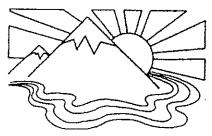
Carrabassett Valley Select Board Meeting 4:30 p.m. Monday February 13th, 2023 at the Town Office



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: #
Review and sign Expenditure Warrants #4

AGENDA:

- **1.MINUTES** of the previous meetings (January 23rd, 2023 and Budget Committee meeting January 25th, 2023) attached.
- **2. REVIEW AND SIGN ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT:** The annual Town meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 8th with elections at the Town Office from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and the regular meeting held at the Outdoor Center starting at 7:00 p.m.
- **3. PUBLIC LOT:** We have been asked by the Work Force Housing Coalition to look into whether or not the Town can get State Legislative relief on the Town's 1,203 "State" Public Lot deed covenant to allow development of affordable/employee housing on up to eight acres of this lot. This does <u>not</u> mean that this development will happen and a lot of public process would need to happen first (a vote of the Town, etc., etc.) before it did. However, the Coalition is trying to identify suitable sites in each of the Town's involved in the Coalition. We have met with our local State representatives and with representatives of the Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation

and Forestry and we believe legislation (to change the deed covenant to allow this) is going to be introduced in this legislative session. We'll provide a map of the area of the lot at the meeting that may be under consideration. The Coalition is also looking at a privately owned small parcel. Any comments or concerns, etc.??

INFORMATIONAL:

There are a number of <u>upcoming projects</u> (some sooner than others) we are working on including: bids to paint the Outdoor Center, site location and development of the "bus wash", FAA airport crack sealing project, summer golf course capital maintenance projects, siding repair on the AGC building, hydrological study of the Outdoor Center Pond—for possible future snowmaking project, getting more defined estimates for the snowmaking project, etc.).

<u>Comprehensive Plan Update:</u> We have been in touch with the Musson Group and we anticipate receiving a proposed agreement. Chris sent out an email to the Committee to let them know the process will begin in the near future.

<u>Town Reports/Town Meeting:</u> We are hopeful to have Town Reports available by the end of February (we will also post it on the Town website). As you know, the annual Town Meeting will be held on March 8th. The Town Manager will appear on WSKI on Tuesday (8:00 a.m.) February 21st (which will be reshown) in hopes of making citizens aware of the upcoming Town Meeting. We will also post flyers and other communication.

The Planning Board is holding a meeting 4:30 p.m. February 16th at the Library to hear from an attorney that has been hired to review <u>Contract Zoning Ordinances</u>. It is anticipated that representatives from our immediate surrounding Town's Planning Boards may also be attending.

Town of Carrabassett Valley

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting

January 23, 2023

Location: Carrabassett Valley Town Office Conference Room

Time: 5:10-5:58

Topic: Comp plan, Stoney Brook TH/parking lot; budget

Board Present: John Beaupre, Karen Campbell, Lloyd Cuttler, Bob Luce, Jay Reynolds Others Present: Adam Platz, representing JARCO, Dave Cota, Annie Twitchell, Courtney

Knapp, Chris Parks, Tim Gerencer

Chair Bob Luce opened the Monday, January 23 meeting at 5:10 p.m. Jay Reynolds moved acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Karen Campbell. The motion passed unanimously. The Board reviewed and signed payroll warrants #3 (\$33,409.72) and #4 (\$510,808.99).

Public Hearing

JARCO CV LLC was present for their license renewal for the marijuana retail store at the former Judson's Motel location. As the store is not yet operational, there was no need for the usual public safety reports from police and fire. John Beaupre moved approval, seconded by Jay Reynolds. Unanimous approval.

Comprehensive Plan

The Town received three bids for doing a new Comprehensive Plan: \$67,500, \$104,050 and \$140,000. The Musson Group was recommended by the Selection Committee and they were the lowest bid. They are from SW Harbor on Mt. Desert Island and they have worked with Camoin Associates, which conducted Carrabassett's regional housing survey last year. Other connections included Katahdin Woods & Waters National Monument and working with the tribes.

Dave Cota outlined the finances available to hire the Musson Group: Carrabassett has budgeted \$15,000/year over the last three years, providing \$45,000. The Town is including a \$22,500 budget request in 2023to cover the additional cost to complete the project.

John Beaupre asked about the time-line. Cota responded that doing a comp plan can take a year or more, that he expects this would be about 18 months.

The selection committee has met with Musson via zoom and was very pleased. The company principal will lead the project. They have done a number of comp plans in the state, including working extensively with Greenville and are experienced with recreational planning. They appear to be a perfect fit on many levels beyond the financial.

Dave Cota recommended a review of the two previous comp plans as they have represented Carrabassett's vision and mission in the past which is helpful to know going forward. Timing is important given the land use ordinance changes and current consideration for contract zoning. Creating the survey will be the tricky part. Jay Reynolds moved to approve the selection to hire the Musson Group, seconded by Lloyd Cuttler. Approved unanimously.

Stoney Brook Parking lot.

The Town has received 6 bids, 2 low, 2 medium, 2 high, for constructing the Stoney Brook trailhead, ranging from the low bid at \$49,220 to a high bid of \$97,000. The bike club CR-NEMBA is figuring out the financing, ranging from the \$10,000 pledged by the MDOT to club money and possible TIF money. The club may come back to ask the Town for some money possibly from the Town/Club fund, but remains to be seen. Cota stressed the importance of a parking lot as people are already parking along Rt. 27. The Town is fiscal agent for this project so at this point it is FYI for the board as Cota waits for the Club to get back to the Town on their selection, funding plans, etc.

Budget considerations

Cota met with Carrabassett school superintendent about the school portion of the budget. There has been a considerable jump in school population, due in part to Covid, which is good but has the expected impact on the budget. Although final figures will only come with the release of the school budgets in May or June, they are not expecting a sizeable increase. Cota expects Carrabassett will have to pick up as much as \$2,023,000 assuming the budget doesn't change dramatically.

The school had a \$359,000 surplus last year. If they maintain the practice of holding a \$200,000 surplus, that provides \$159,000 toward next year's budget. The Property Tax Commitment may increase from 4.7 million to 5.2 million assuming there is approximately an \$14,500,000 increase in valuation the town has seen each year over the last several years. Cota expects the tax rate to go up .0081 or 6.6% depending on what happens with the School Budget. Last year tax rate increased 11.4%. Cota also indicated that due to the dramatic increase in property value increases in the Community the Town Tax Assessor is undergoing a property "revaluation" of all taxable properties in Town. While the total taxable valuation will go up the tax (mil) rate will decrease correspondingly except for whatever the increase in budgets are. However, some areas of Town will see higher tax valuation increase then other areas which will affect property tax bills in July. Other related issues include losing State reimbursement funds on the Maine State Tree Growth law.

Regional school meeting

Carrabassett's school committee is hosting a meeting in Kingfield of all towns in the MSAD 58 district and Stratton-Eustis to assess community issues and determine what is best for the greater community, called Finding Common Ground. The school committee has hired a moderator (that Carrabassett is paying for) to evaluate the success of the new middle school in Strong and related issues. Cota wanted board members to know about it.

Budget items

Cota explained the revised, updated uses for ARPA funds and feels the uses Carrabassett is making of them all comply. These include \$25,000 toward the new fire truck related equipment and \$6,600 for as the Town share of the new Franklin County Communications software and \$10,000 for improvements to the town park of planting trees, etc. There is still a balance of \$25,000 to be spent on qualifying projects/needs.

Cota also included a review of the Town's current debt service as obligations age out. The Board needs to keep this in mind as it considers debt for new projects like the 2023-2025 par-3 golf course project and snow making at the Outdoor Center, currently on the horizon. New income

sources will arrive as Sugarloaf's West Mountain development takes off and starts yielding new real estate tax income for the Town.

The budget committee will meet Wednesday at the CVPL. Jay Reynolds will bring pizza from The Bag.

Karen Campbell reported on issues with snow plowing and trucks in the S-curves. Fire chief Courtney Knapp reported that MDOT is not plowing the turnouts on 27 and next year will permanently close the turnouts in New Portland because they have been trashed by Poland Spring truckers. Knapp has also talked to MDOT about the safety issues related to the turnouts on the S-curves and expects a positive outcome.

Cota explain the proposed budget appropriation (\$40,000--\$10,000 less than last year) and expenditures (\$29,788) from the Recreation Endowment fund. Also, approximately \$15,000 in lease fees from the cell phone tower at the transfer station go into this fund. Discussion of using the two \$1,500 license fees for the two marijuana stores for the recreation endowment devolved into putting those fees into the education budget.

The board moved to adjourn at 5:58.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Davis, secretary

Minutes of the January 25th, 2023 Town of Carrabassett Valley Budget Committee Meeting held at the Library

Present: Bob Luce, Lloyd Cuttler, Paul Fritzon, Tim Gerencer, Bob Briggs, Jay Reynolds, Audrey Parks, John Beaupre, Karen Campbell, Janet Peruffo, Brian Demshar and John McCatherin

Bob Luce opened the meeting opened up at approximately 5:45 p.m.

Town Manager Dave Cota reviewed the Budget Summary with the Committee describing potential property tax impacts of the municipal, school and County budgets.

Bob Luce then called for votes on each budget category. The municipal budget was approved as presented in the Budget packet.

A question was raised regarding \$6,820 in the Communication Center budget concerning Rent/Lease. It was pointed out that the Town owned the Police Station but not the space across the hall from the Police Station and there are association fees attached to the Town's police station space. Dave Cota indicated he would get a more definitive answer as those costs.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Cota

TOWN MEETING WARRANT 2023

STATE OF MAINE COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, ss.

TO: Mark Lopez, Police Chief of the Town of Carrabassett Valley, in said county:

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Carrabassett Valley qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet at the Town Office on Wednesday March 8th, 2023 at eight (8:00) o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on Article One.

The polls will open as soon as Article One has been acted upon and will remain open to vote on Article Two until six (6:00) o'clock in the evening. **We will reassemble at the Outdoor Center at Seven (7:00) o'clock in the evening** to vote on all other articles, beginning with Article Three.

The Registrar of Voters gives notice that she will be in session during regular Municipal Office Hours. Registrations will not be accepted during the evening meeting.

- **Article 1.** To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- **Article 2.** To elect all necessary Town Officers as required to be elected by secret ballot.
- Article 3. Shall the Town vote taxes due as October 2nd, 2023 and the rate of interest to be charged on unpaid taxes as 6% percent per year and the date such interest commences as October 3rd, 2023.

Recommended by the Select Board

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Sec. 506, and to pay an interest rate of 0% on those prepayments.

Recommended by the Select Board

Article 5. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to sell and dispose of any Town owned tax acquired property on such terms as they deem advisable and execute release deeds in the name of the Town for such property.

Recommended by the Select Board

Article 6. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 1/4 of the 2023 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2024 to the March 2024 annual Town Meeting.

Recommended by the Select Board

Article 7. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$450,481 for General Government Accounts as follows:

General Government Salaries	\$190,990
Town Office Operating Expenses	101,800
Assessing	53,000
Code Enforcement	71,791
Planning Board Expenses	11,550
Donations/Contributions & Contingency	<u>21,350</u>
Total:	\$450,481

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 8. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$614,814 for the Town Protection and Town Insurance Accounts as follows:

Police Department	\$103,545
Communications and Sugarloaf Security	182,000
Fire Department Expenses	142,525
Mountain Fire Station Expenses	28,350
NorthStar Emergency Medical Services	93,980
Animal Control and Shelter Services	1,814
Town Insurances	62,600
Total:	\$614,814

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 9. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$430,545 for Recreation Programs and Facilities as follows:

Recreation Department	\$ 85,700
Operation of the Anti-Gravity Complex (AGC)	256,745
Alden MacDonald Junior Golf Program	12,000
Playground & Equipment Reserve	1,000
Pool Reserve	4,000
Town Park Reserve	5,000
J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club	22,000
Mountain Bike Trail Maintenance	10,000
Public Lots Mountain Bike Trail Development	15,000
Outdoor Center Misc. Operations	1,600
Narrow Gauge Pathway Maintenance	<u>17,500</u>
Total:	\$430,545

Also, to approve transferring any remaining balance in the Narrow-Gauge Maintenance Account in 2023 to the Narrow-Gauge Pathway Reserve and to approve expending these funds for capital maintenance projects on this Pathway.

(Note: Offsetting AGC Revenues of \$25,000 and \$90,000 for a total of \$115,000 are being requested in warrant article #27.)

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article10. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$40,000 to be placed into the Recreational Endowment Reserve Fund and to place revenues from the Cell Tower Lease (estimated to be \$15,000) into this Reserve Fund and to see if the Town shall vote to expend the following amounts from this Fund for the following purposes:

Town Matching Funds for the Junior Golf Program \$ 1,838

Town Matching Funds for Mountain Bike Club Grants and Donations \$15,000

(For Trail Planning, Maintenance and Development)

Town Matching Funds to assist the Non-Profit 'Longfellow \$ 2,500 Mountains Heritage Trails, Inc.' develop a multi-use people powered trail that, if successful, would extend from Kingfield to Coburn Gore.

Town Matching Funds to make improvements to the Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association Shooting Range \$10,000

Town Matching Funds to assist the Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association in stocking the Outdoor Center Pond with fish.

\$450

Total:

\$29.788

(Note: Based on past practice, all expenditures from the Recreational Endowment Fund require at least a one-to-one match from the fund recipient and this will be required for each of these programs and projects. As of 12/31/22 there was approximately \$407,000 in this Reserve Fund).

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 11. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to implement the recommendations of a Town Lot Forest Management Plan and to expend revenues received from the proceeds of the implementation of the plan for costs associated with forest management activities and maintenance and improvements to the Outdoor Center/Public Lot roads and bridges.

(Note: As of 12/31/22 there was an approximate deficit of \$128,820 in the Public Lot Reserve Account which will be reimbursed through timber harvesting revenues in 2023 and 2024).

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 12. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$130,322 for Library Operations and Community Center Building Expenses:

Library Operations: \$86,722
Community Center Building Expenses: 38,600
Community Center Building Reserve 5,000

Total: \$130,322

Also, to place all unexpended funds in the community center capital improvement and maintenance account into the Reserve Account at year-end.

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 13. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$27,700 to operate the Airport and to also place anticipated 2023 Airport Lease Revenues (Est. \$6,200) and any Airport Coronavirus Relief or related grant funds received into the Airport Reserve Fund and to use these funds for the Town's share of approved airport projects.

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to accept F.A.A. and State of Maine grants estimated to total \$114,000 and to expend the Town's 5% share, estimated to be \$6,000, from the Town's Airport Reserve Fund to complete an airport runway pavement crack sealing project and to authorize the Select Board to approve contracts and implement the project.

Recommended by the Select Board

Article 15. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$79,800 for maintenance and plowing of Town roads, parking lots, street lights, and signage and to approve transferring anticipated M.D.O.T. funding (estimated to be \$3,700) and any unexpended Carriage Road maintenance funding into the Town's Highway Reserve Fund to be used for improvements to Town Roads.

Street Lights	\$1,600
Airport Trailhead (plowing, grading)	5,500
Road Plowing Contracts	55,000
Summer Road Maintenance	4,000
Clean-up Day	400
Street and House Signs	1,300
Carriage Road Maintenance	<u>12,000</u>
Total:	\$79,800

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 16. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$39,430 for maintenance, and operation of the following Town facilities and related services:

Town Office Building	\$10,000
Town Park(s)	15,930
Town Office Building Expansion Reserve	5,000
Maintenance of the Information Center	6,000
Cemetery Maintenance	1,000
Seasonal Lighting	<u>1,500</u>
Total:	\$39,430

Article 17. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$145,000 for Transportation Services:

Western Maine Transportation Services (Sugarloaf Explorer) \$70,000 Reserve Fund to fund a bus wash facility 75,000 Total: \$145,000

(Note: \$145,000 is the same amount appropriated last year. Accumulated surplus funds in the WMT Explorer Account will help pay for 2023 operations. The intent is to match funding (\$75,000) with Sugarloaf over a two-year period and build and operate a needed bus wash facility for both the Explorer and Sugarloaf buses).

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 18. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$253,450 for operation of the Transfer Station and Recycling Services;

Transfer Station Operation	\$225,450
Recycling Program	_28,000
Total:	\$253,450

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 19. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$55,000 for the Golf Course and Golf Course Club House Reserves and to expend these funds for capital maintenance repairs and improvements:

Golf Course Reserve Fund (to be matched by Sugarloaf)	\$45,000
Golf Course Club House Repair	10,000
Total:	\$55,000

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 20. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$336,466 for Obligated Debt and to accept and expend additional payments of approximately \$70,885 from Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation and \$11,025 from Carrabassett Valley Academy as their contractual share of Town debt service.

(Note: The Sugarloaf payments are related to debt service for golf course projects and the CVA payment is for debt service related to the 2016 new roof and lighting project at the Anti-Gravity Center).

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$250,300 as the Town's share of Employee Benefits and related requirements:

Social Security	\$60,000
Employee Health Insurance	106,000
Maine State Retirement	47,500
Workman's Compensation	33,400
Unemployment Compensation	3,000
Health Insurance Pre-Tax Service	<u>400</u>
Total:	\$250,300

Article 22. Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$55,600 for the following Organizations:

Flagstaff Area Business Association:	\$20,000
Greater Franklin Development Corp:	8,600
Maine Huts &Trails (for trail maintenance):	5,000
CV Network (Elder Services)	2,000
Sugarloaf Ski Club (for ski program scholarships)	20,000
Total:	\$55,600

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 23. Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$36,500 for the following Town programs and services:

Town Scholarship Fund	\$8,000
Town Comprehensive Plan	22,500
General Assistance (to people in need)	2,000
Town History Project	4,000
Total:	\$36,500

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to approve up to \$41,600 in expenditures from funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the following:

Police Department Communications Software as the Town's share of the new Franklin County Communication System: \$6,600 Fire Department new equipment for the new fire truck: 25,000 Town Park improvements: 10,000 Total: \$41,600

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to carry the following Account Balances forward (as of Dec. 31st, 2022) and to expend these funds for said purposes:

BALANCE FORWARD ACCOUNTS	2023 REQUEST
Town Website	\$1,250
Surface Water Management Plan	1,504
Town Police Car Reserve	15,722
Fire Department Training Center	1,980

2023 Youth Camp	8,100
Outdoor Adventure Camp	21,281
Mountain Bike Race	5,000
Alden MacDonald Jr. Golf Program	1,714
AGC New Equipment (Town and CVA Funds)	6,567
Mountain Bike Trail Signage	4,931
USDA Mt. Bike Trail Grant	(38,216)
Town/Mt. Bike Club Trail Planning	7,331
Wyman Mt. Bike Trails T.I.F.	301
Town/Mt. Bike Club Trail Development Funds	69,797
Outdoor Center Bike Trail Development	9,711
Community Building Capital Maintenance	351
Airport Fuel	18,067
Airport AWOS Project	3,425
Town Buildings Repairs/Improvements Account	14,907
Information Center (Bldg. Improvements)	4,773
Town Scholarship Account	17,460
Cemetery Maintenance and Improvements	2,330
CVOA Shooting Range	2,416
ATV Club Matching Funds	16,621
Maine Huts & Trail Development (matching funds)	4,833
American Rescue Plan Act Funds	64,537
History Committee Project	2,004
New Town Comprehensive Plan Project	45,000
Employee Housing Initiative	<u>531</u>
Total: \$	314,228

Article 26. To see if the Town will accept the categories of funds listed below and provided by the Maine State Legislature:

State Revenue Sharing	Estimated at	\$30,000
Tree Growth Reimbursement	CC .	18,000
Local Road Assistance Program	66	3,700
Veteran's Exemption Reimbursement	st.	<u>250</u>
Total:		\$51. <u>950</u>

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to expend the following revenues from the following accounts to reduce the property tax commitment:

Unappropriated Surplus	\$150,000
State Revenue Sharing	30,000
Excise Tax Collections	200,000
Boat Excise Tax Collections	1,800
Interest on Taxes and Lien Fees	6,800
Town Clerk Fees	5,800
Building and Plumbing Fees	10,000
Ambulance Service Rent	11,600

CVA AGC Reimbursement	25,000
AGC Revenue	90,000
Pool and Lesson Fees	5,000
State Tree Growth Tax Reimbursement	18,000
Cable TV Franchise Fees (net)	32,000
Library and Community Center Revenues	800
Transfer Station Revenue (metal)	1,500
Police Department Revenues	<u>1,500</u>
Total:	\$589,800

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to contract with Snowfields Productions (operator of WSKI-TV Channel 17) to expend up to 30% of Town revenues received from Cable TV Franchise Fees to provide a Town of Carrabassett Valley marketing and promotional program on terms and conditions the Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town.

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to apply for, accept, and expend Federal, State and other sources of grants and revenues for Town purposes during the fiscal year 2023 and to authorize the Select Board to enter into agreements to implement grant awards. This does not include any monetary local match the Town may need for these grants.

Select Board Recommends Approval

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate funds from Overlay for abatements and over drafts.

Select Board Recommends Approval

Given under our hands this 13th day of February 2023.		
	Robert Luce	
	John Beaupre	
	Karen Campbell	
	Lloyd Cuttler	
	John Reynolds, Jr.	
	t Board abassett Valley	
Attest: A true copy Wendy Russell Town Clerk		

CONSTABLES RETURN

Pursuant to the within warrant, directed to me, I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of Carrabassett Valley, in the County of Franklin and State of Maine, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at the time and place and for the purpose within named by posting on the 21st day of February 2023 attested copies of the within Warrant at the Carrabassett Valley Town Office, Ayotte's Store, and the Sugarloaf Administration building all being public and conspicuous places in the Town of Carrabassett Valley.

Mark Lopez, Police Chief of the Town of Carrabassett Valley