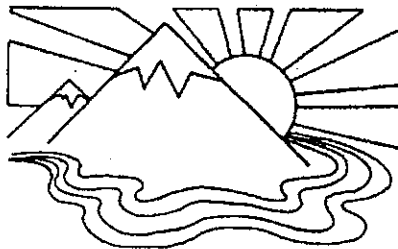


**Carrabassett Valley Select Board Meeting**  
**4:30 p.m. Monday November 28th, 2022 at the Town Office**



The Town 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](mailto:townofcv@roadrunner.com)) during normal business hours.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5312682243?pwd=TGxrUExKcXdqQTdlZUZhYUVteG5GZz09>

If you need to "phone in":

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

Meeting ID: 531 268 2243

Passcode: 04947

Review and sign Payroll Warrants: # 43 (\$31080.87), #45 (\$27,805.78), #46 (\$3,387.75—should have been part of #45) and #48 (\$27,5797.37

Review and sign Expenditure Warrants #44 (\$106,774.06) and #47 (\$185,982.07).

Expenditure Warrant #48 which will be issued on Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> (due to the Thanksgiving Holiday) will be available at the meeting.

**AGENDA:**

**1. MINUTES from previous meeting (October 24th) attached.**

**2. PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A MARIJUANA RETAIL STORE LICENSE RENEWAL FOR CANNABIS CURED (located adjacent to Ayotte's Store).** Copy of Public Hearing Notice attached. If you wish to see a copy of the license renewal application it is available at the Town Clerk's Office (and will be available at the meeting). If approved the Town Clerk will sign the license.

**3. UPDATE ON WORKFORCE HOUSING INITIATIVE (Workforce Housing Coalition—Western Maine Mountains):** Chairperson of this Regional Coalition, John Beaupre, will give an update. As you may know, the Coalition was awarded \$308,000 in Franklin County American Rescue Plan

Act (ARPA) funding. The Focus now is on finalizing the non-profit corp., narrowing down on-site selection and possible related zoning issues and seeking other potentially available resources. The Coalition is asking that the Town be the fiscal agent for the County ARPA funds until the Coalition receives 501-C non-profit status.

**4. APPOINTMENTS:** We have the following (immediate?) vacancies on various Town Boards and Committees:

- (1) Town Representative on the Town/CVA AGC Operations Committee
- (1) Sanitary District Trustees Position—expires in March (then a two-year term to be Elected)
- (1) Zoning Appeals Board Position (we no longer have a quorum)—Expires in 2024

Other Vacancies:

- (1) Planning Board 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate Position—expires in March 2024
- (2) Zoning Appeals Board Positions—expiring in March 2023
- (1) Budget Committee Member—expires March 2023
- (1) Recreation Committee Member—expires March 2023
- (1) Greens Committee Member

**5. TOWN PROCUREMENT POLICY:** While we have always had a “hands on” approach to Town purchasing (all invoices are reviewed not only by department heads but also the Town Treasurer and Town Manager before the Select Board receives a copy of the expenditure warrants for approval), the F.A.A. is requiring a formal policy in order to approve future airport grant projects. We discussed having a policy a couple of years ago but we unfortunately did not follow through at that time. We’ve dusted off our previous draft document, made a couple of changes and sent it out to all our department heads for comments. Please find attached a proposed Town Procurement Policy for the Board’s Review.

**6. TREE REMOVAL PROJECT ON THE SOUTH ENTRANCE OF THE CAMPBELL FIELD ROAD:** We are hopeful to receive bids to remove tree and brush vegetation on both the north and south sides of that road entrance as depicted in the attached bid request and map. If approved, this tree clearing project would (1) provide better visibility for vehicles coming out of the Campbell Field Road at that intersection and (2) provide better visibility for bike riders and Nordic skiers crossing Rt. 27 at the adjacent Rt. 27 trail crossing. We continue to receive concerns about that trail road crossing. If the tree clearing project does not sufficiently solve the trail crossing concerns, we may want to look at possibly moving the trail crossing further north on Rt. 27. The tree cutting project can be done in the early winter. Funding the project would need to come from the Narrow-Gauge Pathway operations account (although some of this will be needed prior to the end of the fiscal year there is currently \$8,684 in that account) and/or the Summer Roads Account (\$3,300 remaining). Bids are due at 4:00 p.m. Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> and the Board can then decide if you wish to do the project.

**7. HYDROLOGY STUDY FOR THE OUTDOOR CENTER POND:** Providing snowmaking at the Outdoor Center for Nordic Skiing has continued to be discussed but could take time to develop.

Water for snowmaking would need to come from the Outdoor Center Pond. Assuming there is support for an eventual project (Sugarloaf has indicated support) it appears we need to first undertake a "water withdrawal" study to determine the withdrawal and "fill rate" of the Outdoor Center Pond to determine the potential snowmaking impact of using water from the Pond. This would be required for some form of a D.E.P. permit as the original permit for the Pond (1985) did not include using the pond for snowmaking. We would need this information also for applying for potential grant funding. We have received a quote of \$5,000 to \$10,000 from Meddie Perry of Vermont to complete a water withdrawal study on the pond based on the requirements for snow making at the Center (please see the attached concept quote—email). He has been involved with Sugarloaf's hydrology studies. Sugarloaf has agreed to pay 50% of the cost of the study. The Town's share of the study could come from the Select Board's contingency account (there is \$10,000 left in this account) or possibly the Outdoor Center Facility Account? This study can be accomplished in the winter months.

The total project cost for a 2.5K of trail snowmaking project is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$1.6M which includes extending 3-phase power from Rt. 27 to the Outdoor Center (\$300,000). The concept is for Sugarloaf to contribute approximately \$325,000 in equipment and installment and for the Town to apply for grant funding for some of the balance. Sugarloaf is interested in this snowmaking project which could potentially be a 2024 project (unlikely, but possible 2023 project).

#### **8. PROJECTS WE ARE WORKING ON THAT WOULD REQUIRE ACTION FROM THE SELECT BOARD:**

**Transportation Bus Wash Project between the Town and Sugarloaf:** As you may recall, the Town and Sugarloaf agreed to set aside \$75,000 each from our annual payments (which are \$150,000 each) to Western Maine Transportation (WMT) for operation of the Sugarloaf Explorer Transportation System (we have an accumulated surplus in the operation account with WMT). The plan for the Town and Sugarloaf is to make similar contributions in 2023 which would then provide \$300,000 for a project. The concept is to build this facility in back of the former Sugarloaf Check-In Center. We hope to determine a more specific site location and start the process of developing a long-term site lease arrangement with Boyne/Sugarloaf that would also provide for joint operation of the facility. A project would provide a much needed (and environmentally friendly) bus washing facility for Sugarloaf's and the Sugarloaf Explorer's buses (and school bus and fire trucks, etc.). A long-term lease for the site may take time so we hope to start that process soon. The process would need to go well but this could become a 2023 project. For that to happen, the Town and Sugarloaf would need to approve the project and a long-term lease for the site, bid specs would be needed and put out to bid and a construction contract signed.

**Need for Used Pick up Truck:** A used pick up truck would be a great benefit to both the mountain bike trail crew (summer/fall) and the Town's composting program in the winter months.

**Note: Airport Pavement Crack Sealing Project (for 2023) is moving forward.**

## **8. INFORMATIONAL:**

**Nomination Papers for the following Town Elected Positions** are available on November 29<sup>th</sup> and are due in later than January 9<sup>th</sup>:

- (1) Select Board member: 3-year term
- (2) School Committee Members: 3-year terms
- (1) Sanitary District Trustee: 2-year term

**Sugarloaf Mountain Corp. has sent an official Golf Course Lease extension option renewal notice** as allowed in the original golf course lease that extends the lease to November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2033. We have acknowledged their lease extension option notice.

**Jones Public Lot Management Plan** is completed and has been reviewed by the Town Public Lot Forestry Committee. The plan is very comprehensive. If anyone wishes a copy we can email one. There is no timber harvesting planned for at least ten years. However, some forest improvement and bridge work are recommended.

### **Events:**

The Asa Gladstein <asa@squad-driven.com> group has made a request to use the airport for their "car event" again this year to be held on the morning of June 24<sup>th</sup>. This is the same fund-raising event involving "sports cars" that was held last year. Although somewhat last-minute last year, the folks watching the event enjoyed seeing it.

Sugarloaf is working on a 2023 XTERRA trail run world championship that would be held on September 30<sup>th</sup>. This event would bring approximately 700 competitors from all over the world here. The event may need to use a portion of the Narrow-Gauge Pathway for part of that day along with some trails at the Outdoor Center.

**F.Y.I. Copy of Letter from the Carrabassett Valley School Committee to the MSAD #58 School Board in regards to the future of Mount Abram High School.**

**Lynn Schnorr**, who has been writing the minutes of both the Town's Select Board and the Planning Board meetings since 2009 will no longer be doing this after Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. We will miss her! This means we will need to find someone who wishes to do this. We currently pay \$65 per meeting.

**Next Meeting December 12<sup>th</sup>?** We wish to review all Town Expenditure and Revenue Accounts with the Board at that time as we start to get prepared for developing the proposed 2023 Town Budget. Are there new budget items the Board would like to consider including in the 2023 Town Budget?

**TOWN OF CARRABASSETT VALLEY**  
**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 24, 2022**

Board Members Present:	Bob Luce	Lloyd Cuttler
	Karen Campbell	Jay Reynolds
	John Beaupre	
Others Present:	Dave Cota	Mark Green
	Tim Gerencer	Tom Butler
	Sue Davis	

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

Payroll warrant #39 and #41 in the amounts of \$31,612.03 and \$32,271.41, respectively, were reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

Expense warrant #40 and #42 in the amounts of \$313,508.42 and \$296,362.42, respectively, were reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

The Minutes of the September 26, 2022 Meeting were reviewed. Jay Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Karen Campbell seconded the motion. Motion approved.

A request for the transfer of an Airport Hangar Lease (#4) from Matt Ward to Richard Wilkinson was reviewed. This lease expires 12/31/31 and has a 5-year renewal option. John Beaupre made a motion to approve the transfer. Jay Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion approved.

A request for the transfer of an Airport Hangar Lease (#14) from Mark Fournier to B21 Partners, LLC was reviewed. B21 Partners, LLC also would like approval for a sublease to Restoration Aircraft Group, LLC for mechanical and restoration work in that hangar. The work on the hangar is now near complete. This lease expires 12/31/33 with 10-year renewal option. John Beaupre made a motion to approve both the transfer and the sublease. Jay Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dave Cota reviewed a request to apply for matching funding for an Efficiency Maine Grant for 90% funding for the installation of two charging stations for electric vehicles at the Outdoor Center. Mark Green has been working on this program. The estimate for the work is roughly \$21,000 and the town would need to approve \$7,000 in order to qualify for this \$14,000 grant. Where the Town has already received a grant, Mark is not certain this grant would still be available to us. The chargers at the Golf Course are now in operation. Karen Campbell asked if the chargers are being used; Tom Butler said there were some people waiting for these to be operational, which took longer than expected. Tom Butler said that, from the Mountain's standpoint, they've had more and more comments that chargers are needed. Dave Cota said that there is a reserve fund for the Outdoor Center, which could be used for the Town's portion of this project. John Beaupre made a motion to approve the application for the grant with the Town's cost being up to \$10,000. Jay Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dave Cota reviewed information received from Waste Management regarding costs associated with the Transfer Station operation. They are requesting an increase of 2% immediately, and then the remaining two years of the contract will stay in place. At that time, it will increase another 3.5%. They will agree to a contract extension for three years, which will run through 2027. Dave reviewed some of the other area towns' costs, as a matter of comparison. The percentage increase will be applied to about \$215,000 for tipping fees per ton, transportation, etc., which will be staggered out over

the time span of the contract. Bob Luce noted that it's difficult to project what will happen with inflation in the coming years, but recognized that there are not a lot of options out there. John Beaupre noted that stability is important. Lloyd Cuttler made a motion to accept the terms as described by Waste Management. Jay Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dave Cota discussed the need for Runway crack sealing at the Airport next year. He is looking into applying for an FAA grant and a State Grant, which would reduce the Town's share of the project to just 5%. The total estimate for the project is \$154,000, so the Town's portion would be roughly \$7,700. The crack sealing project would extend the life of the runway for another 3-5 years before any major work would be necessary such as a runway rehab project. At a later point, there may be funding available for that major renovation work. In the meantime, Dave will go through the F.A.A. process which will require engineering work and costs. Dave proposes placing project acceptance on March town meeting warrant. Jay Reynolds made a motion to approve the grant application for this project. Karen Campbell seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dave Cota discussed the State Valuation for Carrabassett Valley. For 2023, the Town's valuation has increased by 19.4% to a total of \$874,200,000. This will have an impact on the Town's share of the Franklin County taxes. Dave Cota said this is reflective of the property sale prices in the Town. With the loss of the Jay mill, there may be another impact to the county taxes. Dave noted that the Town's Assessor will be and will be making changes to Town property valuations that will likely involve changing land and building cost schedules, which can be done without spending a lot of money. Sue Davis noted that Kingfield's State Valuation increased 25%. Dave Cota noted that the Town's mil rate is close to 7. He said the Town has always stayed below market values, since the market shifts. Lloyd Cuttler said that, in his opinion, the closing of the Jay mill is the elephant in the room, which could have a big impact on Carrabassett Valley's share of Franklin County Taxes. Dave Cota believes the mill has already been de-valued twice now, so he doesn't think it will be as dramatic as some may think. The consensus of the Select Board is that the conservative approach to revaluation that Dave described is the best course of action for the Town.

#### Informational:

The Town still has \$24,442 remaining from the 2021 funding and has received another \$41,656 in 2022 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. This remaining money can be earmarked for the regional employee housing initiative.

The Franklin County Commissioners will meet November 1 to discuss ARPA funding for our area regional employee housing initiative. The time is yet to be confirmed. It's the Town's understanding that the County has received \$5.86 million in ARPA funding. Regional representatives will be attending.

The Greens Committee for the Golf Course meets Thursday at 3pm at the library.

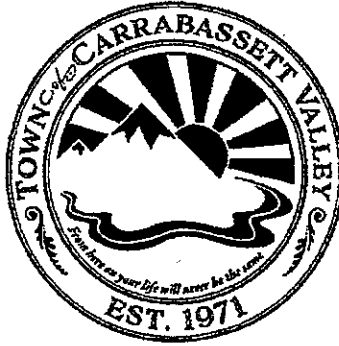
Dave Cota reported that there is a relicensing request for Cannabis Cured. The ordinance does not discuss what the procedure is for license renewal (which is annual, the same as a liquor license). For liquor licenses, the Town has turned that over to the Town Manager. Dave asked if the Select Board would like to follow the same procedure for this or post the notice and arrange for a public hearing. The Board noted where this is still new to the community that they prefer to hold a public hearing at an upcoming Select Board meeting.

Karen Campbell said the time capsule is planned to be buried in December, and she would like to have drummers from the Penobscot Indian Nation available for this event if possible (possibly December 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>). She is hoping to find a day/time that will work for other Select Board members, as there will be a ceremony for the project.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Schnorr



**Town of Carrabassett Valley  
Notice of Public Hearing  
Concerning Request for Marijuana Retail Store License Renewal**

The Town of Carrabassett Valley Select Board will hold a Public Hearing at 4:30 p.m. November 28, 2022, at the Town Office to consider approval of a Marijuana Retail Store License Renewal for Green Alien Cannabis Company doing business as Cannabis Cured at 1215 Carrabassett Drive.

A copy of the application can be viewed at the Carrabassett Valley Town Office or at the Public Hearing.

## **Town of Carrabassett Valley Procurement Policy**

The purpose of establishing a formalized purchasing procedure for the Town of Carrabassett Valley is twofold. The primary objective is to ensure that the goods and services purchased by the Town are of the quality needed by the individual departments and are secured at the lowest possible price. A second objective is to purchase goods and services in such a way that it will be clear to everyone that all qualified vendors have an equal opportunity to do business with the Town.

It is important to have a purchasing procedure which provides sufficient flexibility to allow department heads to make individual small purchases and purchases of an emergency nature. The procedure outlined below shall be followed except in bona fide emergencies. In cases when a department head deviates from the established procedure, he or she shall provide a written notice (email accepted) to the Town Manager's Office stating why the established procedure was not followed prior to procurement.

### **I. General Provisions:**

- A. Department heads are authorized to make purchases not to exceed \$2,000 without prior approval of the Town Manager's Office. Whenever possible, department heads shall seek competitive pricing based on the same quality of service or project.
- B. Prior approval from the Town Manager's Office shall be obtained for all purchases from \$2,000 in value to \$3,500 in value in accordance with the procedure outlined in Section II.
- C. All purchases and contracts in excess of \$3,500 shall require use of the procedure outlined in Section III.
- D. No contract or purchase shall be subdivided to avoid the provisions of this policy.
- E. The Town makes use of credit cards for online purchasing and for reducing the number of checks needing to be written. No municipal credit card may be used for any personal purchases. All credit card invoices shall be paid only with documented backup showing that items on the credit card invoice have been received. This backup material is for every item on the credit card invoice including all meal and accommodation receipts. In all instances, it must be clear what item is being purchased with any listing on a credit card invoice. Abuse of credit card privileges is subject to disciplinary proceedings.



## **II. Purchasing Procedure for \$2,000 - \$3,500:**

- A. The department head shall e-mail the Town Manager for approval to purchase the item. All such e-mail requests shall contain information on at least two bids, quotes or proposals that have been received or the explanation as to why this information was not obtained or available.
- B. The Town Manager shall review the request and shall notify the department head of approval to purchase the item(s). The Department Head may subsequently order the item, and when the invoice is received send a copy of the purchase order to the Town Office.

The following information shall be included on purchase orders:

- 1. Date prepared
  - 2. Vendor name and address
  - 3. Purchase order number
  - 4. Account to be charged to
  - 5. Quantity to be purchased
  - 6. Unit measurement
  - 7. Description
  - 8. Amount
  - 9. Signature of department head
  - 10. Evidence of attempt to acquire additional estimates or statement of why no attempt was made to acquire additional estimates.
- C. The department is responsible for inspecting and testing of all merchandise, purchases or services provided.

## **III. Bid Procedure for Purchases over \$3,500:**

- A. Department Head shall inform the Town Manager of necessary purchases, exceeding \$3,500 in value, before the merchandise or service is procured.
- B. Department Heads shall inform the Town Manager the quantity needed and shall also prepare any draft specifications necessary if required by the manager.
- C. The Town Manager or his or her designee (Dept. Head) shall issue invitations to bid to all known qualified vendors in the Carrabassett Valley area and outside the area when it is in the best interest of the Town.
- D. The Town Manager may request published invitations to bid in local weekly newspaper and in a newspaper in the larger geographical area or in a trade publication when it is in the best interest of the Town.

- E. All bids shall be submitted sealed to the Town Manager's Office for designee by a specified date and time and shall be clearly identified as bids on the envelope.
- F. Bids shall be opened in public at the time and place specified in the invitation to bid by the Town Manager or Town Treasurer or designated representative.
- G. A tabulation of all bids received shall be available for public inspection.
- H. The Town Manager or his or her designee shall accept the lowest, best bid meeting specifications or reject all bids. After consultation with the department head, in determining the lowest bid meeting specifications, the Town Manager shall consider the following:
  - 1. The ability, capacity, and skill of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service required;
  - 2. Whether the bidder can perform the contract or provide the service promptly, or within the time specified, without delay or interference;
  - 3. The character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience and efficiency of the bidder;
  - 4. The quality of performance of previous contracts or services;
  - 5. The previous and existing compliance by the bidder with laws and ordinances relating to the contract or services;
  - 6. The quality, availability and adaptability of the supplies, or contractual services to the particular use required;
  - 7. The sufficiency of the financial resources and ability of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service;
  - 8. The ability of the bidder to provide future maintenance and service for the use of the subject of the contract;
  - 9. The number and scope of conditions attached to the bid;
  - 10. The life cycle and scope of conditions attached to the bid;
  - 11. In the event of a tie or close bid, quality and service being equal, the contract shall be awarded to a local vendor.

12. The Town reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids and to waive any informality when it is deemed in the best interest of the Town to do so.

**IV. Select Board approval for Services, New Equipment and Other Purchases over \$5,000:**

- a. Unless in the case of an emergency or when necessary to keep Town Government Functions Operating and time constraints (time between scheduled Selectmen's meetings) do not allow the Town Manager to seek approval, all purchases of new services, new equipment or materials over the cost of \$5,000 require the approval of the Select Board unless the product or service purchased is one which is necessary and customary to conduct normal operations of the Town. Also, this requirement does not apply to ongoing approved projects or services.

**V. Exempt from Purchase Order Procedure:**

The following items do not need purchase order paperwork for each invoice.

1. Utility bills and fuel bills
2. Expense reimbursement (expense report is required)
3. Office equipment maintenance and repairs
4. Outside equipment maintenance except major repairs (less than \$2,000)
5. Equipment lease payments--original lease must be approved
6. Invoices for identical reoccurring purchases.
7. Service contract payments except for authorization of actual contracts.

**VII Exemptions from Competitive Bidding:**

1. Hourly rate contracts, which cannot be effectively estimated.
2. Situations in which it is determined by the Town Manager that only one firm can effectively provide the required service or materials.
3. Emergency repair or replacement where it is determined by the Town Manager that the repair or replacement cannot be delayed sufficiently to conform to the policy.
4. The letting of contracts or purchases of additional quantities, where the Town has recently awarded bids as normally required, and the successful bidder is willing to honor their original price.

**VIII Sale of Town Equipment:**

- A. No Town equipment or property may be sold without the authorization of the Town Manager. Any equipment or property with a value in excess of \$1,000 may be sold only upon authorization of the Board of Selectmen. Trade-ins are exempt from this procedure provided the approximate value

of the trade-ins was listed in the annual approved budget. No item may be sold to any municipal or school employee unless the sale is through a bid and the availability of the item has been posted for at least seven days in every department.

**IX Conflict of Interest:**

- A. No person authorized to act on behalf of the town shall enter into any agreement, contract of purchase order with any individual, firm, corporation or organization in which said person has a financial interest. This shall also include the acceptance of any gift or gratuity, directly or indirectly, from any person, firm, corporation or organization to which any purchase order or contract is, or might be, awarded, any rebate, gift or anything of value whatsoever, except where given for the express use of benefit of the Town of Carrabassett Valley.

**X Change of Policy:** This policy may be changed upon approval of the Select Board.

# Town of Carrabassett Valley

## Bid for Tree Removal Project near Campbell Field Road

The Town of Carrabassett Valley is seeking bids for a Tree and Brush Removal Project adjacent to the south entrance of the Campbell Field Road and Route 27 in Carrabassett Valley. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities in any bid received. The Bid Award will be based on price, schedule and past experience (references if requested by the Town).

### **Bidding Requirements:**

**All bids must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.** Please state total bid price below:

**Scope of Work:** The successful bidder will cut and remove all trees and brush on both sides of the south entrance of the Campbell Field Road as depicted on the attached map and as indicated by the flagging on the ground. The Contractor will be responsible for safety precautions associated with all work adjacent to Route 27. The Town will provide a flashing warning sign on Rt. 27 on the south end of the project.

**Insurance Requirements:** Successful Bidder must show proof of Contractor's Liability Insurance with minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate and must also show proof of Workmen's Compensation Insurance if Contractor employs employees for this work.

**Schedule of Work:** Please state approximate dates when work will start and finish.

Bidders are requested to do a walking site visit with Town Manager Dave Cota prior to submitting a bid to fully understand the scope of work. Please refer all questions to Dave at 235-2645 or [towncvtn@roadrunner.com](mailto:towncvtn@roadrunner.com).

**TOTAL LUMP SUM BID PRICE (Please use this form).**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send or drop off bid to the Carrabassett Valley Town Office (Town Office, 1001 Carriage Road, Carrabassett Valley, Maine 04947 attn: Tree Removal Bid. Bid may also be emailed to: Town Manager Dave Cota at: [towncvtn@roadrunner.com](mailto:towncvtn@roadrunner.com). Thank you for your interest!



Campbell Field Road

Route

Line Path: 10,000' 100' 100'

Measure the distance between two points on the

Map Length: 580.54

Ground Length: 590.63

Heading: 80.28 d

Disable Navigation

Save

Imagery Date: 6/23/2016 45°05'02.19" N 70°17'46.8"

45°F Sunny

55

## Dave Cota

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**From:** Meddie Perry <MPerry@VHB.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2022 4:04 PM  
**To:** Dave Cota  
**Subject:** RE: Town of Carrabassett Valley

Hi Dave,

Thanks for the call today. As discussed, VHB has been working for Sugarloaf on their snowmaking system. I had talked with Chris Parks and Deb in August about this project and VHB is indeed interested in assisting the Town with the studies, permitting, and/or engineering for the project.

Here's a broad outline of the situation as I understand it, and the path to using water from the existing Outdoor Center pond for snowmaking:

- Goal is coverage on 2.5 kilometers of 20-foot wide xc trails (1,150 gallons-per-minute ("gpm") on-trail usage with 59 guns blowing snow for 2.5 miles).
- The existing pond at the Outdoor Center was installed in 1986 for recreational use only – intake structure and water withdrawal was not contemplated in the permit.
- The intake structure installed mid-1990's and snowmaking usage started then. It was last used around 2014.
- Wells are not likely viable as a water source for snowmaking, per Chris P. local wells yield 5 to 10 gpm typically which is far less than the 1,150 gpm needed.
- The existing pond is the most viable source of the needed amounts of water for snowmaking.
- The pond is 7 to 8 feet deep near the intake structure; the intake structure consists of concrete tile with orifices for downstream flow release.
- The existing pump not functional, and would need to be replaced (is in pumphouse, not in the water).
- Withdrawal of water for snowmaking is not authorized in the current permit
- A ME DEP Permit will be needed to resume use of water for snowmaking – regardless of expansion or new infrastructure.
- A ME DEP Permit will set seasonal minimum streamflows that must be preserved downstream of the pond, and will restrict use of water at times when natural streamflow into the pond is low.
- A federal Army Corps of Engineers Permit will be needed if anything new will be placed below the ordinary high water line of the pond (i.e., new intake structure).
- Potential next steps, in sequence:
  - 1) Feasibility study: VHB will determine likely streamflow requirements, natural streamflow regime, water quantities needed for the project, and the amounts of water that will be available for use. VHB will work with Sugarloaf on a conceptual design of new infrastructure, will identify specific permits that will be needed based on the conceptual design, and will assess the likelihood of obtaining the needed permits. VHB will produce a report presenting this information and recommendations for design and permitting of a snowmaking system.
  - 2) Survey and existing conditions plan: in parallel with the feasibility study, or after it is completed, VHB will survey the pond and surrounding land area as the first step in the engineering process. VHB will use LiDAR remote sensing data for existing topography, but will need on-site surveying for pond bathymetry, elevations and dimensions of existing intake.

- 3) Permitting: VHB will apply for the environmental permits that are determined to be needed during the feasibility study. Applicable permits may include a US Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit, a Maine Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) Permit or Permit-by-Rule, including streamflow requirements pursuant to Chapter 587: In-Stream Flows and Lake and Pond Water Levels.
- 4) Engineering design of pond and snowmaking system improvements: this engineering scope of work is TBD depending on outcome of feasibility study and permitting, as the pond may or may not need a new structure to control and measure outflows. At a minimum a new pump will be needed in the existing pumphouse. A new physical intake and pumphouse may or may not be needed. Electrical upgrades for 3-phase power are needed – electrical engineering is outside VHB's scope of work.

Estimated cost for the feasibility study and survey/existing conditions plan: \$5,000 to \$10,000. Costs for permitting and engineering design can be determined based on the outcome of the feasibility study, including a conceptual design, and the assessment of existing conditions.

Please let me know if you'd like VHB to provide a formal Scope of Work / Cost Estimate for your approval so we can get started. Feel free to call or email if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

**Meddie Perry**

Senior Hydrogeologist

Vermont Director of Water Resources

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[www.vhb.com](http://www.vhb.com)

**From:** Dave Cota <towncvtm@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 11:51 AM  
**To:** Meddie Perry <MPerry@VHB.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Town of Carrabassett Valley

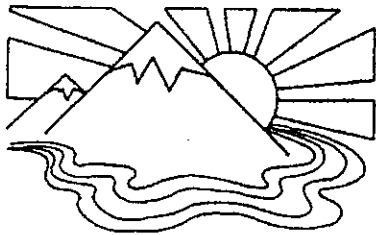
Hi Meddie:

I got you name and contact info from our Code Enforcement Officer, Chris Parks. I believe this past summer you had some discussion with Chris, Deb Bowker our Recreation Director and you have been involved with Sugarloaf (Crusher) in regards to their proposed Caribou Pond dam project. We (the Town and Sugarloaf) are having more serious discussions regarding a project to install snowmaking at the Sugarloaf Outdoor Center (the Center and adjacent land is owned by the Town and leased to Sugarloaf) and using the Outdoor Center Pond as a water source for snowmaking.

To move a project forward, it appears we need to complete some form of water withdrawal study on our approximate 10-acre Outdoor Center Pond to determine if it's feasible to use water in the pond for snowmaking. We have a small committee of Town and Sugarloaf reps working to see if we can move a project forward. Sugarloaf can come up with water withdrawal requirements for snowmaking on the proposed trail lay-out (2.5K to start). It's my understanding that you indicated you would be interested in conducting the necessary study to determine how much water we can use for this that is sustainable. If interested, we would like to talk with you soon about giving us a short proposal/quote not to exceed, etc. If it's not too late we may want to do this soon. We're very much interested in talking with you. Please feel free to give me a call to discuss. Thank you.

Dave Cota





## Carrabassett Valley School

### Department

1001 Carriage Road

Maine 04947

207-235-2646

207-235-2645

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Thursday, October 20th, 2022

Dear MSAD 58 School Committee and Administrators,

Over the last several years, there has been a lot of change and uncertainty in our regional area regarding the longevity and health of MSAD 58. Even after this year's MSAD 58 middle school consolidation, it has come to our attention that decision makers are still considering the closure of Mt. Abram High School as a solution to budgetary shortfalls.

While we appreciate wanting to solve a budgetary crisis, we believe that an actual closure of Mt. Abram would be devastating to our region. It would fracture the sense of community itself, scattering children further away from home. Graduation and extra-curricular participation rates would decrease due to the logistical and social hardships that would result. Parents would not choose to move or live here knowing that there were limited high school options.

Furthermore, we believe that it is extremely harmful to even continue *discussing* Mt. Abram's closure as an option. Exploring closure heightens panic in many ways. It threatens the mental well-being of our matriculating students and the ability to hire and retain great educators. Within our own town, which is enjoying a burgeoning student-aged population thanks to covid, parents are nonetheless questioning their 9-12 options and living here, due to a lack of faith in Mt. Abram's longevity.

The closure of Mt. Abram, no matter if it is real or just discussed, contributes to the spiral *downwards* that people *without* hope predict - decreased population numbers will cause further economic and social depression, causing further exodus of young families.

We want Mt. Abram to succeed. Carrabassett Valley, with its large tax base, has the potential ability to contribute financially, and substantially, to help our local schools. An example of our funds in action is that we increased our Innovative Education Fund this year from \$25,000 to \$100,000. We received 23 applications, the vast majority of which are from educators in MSAD 58. The passion, talent, drive, and devotion to the students that these applicants possessed blew us away. It was so discordant with the "doom and gloom" talks of closure.

The MSAD 58 crisis is a regional problem. We are asking you today to join forces with other education stakeholders from Carrabassett Valley, Stratton, and the Unorganized Territories. Together, we have the thought-leaders, financial resources, and passion to create a well-researched, comprehensive, visionary solution. A solution that *doesn't* involve school closures

but involves embracing Mt. Abram as a vibrant educational opportunity comprised of engaged students, an amazing location, and devoted educators. We have no doubt that together, we could chart a 10-year path towards making Mt. Abram High School one of the best high schools in the state.

Working together would instead contribute to the spiral *upwards* that people *with* hope predict - if we build it, they will come. Economic and social prosperity would ensue.

We also want to make it clear that due to the instability of MSAD 58, we feel it is our obligation to proactively investigate alternative secondary school solutions to secure future quality education for our children. It is our strong preference, though, to be heavily involved, planning-wise and financially, in charting a path towards a great 10-year vision for Mt. Abram.

Our question to you, the MSAD 58 School Board and Administration, is - How can we help? Can we host a working session with MSAD 58's, Stratton's, and the EUT's School Boards and Education leaders to start creating a 10-year vision that will make Mt. Abram one of the best high schools in the state?

Let's choose a hope mindset together.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

The Carrabassett Valley School Committee