

Minutes of South Alburgh Fire District #2 Regular Meeting October 15, 2025

Members Attending: John FitzGerald, Alton Bruso, Kathy Rochedieu, Rod Will, John Chesarek , Cheryl Dunn

Public: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by chairman John FitzGerald. An adjustment was made to the agenda to include a discussion under Old Business of obtaining a Zoom account for the District.

Minutes - The minutes of the Special Meeting on September 17, 2025 to elect new committee members and the regular meeting minutes of September 17, 2025 were reviewed. Kathy moved and Alton seconded that the minutes be approved. All voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report - Kathy presented the treasurer's report showing September end of month balances for our Operating account, Construction account, Capital Reserve account, and Phase 2 deposits. The M&T account has been closed and moved to the Union Bank operating account. Kathy accessed another \$130,000 from our Union Bank loan to help pay for the September Dirt Tech invoice. John F. moved the treasurer's report be accepted. Rod seconded. All voted in favor.

Kathy answered questions from the previous meeting regarding account amounts and pointed out that the bank statements are available from Cheryl for viewing.

Discussion ensued concerning the use of the funds in the Phase 2 deposit accounts to pay construction costs or to reimburse the Capital Reserve account. Rod asked if some money should be kept in the account to pay residents who want their deposits returned. John F made a motion that the Money Market Phase 2 funds be moved to the Operating Account only if needed to meet monthly bill expenses. Kathy seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Kathy reported that we are currently unable to access funds from the USDA loan due to the government shut down. Since we have exhausted the state loan funds, this puts us in a bind. Amy Galford, from the Vermont Bond Fund, says the state is happy with our efforts and progress and would consider providing us with another loan/grant to fund completion of the project. The committee will act quickly to obtain theses funds.

Warrants: \$57,838.85 – DuBois & King, engineering
\$295 – Endyne, water testing
\$488.50 – Cheryl Dunn, reimbursement for mailings
\$80 – Islander, special meeting warning
\$10.94 – John Chesarek, septic marking flags
\$1,238216.99 – Dirt Tech, Phase 2 construction
\$403 – lawyer for USDA loan
\$1493.62 – Core & Main LP, water meters and parts

Kathy moved and Alton seconded a motion to approve the warrants. All voted in favor.

Old Business: Phase 2 report – At the biweekly construction meeting this morning there were three issues of concern. The first is how best to proceed at Summit Road where two unexpected concrete culverts make the digging difficult. Dirt Tech and ECI are working together to develop the least expensive solution. On Poor Farm Road, a sensitive archaeological site is making the curb-stop placement problematic. Dirt Tech will work with the homeowner to resolve. Finally, the Point of Tongue HOA is demanding their road be replaced exactly as built. This involves a complex layering of materials, specific stone for replacement, and would increase the cost of the project. The committee needs to investigate options and discuss with the HOA.

Rod brought up an issue regarding easements for Cedarvale hook ups. The Point of Tongue HOA wants individual to get separate easements to cross Point of Tongue properties. He asked if the current easement allowed for all Cedarvale owners access without separate easements. Kathy moved that the committee grant Rod authorization to speak with the SAFD2 attorney about the easement issue. John F seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Water meter read request, Mud Point – John F reported that there was no resolution yet to this issue. He moved that Jason Beaulac, Village water superintendent, be required to attend District meetings to report on actions requested by the committee and supply inventories. Kathy seconded the motion. All voted in favor. John F will notify Jason.

Zoom – John C reported he contacted Zoom and learned that a Workplace Pro account for \$160 per year would meet the needs for the District for Zoom meeting services. Kathy suggested the District partner with the Village to use their account, as has been done on occasion in the past. Cheryl will check with the Village for approval.

Wagner Point – John F reported he had not yet written a letter to Mr Irish regarding the committee's position on the current water line plans. Kathy mentioned that new ARPA funds may be available for shovel ready projects like the end of Wagner Point. The committee will contact those who may benefit.

New Business – Approval of Prudential Committee member. Rick Perreault, voted in as a committee member at the last meeting, was determined to be ineligible. It was explained that there are a few properties at the north end of the line that are connected to the line but not officially in the District. Rick lives at one of these properties. The approval of a replacement was tabled to a future meeting to allow for advertising for interested persons.

No visitor input.

Agenda items for next meeting – The inter-local agreement with the Alburgh Village. John F. will send copies of the current agreement to committee members for review before the next meeting. (This was to be added to the October agenda but did not make it.)

Next meeting will be November 19, 2025.

John F moved and Kathy seconded that the meeting be adjourned. All votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
John Chesarek, Clerk

DPAF