

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 1, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

Those present in person: Mike Hogan, R.D. Eno, Fred Ducharme, Skip Bothfeld, Jenn Miner, Stephanie Searles, Bobby Searles, Kris Schmidt, Marie Acchione, Ben Vitale, Lori Augustianiak, Peg Hough, Lassie Rathbone, Jane Garabedian, Gary Gulka, John Garabedian; online: Johanna Thibault

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:00 PM
2. Approve Agenda - A motion was made by RD, with a second by Skip. Mike wanted to add one more item regarding new rules for Open Meeting Law. Motion carried with additions.
3. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2024 Selectboard Meeting. Because there was not a quorum, we deferred approval until the next meeting.
4. Public Comment – There was no public comment
5. Status of reopening Cabot Post Office – RD stated that he had nothing further to report at this time. Fred mentioned that Dan Dunham is waiting for the electrician.
6. Den's Deck – approval from SB to allow consumption of alcohol beverages on the new deck. Mike had a discussion with Johanna regarding this, and Liquor Control said they will approve this if the Selectboard approved it with the condition that alcohol consumption be on the new deck and not allowed to consume outside. A motion was made by Fred with a second by RD. Motion carried.
7. Update and approval on Parking for July 4 – Lori stated they are hanging the route, and all parade participants will report to the Fire Department and receive directions from there. We are trying to get the word out. Once the new Fire Station is built, we may possibly switch it back next year. Cabot Creamery stated that the parking on Whittier Hill will not be available. The Fire Department has all the signs and will be posting around. We are using the Creamery parking area across from the Creamery. If someone is in the parade they can park at the Creamery and come back for any festivities. Elm Street parking area has been mowed. We are still looking for volunteers. Parking will be available around the Common, but not in front. The Park N Ride at Neighbors in Action will be available. Elm Street Bridge does have a big hole, and Sid will take care of this before the fourth.
8. Flood Resiliency Task Force Report and Possible Bid Award and Control Approval – Task Force Study for Cabot. Gary stated that we did receive a grant for the study. We received 3 proposals and Chris Tormey, Peg Hough, Gary reviewed and selected SLR International. He reviewed the proposed contract. A motion was made by RD with a second by Fred. Motion carried.
9. Planning Commission-Discussion of Town Plan – July 16 will have some information. The Town Plan expires in 2025 and the PC is working to get it on the March meeting ballot. Peg asked about the facilities and transportation, and Betty will send it to Peg. RPC is working to help us. Would like to use some money from DRB \$100. We have a matching funds for the grant. Match would be \$3,000. Then think about implementation for the next 8 years. Mike would like to have the zoning regulations done piecemeal.
10. Adopt Inclusion Policy to be on ballot for August – RD presented a ballot – read what would appear on the ballot. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip. Marie wanted to know how it is enforced, and isn't it already stated in the comparable declaration. Motion carried.
11. Update on 4th class roads and trails – Deferred until August 6 meeting.
12. H2O Innovations – Contract Review and Approval (Rodger Sheldon) – reviewed the contract. Rodger has done an amazing job. A motion was made by RD with a second by Fred. Motion carried. For the skid, we will need to put in a 30% deposit. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip. Motion carried.

13. Discussion on Noise Control – possible review and possible action on amplified music. RD – in response to the neighbors, drew up what would be a minimal ordinance or zoning amendment or noise by cultural event that solicits fees. These will be classified under commercial use only for advance payment. Amplified music will not exceed 65 dbs. Amplifications not permitted between midnight and 10:00 a.m. Authority of the constable and another authorized representative of the municipality. There is a process to change the zoning regulations. Leslie felt this met her concerns. CUP still stands for the concert coming up. Just to make sure that David Pransky is aware. What is the amount for the number of people. The state rules go into effect at 2,000. Jerry Jam is having a premeeting. Jenn stated that no one informed her or the FD of this Thursday concert. Who do people contact if there is a problem. The constables could be contacted but they have little authority. People could contact Judy or David Pransky. Jenn – one of the questions is that they did not want an ambulance on hand, and will have a nurse, EMT of their own. Cabot Ambulance is not doing this, only for transport.
14. Update on Tim and Jennifer's Field - they are sticking with their decision not to renew the lease. We do need to move the dugouts, etc. Perhaps we can get the word out to see if any other communities would be interested.
15. Status update on Cabot Ambulance discussion – Mike, Fred, Jenn, Glenn had some good conversations. They are recommending to the board a Memorandum of Understanding to continue with the conversations. At the next meeting, we would like to have the ambulance service on the agenda and possibly the following year be an ambulance to come under the supervision of the selectboard. Next meeting will be in executive sessions with ambulance, FD and the State District State Advisory Board. We want to put the past down and start afresh. Meeting with the members of the FD soon. If run by the Town, we will all have a say in it. Fred stated this community is run by volunteers, and we want to acknowledge them and continue making it a better place. Skip – the Cabot Ambulance rejected it twice are they still on board. Jenn feels that the ambulance will be on board with this and is looking forward to working on all the details.
16. Water and Wastewater
 - a. Other Business – There was no other business
17. Town Clerks Office
 - a. Orders
 - b. Other business – The new Treasurer has started and look forward to working with her.
18. Other Business
 - a. Dufrenese Report and Funding Opportunities Update – contracted by the town to review the ww plant. The reports have been sent directly to ANR. They would like to meet with us soon. We have some money soon, but it looks like around a half-million to bring the plant back. We are looking at possibly zero percent interest. We are replacing pieces that have worn out. Will keep updated on this.
 - b. Status of Clark Sawmill Project – meeting with ANR at the damn – part of Phase 1, Miles Waite. We had to apply for a program, and this is Phase 1 of the plan. After this it can then be quick-claimed to the Town. Miles saw no issues. Should be a simple clean up job. More information to follow.
 - c. Highway Update-road damage from 6-23 storm – we had a fair amount of damage. The highway crew has fixed most of the repairs especially Jug Brook Road and Blodgett Road. We are going to try to tie them together. May work on Blodgett Road.
 - d. Open Meeting Law Changes – Recorded minutes, advisory, meeting do not have to come by zoom. (Act 133) Meet remotely – emergency meetings. Put it on FPF, Cabot Connects, and Cabot Chronicle.
 - e. Marie is begging on McKinstry Road – few more ridges will make it impossible. Six families, five businesses. It is Class IV Road. The residents on the road will do it, but they need some help. Mike stated that we maintain 60+ roads and try to keep it reasonable. RD asked about some photos. It is about ¼ mile long. They are only asking for the minimum.
19. Motion to Adjourn – Fred, Skip, 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Betty Ritter, Town Clerk