

# **Carrabassett Valley Selectmen's Meeting**

## **4:30 p.m. Monday July 11th, 2016 at the Library**

### **Agenda:**

Review and sign 2016 Payroll Warrant(s):

Review and sign 2016 Town Expenditure Warrant(s):

- 1. MINUTES** of the previous Selectmen's meeting (June 13th, 2016): attached
  
- 2. UPDATE ON AIRPORT FUEL FARM PROJECT:** We are scheduled to sign a construction contract (\$314,000) with Jordan Excavation on July 12<sup>th</sup> for this project. The D.E.P. is still processing the Town's request for a variance (that will allow the project to be built over a low to moderate yield aquifer). All indications are they will approve this as the State Fire Marshall's Office has issued a permit for the design of the project. However, the process at the D.E.P. may take until the end of July or longer. The lead time for the contractor to purchase the fuel tanks and related equipment is expected to take approximately two months or more. It's up to the contractor but once a contract is signed and all the necessary submittals have been approved by the Town's Airport Consultant, they may construct much of the underground infrastructure prior to the fuel tanks arriving. The Town has received a \$397,170 F.A.A. grant for the project. In addition, the Town will receive \$22,065 in State funding that will be matched by approved Town (\$22,065) funding. Additional funding of \$9,600 will be needed to cover the cost of all of the engineering related to the D.E.P. Variance request. This will come from additional F.A.A. (\$8,640), State (\$480) and Town (\$480) funding. It appears we are on schedule to complete this project this year.
  
- 3. UPDATE TO THE FORESTRY PLAN FOR THE TOWN'S PUBLIC LOT:** Attached is a new proposed 3-year Forest Management Plan developed by the Town's Forest Management Consultant Firm American Forest Management (AFM). The Town's Public Lot Forestry Committee reviewed the plan with AFM on June 30<sup>th</sup> and has recommended some changes. The Committee is suggesting that the proposed road be substantially reduced in length and that we request to use existing Sugarloaf haul roads in that area.

This is a proposed 3-year harvest plan that includes the management objectives for each parcel identified (see the attached map). Our Consultant is recommending that we do not harvest any additional wood until the "wood market" improves. The Committee was told that, while we do have some "mature stands" that need attention, we can and should wait until market conditions improve.

Block B and Block A1 shown on the map are in the area being considered for the proposed 'Sugarloaf Connector' mountain bike trail. The Committee has recommended that AFM foresters meet "on the ground" with the Town's trail planner this late fall season to identify the proposed trail corridor (that has not be established at this time) and to attempt to coordinate trail and forest management planning.

The Forestry Committee is also recommending that we hold a public informational meeting (Nov., Dec.??) to outline the proposed 3-year plan and to obtain public input.

4. **TRANSFER STATION IMPROVEMENTS:** The 2016 Transfer Station budget includes money to purchase one new 45 yd. compactor trash container and to paint the main building. We have received a quote for the compactor container of \$7,850 delivered. This price is less than expected and from the same company that services all the compactor equipment at the Transfer Station. The Town owns three containers, one of which is fairly new. This would replace one of the two older compactor cans that is in poor condition (we recommend replacing the other older container next year).

Regarding painting the Transfer Station building we would like to consider installing metal siding as opposed to painting the building. Depending on pricing, we would recommend siding the building with quality metal siding the same color as the siding that is on the transfer station "swap shop". We are in the process of obtaining pricing.

Currently, there is \$21,103 in the Transfer Station Expense Account. Unless we run into unanticipated expenses we will only need up to approximately \$4,000 for remaining operating expenses from this account in 2016 leaving \$7,850 available for the compactor can and \$9,253 for the painting/siding project.

#### 5. INFORMATIONAL:

- Two of the Selectmen (Bob and Lloyd) are involved with the Town Manager in attempting to develop a new 5-year lease with Sugarloaf to operate the Outdoor Center. Negotiations are on-going as we attempt to come up with a proposed agreement that works for both parties.
- The Mountain Bike Trail Committee is meeting at 8:00 a.m. (Town Office) on July 18<sup>th</sup> to review this year's trail development work to date and discuss other trail development related issues.
- The Golf Course Greens Committee is meeting at 3:00 p.m. at the Golf Course Clubhouse.

**TOWN OF CARRABASSETT VALLEY  
MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
June 13, 2016**

**Board Members Present:**    **Bob Luce**                      **Jay Reynolds**  
   **Tom Butler**                      **Lloyd Cuttler**  
   **John Beaupre**

**Others Present:**                      **Dave Cota**                      **Neal Trask**  
   **Chris Parks**                      **John Ober**

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Bob Luce opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Payrolls warrants #21 for \$23,563.56 and #23 for \$25,978.35 were reviewed and signed by Selectmen.

Expense warrants #22 for \$110,490.86 and #24 for \$46,970.40 were reviewed and signed by Selectmen.

The minutes of the May 16, 2016 Selectmen's Meeting and Public Hearing were reviewed. A motion was made by Tom Butler to accept the minutes as written. Jay Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dave Cota reviewed quotes received for paving a walkway at the Outdoor Center. The walkway area is 10' x 93', which would serve the newer entrance of the facility and be ADA compliant. The lowest bid is from Western Maine Paving for \$1,750, and the expense would need to come from the Outdoor Center Facility Reserve Account (current balance of \$52,753). Chris Parks, Sugarloaf Outdoor Center Winter Director of the Outdoor Center was in attendance and indicated that he can work with this to accommodate skiing and grooming activities by keeping it closer to the skating rink side of the access. Tom Butler asked about whether there has been any movement in pursuit of creating more lighting on that walkway area. Chris Parks said he believes this could be done in-house with SMC's staff, using building-mounted fixtures and existing infrastructure. Dave Cota said he would like to see lighting that is "down-casting" and he will follow up on this. Selectmen unanimously approved this project and bid.

Dave Cota also received quotes for the widening and paving the driveway access to Mountainside Grocers, which is also the access to the Library and AGC. If approved, the approaches from Route 27 will be widened and paved. The drainage ditch will be improved as well. The lowest bid on this project was \$3,250 from Western Maine Paving. John Beaupre said that the initiation of this project was made by the municipal school bus driver. He asked if there should be additional paving done further in toward the AGC, since these prices seemed to be very reasonable. Dave Cota indicated that there is not much of a budget to work with from the AGC's capital accounts to do this at this time although it is warranted. Dave indicated that Mountainside Grocers has agreed to pay one-half of the cost of this project and that this project is needed to address complaints about pot holes on the shoulders of this access off Rt. 27 as the approaches are not currently paved. Lloyd Cuttler made a motion to accept the bid. Jay

# Carrabassett Valley Public Lot

## Three-year Timber Harvest Proposal - 2016

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This 3-year harvest plan is organized so that each lettered block is harvested in a different year. Two of the blocks have subBlocks in order to describe different conditions in the particular areas. The harvests prescribed are designed to provide the best aesthetic impact, retain and establish wildlife habitat elements and to leave a healthy forest – the best strategy at this time to plan for a changing climate. The scheduling of Blocks and subBlocks can be adjusted if it will benefit recreational use of the property, or financial considerations. A new 5,000 foot long road is proposed to access ground that has not been accessed recently. Also, a small off-road yard is proposed along the access road. On all blocks, trails will be buffered to keep machinery away from the established trails.

**Block A** - Located in the southern end of the lot below the peak of Burnt Hill. There are 2 sub-blocks.

**subBlock A1** is located along the ski-trail/road. It is made up of mature hardwood and spruce-fir mixed with advanced regeneration. A lighter cut here (1<sup>st</sup> entry shelterwood/ 40% of stocking) will maintain aesthetics, allow regeneration to develop and capture value in mature wood. One X-country ski trail cuts through the block on its way to the log yard build for a recent harvest (in Block A2).

Harvest acres: 54    Volume: 1800 tons    Income: \$24,000

**subBlock A2** is located west of Block A1. The block has been harvested in the past ten years. The result was a sparse overstory of large mature hardwood and a heavy regeneration layer dominated by beech and striped maple. This understory is likely to grow into a poor quality (both in value and habitat diversity) overstory as it matures into diseased beech. We recommend harvesting 1/3 of the acres in 4-acre patches that have the regeneration cleaned out of them. This will allow other species to become established in the new regeneration. A new road to access Block B would cut through this block. Note: this stand has some ash. In order to hedge against the appearance of emerald ash borer, a nonnative beetle invasive that is widespread in the eastern US and found in New Hampshire and Quebec. Older and unhealthy trees will be harvested, but healthy, young trees will not be removed at this time. If an infestation is discovered, this approach may need to be changed.

Harvest acres: 58    Volume: 2500 tons    Income: \$37,000

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**Block B** – Located in the southwest corner of the property. Soil drainage classes range from somewhat excessively drained to moderately well drained, except for the lowest (northern) corner which is a bit wetter soil (somewhat poorly drained). This wetter corner may not be accessible for summer harvest.

The block consists of heavily stocked sawlog sized trees - hardwood, spruce-fir and hemlock. Overstory and understory quality is good. A 1<sup>st</sup> entry shelterwood will establish more regeneration. The new road through Block A2 would end in this block. There would be no access to this area without a new road. Note: There is a component of white ash in this stand. See the note in subBlock A2 for a description of the approach to possible emerald ash borer in this stand.

Harvest acres: 130                      Volume: 3400 tons    Income: \$55,000

**Block C**- Located in the north end of the property near Route 27. Soil drainage classes range from somewhat excessively drained to well drained, indicating the majority of the area is well suited to summer and fall harvesting. The overall objective on this block is to develop regeneration, allow increased growth and vigor on overstory stems and to capture value on mature stems.

**subBlock C1** is on the west side of the entrance road. It is free of trails except as you near the parking area. This is a block of spruce, fir, yellow birch, sugar maple, red maple and cedar that has not been harvested. Tree sizes range from sawlog to pole-sized, indicating at least two ages in the stand. A 1<sup>st</sup> entry shelterwood harvest will establish regeneration and capture value on mature stems. A new off-road yard is needed along the entrance road.

Harvest acres: 37                      Volume: 900 tons    Income: \$13,500

**subBlock C2** is located along the main road beyond the parking area, east of the disc golf course. It is criss-crossed with trails – X-country, Snowshoe and Mountain Bike. The stand is made up of hard maple, yellow birch, red spruce, fir, red maple and white birch. Portions have concentrations of cedar. Sizes are similar to subBlock C1. This block would also lend itself well to a shelterwood harvest designed to establish regeneration where none exists, allows increased growing space for existing regeneration and young overstory trees and captures value on mature trees. This subBlock has the highest density of trails of any of the blocks in this plan. Trails would be buffered so that machinery does not disturb the trail.

Harvest acres: 24                      Volume: 600                      Income: \$11,500

**subBlock C3** is located in the northeast of the property on the alternate access route. Stand composition is similar to Block C1. A similar light harvest is proposed here. Wood will be yarded in existing yards along the road.

Harvest acres: 30    Volume: 700 tons    Income: \$11,500

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### **Three-year Harvest Totals**

Harvest acres: 333    Volume: 9900    Income: \$152,500

### **Road Summary**

New Road    5000 feet of new construction and gravel    \$32,500

Spur Road    500 feet of new construction and gravel    \$3,800



# Forest Property Map

