

**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

Those present: Fred Ducharme, Karen Larsen, RD Eno, Skip Bothfeld, Betty Ritter, Frank Kampf, Jeanne Johnson, David Kidney, Gary Gulka, Jules and Kate Chatot, Lori Augustianiak, Marie Achonie Goodrich, via zoom: Jennifer Churchill, Sandy Pond, Tyler Billingsly, Kris Schmidt

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Approve Agenda - A motion was made by RD with a second by Skip, motion carried.
3. Approval of Minutes from November 12 Meeting – A motion was made by RD with a second by Skip. Fred then asked if there were any corrections or additions. RD stated that Item #3 should read and apply Neighborhood Development Area and in #8b second sentence – should be “he did review the proposal with the current CCIF Committee”. Motion approved as amended.
4. Public Comment – David Kidney, lives in Montpelier and has a camp on Joe’s Pond. On behalf of Joe’s Pond Association would like to ask the Town of Cabot to be a co-petitioner for Wake. Wake boats appeared on lakes and ponds and were not compatible with lakes and ponds. Responsible file a petition – prohibit 20’ or deeper and 1,000 feet from shore cited numerous sitings. Wake boats create enormous waves, plowing through water and creating enormous wakes. The propeller is like an eggbeater. This kicks up phosphates and is dangerous to animals and humans. It can cause shoreline erosion if not 200’ away. Also concerned about invasive species as they spill from the ballasts. DEC held hearings with the state. DEC – came out with 60’ deep, 600 from shore, and ANR 500 50’ 20’ deep. It encompasses the entire pond. ANR did not consider safety to the rule. We will handle this when a lake or pond petitions to not have these boats. We have 43 lakes with no wake boats, 9 have filed petitions, Caspian, Fairlee, Waterbury Reservoir, to name a few. Joe’s Pond filed a petition, and it would be very helpful if Cabot would be a co-petitioners. They did not put environmental concerns in their petition. At Joe’s Pond, blue green algae have been found. Joe’s Pond is a very heavily used pond. We discovered milfoil for the first time. There are safety concerns because the Pond is so busy that it is dangerous and they did address shoreline erosion and damage to retaining walls. The economic factor could affect the Cabot and Danville tax base and need to protect this. Other towns have signed off on this. It would be very helpful if we joined them. They would file an amendment to say that Cabot would be a co-signor.

Karen suggested that we wait until the next SB meeting to decide so other people can weigh in on this that have properties on the Pond and also it was not warned and needs to be warned in order to make a motion.

Parking Policy – Lori presented the Draft Parking Policy and there were several comments. It was suggested that we put up parking signs permanently. Frank was wondering if Seth could do something for Cabot for outlining parking. When he was in Switzerland all he had to do was google parking and thought perhaps we could do something like this. Dana suggested that we need to have where parking is restricted not just where to park. We found that people are double parking in the Village making it difficult if there are any emergencies. Betty also suggested that we make sure that Greg’s tow truck be not blocked in. Elm Street parking is great when there is a shuttle bus but would not work in the winter months. Sandy Pond suggested more lighting, and Cabot Creamery are running 24/7. Coordinate events. Check with the school, NIA, WB parking when events are going on.

5. Highway Update – The crew is working to get all the roads ready for winter.

6. Tyler Billingsly to discuss 3 Category C road projects 2025. The two under construction Upper Jug Brook Road, nearly done, Blodgett Road is almost done. Waiting for guardrails to be installed possibly next week. Goodhue was used for upper Jug Brook and Blodgett. An invoice will be sent in this week, with final invoice early December. Slightly under budget and under FEMA amount estimated. I believe we have FEMA estimate around \$400,000 and they are coming in at \$300,000. We will submit to FEMA from Goodhue. Our portion is 2.5%. RD wanted to know if they have obligated to FEMA pay for this. He will check with Mike and Sid. Karen stated they are well documented and they fall under the 90% threshold.

Three remaining Menard Road, Mack Mountain Road, Lower Jug Brook Road, haven been permitted and in the FEMA que. Next year is busy year for roadway and culverts and would suggest they be put out to bid sooner than later. If we wait until Town Meeting, most of the contractors will be scheduled for work, and we need to decide what the best decision is. A good time a little after hunting season. Mack Mountain is a box culvert and it usually takes 3-4 months' time to frame this. He asked if we want to bundle them to bid on all three, break apart Jug Brook and combine Menard and Mack Mountain, or do each one separately. His suggestion is to bundle Mack and Menard Road together (due to proximity) and Lower Jug Brook separately. If we do this Lower Jug Brook Road could go to some smaller contractors to bid. If we do three separate contractors, we will have three contractors working at the same time. Fred wanted to know if Tyler would do the specs as he did the last one, open bids, etc. He said he would do that. RD asked if once we solicit the bids and they come in are we under obligation to award. Tyle stated we have the right to accept or reject the bids. RD didn't understand why we would have to go out to town, because the work must be done, it is not discretionary. Tyler suggests that we bundle Menard and Mack Mountain and Jug Brook separately. Fred wanted to know if there was any problem with 3 separate and Tyler stated there is no problem. Fred thought they could be written on 1, 2 or 3 bids. If one bids on all three and the cost savings may be a little tricky. We do have to maintain roads. Mack Mountain and Menard do have rental bridges that need to be returned to the State. RD moved that we bundle Mack Mountain and Menard in a single RFP and break off Jug Brook Road and charge Tyler to draw up the specs, review bids, and with a second by Karen, motion carried.

7. Water and Wastewater
  - a. Other Business – There was no other business
8. Town Clerks Office
  - a. Orders were signed.
  - b. Other business – there was no other business.
9. Other Business – getting rest of ballfield cleaned up. We should be respectful of Tim and Jenn for allowing the use of the ballfield. RD called Gregg and he is available on a weekend. RD will check with Cameron for them to coordinate this.
10. Motion to Adjourn – A motion was made by Karen with a second by Skip, motion carried, and we adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully,  
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk