

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Justin Campbell, Richard Baker, and Christopher Whalen; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Assistant Town Clerk Brittany Chouinard

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Justin Campbell.

Changes or additions to the agenda: Patrick Healy,

Minutes: Approved the minutes of August 5, 2025

Public Comment: Patrick Healy let us know that there is a vacancy on the School Board because Asa Baer has resigned. He indicated that the school board is willing to advertise and make a recommendation.

Flood updates: Tyler spoke about the projects.

For Onion River, Cassady, and SASS, most of the permits are in. All of the permits should be in within a couple of weeks. Holt is in good shape, as is Creamery St. The next big steps are easements for each site. He feels that we should get the easements tackled so that we can keep the projects moving forward. We should contact each landowner, and if they have questions, Tyler would be happy to meet with them. Some of the easements will be permanent but some are temporary, to give extra work room for the bridge contractor.

The Board will be contacting people to discuss easements.

Pigeon Pond and Laird Pond permits are done. Maple Hill permits have been submitted a couple of weeks ago. Thompson Rd permits were submitted today.

Tyler suggested bundling SASS and Onion River because they are similar. He suggested splitting Cassady as a separate contract. Holt, Laird Pond, Pigeon Pond, and Maple Hill are close so they could go together. Thompson is smaller and could go alone.

Temporary access will be addressed at each location.

Old Schoolhouse Common: The Board has reviewed a draft of the mitigation plan. They need more time to review the maintenance plan. The consultant is working on getting quotes for mitigation work to get the elevator and gym back into service.

Curb Cut: The Selectboard approved a curb cut for David Lathrop contingent upon his survey showing that he has road frontage. His survey shows that he owns to the edge of the road right of way but a prior survey shows that the right of way is on another person's property. He has applied for a subdivision. The Board does not feel that they can grant a curb cut over someone else's property.

This led into a discussion of proposed interim zoning and the right of way requirements for subdivisions. Rich noted that the Planning Commission is working on amendments and may have them ready for the spring. The Board decided to keep this on the agenda but not warn the zoning amendments at this time. The Board will discuss this at the September 16th meeting.

Municipal Planning Grants: Rich feels that the Planning Commission should apply for a grant to help them rewrite the town plan. The grants require a 10% match. The board supports having the Planning Commission apply, with the match to be included in next year's budget.

Buyouts: Justin moved to authorize Bobbi to sign the closing documents for the Berte and Drinkwine properties. Rich seconded – all in favor.

Meetings: Justin moved to change the Selectboard meetings to 4:30 p.m. from now on. Rich seconded – all in favor.

Northeast Kingdom Fiber: The Board approved a request for buried lines on Pike Rd and Johnson Rd.

Cell Tower: The Town received the notice that the application has been filed.

Phillips Fund: The Board expressed gratitude for Rich Phillips' years of service, and heartfelt sympathy for his family. A fund has been set up in his name, to be sent to the Town.

Correspondence: Justin received a phone call from Michael Senecal about the non-proration of taxes for the buyout property.

Demolition: The Board received an anonymous complaint about a property that was taken down on Hollister Hill Rd but nothing has been removed. The Board suggested that Bobbi write a letter to the owner, asking what the plans are.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and approved reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the August 19, 2025 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
