

Carrabassett Valley Selectmen's Meeting 4:30 p.m. Monday June 8th, 2020 at the Town Office

Agenda:

Notice: Please note, we are now allowed to hold public meetings allowing up to 50 people to attend. However, like entering the town office, we are requiring anyone who wishes to attend to use the hand sanitizing station at the door and to wear a mask (throw away masks are provided at the town office door also).

In addition, the State Legislature passed emergency legislation to allow public proceedings through remote access during the "State of Emergency" under guidelines.

We have set up a remote access process as follows:

- Participants call into this number: 1-425-436-6390
- Enter code following prompts: 668536 (it will then tell you to press the # symbol)
- Once the moderator joins call all those on the line will join as well---Please announce yourself

Meeting will start at 4:30 p.m.

Review and sign 2020 Payroll Warrants:

Review and sign 2020 Town Expenditure Warrants:

1 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (attached):

2 FURTHER DISCUSSION REGARDING PROVIDING "SUMMER CAMP" OR OTHER YOUTH RELATED SUMMER PROGRAMS:

The CV Recreation Committee and Board of Selectmen have, understandably, struggled to figure out how to operate what in the past has been called Town's 'Outdoor Adventure Camp' (Summer Camp) given the concerns around COVID-19. At the last Selectmen's meeting, the Board voted 3-1-1 to hold a camp this summer that only included resident CV youth. On further research, it now appears that there is not enough interest (7 of a possible 20 or 22) to efficiently operate the program with just CV resident youth. A decision now needs to be made whether or not to expand this to allow SAD 58 (and Eustis) youth and/or CV taxpayer youth which the Board was reluctant to do at the last meeting as this may create larger gatherings at town office/town park.

The alternatives are to not offer "summer camp" at all or to look at a new option (similar to the past) which is to offer small group specialized programs (paddling, golf, swimming lessons, hiking, mt. biking, etc.). The difference being the groups would meet on the site of these activities. Parents would need to drive them to and from unless a transportation option can be added safely and efficiently) as opposed to allowing large gatherings at the town office/town park. The other difference is that we have traditionally offered these programs to any youth (local or outside the area).

Recreation Director Deb Bowker (and Summer Camp Director Anne Flight will be present (or they will "remote in") to further explain these programs. **Please see attached OAC Update from Anne which outlines an above option.**

NOTICE: SCHOOL BUDGET TOWN MEETING: 6:00 P.M. JUNE 23RD AT THE TOWN OFFICE/FIRE STATION.

TOWN OF CARRABASSETT VALLEY
MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
May 26, 2020

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

Others Present: **Dave Cota** **Deb Bowker**

Present Via Phone: **Chris Parks** **Annie Twitchell**
 Cathy Wilson **Bob Duport**

Bob Luce opened the meeting at 4:32 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Bob asked phone-in callers to identify themselves for the record.

Expense warrants #21 and #23 in the amounts of \$67,372.07 and \$60,896.29 respectively were reviewed and signed by Selectmen.

Payroll warrant #20 and #22 in the amounts of \$21,293.69 and \$23,616.27 respectively were reviewed and signed by Selectmen.

The minutes from the May 6, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Lloyd Cuttler made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Jay Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously via roll call.

Dave Cota reported to the Selectmen that the log façade on the Library is showing signs of water damage and rot. There's no eave on the building, which allows the water to come down onto the log. Chris Parks has assisted in looking for potential contractors that could do repairs, and we acquired a proposal from CV resident and contractor Ed Pease. This would involve stripping the log and injecting several applications of epoxy into the log to strengthen it and then cover the log with layers of Spar varnish. This is a fairly labor-intensive job and is a similar process to what they do with ship masts, and it's rather expensive. In this case, the estimate is up to \$5,000. There are funds available in the Library building capital maintenance reserve, but there might be enough money in the Community Center maintenance budget. Karen Campbell raised a question as to whether the additional weight from all the epoxy would create a weight concern for the supporting piers. Chris Parks will follow up on that. With the Library currently closed, this is a good time to get after this project. Jay Reynolds made a motion to approve this project. Lloyd Cuttler seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously via roll call.

Dave Cota discussed the opening of Town facilities. The Town Office, Library (limited), Town Park and Tennis Courts will open on June 1. People are still encouraged to use the drop box at the Town Office and online State of Maine services for rapid auto renewal registrations. People entering the Town Office will be asked to use the sanitizing station and to wear a mask when entering the Town Office, and the inner offices. The Town Office restroom will only be accessible for citizens doing business at the office and for employees. There is not a date yet for the opening of the Anti-Gravity Center, but there will be protocols instituted at such time that the State deems it safe for gyms to open. The Transfer Station is still open, but the swap shop is going to remain closed for now. The July 4th Fireworks will be cancelled for this year, and the

Town will work with the contractor on a possible amendment to the fireworks contract. The Pool will tentatively open on July 6th, though this has been a struggle to hire and certify lifeguards. It's anticipated that there will be restrictions on use, once it's able to be opened, such as a maximum number of people allowed in the pool. John Beaupre inquired about lost revenue, as a result of the closures. Deb Bowker is working on a system to extend the term of memberships, rather than refunds. Mountain Bike trails are open. Lastly, with regard to the Outdoor Adventure Camp, if the camp were to open, Anne Flight has developed a summary of what the camp might look like. The options would be either 40 or 30 children in the camp, with CV kids K-8. In the first option, SAD 58 and Eustis kids would be invited. This would require another \$10,000 from the Town, due to the loss of revenue for the fewer kids (normally 80 kids). That article would potentially be on the warrant for the upcoming Town Meeting. Under Option #2, enrollment would be CV kids only, and it would still require the \$10,000 from the Town. And, the third option would be to cancel Outdoor Adventure Camp for this summer. Anne Flight explained that this has been a difficult process for the decision-making, and agree that they need to keep enrollment local, which is in line with the CDC's recommendations. Deb Bowker added that there would be some restructuring to the camp, where the activity choices will be more limited in order to keep the kids safe. Bob Duport mentioned that he did some recreational guiding over the weekend; Phase 2 of the reopening plan is about to take place as of June 1. Bob's been seeing big changes and expects more information to be coming from the State as early as Friday this week. He added that he has adults that he worked with, and it was very difficult to achieve distancing and handle transportation and meals. Lloyd Cuttler asked how comfortable the staff is with holding camp. Anne Flight said she has had all different responses from staff so far, some willing to do it and others not. Dave Cota said there's still some time to make decisions about the pool operations, but there will need to be a decision soon with regard to the Outdoor Adventure Camp. Bob Luce said that he does not want to put the lifeguards in a position to have to differentiate between residents and non-residents. He also suggested the possibility of doing two three-week camps; one for just CV residents, and the second for expanded participation with SAD 58 kids. Cathy Wilson added that it's difficult to limit camp to residents but open the pool to non-resident taxpayers. Dave Cota said that there will be people upset, no matter what decision is made. John Beaupre said that the last two and a half months have changed the way he feels, since his businesses have been ruled "essential services". He's been facing 300-600 people a day, and it's been extraordinarily difficult. He's lost three employees to stress and foul comments made on social media. Customers are scared and angry. He said the negatives have been incredibly difficult, and he does not see the positives outweighing the negatives. He warned all Selectmen and Recreation Committee Staff that they will be criticized, but he fears that someone may get sick. He said that, if he votes on anything here, he would vote for Option #3 (not to open camp), with all due respect to the folks in the community. Deb Bowker said that they have all been discussing this for months, and they know that they will have a near impossible task to ensure safety of all kids and staff. She realizes that no matter how they approach it, they're going to upset people. Following further discussion on the matter, John Beaupre made a motion to cancel Camp for this summer, and ask families to take advantage of the amenities that the Town offers, but rely on the families to manage their own risk. Following a lengthy discussion on the matter, Jay Reynolds made a motion to have a six-week program for the CV kids only (currently registered in CV schools, ages 6 and up), and ask Deb Bowker and Anne Flight to work toward developing that program, since it would not be the typical camp experience, recognizing that the Town will reserve the right to cancel the program at any point, if deemed to not be working out, though the staff will need to be paid throughout the regular term of the six-week camp. Lloyd Cuttler seconded the motion. Motion was approved via roll call, with Karen Campbell abstaining, and John Beaupre voting against.

Bob Luce asked Deb Bowker and Anne Flight to come in again at the next Selectmen's meeting, around June 15th, to further discuss logistics.

Dave Cota noted that he made a minor change to the warrant for the School Budget Town Meeting due to some changes the School Supt suggested as a result of State requirements, and that warrant has been provided to the Selectmen. This warrant also includes the article for the \$10,000 to supplement the Summer Camp program. The meeting will be held June 23rd at 6:00 p.m. Due to COVID-19 and the State's directives, the meeting will be held in the Fire Station, so that proper distancing can be achieved. Jay Reynolds made a motion to change the amount to \$12,000 and hold the meeting on June 23rd at 6:00 p.m. Lloyd Cutler seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously via roll call.

Dave Cota updated the Selectmen on the progress of the new Fire Station. Dave is keeping a spreadsheet that shows the budget and the expenses to date. He reviewed the status of the project as of today. The funding, at this time, is anticipated to exceed the expense. However, the project required blasting ledge, which will run around \$20,000 higher than initially anticipated. The Town had to hire a bond council for financing this project, as well as the Ted Jones lot purchase.

A request has been made for fencing on the southern end of the Ted Jones lot. It was agreed that signage will be installed, indicating non-motorized use only.

Dave noted that regarding the new mountain bike trail system in CV and Wyman, the State owns the Wyman lot, which has a different designation with different criteria that has required on-going coordination with the State Bureau of Public Lands. That parcel is needed in order to access the trail system planned for the State Crocker Mountain parcel which is in CV. Dave reported that they're running into time constraints. While waiting, the Town might consider trail construction on the Ted Jones lot, which will keep the trail crew working. The matter of the easement has not been resolved, since the Penobscot Indian Nation (PIN) has not been meeting. But at the very least, a concept plan/work plan can be developed for the "Jones Lot" which could be completed soon and brought to the CV Trails Committee and the Board of Selectmen for consideration.

Dave Cota reported that the CARES Act Grant is being offered to public airports, and in the Town's case, we are eligible to receive \$20,000. This will assist with reimbursement for eligible operating costs. Jay Reynolds made a motion to approve the grant offer and to authorize Town Manager Dave Cota to sign the application. John Beaupre seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously via roll call.

Dave Cota reported that the Town is getting close to being offered an official FAA grant for the Airport Improvement for the design, permitting and bidding for the new Taxi Lane project, which is approximately a \$165,000 project. This design project was approved by the Town at the March Town meeting. Dave reviewed the drawings/map of the project area with Selectmen. He noted that the ATV/Snowmobile trail will need to be moved slightly to the north. Dave noted that more signage is needed in that area to help with speed control of snowmobiles as we have received complaints from owners of adjacent properties.

John Beaupre asked if the Town could purchase new furniture for the conference room. He'd like to see that in the next budget meetings.

Dave Cota asked the Selectmen to review the Work Plan.

Informational:

- Hazardous Waste Day will be July 11th in Kingfield 9am to noon.
- Carriage Road is now graded and open.
- George Joseph has agreed to continue on as School Superintendent until July of 2021.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn M. Schnorr
Secretary to Board of Selectmen

OAC Update June 2, 2020

A decision was made at the May 26, 2020 CV Select Peoples meeting to hold camp for only local CV kids; children enrolled in the CV school system, ages 6-13. There were 26 kids on the list. We were recently informed that 2 moved out of town this winter and 2 of this kids are too young to attend camp this year. We are left with 22 eligible children.

I emailed a letter out to eligible families on May 27th, informing them of our decision and asking them to let me know if they are interested in attending camp this year. I asked for them to let me know by Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

I have heard back from 6 families, and have not heard back from 10 families.

1 family is unsure

2 kids will not attend ("because their friends will not be there")

7 kids will attend all 6 weeks

I propose that we do not hold a camp for this limited number. Other options:

OPTION 1: Not holding camp, but offering alternative programing to the following children:

Kids enrolled in the local school systems: Carrabassett Valley School Department, MSAD 58, Eustis School Department, and local children who are homeschooled. The first priority would be given to CV kids. From there we will take campers from Eustis and MSAD 58 to fill the groups.

Examples of programing (details to be worked out by Anne and Deb)

Monday: Swim Lesson - CV Town Pool - all ages staggering times.

Tuesday: Peak Bagger Hike - meeting at local trail heads (older kids)
Swim Lessons for younger kids - CV town Pool

Wednesdays: Swim lessons - Rough Riders (beginner to intermediate)

Thursday: Gadabouts Hike: local hike for younger children

Fridays: Rough Riders (intermediate to advanced) full day, meeting at the Outdoor Center

OPTION 2: Not offering any programing this summer.

I recommend Option One to offer some recreation programing to local children and some employment to locals, as safely as we possibly can.

Anne Poirier-Flight