

City of Essex Junction Governance Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 28, 2025 @ 6:30 PM

Members present: Bethany Clark, Thomas Coen, Steve Eustis, Elaine Haney, Deb McAdoo, Candace Morgan, Brian Sheldon, Gabrielle Smith, Marlon Verasamy

Staff present: Brad Luck

Members of the public present: None

Steve Eustis called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. There were no amendments or additions to the agenda. There was no public to be heard.

Marlon Verasamy moved and Deb McAdoo seconded the approval of the minutes of the August 4th meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Review & Discuss Interviews with Other Communities

Marlon shared his notes from his conversation with Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington. Thomas reviewed his conversation with the town manager of Barre Town. Candace and Bethany shared notes from their conversation with the manager of St Albans City. Deb and Gabrielle shared their notes about their conversations with the manager and selectboard chair of Brattleboro.

Notes from all the interviews can be found in this document:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1u51AqBQXHvU8wpK57oyrXfX60Xw-D56hcvPNH32zRXY/edit?usp=sharing>

Discuss Plan Moving Forward & Identify Next Steps

Before we go out to the public:

- What do we need to know?
- How will we find that out?
- Be mindful of limited time and resources.

We also must remember that some community members may not be aware of the form of governance we have now; will need to include education on that as well.

It was noted that whatever the committee comes up with will have to go before the city council, which will also want to take public input. In addition, anything that results in charter changes will require a public hearing process.

It will be important to include explanatory information about the choices and why the committee arrived at them.

The committee agreed that a good next step is gathering consensus from members on the items covered in the interviews. Brad will create a form for committee members to submit their thoughts about the information we've gathered so far.

The next meeting is Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 6:30 PM.

Marlon moved and Deb seconded to adjourn. Steve adjourned the meeting at 8:12 PM.