

2026-06-01 Board of Selectmen Minutes

Town of Canterbury, NH
Board of Selectmen
Date: 2026 June 1
Location: Meeting House

Selectmen: Scott Doherty (Chair), Beth Blair, Calvin Todd

Others Present: Kal McKay (Admin Assistant), Edgar Rivera (Libertad Press NE)

1. Call to Order
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.
2. Administration
 - a. The Selectboard signed:
 - i. Beth made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$12,878. Scott seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 1. This is just the Electric Hydraulics for new packer truck (WA 2026-15).
 - ii. Beth made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$25,350. Scott seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 1. These are the remaining May checks. Includes the final payment for the Sam Lake House Garage renovations (WA 2025-11)
 - iii. Beth made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$250,108.83. Scott seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 1. This includes \$215K for annual paving and \$11K for variable speed drive for the new packer truck (WA 2026-15).
 - iv. Beth made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$56,233.57. Scott seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 - v. Scott made a motion to sign the Yield Tax Levy in the amount of \$3,067.33 for 3 properties. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 - vi. Scott made a motion to adopt the Fund Balance Policy. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 1. See Selectboard minutes 5/18/26 section 4 for previous discussion.
 2. No major changes since last meeting. Just cleaned up for signing.
 - vii. Scott made a motion to approve the Town Officials Resignation Policy. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 1. See Selectboard minutes 5/18/26 section 4 for previous discussion.
 2. No major changes since last meeting. Just cleaned up for signing.
 - viii. Scott made a motion to sign a resolution to adopt the new FEMA maps and Flood Insurance Study dated November 13, 2026. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
 - b. Previous Minutes Approval
 - i. Kal read aloud the suggested changes for the 5/18/26 minutes.
 1. Line 48: Replace with "When it arrives, the FD will be updating the run cards so that the new engine is the primary response engine."
 2. Line 105: Replace "LHS came in" with "LHS Associates came in to the town office".
 3. Line 313: Replace "the solar company would assess the roof to see if the leaks could be dealt with" with "many solar companies are able to assess roofs and advise how to deal with leaks before/during installation."
 4. Line 328: Replace "coal plants can't use them" with "they can't be bought by power plants that don't support renewable energy."

- ii. Scott made a motion to approve the public minutes as amended for the Selectboard meeting on May 18, 2026. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
- 3. New Business
 - a. Health Trust Article
 - i. Scott shared an op-ed written by John McAllister, Secretary/Treasurer of the Professional Fire Fighters of NH (Union) and Lt. with Nashua Fire Dept., which was published in the Union Leader on 5/26/26.
 - ii. Scott explained that he found the article disturbing and that some municipalities are considering writing letters to their legislators about HB1491 which would move the regulation of HealthTrust to the NH Insurance Department. The article asserts that moving to the Insurance Dept. would reduce transparency. The article also claimed that HealthTrust is charging much higher premiums for family plans than the national average.
 - iii. Scott is concerned about reduced transparency and how the high premiums are affecting the Town's budget. He suggested considering writing a letter about HB1491 since that is something the legislators actually have control over.
 - iv. Kal will find and forward the emails that NHMA and HealthTrust have been sending regarding this legislation.
 - v. The Selectboard will continue to discuss this issue at the 6/15 meeting.
- 4. Old Business
 - a. The Selectboard will be meeting on Friday at 8:30 a.m. for a work session regarding the Town Administrator wages. Kal will forward the wage survey data they collected.
 - b. Municipal Complex Landscaping
 - i. See Selectboard minutes 5/4/26 section 2 for previous discussion.
 - ii. Donna Miller sent an email to the Selectboard and talked with Beth about trees she would like to plant in the meadow. Donna got several trees for free from the State and she thinks they would be a good addition.
 - iii. Beth requested a diagram since it is hard to visualize what areas of the meadow are being talked about in the email. Beth also suggested that Donna/Vanessa, the Selectboard, and the Municipal Complex Dept. Heads do a walkaround to go over the plan together.
 - iv. Donna has gone up to the Municipal Complex and mowed the paths that they would like to keep in the meadow.
 - v. Beth has been receiving calls from residents both in favor of and against the growth that has been observed at the meadow. Scott and Calvin haven't received any feedback. Donna will write an article for the Canterbury Newsletter to explain the changes and the reasoning.
 - vi. The Garden Club will be having a work party at the Municipal Complex on Friday at 6:30 p.m. to begin the work on the garden beds.
 - vii. The Selectboard agreed that they would like a map of the tree placement, but since the trees are free and they trust Donna and Vanessa's judgement, it is probably alright.
 - c. Center Septic Contract
 - i. See Selectboard minutes 5/8/26 section 3 for previous discussion.
 - ii. The "final" contract with the Church and Market LLC has been sent out for review.
 - iii. Calvin asked if it was possible to separate the 600 gallons per day for the Market into the Country Store and the apartment. He thought that the State wanted it counted separately since those two uses have different gallon requirements. Since the Market is going to the ZBA on 6/24 to request changing from a store to restaurant, having this clarified might help.
 - iv. There is only one meter for the building, so likely the numbers cannot be separated. Scott will double check if they can be separated and if the State requires they be separated.

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- v. It was noted that even when the most recent iteration of the Country Store was operating and a family of 4 was living in the apartment, the actual water usage was well below the limits.
 - vi. The Church had considered adding a meter to the outside faucet in order to account for the extra water they use in the summertime for the mister at the preschool. However, since they found installing an extra meter would be too expensive, they instead changed the proposed contract to use a 6-month lookback (not including summer) to determine what their average usage is. The Selectboard noticed this clause didn't appear in the contract that was distributed. Scott will doublecheck with Ken.
 - vii. The proposed changes to the Country Store may also need to go to the Planning Board and Historic District Commission. If the store reopens before they get approval for changes, it will be the same use as before it closed. This agreement doesn't depend on any of those approvals or changes.
 - viii. Beth suggested that the contract specify that the apartment has a washing machine and that the Parish House has a hookup for a washing machine, but doesn't have one installed.
 - ix. There was discussion about how the lookback average is calculated.
 - x. Scott and Beth will check-in with Ken when he returns from vacation next week.
 - d. Starting on June 15, the Selectboard meetings will resume beginning at 5 p.m.
5. Adjournment
- a. Calvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m. Scott seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Next Meeting: Work Session: 2026 June 5, 8:30 a.m. at the Sam Lake House
 Regular Meeting: 2026 June 15, 5:00 p.m. at the Meeting House

Minutes submitted by Kal McKay, Administrative Assistant