



1 **Green Mountain Transit Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

2 **September 17, 2024 – 7:30 a.m.**

3 **101 Queen City Road, Burlington VT 05401**

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5 *The mission of GMT is to promote and operate safe, convenient, accessible,*  
6 *innovative, and sustainable public transportation services in northwest and central*  
7 *Vermont that reduce congestion and pollution, encourage transit-oriented*  
8 *development, and enhance the quality of life for all.*  
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11 **Present:**

12 Commissioner Paul Bohne, Essex  
13 Commissioner Phil Pouech, Hinesburg  
14 Commissioner Chapin Spencer, Burlington  
15 Commissioner Amy Brewer, Williston  
16 Commissioner Andrea Suozzo, Burlington  
17 Commissioner Bob Buermann, Grand Isle County  
18 Commissioner Catherine Dimitruk, Franklin County  
19 Alt. Commissioner Chapin Kaynor, Williston  
20 Commissioner Rajan Chawla, Essex Junction  
21 Commissioner Christian Meyer, Montpelier  
22 Commissioner Henry Bonges, Milton  
23 Alt. Kyle Grenier, Grand Isle  
24 Commissioner Michael Scanlan, South Burlington  
25 Commissioner Susan Grasso, Shelburne  
26 Commissioner Tasha Wallis, Lamoille County  
27 Alt. Commissioner Tom Derenthal, Burlington  
28 Tim Bradshaw, Director of Grants  
29 Connor Smith, Project Manager  
30 Corey Wolcott, Operations Manager (FGI)  
31 Nick Foss, Director of Finance  
32 Stephanie Reid, Director of Human Resources  
33 Jamie Smith, Director of Rider Experience  
34 Chris Damiani, Director of Planning  
35 Clayton Clark, General Manager  
36 Matt Kimball,  
37 GMT Dispatch



- 38 Tammy Masse, Controller
- 39 Daniel Currier, VTrans
- 40 Daniel Greaves
- 41 Dave Lamm
- 42 Erika Osorio, Transit Data Analyst
- 43 Nate Bergeron, GMT Driver
- 44 Jim E. Couture, GMT Driver

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48 **Open Meeting**

49 Commissioner Brewer opened the meeting at 7:32 AM.

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51 **Adjustment of the Agenda**

52 None

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54 **Public Comment**

55 Nate Bergeron, driver for GMT made the following comment:

56 My name is Nathan. I'm the Chief shop steward here. I also represent the  
57 Local 597. First off, I wanted to say, I'm rather disappointed in the fact that  
58 members of the Board have not been showing up to these Town Hall  
59 meetings. I know Jamie is there. She's recording the people's comments and  
60 what they have to say, but I think what they're saying gets lost in translation  
61 as far as their passion and their feelings, as far as these routes being cut. As  
62 for the routes being cut, I think the board is getting it wrong. One person  
63 brought up the fact that we would be the only state in the country where the  
64 transit system doesn't service the airport. No other state in the country does  
65 that. We are going to be cutting service to the city loop. Which means we're  
66 going to be cutting service to a large population of the vulnerable  
67 community. We wouldn't be servicing Fern Hill, McCauley Square, St.  
68 Joseph's Home, and the Rebel House. We're going to be preserving 20 min.  
69 service on the Williston Route and the Essex Route which primarily services  
70 St, Michael's College, and that's really lopsided. We're not doing the best  
71 with what little resources we have to service the greater part of the  
72 community. So, I say again, the cut we're doing, we're getting it wrong. We  
73 need to start thinking about reinstating service to the City Loop. I did take a  
74 bus map and guide, and I looked at all the service cuts that are



75 recommended and it's going to boil down to approximately 29 drivers that  
76 need to be laid off and 13 part time drivers. And I think that's going far above  
77 and beyond what's necessary as far as cuts being needed to be made.  
78 Although Clayton is there and is representing GMT and he can't answer the  
79 questions. It's you guys that are making the decisions. And it's you guys that  
80 the public wants to hear from and I think it's shameful. It's you that has led  
81 us to this point, and they want to know why we are here, and why we are  
82 where we are at.

83  
84 **Action: Consent Agenda**

85 Commissioner Bohne made a motion to approve the consent agenda and  
86 Commissioner Dimitruk seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

87  
88 **Action: Capital Budget Adjustment - Matt Kimball**

89 Director Kimball gave an overview of the capital budget adjustment. Commissioner  
90 Spencer made a motion to amend the FY25 capital budget to incorporate the  
91 changes outlined and to authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements for  
92 vehicle purchases as outlined above, and Commissioner Bohne seconded. All were in  
93 favor and the motion carried.

94  
95 **Discussion: Draft Service Reduction Plan**

96 GM Clark gave an overview of the public meetings to date and reviewed some of the  
97 sentiments received by riders and municipalities. GM Clark also mentioned that  
98 there has been some communication from Legislators regarding some of the  
99 proposed reductions.

100  
101 GM Clark discussed having a working meeting outside of the Board meeting.

102  
103 Commissioner Dimitruk asked if we had done some type of reduced fare analysis on  
104 the routes that were recommend for reduction and if staff planned on conducting a  
105 Title 6 analysis of the proposal. Commissioner Dimitruk actually asked if  
106 Commissioner questions were being tracked and used in the review of the plan.

107  
108 There was discussion regarding the survey results and using data in the decision-  
109 making process.

110  
111 **Discussion: Legislative Report Outline**



112 GM Clark reviewed the outline for the legislative report.

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114 **Presentation: Rural Transit Financial Study - Stephen Falbel**

115 Steve Falbel gave an overview of the rural financial study results. There was  
116 conversation about a rural commissioner meeting and a request from VTrans to be  
117 present at that meeting.

118

119 **Action: Approve Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for GMT Affiliated Non-Profit**

120 GMT Clark and the Board of Commissioners reviewed the Articles of Incorporation  
121 and the proposed Bylaws for an affiliated non-profit.

122

123 Commissioner Dimitruk made a motion to approve the draft articles of incorporation  
124 and bylaws, giving the General Manager the authority to adjust the name for filing  
125 purposes, and Commissioner Suozzo seconded. All were in favor and the motion  
126 carried.

127

128 **Executive Session to discuss labor relations agreement**

129 Commissioner Suozzo made a motion that premature public knowledge would place  
130 GMT at a disadvantage, and Commissioner Spencer seconded. All were in favor and  
131 the motion carried.

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133 Commissioner Wallis made a motion to enter executive session to discuss the GMT  
134 labor agreement inviting in GM Clark, AGM Moore, Director Foss and Director Reid  
135 and Commissioner Suozzo seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

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137 The Board of Commissioners entered executive session at 9:08 AM.

138

139 Commissioner Grasso made a motion to exit executive session and Commissioner  
140 Spencer seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. The Board exited  
141 executive session at 9:22 AM with no action taken.

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143 **Action: Approval Maintenance Collective Bargaining Agreement**

144 Commissioner Buermann made a motion to defer action to a future meeting, and  
145 Commissioner Spencer seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

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147 **Information: Committee Reports**

148 Committee chairs gave an overview of recent committee meetings.



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150 **Commissioner Comments**

151 Commissioner Grasso noted that Legislators have reached out for better  
152 understanding of GMT's vision on public transit and asked that the Board develops  
153 an overarching statement and how that coordinates with the state's vision.

154

155 Commissioner Kaynor asked that Commissioners help to get their alternate  
156 commissioners involved.

157

158 **Adjourn**

159 Commissioner Meyer made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Spencer  
160 seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:31  
161 AM.