

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
Jacobs Road Municipal Center
Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Called to Order at 5:00 p.m. With Robyn Provost-Carlson, Elissa Viarengo, Will Emmet and Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator.

This meeting was recorded.

Others in Attendance: See attendance list.

Review Agenda: Add Transfer Station textile disposal box.

Review of Minutes: *On a motion by Elissa Viarengo and seconded by Will Emmet, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of April 29, 2025, as amended.*

Public Comment: None.

5:10 p.m. Pole Hearing: The hearing opened with a representative from National Grid making a brief presentation regarding the need to relocate a pole due to the location of the bridge construction work on Jacksonville Stage Road (Route 8A), petition **No. 30711701**. The location of the pole would be on the westerly side of Branch Brook where the bridge is being rebuilt. Margaret Kaepfel, landowner, expressed concern that this additional pole would not block access to her property as there was a small area through which they could access that parcel. *On a motion by Elissa Viarengo and seconded by Will Emmet, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the relocation of a pole on Jacksonville Stage Road (Route 8A) west of Branch Brook contingent on the location is not blocking access to the Kaepfel property.*

Salt Shed Update: The Town has received a stamped set of drawings for the salt shed structure. The next step will be to get the Iron Horse engineer's drawing for the foundation. Then all the documents will have been prepared that are needed to apply for a building permit. In the meantime, a demolition permit can be obtained so that that work can be completed.

Transfer Station: Jan Ameen of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District sent an email stating that she had received several complaints from member towns that the textile recycling box is not emptied on a regular basis even when the company is called. Because of that, Jan has researched and found another company, Helpsy, that will supply a box for textile disposal. FCSWMD is offering those services as an option and will coordinate the set up and pick up schedule. *On a motion by Elissa Viarengo and seconded by Will Emmet, the Select Board unanimously voted to change the Transfer Station textile recycling company to Helpsy.*

ATM Warrant Discussion: The Board reviewed the warrant articles, with notes, one last time before the town meeting. Hilma will send a note to the Planning Board asking that one of their members be prepared to explain and answer questions related to Article 21. Town counsel will be asked to prepare a

brief explanation of the Lerner et al v. Day et al (Vincent Road) lawsuit in case an explanation of the requested increase in the Legal Fees account is asked for.

Town counsel and the moderator will be consulted about whether the account entitled “Community Hall Revolving Fund” may be amended on the ATM floor. They would like to have it modified to be “Sawyer Hall/Community Hall Revolving Fund.” The purpose would be to have a location to deposit rental income from either building and then use the funds for the needs of either building.

Sawyer Hall Repair Update: The cutout places in the ceilings and stairway have been repaired although another layer of drywall compound is needed before the areas are ready to paint.

There remains a third quote to be received for replacing the generator at Sawyer Hall before a decision can be made.

Town Buildings’ Needs: The Board reviewed the 2021 Building Facilities Committee final report that listed all necessary repairs that were needed at that time. Approximately half of the items listed had been completed. Robyn will compile a new list of the remaining items that need to be addressed as well as adding other needs that have arisen since the report was completed. The Highway Superintendent will be asked to get a quote for replacing the doors on both the Highway Garage and the Fire Garage with each building noted separately. The Board expressed their desire to continue seeking any funding with which a new fire garage could be built.

National Grid Meeting: Will and Hilma met with officials from National Grid yesterday to have a pre-hearing meeting of the 1019W1 project. Also present from town were Tyson Howard, Highway Superintendent, Steve Thane, Tree Warden, Bailey Cole and Art Schwenger, Municipal Light Plant, and Brian DeVriese, Conservation Commission chairman. The plans have been completed for the project to run the length of Avery Brook Road, the length of Taylor Brook Road, and East Main Street to the town center. National Grid officials will be calling on each homeowner along the route and will have printed information to leave. It is anticipated that this will occur on May 22nd. Before this date, the tree warden and the NG tree removal supervisor will walk the route and have trees marked for either removal or significant trimming.

Summer Meeting Schedule: For the remainder of May through August the Board meetings will occur every other Tuesday with the next meeting scheduled for May 20th.

Mail:

- NGrid re: pole hearing documents
- HAS re: citizen complaints about trash & unregistered vehicles—Police Chief will be contacted to follow up on vehicle-related complaints.
- D. Clark re: comments about meeting matters
- C. Rabbitt re: April nurse’s report
- MMA re: senate surplus supplemental budget proposal
- Senator Paul Mark re: May office hours

Next Meetings: May 10th in conjunction with ATM; May 20th

8:06 p.m. *On a motion by Elissa Viarengo and seconded by Will Emmet, the Select Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

Hilma A. Sumner
Town Coordinator