DRAFT
VILLAGE OF ENOSBURG FALLS
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
November 10, 2026

Present: Eli Gabuzda, David Gervais, Pauline Loiselle, Jason Longway
Staff: John Dasaro, Caroline Marcy
Public: Mike Miller – Online, Northwest Access Cable.

The meeting was called to order by Eli Gabuzda at 6:30 p.m.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

John Dasaro asked to add a discussion under Item #6: A & E Stormwater Engineering Services about moving stormwater expenses out of the wastewater budget.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Review and Approve Minutes of October 27, 2026

David Gervais made a motion to approve the minutes of the Trustee meeting held on October 27, 2026, as presented. Jason Longway seconded the motion. Unanimous.

4. Banking Resolution

The Trustees reviewed the banking resolution and the powers assigned to each authorized individual. Jason Longway made a motion to remove Heather Moore and add Pauline Loiselle as a Trustee on the Peoples Trust Co. banking resolution. David Gervais seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Powers were reviewed and assigned as before:

- John Dasaro, Village Manager, has all powers
- Account Management: Caroline Marcy, Finance Director
- Signing/Borrowing: Eli Gabuzda, Trustee; Roberta Morin, Treasurer; Caroline Marcy, Finance Director

All Trustees present signed the resolution, and Eli Gabuzda signed at the top and bottom.

5. Kendall Hydro, Update and Discussion

The Trustees reviewed the status of the Kendall hydro unit, which has been down since last spring and has significant damage to the bottom section and cowling. The unit was pulled by Fairbanks and is currently at their shop. Three options were presented:

· Quick fix: Approximately $18,000 to $20,000. This restores the shaft only, with the blades fixed at approximately 25% capacity. The estimated timeline is one to two months.

· Full restoration: Approximately $100,000 or more. This restores full adjustable operation. The estimated timeline is six to eight months, parts sourcing is ongoing, and the work would likely be built out in 2027. The price quote is valid for 30 days only.

· New unit: Approximately $800,000. This would provide a better design, easier maintenance, and a 40-year lifespan.

The Trustees discussed the financial impact of the unit being down:

- January is the highest revenue value month, historically approximately $61,000 to $77,000.
- Kendall produces just over half of total generation. In addition, the Village unit is adversely affected when the Kendall unit is down. According to a recent study, the hydro units produce approximately 17% of total usage. When the units are not operating, this loss generation must be purchased at market rates.
- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) are also lost while the unit is not generating, and Tier 2 credits may need to be purchased.

The Trustees also discussed the tradeoffs of the quick fix. It covers only approximately 25% of the lost generation, the gates must stay wide open with no flow adjustment overnight, and the unit must come back out for a permanent fix, which adds a reinstallation cost. The electrical crew expressed concern that the unit was not designed to operate this way, though the Fairbanks engineers are less worried. The consensus was to proceed with the quick fix to capture January revenue, and then plan for a permanent fix, contingent on Fairbanks confirming completion before January 1.

Longer term, a new unit may be fundable through a clean energy bond, alongside the solar and gas generator projects. FERC notification is required regardless of the repair option chosen; FERC approval is needed only if the CFS or kW output increases.

Jason Longway made a motion to approve the quick fix repairs, provided they can be completed by January 1. David Gervais seconded the motion. Unanimous. Staff will contact Fairbanks to confirm the timeline, emphasizing that completion must be confirmed before January 1 and that the high-production months are the priority. Staff will also notify FERC of the Kendall hydro status.

6. Discuss allowing A & E to provide services to engineer stormwater on Main Street

A & E Engineering proposed adding stormwater engineering to the Main Street project as a $7,500 amendment to its existing contract. A clean water grant may cover the engineering fees and project costs, though this is not guaranteed, and the engineering must be completed for the project to be eligible for any grant. The Main Street storm lines, which are part of the old wastewater system, are undersized and cause spring overflow issues.

It was noted that stormwater currently sits under the wastewater budget in error. The Highway crew maintains the storm drains, and Wastewater has no involvement in their maintenance. Other municipalities typically carry stormwater under the general fund. A budget correction will be made in 2027 to move stormwater to the general fund. Staff will check with VLCT on whether the change requires voter approval or whether Board approval is sufficient.

David Gervais made a motion to allow A & E Engineering to proceed with stormwater engineering on Main Street. Jason Longway seconded the motion. Unanimous. The contract amendment will be sent to A & E Engineering to sign.

7. Manager's Report

· **MERC building upgrade**: The upgrade is nearly complete. The roof, fans, and lighting are done, and the propane tank and furnace upgrade have been installed. Two windows remain, and a process has been developed for seasonal insulation.

· **Holiday luncheon:** The luncheon will be held on December 17 at noon, provided by the Phoenix House. The crew preferred a luncheon over a night out, and all Trustees are tentatively planning to attend.

· **Holiday parade**: The parade will be held on December 5. One truck is confirmed, with possibly two or three if newer drivers participate.

· **Ethics training**: The training may be reinstated. Staff will confirm that it is available online and follow up with Caroline, Eli, and Dave on completing it.

8. Other Business

ATV signage: A proposal was made to add ATV welcome and rules signs at the Village outskirts, modeled on the signage in Richford. The Richford signs highlight VASA registration, state registration, and vehicle insurance. It was suggested that Enosburg Falls add a helmet reminder, the dates and times the trails are open, and seasonal "trails closed" signs. The ATV trail season ended October 31, and the signs currently stay up year-round. A Facebook post is planned to remind the public that the trails are closed. Staff will contact Kiley Deuso in Richford to confirm whether the club or the town put up the welcome signs and to get details to replicate them locally.

9. Executive Session: For the Purpose of Discussing Negotiations in which Premature Public Knowledge May Compromise the Position of the Municipality.

David Gervais made a motion to enter Executive Session. Pauline Loiselle seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Executive Session was entered at 7:27 pm.

David Gervais made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:30 pm. Jason Longway seconded the motion. Unanimous.

There was no action taken as a result of Executive Session.

15. Adjourn

Jason Longway made a motion at adjourn at 8:30 pm. Seconded by David Gervais. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caroline Marcy
Director of Finance

These minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Trustees at a Regular Board Meeting.