

**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTE  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

Those present in person: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, RD Eno, Karen Larsen, Skip Bothfeld, Jeanne Johnson, Betty Ritter, Frank Kampf, Dean Deasy, Will Ameden, Robert Ducharme, Jenn Miner, Glenn Goodrich, Kris Schmidt, Gauthiers, Marci Martin, Ruth Goodrich, Joseph Aldsworth, Constance Hare, Ben Vitale; zoom Phil Carpentier, Heather Barand, Aaron Celley, Brittany Butler, Shawn Everhart, Joe Gagnon, Steve Hogan, Rodger Sheldon

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. A motion was made to go into executive session to discuss the Cabot Ambulance. A motion was made by Karen with a second by Fred.
2. Executive Session – A motion was made by RD with a second by Fred to go into Executive Session, motion carried. We came out of ES at 7:15 p.m. to begin the regular portion of the SB Meeting.
3. Approve Agenda - A motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip. Other items to be under other business: Elm Street Parking approval to use for Cheese and Culture, Hazard Mitigation Issue - Elevation
4. Approval of Minutes from August 6, 2024 Selectboard Meeting - Item 9a. RD policy states that it does include some of the fees. This should be that residents that request a hook up after the original hook up would be responsible for the entire installation fees. Karen said that we should strike the comment that the Town could go bankrupt unless it is clarified that Sandy made the statement. Also, the amount we received was \$999,000. Eric Smith – concern about his property. Mike did state that we are working on this, and we did find that Charlie Philbin does have a right to spring rights, which Eric was unaware. The minutes were approved with corrections with Fred abstaining as he was not at the 8-6-24 minutes.
5. Public Comment – There was no public comment.
6. Constance Hare would like to discuss several items regarding Coit’s Pond Road.
  - a. Fireworks – has a neighbor set them off without letting her know in 2023 and she ended up having a vet bill of \$750 for her horses. She asked Peter Lloyd to let her know when he would be setting off fireworks. She asked what kind of rights do surrounding neighbors have. Dean said before anyone signs off, they need to meet certain requirements. They are required to let adjacent landowners of fireworks display. This year he filed a permit and did notify adjoining neighbors. Last year he did not file a permit. He did meet all the criteria this year. There is a section on the permit about display, clearance, and fallout area. Along with a provision in place of how to dispose of dud fireworks and clean up. Dean said that if he has it next year, he will discuss this and look at his obligations. Priority is to make everything safe. This year she moved the horses at her expense. Karen stated that the one thing that is not covered is noise. Fred wanted to know if he must inform the adjoining neighbors. He did reach out to the neighbors. RD wanted to know if we could amend the permit. The current permit is for the day, or a rain date and Dean has circulated the permit to the SB.
  - b. Air BNB – Is there any way to send Notice to renters re dogs and dirt bikes, they are 4 abreast and creates a dangerous situation. Karen stated that she should work with the animal control officer to stop the dogs from running loose. Mike stated that both items have been an issue not just in Cabot, but statewide. Constance stated they are not wearing helmets, and she is very concerned. Sharon, who is the owner of the Red House stated that they do not have 4-wheelers.
  - c. Police Coverage – she would like to have more patrols on the back roads. Broken into 3 times and a ladder extension was taken. It was suggested for her to put up cameras. We have a contract with the Sheriff’s Office and Betty will contact them about being in the area.
7. Allocation of local economic recovery grant monies from FY24 Budget Adjustment Act – Discussion and Decision – We have received a Budget Adjustment that we would like to set aside for possible inspection and leakage on West Hill Pond and needs some repair. It is suggested that we set aside \$20,000 seed money for this. We need to do everything we can to help this dam be taken care of. We will need to draw down the dam first to repair. The Ericksons are the new owners of the red house and are very concerned. We need to

study and try to analyze the effect of what would happen if the dam broke, even drawing down for repairs. There are also larger issues such as recreation. The state does not want to pull down the dam. Dean also mentioned that the FD does have a dry hydrant there to use that water source and is a vital piece of safety for that area. RD - do we have a contract to repair or fix the dam? Mike stated that we are not going to take any action at this time. Karen recognized this is a risk and needs to keep monitoring. West Hill Pond Association is back up and running and would like the people around West Hill Pond to be a part of the Association. Karen will work with the West Hill Pond Association. There are also 2 large debris piles that need to be removed and would like to put \$10,000 aside for this.

8. Highway Update – finishing up some programs, more grading to be done. Blodgett and Jug Brook Culverts have been awarded. Sid is happy at the way they are going. Defer Class 4 to another time.
9. Water and Wastewater
  - a. Update from Rodger Sheldon, H2O Innovations – Membranes are working well, keeping up. They will have a mock of the Permeate Skid next week at the plant. He will notify Mike and Fred. The new skid and all the piping, bends and twists will be eliminated, and they will try to eliminate any trip hazards. Now that we are keeping up, we have an influent pump may not be bad, but is full of grit and need to get it pumped out along with the outside tank in 2 sections also has sludge and rock and grit that also needs to be cleaned. The first set of membranes ran at 35-40 gallons a minute and the second set at 100 gallons a minute.
  - b. He also talked with Heather at the day care, and they are updating their usage to 2 meals a day instead of 1 meal a day. We can produce enough water, and the sewer is fine and will be billing for an extra ½ eru. She will get the new information to us.
  - c. Other Business – there was no other business.
10. Town Clerks Office
  - a. Orders - were signed.
  - b. Update on Primary – it went very well, signed up 4 new voters, and it was busier than what we thought.
  - c. Other business – Betty wanted to know the thoughts about putting special events on the website. Seth and Betty have discussed that we don't necessarily want items such as garage sales, etc. Karen stated that Betty along with Seth would have full discretion.
11. Other Business – regarding the Executive Session. Mike wanted to thank everyone for their patience. It was a good conversation, and they came to an agreement that will be signed tomorrow after all the changes are made. Mike moved that the SB approve the Town and Cabot Ambulance contract for July 1, 2024, June 30, 2025, with a second by RD motion carried.

Regarding the flood in July 2023 the Currier property was applying for hazard mitigation grant with a local match originally, now it will be funded 100% with no match from the Town. They just need to have the SB agree to this. The homeowner cannot do this but must have the backing of the Town. Once the municipality agrees, they can start the process. There is no guarantee that this will happen for them, but there is a deadline of August 30. RD wanted to know if we will have any further input regarding the process. Brittany does not know this. The town is not committing to anything. Mike asked if Brittany could find out a little more information and Mike could sign off. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip. Motion carried.

Public Comment – Ruth handed in a public information request and has redirected her request. She feels electronic information can be done very quickly and immediately. Mike gave all the information to Mike Tarrant. We will check with him to see where we are at with the request.

12. Motion to Adjourn A motion was made by RD with a second by Skip, motion carried and adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk