

SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday April 7, 2026, 6:00 P.M.

In person: Jenn Miner, Fred Ducharme, Mike Hogan, Skip Bothfeld, Peggy Miller, Amy Monahan, Dana GLaizer, Mike Cookson, Gary Gulka, RD Eno, Trish and Steve Cox, Doug Cooke, Charles Miner, Betty Ritter, Brittany Butler, Roland Payne, Frank Kampf
Online: Kris Schmitt, Emily Lewis, Sandy Pond, Sam Lash, Alison Hogan

1. Call Meeting to Order: Jenn Miner called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Approve Agenda: Fred made motion, Mike seconded, and motion carried.
3. Public Comment: Charles Miner-sheriff patrols and why people are speeding at extreme speeds and the sheriff is never in town? Jenn said the dirt bikes are also back. Mike commented that this has been an issue for a number of years and says we should look into more devices that show the speed when driving through town. Many of the speeding vehicles are connected to shift changes and also the milk haulers are not of their speeds. There were issues with the owl, he was stationary, but we had sound. Gary says if viewing from home the owl doesn't do a very good job. Peg says speed bumps
4. Approve Minutes of March 24, 2026, Meeting: Mike motioned, skip 2nd, motion carried.
5. Highway Update
 - a. Road Foreman Update-Jenn: The road crew will start may 1st to 4 days a week.
6. CCIF appointment-Chris Tormey is interested in being Chair. Mike nominated Chis, Fred 2nd, motion carried.
7. Act 181 discussion-discussion/possible action-vote to write a letter to repeal act 181 in whole signed by all of the selectboard. Brittany discussed ACT 181 and the implications to Cabot and rural Vermont as a whole. The selectboard chose to make the statement to repeal all of Act 181, because nothing about ACT 181 helps Cabot or Rural Vermont.
8. MERP/Energy Resiliency Grant/Proposal for efficiency upgrades and discussion

Proposal for efficiency upgrades—expended 30% of the award we got 483,000 for Willey Building and Wastewater plant. Attic insulation etc.

Extra lister office if we have extra for heating issues.

Town Garage was not included, still has not been included, but Sam recommends ventilation for town garage.

Other remaining measures would be getting efficiency Vermont to see what we want for additional measures to include.

Solar storage for the wastewater plant, RFP.

Mike asks, how long do we have to spend all this money? Sam says we want everything to be under contract by August. So that we can have the remaining funds obligated by December.

Does the grant cover generators? Sam says it does not, but it does cover battery storage.

Skip asks about the fire escape; Sam says that is not something that can be included.

Betty gave an elevator update; it will be taken care of once the gentleman is able to get here.

Mike asks ww treatment plant window replacement windows. They are internal storm windows. The cost of replacing vs the internal storm windows, the cost would be 10 times the amount for new windows.

Need insulation in walls and ceilings in the listers office.

Town garage air issues, doors to be replaced?

9. Town Forest- signage update: Brittany summarized the meeting with Mr. Brooks, per the deed the road shall be named Brooks Rd and the sign will be smaller so as not do impede visibility when pulling out of the drive. There will also be additional signs placed indicating private property until the ROW gets to the town forest. ... Trails says that the sign was removed criminally, the trails paid for the sign.
10. Trails Committee-appointment of Chair- Chair is Dana Glaizer, next week the new member will be appointed, Jean McCloumn. Fred moved and Mike 2nd, motion carried. For note: All committees go through the selectboard for appointment via recommendation of the committee.
11. Tree warden-Roland Payne Ash Tree update- Roland has driven many of the roads, there are 10 trees that Justin Hale is authorized to remove (>20-inch diameter), the first tree is on Coits Pond road going toward the Access of Coits pond. The power company has taken many of the ash trees out that were in their r-o-w. There are many trees around that will likely be

problematic in the near future.

There are many trees on Ducharme Rd that should be taken care of by the road crew. They are dead.

Ash on Pransky Road that needs to be taken care of. Roland went after the most hazardous trees that need to be taken care of before they become an issue.

Homeowners have first dibs on the wood, the wood that isn't wanted can go to the stump dump or to Skips. There are 73 problematic trees over 20 inches in diameter that will need to be taken care of.

12. Recycle Center-discussion/contract/action- John Cookson-removed

13. Wiley Building- Cleaning discussion- The selectboard would rather see a contracted cleaner. Until July there is no money for a contracted cleaner. We have someone that may start soon on a trial basis, if she decides to take the position.

14. Gary Gulka

a. Cabot Garage relocation update

Emily Lewis is online and Gary Gulka is in person to talk on this subject. Received a grant to do a full evaluation of the site and potential sites for relocation of the Cabot Garage. Have narrowed it down to 2 sites, the Willey building and Whittier Hill. Next step going forward, with selectboard approval for a more detailed site plan for the 2 sites. Looking at conceptual sketches for the two remaining sites. ½ acre of impervious surface means a stormwater permit is necessary.

Whittier Hill site: Mike asks what the size is, 60x50 is the current dimensions. What are the Creamery's thoughts on the site. Gary says they are open to it. Mike Hogan asks what Mike Cookson thinks of the location. He says the visibility is not ideal, but space constraints are not an issue. Cons: it is on a back road and water and sewer would need to be run up there.

Willey Building Site: would need retaining walls, the parking lot off of Glinka Road would help alleviate parking issues. Questions on who gets what parking and how much parking is lost or gained. One space gained. This will be a pull through garage. Grading may not need to have as much grading because it is a little bit flat up there. Skip asks size of the building as compared to the current building. Mike Hogan asked if there could be some visuals that would show the public what this could look like, in reference to the parking behind the playground. Fred says that he has heard from many people that that is not the ideal location. We just made a swap of land to get parking and lighting. He says the best spot is the site on Whittier Hill Road. Flood task force met and came to the same conclusion that Whittier was the best design, but we should keep it (Willey Building) for further site evaluation. This is still in a preliminary phase. Mike Cookson says that they have not asked to move and that it seems unfair that they are going to be told where to put the building. Mike Hogan says the 2023 flood changed the dynamic of the village and the Flood task force has taken the task on the find alternatives for the Cabot Garage.

Trish, says that Emily mentioned the ability for the movement of the tow truck on the Whittier hill site, but she did not mention that ability in the willey building site. Trish also asks if there would need to be lighting up there, in the new parking lot by playground. Comment from Sandy asking if the playground could go where the garage is and add additional parking up where the playground currently is. As for now, it cannot as it is a buyout and must be green space if we do a buyout. The question is do we continue with further site design and cost estimate on these 2 sites. Emily says the contract includes this site if there is no net loss of parking. Peggy motions to continue with the evaluation process for both sites. Mike 2nd.

Discussion; Steve Cox says the garage should be located in the center of town. Gary comments that we initially looked at 7 sites that may be viable. Mike Cookson asks, the town had an advisory vote to not build at 2064 Main, a new fire department, he says that if that is the case, the people don't want a new FD than they would be open to that site for consideration as it previously was a garage. Mike and Jenn say that that is still not completely off the table until the final decision from FEMA. Motion carried 4-1, Fred says no.

Viability of putting debris catchers on the lot that was acquired from the Cabot Commons. Gary asks if it would be advisable to have DuBois and King to evaluate the site for debris catchers. Wants approval to look at that site.

Peggy says to move forward to evaluate that site for debris catches, we had a contract for Glinka property and RD remembers that it was less than 20,000. A new contract will be needed. Will move this to next agenda to approve evaluation for the debris catchers at the next meeting.

b. North Tributary Update-no update

c. BRIC Grant- discussion/action to apply by April 17

These are funds that are coming back and due by April 17, this is being over seen by emergency management.

There is a high demand for these funds. Flood resiliency task force took a vote and decided to wait until we know if and where we are moving the Cabot garage. It will likely be available again next year and we will be more prepared to apply.

15. Update on West Hill Pond Dam-no update there will be another meeting in the near future. Spoke of the slinky design. Erickson's wanted to review the images and see what it would look like.
16. Health officer-Mike Trash Complaint discussion/action—Complaint received on South Walden Road. It is trash, not produce, not a bear getting into anything, it is just garbage. Jenn asked if we need the board of health. (selectboard) What does the board wish. Convening the board of health is what Mike suggests. Will look at statute. We have no trash ordinance which is why it becomes a larger problem than it should be. There is nothing the state will do with produce in the road and dog waste. Put on for next agenda.
17. Emergency Management Director/Coordinator update-Doug Cooke- meeting with Sid Pollack on April 27, Doug has his town e-mail address. Has talked with Jenn, Amy, Ruth, Brittany, and will set up a time with Betty. The FEMA website is not working, so he can not sign up until FEMA reopens. He has signed up for VT ALERTS. Doug asks who posts while we are in an influx state. Mike says he should post with notification to the Chair. Mike recommends that we put on Cabot Connects as it is able to get to a lot of people on that one platform.
18. Water and Wastewater
 - a. Update on meters- Fred says that they are installing meters, only one left to do on Elm Street, he may be halfway done. Amy says that people from the meters are coming on Monday to show her how to read the meters.
 - b. WW committee discussion/action is a committee needed? No action taken will be taken and it will be on the agenda on the near future, with H20 in attendance.
 - c. Other business
19. Town Clerk's Office
 - a. Orders
 - b. Jets American Scratch Kitchen-Outside Consumption Permit/action: Fred made motion mike 2nd , motion carried
 - c. Washington County Sherrif's Contract/Action The contract was approved and signed.
 - b. Other Business reclassification
 - Guard rail-we have a claim in and will get reimbursed for the guard rail by Larrys ball field.
 - Skip says fire escape-plans? Betty says that a Willey building meeting will happen to figure out what the next steps are.
20. Other Business
21. Motion to Adjourn motion to adjourn at 8:50pm by Fred and 2nd by Mike, motion carried



