

TOWN OF ARLINGTON, VERMONT
WASTEWATER COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
3828 VT Route 7A, Arlington, VT 05250
August 13, 2026 – 7:00 PM EST

Attendees: Jamie Paustian, Andrew Rodriguez, Steven McClafferty, Cynthia Browning, Robert Clark, Katie Dixon

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Paustian called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

2) PROGRESS REPORTS:

Report from Otter Creek Engineering

Mr. Clark went over the study findings, discussing quality of soil, gallon capabilities of the system (with and without attaching to the school's system), and the Town lien access due to a storage tank.

From the report: Secure an option to purchase the property, allowing the Town time to complete due diligence before final acquisition. Revise the preliminary engineering report with the final conclusions and recommendations selecting the Smith Site. Closeout the report stage and apply for a STEP 2 Final Design and Permitting Loan. Currently, up to 150,000 of engineering planning cost is 100% forgivable. Conduct additional test pits as required by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources / Department of Environmental Conservation permitting process to further characterize soil conditions across the site. The test pits should be conducted in the presence of the State Engineers associated with Vermont's indirect discharge program. Install groundwater monitoring wells at the site to establish seasonal high water table data required for permitting. Please note that conducting groundwater monitoring by recording water levels in the monitoring wells daily throughout March, April, and May of a calendar year allows for capturing the seasonal high groundwater period. Our preliminary data was used in assessing the potential site capacity. By collecting this data, it could be determined that the site capacity is larger than what has been presented in this memorandum. Compile monitoring data and test pit findings into a formal permit application package for submission to the State as part of a "preliminary capacity determination request".

Funding options were discussed, noting that design plans need to be complete prior to seeking funding. There may be ARPA money still available. *USDA Rural Utility Program.

The committee went on to discuss the Yellow Barn property as another location to consider. Mr. Clark shared that location may be able to work as well, and due to it's location has the potential to serve both village centers. Discussion among the committee and Mr. Clark on the Smith property, that while the soil and proximity to the school system is promising, it may not have the capability to serve both village centers

in the foreseeable future and not without major infrastructure changes that would impact State and Town roads, and many private property owners.

The Committee agreed to move forward with these next steps.

- 1) Ms. Dixon will reengage in conversations with Jim O'Dea and the contact with VLT on getting VLT and their counsel more specific information on what the wastewater system would look like at Yellow Barn.
- 2) Hold a public meeting during the Select Board Meeting on 8/31 to discuss the findings of the report, Mr. Clark to be present for Board questions. Board to receive recommendations and determine who will engage with Smith property owner, and in what stance.
- 3) Once these items have taken place, a public forum will be held dedicated solely to the wastewater system, date TBD but in the fall, with hope many members of the public will attend. Share the study findings, where we stand with VLT/Yellow Barn, where we stand with Smith property, and get input from the public.

3) OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

4) PLANNING FOR NEXT MEETING

Select Board Meeting to discuss report and recommendations on the wastewater system will take place on 8/31 at 7:00 PM

Next Wastewater Committee Meeting will take place between the 8/31 meeting and the fall public forum. Date TBD

5) ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paustian adjourned the meeting at 8:06 PM.