

SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.

Those attending: Selectboard: Michael Hogan, Jack Daniels, Fred Ducharme, Bernie Shatney

Town: Karen Deasy, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter

Community Members: Cecilia Gulka, Richard Hourihan, Adam Overbay, Ruth Goodrich, Matt Nally, Jeff Haslett, Jennie Gilbert, Richard Gilbert, Don Mitchell, Sandy Pond, Ray McEntyre and wife.

1. The meeting was called to order by Michael Hogan at 6:00 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda – A motion was made by Fred and seconded by Bernie. There were no additions. Motion passed.
3. Approval Minutes of:
 - a. December 4 Budget Meeting – Fred 1st, Jack 2nd. Motion passed.
 - b. December 4 Selectboard Meeting - Fred 1st, Jack 2nd. Motion passed.
 - c. December 11 Budget Meeting – Fred 1st, Bernie 2nd. Motion passed.
4. Public Comment –
 - a. Jeff on the list of projects has to be updated with a date on it. The hedge row trees on his property- he hasn't heard back on that. He is wondering if he is getting a two- year guarantee with the trees if they don't make it. Karen says we are still waiting on the insurance company.
 - b. Communications with Lori from CCA and she hasn't gotten back to him.
 - c. Richard Gilbert got a letter the other day on parking his truck on the Common, (but it was on the school road. He did not park his truck there overnight. He isn't happy about last Saturday's village event with the lack of parking. He would like to have parking somewhere else except in the road. Jennie Gilbert said there was parking out on the road at 11 p.m. at night.
 - d. Richard stated that with the event Saturday, his drive was blocked. He stated that the NO all-night parking needs to be back up there. Mike said the event for next year will have better signage for where to park.
 - e. Ray McEntyre on Cabot Plains Road- spoke regarding the construction on the entrance of the road. He is not in favor of the construction of the road and feels it is unsafe. When they redesigned it, they cut the corner too much. They took too long to patch the pot holes this summer. There was no discussion with the people that use the road on a daily basis. He would have liked to know ahead of time on this project of narrowing the entrance of Cabot Plains Road. He doesn't think it's not any benefit to go on the road or to go off the road with the curve. Karen discussed the paving project and the road foreman thought that it was done for safety of plowing and because it was a hazard. Ray would like to have the road restored back to the original size. Jeff commented that was not on the project list.
 - f. Appointment of Municipal Clerk and/or Treasurer versus Election – Jack discussed the background of exploring to get approval for a Charter for the Town of Cabot. That would allow for town clerks or town treasurers to be non-residents which could increase the pool of applicants. The Legislature passed Act 27 to allow municipalities to appoint their clerks and treasurers. A town must submit an article to vote by ballot at town meeting. This approach would allow for more candidates to apply. Jack would like the town clerk to still be elected, but move to a system that the town treasurer is appointed by the select board. Having the town treasurer appointed would mean the treasurer would be supervised by the select board and report to the select board. Currently, there is no process for replacing a town clerk or town treasurer. If the select board votes on this then it will be voted at town meeting. Mike mentioned that if the Selectboard does not agree with this approach, then any resident can propose an article. It can only be approved at town meeting by the voters.

Ruth is saying that it doesn't mean that a treasurer from out of town would not get into trouble as a treasurer. Ruth is saying that would mean to have great trust in the select board to hire a treasurer. Ruth would like the opinions of the other two select board members. Fred can see both sides with Jack's side and also Ruth's side.

Jack stated that it has nothing to do with Betty or Michelle's positions now. Looking what's best for Cabot in long term. Look at internal controls and not at the person doing the job now. Sandy Pond asked if the budget numbers could be seen by the community. Mike explained how the budget is done and people can see how the budget numbers are calculated. The select board and the treasurer work together on the budget. The budget is being worked on currently prior to the regular Selectboard meetings from 5-6 p.m. All are welcome to attend and ask questions.

Ruth is wondering if the residents can look at the numbers if the treasurer was appointed. The numbers are available for anyone to look at. Jack told Sandy we have an external auditor to review our numbers and give us a report.

Sandy requested about the Cabot Plains Road changed be in the budget. Jack said this project is a small project and was not in the budget. Jeff discussed the Danville hill water line project communication.

Jeff talked about more power with the select board. The town would not be able to hear about it because it would be in executive session. It works now but it might not always work. Richie thinks it is taking his right away from the town for voting for the treasurer. Jeff is looking at the select board not doing it properly. Currently, the three portions of government in State and Federal are being broken down and feels that we are eroding the rights of the people not to vote for the Town Clerk and Treasurer. He believes that if the treasurer is appointed by the select board that person would not talk against the select board. Jeff thinks we are going down a path of something that is not necessary and we have projects that are more important.

Ruth indicated that they are looking for two part time people instead of one full time person. Fred is letting them know that we are discussing this not going to go forward with it yet. Sandy doesn't think there is enough integrity on the board for them to be in charge of a treasurer. Bernie mentioned that there are two select board member positions up for election at Town Meeting and that they can be part of the process if they so desire. Jeff suggested that you changing from three years and maybe one year, or having someone from another municipality run for the position. Jack looked into it and the town has to be chartered. Jack would like to have it for the treasurer position only.

Jeff made the comment that Jack does a very good job at the budget meetings.

5. Town Auditors – Cecilia discussed the postcard mailing. The mailing can go thru the town meter. We also will get returned any wrong addresses. The postage will be around \$400 which is less than the \$600 to send out Town Reports. It will also save twenty hours of auditor time. The Faith in Action will need to be a separate article on the Town Meeting warning not combined in the list of Appropriations.
6. Fire Department Lot Land Adjustment –Karen stated that the town hired Lisa Ginett to do the survey on the property of the Fire Dept. Lot land. Lisa reset pins and the maps and information were sent to Mike Tarrant the Town Counsel for review. The land adjustment is with Joshua BenCanaan who is an adjoining landowner. Mike signed and Joshua needs to sign and then have it notarized.
7. Water and Waste Water – The new control panel is installed and working. There was training today on how the new panel works which will be more efficient.
8. Road Commissioner
 - a. Project Schedule – No new projects.
 - b. Other Business - The town garage now has to file Tier 2 reports on salt and sand stored. The reports need to be filed to the State Environmental Conservation. Regional planning has the maps.
9. Town Clerk
 - a. Orders – Done. Betty advised that if anyone is interested in the process they are welcome to come and discuss the process with her.
 - b. Other Business – Remind the Selectboard there's A Board of Abatement at 6:15 on Thursday night. The office will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.
10. Other Business – Jack talked about Richard Scheiber's email comments on the proposed zoning changes. There is a public hearing on January 3 at 6 p.m. Jack would like the planning commission to consider the comments. Mike read the email which suggested that this revision to the town and village should be separate articles with a suggestion of five articles or less.
11. Executive Session – 7:06 p.m. Fred 1st, Bernie 2nd. Came out of Executive Session at 7:37 p.m.
12. Adjourn – The meeting at adjourned at 7:37 p.m. with a motion by Fred and seconded by Bernie to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer