

Carrabassett Valley Selectmen's Meeting 4:30 p.m. Wednesday 19th, 2022 at the Town Office

The Town now provides a zoom link for members of the Public to link into Town of Carrabassett Valley Select Board and other public meetings. To participate by zoom you must use the link provided in an email from the Town (this link is the same for any Town public meeting and is provided on the email in which the Board or Committee Agenda was sent out in). You may also obtain this link by sending an email to the town office (townofcv@roadrunner.com) during normal business hours.

The public may also "phone in" as follows:

Dial by Phone – 1-929-205-6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 531 268 2243

Passcode: 04947

Masks are required at the meeting.

Review and sign Town Payroll Warrants: #1 (\$7,741.32

Review and sign Town Expenditure Warrant: #2 (\$28,087.62)

1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS SELECT BOARD MEETING (January 3rd, 2022) attached.

2. BIDS ON A NEW MINI PUMPER FIRE TRUCK: As the Board has previously discussed, the Fire Chief would like to submit quotes for a "Mini Pumper" fire truck. This may eventually replace the Town's 1998 "Multi-One" fire truck. It is anticipated there may be a vote at the March Town Meeting to purchase this new fire truck. The purpose of requesting bids is to finalize pricing (best estimate is \$320,000) and be ready should the voters approve this purchase in March. There is approximately \$420,000 in the Fire Department Equipment Reserve. It is anticipated that it will take as much as two years to actually receive this new truck should the Town order it.

3. AIRPORT HANGAR SITE DEVELOPMENT: (in conjunction with the development/construction of the Airport Taxi Land project). We have received many requests for either one of the available ten "T-Hangar" development sites or one of the three available "box hangar" sites. Airport Manager Tom Wallace, Select Board member Lloyd Cuttler and the Town Manager are meeting soon to start to figure out the best "fit" for all these sites. The hangars will all be built privately and we need to figure out if it makes sense for one developer to develop the T-hangars and/or develop a "condo association" that builds them. We anticipate a request at the March Town Meeting to authorize the Select Board to enter into agreements to make this all happen. We should have more information in the immediate future.

4. CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF A FEW 2021 ACCOUNT OVERDRAFTS: Every year the voters vote to “appropriate funds from Overlay for abatements and overdrafts”. As we do most years, we anticipate a surplus of underutilized account balances. However, we usually have a few accounts with deficits. The Town’s auditors have always asked if the Select Board has approved using Overlay (the difference between the amount of needed tax revenue based on total voter approved expenditure requests and the actual amount of the tax commitment--via the tax rate) for these deficit accounts. We are in the process of finalizing year end account balances and we will provide a list of a few of these “deficit” accounts at the meeting. The Town’s Auditor will be here the week of January 24th.

5. CAPITAL AND ONGOING PROJECT REQUESTS FOR 2022: We are in the process of completing the Draft 2022 Town Budget. We would like to discuss potential appropriations for 2022 (and beyond) for capital and ongoing projects. We hope to have a list of these at the meeting. This will enable us to complete the Draft Budget that will go to the Budget Committee on January 26th.

6. INFORMATIONAL:

- The Town Clerk needs to schedule a public hearing (hopefully, to coincide with a Select Board meeting) for the Board to consider approval of a Marijuana Retail License for Jar Co CV LLC (the company approved in the Town’s Marijuana Store Lottery). The location will be part of the proposed new building on the former Judson’s Motel site.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING: 5:30 P.M. JANUARY 26TH AT THE MOUNTAIN FIRE STATION.

**TOWN OF CARRABASSETT VALLEY
MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
January 3, 2022**

Board Members Present: **Bob Luce** **Lloyd Cuttler**
 Karen Campbell **Jay Reynolds**
 John Beaupre

Others Present: **Dave Cota** **Timmy Gerencer**
 Kate Punderson **Bruce Miles**
 Mark Schwarz **Mark Green**
 Sue Davis **Kirk Dryer (CVA)**
 Alex Godomsky (CVA)

Bob Luce opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m. and welcomed those present.

Payroll warrant #54 and #56 in the amount of \$23,605.72 and \$17,419.79, respectively, were reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

Expense warrant #55 and #57 in the amount of \$43,946.43 and \$73,324.10, respectively, were reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

The Minutes of the December 20, 2021 Meeting were reviewed. Jay Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Lloyd Cuttler seconded the motion. Motion approved via roll call with a spelling correction.

CVA Head of School Kate Punderson was in attendance to discuss their 'Podium Project' proposal and make a request for Town funding of \$100,000 for the project, noting that the last time CVA requested assistance of the Town was to assist in building the Competition Center. A new T-bar would provide access on Kangaroo Hill or Competition Hill. This would also provide for enhanced snowmaking in these training areas. They would also like to widen Competition Hill. The cost will be \$1.6 million, and CVA will be running a campaign to raise funds. They have already raised \$430,000 for this endeavor. Sugarloaf, being a partner, will operate the T-bar and snowmaking for these areas, and they have committed to providing early-season snow. CVA also will have an arrangement with Colby College and UMF for access to these areas. Kate noted that CVA will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year and is a key employer in the area, in addition to being the leader in youth sports development. Enrollment has been increasing, evidenced by the increase in full-time residents in Carrabassett Valley. The goal is to implement this project in summer 2022. Bruce Miles added his support for this proposed project, as it enhances ski racing and competition, which is an economic driver for the Town. It was also mentioned that this project is located right by the Jean Luce Building, which will be convenient for kids that need to warm up. John Beaupre added his support, noting that it will be up to a Town vote. He suggested it be determined what level of funding is being asked of the Town. Dave Cota noted that there's roughly \$370,000 in the Recreational Endowment Fund, which would likely be a possible source of funding, again, if the Town approves the project. Lloyd Cuttler added his support, noting that he cannot vote on the matter, since he's on the Board for CVA. He recommended that CVA make their presentation to the Budget

Committee on January 26th. Bob Luce also indicated support for the project but indicated that he did not wish to commit to a recommended funding amount at this time.

Dave Cota discussed the State of Maine Community Resilience Partnership Grant Program, which proposes to provide \$4.75 million over the next two years to fund projects that reduce energy use and costs or to make communities more resilient to the effects of climate change (floods, drought, public health impacts, electric charging stations, etc.) There is a process, which is explained in a handout provided to the Select Board. The Town could be awarded a grant up to \$50,000, based on the Town's desire to access the funds. There would need to be someone appointed to be in charge of the program, if adopted, and there also needs to be a public process to discuss the communities' goals with regard to the goals of this State program. Bob Luce pointed to the flooding that the Town has experienced in recent years, and suggested that these funds might offset some of the expense. Dave Cota said that the Sustainability Committee may also have some recommendations on this matter.

Dave Cota reported that the Town has been offered a 2022 Airport Rescue Act Grant of \$22,000, which can be used over a four-year period for eligible airport operational expenses. This is similar to the 2021 grant. Dave indicated that this reimbursement of operating costs could either go in to the Airport Reserve Account to be used for eventual runway rehabilitation work or the Town could reduce the airport operating appropriation in 2022. John Beaupre made a motion to approve the grant and authorize the Town Manager to sign it. Lloyd Cuttler seconded the motion. Motion approved via roll call.

Dave Cota presented the Select Board with a copy of the 2021 Work Plan and proposed items for the 2022 Work List. Dave Cota noted that some items had been added to the 2021 Plan as needed, and he summarized the listing and detailed some of the highlights.

Dave Cota discussed the Cost-of-Living Adjustment that was briefly discussed at the last meeting, noting that the initial recommendation was for a 3% increase (current inflation rate is 6%). Dave provided some historical information, illustrating what increases have been given over the past several years. Bob Luce suggested a 5% increase for inflation, noting this is more than what's been done in the past, but recognizing that the inflation rate has affected everyone. Jay Reynolds and John Beaupre agreed, noting that staff retention is important, especially in the current labor market and over the past two years' Covid conditions. John Beaupre made a motion for a 5% Cost of Living Adjustment for Town employees for 2022. Lloyd Cuttler seconded the motion. Motion approved via roll call. Any merit increases would need to be discussed in Executive Session.

In accordance with Title 1, Section 405(a) (1) the Select Board voted to go in to Executive session at 5:45 p.m.

At 6:10 p.m. the Board voted to exit Executive Session. At that time the Board voted to give Merit Pay increases of \$1,000 to Recreation Director Deb Bowker and Chris Parks. In addition, the Board voted to also provide a merit increase of \$1,000 to Mountain Bike Trail Supervisor Josh Tauses which would be distributed over his hourly pay rate. Deb and Josh were largely responsible for writing the successful \$300,000 U.S.D.A. grant for trail development and Chris is taking on more responsibility with regards to the Town's facilities management.

Informational:

The next Select board meeting will be January 17th at 4:30 p.m.

Budget Committee meets on January 26th at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn M. Schnorr
Secretary to Board of Selectmen