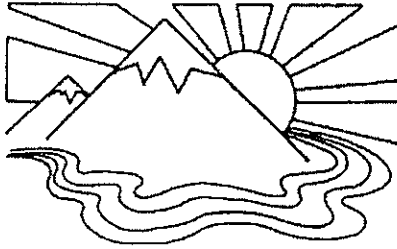


Carrabassett Valley Select Board Meeting
4:30 p.m. Thursday December 22nd, 2022 at the Town Office



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) 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: #50 (\$30,160.04)

Review and sign Expenditure Warrants #51 (\$63,552.85)

AGENDA:

1. MINUTES of the previous meeting (December 12th, 2022) attached.

2. CONSIDERATION OF A COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) INCREASE FOR TOWN

EMPLOYEES FOR 2023: In 2022, most Town employees received a 5% wage increase. In the past, we have sometimes alternated between providing an inflationary percentage increase and providing an equal amount of pay increase for full time employees (combined with a % increase for part-time employees). Inflation (CPI-U) is still running high (6.4% for the Northeast) but has been declining in recent months (see attached). In addition, we have attached the following:

A spreadsheet showing employee salaries from 2018 through 2022

A spreadsheet showing different potential inflationary dollar amount increase options

A recent Survey (MTCM) of other municipality projected inflationary increases.

The Survey may not be much help as it appears to be "all over the place" in terms of increases.

3. INFORMATIONAL:

The Golf Course Greens Committee is meeting at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday (Dec. 21st) at the Library: The Committee is reviewing possible larger capital maintenance projects for 2023 utilizing funding from the Golf Course Reserve Fund. We may have related recommendations for Select Board to review.

TOWN OF CARRABASSETT VALLEY
MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING
December 12, 2022

Board Members Present:	Bob Luce	Lloyd Cuttler
	Karen Campbell	Jay Reynolds
Others Present:	Dave Cota	Tom Butler
	Chris Parks	Wendy Russell
	Annie Twitchell	Sue Davis
	Bob Briggs	Courtney Knapp
	Deb Bowker	Karl Strand
	Tom Cromwell	Tim Gerencer
	Josh Tarsus	Mark Schwarz

A brief celebration for the Sealing of the Town's 50th Anniversary Time Capsule was held. A number of members of the Community were present for the event, including local children.

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

Payroll warrant #50 in the amount of \$30,160.04 was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.
Expense warrant #51 in the amount of \$63,552.85 reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

The Minutes of the November 28, 2022 Meeting were reviewed. Jay Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Karen Campbell seconded the motion. Motion approved with one correction with regarding to School Board strategic planning.

Dave Cota discussed the proposed Wyman Stoney Brook Trailhead Parking Lot, off of Route 27. He provided specifications for a bid to construct this parking lot, which also includes a sealed-vault privy, which can be decided-upon and installed at a later time. The bids are due back by January 19th. It is a fairly extensive project, 140' x 100' with a driveway being about 75' long. The project includes tree removal, installing gravel and culverts, and MDOT will require a paved apron off of Route 27. Dave indicated that the project could cost in the area of \$50,000. This project will become part of the Carrabassett Valley Trails Committee collaborative, with the Town as fiscal agent. Dave Cota anticipates that the funding will come from the State (\$10,000) and also a potential Franklin County TIF (since the project is in an unorganized territory), potential grants, and potential club grant funding. The trail system will have a 4-5-year build-out from there, with about 2 miles being built per year. Bob Luce asked if bidders will have the ability to view the property adequately, with the potential of snow coming this week. Dave Cota said the property is fairly flat. Bidders are requested to do an on-site visit to the project area. Josh Tarsus indicated that there is verbiage in the management plan from the State to allow for this project to be undertaken on their land. Following discussion, Jay Reynolds made a motion to authorize the Town to be fiscal agent for the project and put it out to bid. No commitment is made at this time to construct the project until funding is in place. Lloyd Cuttler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dave Cota discussed Golf Course Capital Improvements. The Greens Committee met recently and plan to meet again next week to develop recommendations for Select Board consideration. They reviewed Sugarloaf's priorities and developed a list. Some items are maintenance (Sugarloaf's responsibility), but there are also some major capital maintenance projects. Dave Cota will be meeting with Karl Strand to determine what is maintenance and what is

capital, and they will report that back to the Greens Committee. Sugarloaf and the Town have each contribute \$10,000 to the Reserve Fund annually. The balance in that account is currently approximately \$150,000. Karl Strand said that Sugarloaf has a 15-year plan, so they are trying to lay out the plan for those items that will be Sugarloaf's responsibility.

The Select Board reviewed Town Committee and Board vacancy proposed appointees. Following review and discussion, appointments were made as follows:

2 nd Alternate Planning Board (expires 2024)	Jim Benoit
Town/CVA Operations Committee	Kelly Stoutameyer
Sanitary District Trustees (to complete terms until March)	Brian Demshar and Jim Benoit
Recreation Committee	Joseph Tutlis (2023), Erica Luce DiSilvestro (2025)
Zoning Board of Appeals	Mark Green (2024)
Golf Course Greens Committee	Doris Tutlis
Comprehensive Plan Committee	Mark Green

Each appointment was voted individually by the Select Board.

Dave Cota discussed increasing the Fire Chief/EMS Director's position from a 30-hour/week position to a 40-hour/week position. Dave had provided a copy of the job description to the Select Board, along with a letter provided by Chief Courtney Knapp. Courtney has been spending a great deal of time at the new station, along with his involvement with other area agencies and mutual partners in Eustis and Kingfield. Courtney Knapp noted that a number of the volunteer members live in those other communities. The pay would be increased by \$14,000 from the current annual salary of \$42,000. Dave Cota acknowledged that all area fire stations struggle to get volunteers to provide their services. Courtney reported that he retired from Jordan Lumber a year ago, and he has been focused on the new station, since it is a 24/7 job. He said training is one of the big issues, because they are using per diem staffing, and they are not necessarily part of the regular staffing. They have a roster of about 25 volunteer firemen. They've done a fair amount of training with Sugarloaf employees, and it is an on-going planning process. Courtney reported that Carrabassett Valley does not have many structure fires, but they answer many other calls. The biggest challenge is staffing. Bob Luce acknowledged that it is not surprising that the Town has arrived at a point where a full-time chief is necessary. Courtney said that he is approaching the end of his career, but he would like to see the ground-work in place for his successor, and a new person coming in to take the position structured appropriately. Lloyd Cuttler asked about sending information to Sugarloaf seasonal employees who might be willing to serve on the department. Courtney said that he did have a condo owner volunteer after seeing Courtney's report in the annual Town newsletter. He has had a couple of others that have done so, as well. Karl Strand said he would be willing to convey that message to Sugarloaf staff. Jay Reynolds made a motion to change the position to a 40-hour position. Karen Campbell seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dave Cota provided an Update of the Town Accounts. He discussed those items that had information to detail, noting that there will be several accounts with a surplus, and the auditor will address these at year-end. He noted that some accounts are awaiting grant reimbursement. The Public Lots account is in the red, but that will be off-set over the next two years with forestry revenues (funds were spent to build roads this year). With regard to revenues, this was not a good year with the Town's investments. Other revenues are in good standing.

Informational:

Dave Cota reported that the Penobscot Indian Nation Land Committee will meet with representatives from the Town a week from Wednesday. Karen Campbell has agreed to attend to represent the Select Board, Chris Parks will attend and also representatives from the Snowmobile Club.

Golf Course Greens Committee will meet December 21st at 3pm.

Next Meeting: December 22, 2022 at the Town Office.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Schnorr



U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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News Release Information

22-2332-PHI
Tuesday, December 13, 2022

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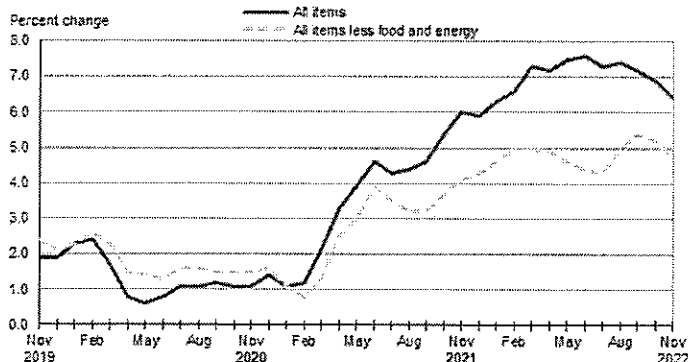
Consumer Price Index, Northeast Region – November 2022

Area prices were up 0.1 percent over the past month, up 6.4 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Northeast Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), increased by 0.1 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Regional Commissioner Alexandra Hall Bovee noted that the November increase was predominantly due to higher prices for energy, up 2.2 percent, as gasoline prices rose for the first time in 4 months. Tempering the overall increase, the all items less food and energy index was down 0.1 percent—the first decrease in almost 2 years while the food index rose by 0.2 percent. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Northeast all items CPI-U index rose 6.4 percent, lower than the recent peak of 7.6 percent in June 2022. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The all items less food and energy index, up 4.7 percent, was mostly credited for the over-the-year increase in November. The energy index increased 19.1 percent over the year with 12-month increases across all energy components while the food index advanced 9.7 percent. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Northeast region, November 2019–November 2022



[View Chart Data](#)

Food

Food prices rose 0.2 percent for the month of November, the smallest increase since May 2021 and well below the peak of 1.3 percent in July 2022. (See [table 1](#).) Of the two major components within the food index, prices for food away from home increased 0.3 percent and were responsible for the majority of the rise in food prices; it was the third consecutive month where that index outpaced the one for groceries. Food at home prices advanced 0.1 percent—the smallest increase since February 2021. Higher prices for cereals and bakery products (0.7 percent), and dairy and related products (0.9 percent) led the increase. Moderating these increases, prices for other food at home were down 0.3 percent—the largest decline since February 2021. Fruits and vegetables, down 0.2 percent, and nonalcoholic beverages, down 0.1

percent, also tempered the rise in the grocery index.

From November 2021 to November 2022, the food index increased 9.7 percent. Prices for food at home advanced 11.2 percent since a year ago, led by an increase of 12.6 percent for other food at home and a 17.3 percent rise in cereals and bakery products—the highest 12-month increase for the cereals index since reporting began in 2018. Prices for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs increased 6.6 percent—the smallest increase since August 2021 and considerably lower than the 11.9 percent peak in February. The dairy and related products index saw its highest increase since reporting began in 2018 with a 15.4 percent rise in prices. Prices for food away from home rose 7.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index increased, up 2.2 percent over the month, due to rises in the motor fuel index; the November increase and a 0.3 percent over-the-month increase in October came after 3 months of lower prices. All components of the household energy index rose in November. Gasoline prices were up 4.8 percent following a 4-month decline. The index for utility (piped) gas service advanced 1.2 percent over the month, following a 3.0 percent decrease in October. Prices for fuel oil and electricity both rose, with the electricity index increasing 0.1 percent after 2 months of lower prices.

Energy prices increased over the year, up 19.1 percent, noticeably below the peak of 44.2 percent in June. Over the year, prices for electricity were up 18.6 percent, the fuel oil index rose, and the utility (piped) gas service index was up 23.5 percent. Gasoline prices advanced 10.1 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy decreased 0.1 percent in November, the first decrease since December 2020, as many indexes declined or were unchanged. The largest decline in its 24-year series had prices for new and used motor vehicles down 2.0 percent; with lower prices for used cars and trucks (down 2.8 percent) leading the decline. Apparel prices also decreased (down 2.9 percent); lower prices for medical care (down 0.3 percent) and the other goods and services index (down 0.2 percent) also contributed to all items less food and energy index decline. The shelter index (up 0.3 percent) moderated the overall decrease as the indexes for owners' equivalent rent of residences and for rent of primary residence both rose (up 0.5 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively). Increases in prices for education and communication (up 0.7 percent, the largest increase since July 2020) and public transportation contributed to offsetting the overall decline.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 4.7 percent. The 12-month increases in the shelter index (up 4.9 percent), the new and used motor vehicles index (up 5.0 percent – the smallest 12-month rise since March 2021 and notably below the 23.2 percent peak in February 2022), the medical care index (up 4.5 percent after the recent peak of 6.1 percent in September 2022), and household furnishings and operations (up 6.6 percent after a peak of 9.3 percent in April 2022) contributed to the increase in the all items less food and energy index. Within the shelter index, gains were led by the index for owners' equivalent rent of residences (up 4.8 percent—the highest 12-month increase since February 2007) and rent of primary residence (up 5.3 percent – the highest since May 1990). The medical care services index increased 5.1 percent, contributing to the 4.5 percent rise in the medical care index. Prices for new vehicles were up 5.1 percent, leading the new and used motor vehicles index gains, but were the smallest since July 2021 and far less than last November's 13.3 percent peak.

Geographic divisions

Additional price indexes are now available for the two divisions of the Northeast. Over the month, the all items CPI-U index for the New England division increased by 0.4 percent. For the Middle Atlantic division, the all items CPI-U index remained unchanged over the month.

Over the year, the all items index advanced 6.4 percent in both the New England and Middle Atlantic divisions. (See [table B.](#))

Table A. Northeast region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January	0.5	1.6	0.3	1.5	0.7	2.3	0.4	1.1	0.8	6.3
February	0.4	1.7	0.2	1.3	0.3	2.4	0.4	1.2	0.7	6.6
March	0.1	2.0	0.5	1.7	-0.2	-1.7	0.6	2.1	1.3	7.3
April	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.7	-0.4	0.8	0.7	3.3	0.6	7.2
May	0.4	2.5	0.3	1.5	0.0	0.6	0.6	3.9	0.9	7.5
June	0.0	2.6	0.1	1.6	0.3	0.8	1.0	4.6	1.2	7.6
July	0.0	2.7	0.1	1.7	0.4	1.1	0.2	4.3	-0.2	7.3
August	0.2	2.7	0.1	1.5	0.1	1.1	0.1	4.4	0.3	7.4
September	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.4	0.1	1.2	0.3	4.6	0.1	7.2
October	-0.1	2.3	-0.1	1.5	-0.2	1.1	0.6	5.4	0.3	6.9
November	-0.4	1.9	0.1	1.9	0.1	1.1	0.6	6.0	0.1	6.4
December	-0.1	1.7	-0.1	1.9	0.2	1.4	0.2	5.9		

NOV. 2022 (with arrow pointing to the 6.4 value in the November row)

Table B. CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, Northeast region and divisions, not seasonally adjusted

Area	1-month change	12-month change
Northeast	0.1	6.4
New England Division	0.4	6.4
Middle Atlantic Division	0.0	6.4

The December 2022 Consumer Price Index for the Northeast Region is scheduled to be released on January 12, 2023.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total U.S. population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total U.S. population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

2023 Salaries

EMPLOYEE:	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021	2002	2002	2023	2023
General Government:	Salary	Salary	Salary	Inflation Inc.	Salary	Inflation Inc.	Salary	Inflation Inc.	Salary
Town Manager	\$78,236	\$85,192	\$86,896	\$1,000	\$87,896	5%	\$92,291		
Town Clerk	\$35,746	\$37,672	\$39,376	\$1,000	\$40,376	5%	\$42,395		
(Note: This position also receives \$7,246 as School Secretary).									
Treasurer (now full-time)	\$25,000	\$34,500	\$36,156	\$1,000	\$38,308	5%	\$40,224		
Part-time Office Staff	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$6,500		\$5,000		\$4,000		
Code Enforcement Officer	\$71,286	\$53,573	\$57,277	\$1,000	\$58,277	5%	\$62,191		
Code Enforcement Officer in Ti	\$15,000	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0		
Assessor: This is now a contract		\$30,700	\$31,314		\$31,658		\$0		
Assessing Assistance	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0		\$0		\$0		
<u>Police Department:</u>									
Police Chief	\$64,906	\$66,862	\$68,566	\$1,000	\$69,566	5%	\$73,045		
Asst. Police Chief	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0		
<u>Fire Department:</u>									
Fire Chief (full time in 2023)	\$24,857	\$25,478	\$28,300		\$42,000	5%	\$44,100		
Firemen	\$32,000	\$38,500	\$44,500		\$44,500		\$46,725		
<u>Recreation:</u>									
Recreation Director	\$56,426	\$58,382	\$60,086	\$1,000	\$61,086		\$65,141		
Recreation Department Assistant							\$39,268		
Part-Time AGC Staffing	\$49,900	\$49,900	\$53,800		\$56,800		\$35,000		
Other Recreation Summer Staf	\$1,300	\$5,000	\$5,000		\$4,000		\$4,000		
Pool Operations	\$25,000	\$26,485	\$30,000		\$30,000		\$30,000		
Summer Camp Staff	\$43,000	\$46,000	\$50,000		\$58,106		\$54,000		
<u>Library:</u>									
Director (inc. from 32hrs. To 41)	\$43,143	\$45,099	\$46,804	\$1,000	\$47,804	5%	\$50,195		
Library Part-Time	\$2,600	\$2,920	\$2,920		\$2,920		\$3,400		
<u>Other:</u>									
Animal Control Officer(s)	\$2,000	\$0	\$0		\$500		\$0		
Recycling/Composting Staff	\$800	\$3,000	\$2,000		\$600		\$2,500		
Town Mt. Bike Program (Town)	<u>\$25,000</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>	<u>\$15,000</u>		<u>\$30,000</u>		<u>\$30,000</u>		
Total Salaries (estimated in 20: \$607,700	\$643,763	\$664,495	\$709,397				\$718,475		

FY 2023 COLA increases

Compiled December 2022

Town	Proposed
Mechanic Falls	5.0%
Presque Isle	\$3/hr
Monmouth	8.0%
Corinna	8.0%
Enfield	8.5%
South Portland	4.0%
Mapleton/Castle Hill/Chapman	8.0%
Union	8.7%
Corinth	\$1/hr FT \$0.5/hr PT
Rockland	5.0%
Kittery	3.0%
Poland	6.9%
Oakland	5.0%
Farmington	7.1%
County of Aroostook	9.8%
Houlton	4.0%
Deer Isle	7.0%
Paris	8.0%
Windsor	5.0%
Fort Kent	4.0%
Jay	4.0%
Oxford County	5.0%

Readfield	8.0%
Hallowell	12.0%
Winslow	5.0%
Ludlow	0.0%
Standish	6.0%
Bath	5.0%