middlesex Town Hall

5 Church Street, Middlesex, VT 05602

&

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89142158286

Agenda

6:00 PM **Pizza & Refreshments**

6:30 PM **Planning Commission Introduction**

- Participant introductions
- Overview of Municipal Planning Grant goals

6:45 PM **Speaker Panel and Q&A Discussion (hybrid)**

- **Staci Pomeroy,** River Scientist, Department of Environmental Conservation
  - Status of the Great Brook and River Corridor planning
- **Roy Schiff**, Principal Engineer, SLR Consulting
  - Floodplain modeling with UVM along the Great Brook
- **Jeff Dube**, Community Planning & Project Manager, Department of Housing and Community Development
  - Homes for All/802 Homes
  - Infill and Age-in-place options near the Village Center
- **Miro Weinberger**, Executive Chair, Let's Build Homes
  - Reviewing Middlesex's Zoning for Housing Readiness

7:30 PM **Break Out Group Discussion (in person only)**

- Community input on the future of Great Brook Road and alternative housing options.
  - How can we help keep people and property out of harm's way?
  - How do we encourage safe, affordable, and flexible housing?
  - Are there areas of opportunity for development?
  - Other ideas for creating a more resilient Middlesex?

8:15 PM **Wrap up & Next steps**

- Share discussion group ideas
- Priorities for next steps and opportunities for engagement

8:30 PM **Adjourn**

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX, VERMONT

To: Travis Thomason,
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
356 Mountain View Drive
Suite 105
Colchester, VT 05446

3 September 2026

Dear Mr. Thomason,

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Middlesex, Vermont to request an extension to the Middlesex Emergency Watershed Protection Program 5042 agreement. This extension is necessary to complete the engineering and construction of project sites that sustained damage during the Vermont flood of July 2024.

Due to the extensive work required to complete statewide projects under the EWP 5041–2023 event, combined with recent government downsizing and a reduction in NRCS engineering staff, progress on the EWP 5042 project sites has experienced delays. Despite these challenges, NRCS staff have successfully completed all site surveys and are currently focused on finalizing engineering designs and securing permits this fall. Necessary tree cutting work was completed this summer and construction is anticipated to begin no later than spring of 2027.

We are requesting an extension through November 30, 2027, to complete construction and any required close-out activities. The Town is striving to complete this work as soon as possible and has mobilized its resources, including the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission and the local Conservation Commission who are communicating with landowners to ensure all construction and close out activities are completed no later than November 30, 2027.

The Statement of Work Milestones in Middlesex's executed agreement has been updated to reflect this extension request:

1. **Complete Design(s):** Estimated October 2026
2. **Obtaining Permits:** Estimated November 2026
3. **Complete Quality Assurance Plan (QAP):** Estimated December 2026
4. **Solicit Bids:** Estimated December 2026
5. **Award Construction Contract(s):** Estimated January 2027
6. **Completion of construction and close-out activities:** November 30, 2027

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Scharf
Chair, Town of Middlesex Selectboard
5 Church Street
Middlesex, VT 05602

I went by the next day before the scheduled service and saw that he was still there, along with a few other people hanging out, and had only moved a bit farther from the entrance gate. His visitors did leave before mourners arrived.

That day Gary Lamell told me that throughout August there have been ongoing issues with people camping and trespassing at the cemetery. Gary said that he had twice chased out someone who had a camper pulled up next to the shed. If I understand Gary correctly, all of the people camping/trespassing are connected to the abutter who lives in the trailer on Bolduc immediately uphill from NBC.

Gary says that the owner of that trailer claims that he never gave the town permission for a right-of-way, that he can use the entrance road however he wants, that he's going to get the cemetery shut down, etc.

This is the Cemetery Commission's plan for now:

- Make more frequent trips to NBC so there's more activity more often. (If you ever have an extra 10 minutes when you're driving to/from town, please consider a short detour and drive through the cemetery.)

- Assume that the car camper will move along as the weather gets colder, and not escalate that situation unless something changes.

- Make sure that all of the legality around property boundaries, easements, and rights-of-way is airtight. Hopefully the zoning committee can help with that? I have old NBC Association records from before the town took ownership and will look through those. Are there any other records I should be looking for?

As I understand it from Gary, there is generational beef between NBC neighbors (including the Lamells) and this abutter/his extended family. I'm trying to keep things focused on cemetery maintenance and safety issues rather than personal conflicts, but if there's any context that you think Steph and I should be aware of, please let me know.

Suggestions for next steps are very welcome!

Thanks,
Kris

--
Kris Bierfelt, Secretary
Middlesex Cemetery Commission

Summary:

MiddlesexVermont.org to MiddlesexVT.gov Transition

Status:	Assigned
Ticket #:	135112
Company:	Town of Middlesex
Contact:	Cheryl Grandfield
Phone:	(802) 223-5915
Address:	5 Church St. Middlesex, VT 05602

Discussion

Hollend Ritondale
9/10/2026 10:15 AM

Hello,

The first thing that has to happen here is you need to secure the domain name middlesexvermont.gov through the portal for this. Most municipalities have come to me after the fact and let me know they had already done this and to move forward with config changes from our end. I highly recommend using one of the permanent internal staff email accounts to setup the account for the .gov domain. Preferably the treasurer email.

For the website you will have to work with your web developers to get that change implemented in conjunction with updates to DNS that I may be able to help with.

For email we just need the domain secured and to have access to DNS records. I can add the new domain into your M365 and fairly easily swap everyone's email over to the .gov domain.

Next steps:
Secure middlesexvermont.gov domain

Thank you,
Hollend

levine@together.net
9/9/2026 4:09 PM

When will I hear back on moving the.gov project along?

There are also funding opportunities available to help offset the Town's costs associated with the domain acquisition and transition. Michael Levine is currently working to identify and secure any available funding.

Please work with Michael Levine and Michael Braun Hamilton to move the discussion forward and determine what will be needed from the Town. When providing estimates or quotes for the domain, transition, or any other related services or costs, please copy me so I can stay informed and assist with the process as needed.

Thank you all for your help in moving this forward. We appreciate your assistance in coordinating the transition and supporting the launch of the new website.

Best,

Cheryl

From: clerk Markdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInlineclerk@middlesexvermont.orgMarkdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInline
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2026 11:54 AM
To: treasurer Markdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInlinetreasurer@middlesexvermont.orgMarkdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInline
Subject: FW: Reminder

-----Original Message-----

From: Levine Markdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInlinelevine@together.netMarkdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInline

Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2026 11:11 AM

To: Selectboard Chair Markdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInlineselectboardchair@middlesexvermont.orgMarkdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInline

Cc: clerk Markdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInlineclerk@middlesexvermont.orgMarkdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInline; Michael Braun Hamilton Markdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInlinelamanyana@gmail.comMarkdig.Syntax.Inlines.HtmlEntityInline

Subject: Reminder

Liz,

Cheryl

From: clerk <clerk@middlesexvermont.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2026 11:54 AM
To: treasurer <treasurer@middlesexvermont.org>
Subject: FW: Reminder

-----Original Message-----
From: Levine <levine@together.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2026 11:11 AM
To: Selectboard Chair <selectboardchair@middlesexvermont.org>
Cc: clerk <clerk@middlesexvermont.org>; Michael Braun Hamilton <lamanyana@gmail.com>
Subject: Reminder
Liz,
A quick reminder to send an email introducing Michael Braun Hamilton and myself to the RB connection. This will allow us to move forward on step one of registering the domain name.
Thanks,
M
--
Levine
95 S. Bear Swamp Rd
Middlesex, VT 05602