

Town of Canterbury  
Selectmen's Meeting  
July 6, 2015

Selectmen Present: Bob Steenson  
Cheryl Gordon  
George Glines

Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

I. Appointments

Resident Catharine Newick, School Board Members Heidi Chaney, Bob Reed and Superintendent of Schools Maria Dreyer attended the meeting.

Catharine had contacted the Selectmen referencing items that relate to the schools and the rising costs of taxes.

A general discussion was held on the difference of tuition costs between Canterbury and Belmont.

Catharine noted that she and Peter Hofman have done an analysis over the years for the School Board. The School Board uses the data for staffing, etc. There has been a continuing decline in Canterbury's enrollment. Some of the issues that all schools are experiencing is that because of fixed capital costs, the cost per student increases as the enrollment declines, since 90% of our taxes go to the School, this issue affects everyone in the community.

Catharine explained that Western Massachusetts is currently dealing with the same issue, the Towns and Districts are looking at ways to decrease costs without jeopardizing education. Legislation was passed in Vermont mandating the consolidation of School Districts to address the issue.

Maria explained that all of their funding has been reduced, she is looking at everything possible to cut costs. Special Education costs are rising and the funding is significantly less.

Catharine feels the district should start thinking about ways to reduce costs, she fears that the State may mandate school consolidations and doesn't believe that is the answer.

Bob S. suggested the possibility of having a joint meeting with the Belmont Selectmen, Canterbury Selectmen and the School Board. Heidi would like to begin having conversations with the State.

The Selectmen thanked them for attending.

II. Administrative

Sign: A/P Manifest

P/R Manifest  
Melanson Heath Representation Letter  
Leave Request – Jim Sawicki  
UMRLAC Appointment slip – Adrienne Hutchinson  
(2) Disability Exemptions  
Intent to cut – Tax Map 239 Lot 2, Tax Map 241 Lot 28  
Tax Map 229 Lot 7, Tax Map 205 Lot 1

### III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 15, 2015 Selectmen's meeting were reviewed. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. George seconded the motion.

The minutes of the June 15, 2015 non-public Selectmen's meeting were reviewed. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. George seconded the motion.

### IV. New Business

The Selectmen reviewed:      Hearing notice for the Historic District Commission.  
   FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment & Planning notification.

### V. Old Business

The Board reviewed Selectmen's Action Item List.

Ken updated the Board on an on-going matter on Hancock Road. Ken explained that he did a site visit with Jim Sawicki. Ken distributed an outline of the scope of work for road maintenance that he recommends. Ken will draft up a permit and scope of work to be done on Hancock Road.

Ken explained that Adrienne has applied for two grants.

1. Waste Oil Container Grant. Adrienne also would like to include the construction of a covered addition to house the oil container. The Board will further discuss with Adrienne.
2. Storage Containers Grant. If granted this would provide 2 storage containers to replace the existing aging containers. The Board signed the grant application.

Ken reported that the Town has received donations for the granite bench at the Robert Fife Conservation Area. Ken met with the Auditors, they suggested that the Town set up a policy to address such donations.

Bob made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 8:25 PM to discuss a personnel matter. George seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Bob made a motion to exit the non-public session at 8:50 PM and to permanently seal the minutes due to the personnel matters discussed. George seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried

Bob made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 8:51 PM to discuss a personnel matter. George seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Bob made a motion to exit the non-public session at 8:54 PM and to permanently seal the minutes due to the personnel matters discussed. George seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried

George made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55PM. Bob seconded the motion.

The next Selectmen's meeting will be held on July 20, 2015 at 6:00 PM at the Meetinghouse

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Stout  
Administrative Assistant