

Minutes of EFUD  
Wednesday March 11, 2026  
28 North Main Street and via zoom

**Attendance:** Bill Shepeluk, Rick Weston, Cindy Parks, Bob Finucane, Natalie Sherman, Skip Flanders, Karen Petrovic, Bill Woodruff

**Public Attendance:** Valerie Rogers, Cheryl Gloor, ORCA, Martha Staskus

**Zoom Attendance:** Anne Imhoff, Kia Nealy, Kenny Ryan, Amy Marshall-Carney, ORCA Media

**Call to order:** S. Flanders called the meeting to order at 4:31pm

**Approve Agenda:** S. Flanders requested two modifications to the agenda.

Add a discussion regarding the process of hiring a new Town Manager, Martha Staskus to join at 6:00pm

Add a discussion of the finalized details of the Watershed Meeting scheduled on Thursday 3/19 at the Fire Station. This will be added after the One Leak Rule consideration.

**N. Sherman made a motion to approve the amended agenda with these additions. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.**

**Public:** no public comment

**Consider Minutes of February 11, 2026:** Edits of the minutes requested by B. Finucane. On page 2 of the 2/11/2026 draft minutes; subtitle: Discussion on Watershed Management and future public meeting. B. Finucane strikes "B. Finucane asked to research enforcement abilities from law enforcement officials" and requests the minutes reflect: B. Finucane suggested that a presentation from lawyers and law enforcement should be part of the waterworks public hearing agenda. This to inform the public and the board about how watershed rules could be enforced. **B. Finucane made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 11, 2026 as amended. The motion was seconded by R. Weston and passed unanimously.**

**Appointing an EFUD Assistant Treasurer:** B. Shepeluk stated he has been keeping a time sheet of tasks for he has been completing on behalf of EFUD. B. Shepeluk explained the process that was followed when K. Petrovic stepped down. EFUD as the appointed authority felt the Assistant Treasurer should be vetted through the board. **B. Finucane made a motion to appoint B. Shepeluk as Assistant EFUD Treasurer which was seconded by C. Parks and passed unanimously.**

**Consider a one leak rule:** There was no discussion. **B. Finucane moved to approve the one leak rule. N. Sherman seconded the motion; a vote was held and passed unanimously.**

**Water Shed Meeting Update:** R. Weston thanked C. Parks for formalizing the agenda for next Thursday's meeting. There will be 4 speakers Harry Shepard, Steve Hagenbuch, Peter Kelbacki and Thomas Jack. There are still plans for a third public meeting in the future.

**Update on bids for Cross Country Water Line Extension and steps necessary to be ready for construction:** C. Parks stated there were 8 contractors that took the bidding documents and 5 submitted bids. The engineer had estimated the project cost of \$1.699 million, of the bids received the low bid is \$1.219 million. There is a 60-day bid hold, the bids are currently under review. Easements are still being negotiated. The project is on track to begin in April/May 2026 with construction ending in September.

**Funding for new roof on Water Plant and Clearwell:** The 1991 roof is currently leaking. Replacement to include the roof on treatment plant and Clearwell along with the porch roof. B. Shepeluk suggests borrowing against the water investment account. Consideration might be made to seek voter approval for 5-year borrowing in May just in case it's needed. **R. Finucane made a motion to authorized B. Woodruff to obtain a minimum of two quotes for the roof replacement. N. Sherman seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

**Update on UDAG loan for Stowe Street Café:** N. Sherman questioned the UDAG loan for Stowe Street Café now that the business is closed. T. Leitz negotiated the most recent loan so there is not immediate awareness of the terms. There is some talk about someone else running the business and taking over the loan. B. Shepeluk isn't aware of any prevision to move the loan to another party. Staff confirmed there are two outstanding loans. Staff will investigate the terms of each loan including pay off amounts and terms of the loans and report back at the next meeting with an updated on all the UGAD loans.

**Preparation for annual Report and Annual Meeting:** The timelines of items was reviewed including the warning which will need to be finalized at the next meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>; the deadline for Annual Report information is April 1, 2026 and petitions to run for office from R. Finucane, R. Weston and N. Sherman is April 6<sup>th</sup> 2026.

Consensus to change the order of items because Martha Staskus is not present.

**Discussion of EFUD Water & Sewer investments and Statutory requirements:** S. Flanders circulated a packet of information relating to the charter and use of investment money. B. Shepeluk also presented historical information and documents related to proprietary funds. R. Finucane provided some history and his interpretation of title 24 V.S.A 3313 relating to uses of funds. Research is needed to determine where current funds originated from to ensure they are being allocated correctly as prescribed by law. Board consensus for staff to determine where the funds have originated from for the next meeting.

**Discussion of future EFUD Manager Contract options and staffing options:** S. Flanders stated the board is considering using B. Woodruff as the EFUD manager permanently and how it impacts the Select Board in their search for a new manager. M. Staskus, Select Board Chair, would like to see an organizational chart of the staff and an audit of tasks and time of current staff to ensure there are no gaps to assist in the search process. Perhaps there is space for a shared finance position with EFUD and the Town. B. Shepeluk spoke about many of the cost and staff sharing that occurs between EFUD and the town for services that all employees currently perform. R. Weston agreed with a point made by B. Shepeluk that it is important for shared staff not to have two managers. Many of the complication of dividing the two entities were discussed and each entity making an organizational chart to create a visual resource for tasks and responsibilities.

**Review Department Reports:** The board reviewed the water and sewer reports provided by staff.

**Executive Session on Union Contract Negotiations:**

**At 6:44pm R. Finucane made a motion that specific findings that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body, or person involved at a substantial disadvantage. R. Weston seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

**At 6:45pm R. Finucane made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion of Union Negotiations and the Town Manager Contact. N. Sherman seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

**B. Finucane made a motion to exit executive session at 7:30; seconded by N. Sherman. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

No action was taken

**B. Finucane made a motion to adjourn at 7:31; seconded by N. Sherman. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**