



Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, June 4 2025
4:30 PM Town Hall

Present: Matthew Riiska, Henry Tirrell, Sandy Evans, Barbara Gomez, Phylis Bernard,
Susan MacEachron and Kathryn Boughton

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

M. Riiska asked for a motion to add the following items to the agenda:

- Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects (State of CT DOT) Resolution
- Appointments: Inland/Wetlands Commission, Safety Committee, Pension Committee

MOTION S. Evans to add the above items to the agenda. Second H. Tirrell.

Carried unanimously.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: May 6, 2025 (Special Meeting), May 7, 2025 (Regular Meeting)
May 14, 2025 (Special Meeting)

MOTION S. Evans to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2025 meeting as presented.

Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

MOTION H. Tirrell to approve the minutes of May 6, 2025 and May 14, 2025 special meetings as presented. Second M. Riiska. Motion carried.

Use of Public Spaces for Political Rallies

M. Riiska received a request from a resident who would like to have a political rally at Robertson Plaza on Saturday, June 14th. There are no regulations prohibiting this activity on Town property. S. Evans would like to have any group using Town property to get a permit. Discussion ensued and M. Riiska will look into what other Towns are doing.

MSW & Recycling USA Options

- M. Riiska gave a brief overview of the MIRA situation and how the Town is handling our municipal solid waste (MSW) and recycling. Our current contract with MIRA goes to 2027 at a cost of \$136/ton for MSW & recycling. This will increase to \$141/ton upon expiration of the contract. Negotiations with MIRA are ongoing with various parties including State of CT, Northwest Hills Council of Governments (including 11 towns). Because of the current negotiations and sensitive information this discussion will be tabled for executive session at the end of the meeting.

Appointments: Inland/Wetlands, Safety Committee, Pension Committee

Inland/Wetlands has asked that we appoint Joel Nelson as an alternate to replace Theodore Otto who will be replacing Richard Kessin who is resigning.

MOTION S. Evans to appoint Joel Nelson as an alternate to the Inland/Wetlands Commission with the term to expire on 12/31/26. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Appointments (continued)

MOTION S. Evans to appoint Howard Crunden to the Safety Committee with no term expiration and Joseph Green to the Pension Committee with the term to expire 7/31/27. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Selectman's Report

- Smith Road Bridge – The State of CT and the Army Corps of Engineers have approved the temporary bridge and Evergreen Construction will begin soon.
- River Place Bridge – The bridge is completed with a little cleanup still ongoing. Anything over the cost of the original bridge will be reimbursed at 100% by the State of CT.
- Fiscal Year 25/26 budget – M. Riiska will be sending a letter out to all departments regarding strictly adhering to their budgets going forward.
- Town Clerk Assistant – Discussion of Assistant Town Clerk position, hours, salary and certification.
- Summer road work will include milling and chip sealing around Doolittle, tree work, asphalt patching and hopefully the sidewalks downtown.
- Wall Project – S. Evans asked if there are any plans to repave the one lane road (chute). M. Riiska met with the DOT, K2 Construction, engineering and the DOT Commissioner and they claim they will be done with the wall component of the project and will be switching to the other side of the road. M. Riiska will discuss with the project manager.
- Town Hall outside staircase – M. Riiska found a mason, Joe Marolda, to work on the project. The Public Works Department will need to assist with some of the large stones. All the brownstone and brick will be reused. We will use our LOCIP allotment of \$47,258.00 towards this much needed project.
- M. Riiska received a quote of \$55,000 to repair window well in front of the Town Hall Building.
- Tobey Pond will be opening on Friday, June 13, 2025.

Resolution – Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects

M. Riiska summarized the agreement which allows the First Selectman to authorize any road work performed by the State of Connecticut.

MOTION S. Evans to approve the signing of the Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Executive Session – MSW & Recycling USA Options

MOTION S. Evans to go into executive session at 5:20 pm. Second H. Tirrell. CU.
Executive session ended at 6:05 with no decisions made.

MOTION S. Evans to adjourn at 6:06 p.m. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Gomez, Secretary

