

# Town of Georgia

## Selectboard Meeting

**Date:** February 9, 2026

**Prepared by:** Stacy Katon, Town Administrator

**Reporting Period:** January 27, 2026 – February 5, 2026

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## 1. General Updates

### Short-Term Rental (STR) Ordinance

Petitions appealing the STR Ordinance must be received by **4:00 p.m. on January 28, 2026**. If no petition is received, the ordinance will take effect **60 days from adoption**.

### Animal Control Coverage Update

ACO Sara Currier will be out for shoulder surgery beginning **February 24, 2026**. Assistant ACO **Jim Benson** will provide field coverage as needed. Calls will continue through normal Animal Control contact methods. Jim Benson has confirmed availability and is prepared to provide coverage.

### Nuisance Dog Issue

We are still awaiting detailed information from Sara. A reminder email was sent on **February 5, 2026**. Once received, the information will be forwarded to the Town Attorney for guidance and next steps.

### ACO Ticketing Issues

I have followed up with Sara regarding dismissed tickets and reminded her to resolve the filing issues directly with the **Vermont Judicial Bureau**.

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## 2. Departmental Updates

### Library

- The Library Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been sent to the Town Attorney for full review and recommendations. It is expected to be returned by the **third week of February**.
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## 3. Projects and Grants

### Active Town Grants

- **FY26 GIA Grant #GA1022** – \$24,000 (AOT). Highway Department plans to begin work in the spring.
- **FY26 Better Roads Grant** – Approved on **February 3, 2026**, in the amount of **\$7,968**.
  - This grant funds the Road Erosion Inventory (REI) on town-wide roads.
  - Total REI cost is \$9,900; the award covers 80%.
  - The Highway Department will work with **NRPC** to schedule completion.
- **FY26 United Way Sub-Agreement** – Library grant in the amount of **\$36,000** for Substance Misuse Prevention.

### **Grants Applied For – Awaiting Award Notices**

- **FY25 Historical Preservation Grant** – Brick Schoolhouse project (Historical Society grant).
  - Follow-up has been made with **Mari Jo Hanbury** requesting a formal grant agreement, if awarded.
  - Potential award: up to **\$20,000**.
- **FY26 TAP / MHSMP Grant** – Bridge #28 Replacement/Repair Project.
  - Application submitted November 2025.
  - Award announcements expected **end of March 2026**.
  - Potential award: up to **\$950,000**.
- **FY26 HSIP Grant** – Guardrail replacement project.
  - Application submitted **February 2, 2026**.
  - Amount requested: **\$43,000**.

### **Grants Requesting Selectboard Approval to Apply**

- **FY26 PACIF Grant** – Town-wide safety grant; maximum award **\$6,000**.
- **FY27 Town Highway Structure & Class 2 Grant** – Highway paving grant.
- **FY27 HUD Grant (Library)** – Building revitalization project; potential award up to **\$400,000**.

### **Grants Awaiting Resolution from Prior Years**

- **FY24 GIA Grant #0550**
  - This request remains under consideration and is currently on hold while AOT works through its backlog.

## **4. Financial / Budget Updates**

### **FY26 Strategic Planning**

Department Heads and the Selectboard should begin outlining **FY26 goals** aligned with the Town Plan, Capital Plans, and budget priorities. A coordinated strategic plan will support measurable progress throughout 2026.

### **GIDC / CDBG Informational Meeting**

An informational meeting was held with **Greg Maguire (LMS)**, **Tim Smit (GIDC)**, and State of Vermont representatives regarding the **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** program. LMS has expressed interest in this federal program, which supports development in eligible areas. I will continue participating in discussions to better

understand LMS, Town, and GIDC needs and assess alignment with Town development goals.

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## 5. Personnel and Human Resources

### Highway Department – On-Call Pay Addendum

A meeting was held on **Friday, January 23, 2026**, with the Highway Crew, Treasurer, and Town Administrator.

- The crew agreed that **separate checks are not necessary**.
  - One employee requested that the **\$20/week on-call amount** be deposited into a separate account, equivalent to the annual on-call total, while on-call pay continues to be deposited as usual.
  - The Treasurer and Town Administrator agreed, contingent upon a written addendum documenting the change.
  - Union leadership is contacting **Larry Moquin** regarding the addendum.
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## 6. Policy, Ordinance, and Compliance

### Planning Commission Collaboration

- Drafting, revisions, and edits are complete. Planning Commission feedback is being compiled for Selectboard review.
  - Policy and ordinance review remains ongoing. Approximately **21 policies/ordinances** remain to be reviewed over the coming months.
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## 7. Other Business and Items Needing Board Input

- **Fire Truck Insurance Claim:** Follow-up continues regarding the **\$1,000 deductible**. Coordination with the other driver’s insurance carrier remains ongoing.
- **Contracts Ending in FY26:**
  - **Records Management Services** – May 2026 (Town Clerk working on a new agreement).
  - **Law Enforcement Services** – June 2026; finalization pending Town Meeting budget approval and confirmation of FCSD service capacity.
    - **FCSD Hiring Update (John Grismore):**
      - Two oral board interviews and one Level III background check were completed.
      - None met FCSD standards.
      - Two additional oral board interviews are being scheduled.
- **GEMS Plowing Contract (2026–2027):**
  - Renewal discussions have been initiated and will require Selectboard review and approval once finalized.