Town of Canterbury, NH
Board of Selectmen
Date: 2026 October 5
Location: Meeting House

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

Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

Others Present: Kal McKay (Admin Assistant), Erin Hammerstedt (Shaker Village Executive Director), Jonas Sanborn (Sherwood Forest Shores Association President)

1. Call to Order
   a. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.
2. Canterbury Shaker Village Quarterly Update
   a. See Selectboard minutes 7/6/26 section 3 and 9/21/26 section 7.b. for previous discussion.
   b. Canterbury Shaker Village (CSV) Executive Director Erin Hammerstedt attended.
   c. CSV will be closing for the winter starting at the end of the month. In previous years, they remained open on the weekends, but this year they will be closed except for a few special events, including a holiday event on 11/21.
   d. Until then, there are a few special tours scheduled and the annual Car Show on 10/17. The attendance is usually 250-300. There will be a food truck.
   e. The state inspected the café last week and granted a provisional license. They may try to sell ice cream at the car show, but they don't plan to open the café officially until spring.
   f. Painting of the North Shop has finished. The Meeting House is being painted and the roof is being redone. They have the windows ready for the Meeting House and will do that last.
   g. The East House is mostly done. The barn restoration is offsite now. Painting will begin next week with windows to follow. They are planning interior and system updates next year. They may need to go to the HDC since replacing water lines may result in external work.
   h. The Bee House reopening event had 900 people attend. It reminded them that they are allowed to mow the fields behind the parking lot for overflow parking. They are looking to plan an event at that scale once a year going forward. Next time they will arrange for additional parking and a crossing guard.
   i. In February they are planning to host one of the races for the 2027 US Snowshoe Nationals. That event will be professionals only, but they will also have a similar one in January for everyone to participate in.
   j. The museum will be closed this winter, but the property is always open and they welcome everyone to use the trails and fields for snowshoeing, sledding, etc.
   k. In March they will be doing a Pie Day event with the Tricentennial Committee.
   l. The timber harvest will be finishing tomorrow. They put aside some trees for the Tricentennial Committee's proposed Carriage Shed project.
3. Letter from Sherwood Forest Resident
   a. Scott explained that a resident from Sherwood Forest sent the Selectboard a letter regarding SFSA's recent association meeting. Scott explained that since this is all about internal procedures for a private organization, it is not the Selectboard's concern.
   b. Jonas Sanborn (SFSA President) asked if the contents of the letter are public. Ken explained that any correspondence sent to the municipality is a public record that someone could request under the Right to Know law, but the Town will not be publishing this letter.

c. Jonas explained SFSA is worried that the letter from the resident is very inaccurate. He gave the Selectboard a letter from SFSA which clarifies some points so the two letters could be filed together. He asked that the Selectboard notify SFSA if they receive any other correspondence like this.

4. Administration
   a. The Selectboard signed:
      i. Beth made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of $586,272.44. Scott seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
         1. This includes a $559K payment to Shaker Regional School District.
      ii. Beth made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifest in the amount of $72,396.02. Scott seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
      iii. Temporary Camper Permit Map 212 Lot 9
         1. See Selectboard minutes 7/6/26 section 5.c. for decision to approve. We forgot to get the permit signed at the time and now the resident needs it to prove residency.
      iv. MS-535 (Financial Report of the Budget for DRA)
      v. Appointment slip for Rick Crockford to the Energy Committee
   b. Previous Minutes Approval – 9/21/26 Draft Minutes
      i. Beth suggested clarifying "they" means the Tricentennial Committee on line 191.
      ii. Scott made a motion to approve the public minutes as amended for the Selectboard meeting on September 21, 2026. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
5. New Business
   a. Electric Supplier for Town Buildings
      i. Neighborhood Energy provides electricity to the municipal buildings and the current contract is up in November. They have sent us new prices for the next contract. They are offering .12951 per kWh. This is opposed to Community Power's rate of .15344 per kWh.
      ii. The Selectboard agreed to have Ken sign the new contract with Neighborhood Energy.
      iii. Neighborhood Energy also offers a town-wide program similar to Community Power. Ken recently read an article in the NH Journal giving Community Power a low rating across several metrics, not just pricing. Ken will send the article to the Selectboard.
      iv. The Selectboard decided to invite CCPC to a future meeting to weigh in.
   b. Engagement letter for Audit
      i. The Town has been using Plodzik & Sanderson for several years now for external auditing. They work well with the office staff, have been very professional, and other towns who use them are also satisfied with their work.
      ii. The cost in 2026 for the 2025 audit was $19,125. The 2027 cost for the 2026 audit will be $21,675.
      iii. The Selectboard agreed to sign up with Plodzick & Sanderson for another year.
   c. Surplus Vehicles
      i. Now that we have the new fire engine, we can get rid of the old one.
      ii. In August, Chief Gamache and Ken placed the old Engine 3 on shopgarage.com, but haven't gotten any offers.
      iii. They just posted it on Municibid for a 15-day auction and have already gotten an offer, but will wait the full 15 days to see the results. The reserve was set at $10K.
      iv. The state auction at White Farm is also an option, but they don't allow a reserve so it is possible to receive very little money.
      v. The old Rescue 1 has also been put on shopgarage.com, and no offers have been received. The company suggested listing it for $35K, but the Fire Chief felt that was too high due to the age and condition of the vehicle. Chief Gamache and Ken discussed selling it for $10K-$20K.

vi. A Fire Dept. member who has done a lot of pro-bono work for the Dept. over the years (installing equipment, reprogramming computers, etc.) has offered to buy the old Rescue 1 for $5K and continued work at the station.
vii. Scott recused himself from this discussion as a member of the Fire Dept. to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.
viii. Calvin suggested leaving it open for bidding. He would like to sell it to this person, but he also didn't want to be accused of favoritism. This way everyone gets a chance to submit an offer for it.
ix. The Selectboard decided to put the old Rescue 1 up for sealed bids which they will review and decide on at the 11/1 Selectboard meeting.
x. The old water truck is going to be dismantled since the tank is aluminum and worth a lot as scrap.
xi. The old pickup will be brought to Bow Auto Parts as salvage. It is technically drivable, but in bad enough condition that Ken didn't feel it was responsible to sell it to anyone now that there are no state inspections to force them to fix it.

d. Schedule Budget Committee Meeting
   i. Since budgets are due from departments on 11/1, the Selectboard decided to invite the Budget Committee to their meeting on November 16th.
e. Comcast Coverage
   i. Comcast sent Ken an email today saying that they have completed all of the work promised under the BMGI grant. They did everything they committed to plus 2 extra houses that weren't on the original list. They would like the Selectboard to sign a letter certifying the Town's satisfaction with their work.
   ii. There was discussion about how a few houses remain without service due to having very long driveways. Comcast offered to cover a significant amount of the work for 2 such houses, but no one present was sure what the outcome was.
   iii. Scott signed the letter.
f. Transfer Station Book Box
   i. Beth explained that Transfer Station Manager David Bowles asked if the Town could get a book donation box at the Transfer Station, like the one in the Library parking lot.
   ii. The Selectboard agreed that Dave could pursue that project.

6. Old Business
   a. Municipal Building Roof
      i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 8.b. for previous discussion.
      ii. Ken got another company to come take a look at the roof. This new contractor thinks that only one boot needs replacing, so they gave an estimate of $4,437 to replace one boot and install snow guards.
      iii. This is opposed to the estimate from the other company to replace all of the boots and install the snow guards for $11K.
      iv. This past weekend with the rain, the Fire Chief's office had significant leaks again. Both roofers felt that we should pull off the siding to see how far up the flashing goes.
      v. There was discussion about whether or not the roof should be replaced. The roof panels themselves are in good shape. It is just the poke throughs and the intersection above Chief Gamache's office that still has problems. Replacing the boot(s) and taking apart/redoing the area above that office should be enough to resolve the issues.
      vi. The Selectboard agreed to the new quote of $4K and to have that roofer take a look at the area over Chief Gamache's office.
   b. Update on Library HVAC
      i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 8.d. for previous discussion.

ii. ReVision started their work today and got all of the interior heads mounted. It seems to be going well so far and they estimate 2-3 weeks of work to finish.
iii. The outside unit for the children's room will be on the garden wall east of the hose real. ReVision said this shouldn't affect the garden.
iv. There was discussion about if the units will be able to come on as they are installed or if they can't be turned on until the whole thing is finished. No one present was sure of the exact plan, but there is still one furnace working which should be able to tide the Library over for the next couple of weeks.

c. Cell Tower Update
   i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 8.f. for previous discussion.
   ii. Ken sent an email to Brendan Gill with the Selectboard's questions from the previous meeting.
   iii. Brendan recommended the Town sign a contract so that Vertex can move further with the mapping. The contract doesn't lock the Town into anything or come with a cost. It would only be for mapping until/unless a project was approved at Town Meeting.
   iv. Ken will be meeting with another resident this week who works in the industry and wanted to discuss other options for improving cellphone coverage in town.
   v. There was a discussion about if this project would get hung up on the ability of a private landowner being able/willing to place an additional tower that would be needed to get the east side of town covered. For the private citizen to do it, they would need a variance from the ZBA or the zoning ordinance would need to change. If we get more accurate maps that show coverage gaps, that could be presented to the Planning Board to show them where it might be beneficial to allow cell towers.
   vi. The Selectboard agreed to discuss this again after Ken meets with the resident. A public hearing would be needed to decide on the project in general, but a contract to get detailed maps sounds agreeable (after review by the town's attorney).

d. Fundraiser for Tricentennial
   i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 3 for previous discussion.
   ii. Ken contacted Citizens Bank. Their Fiduciary Committee is having a meeting this week and will hopefully be able to get us an answer.
   iii. The Trustees of the Trust Funds will also discuss this at their meeting on October 21st.

e. 418 Shaker Road Zoning Violation
   i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 8.a. for previous discussion.
   ii. The Selectboard need to decide what to direct the Code Enforcement officer to do about this violation. Inspecting the property and cease and desist letters are both options.
   iii. The Selectboard decided to discuss this in non-public session later in the meeting since making a decision will require discussing details that would likely adversely affect the reputations of several people (other than members of this board).

f. C-PACER
   i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 8.d. and 12/15/25 section 4 for previous discussion.
   ii. Ken has gotten in contact with C-PACER and will set up a meeting with them and town staff.

g. CES Traffic Problems
   i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 2.b.ii. for previous discussion.
   ii. The Police have been at the school during pick-up and drop-off. Calvin has been hearing positive feedback about it from parents.
   iii. This is the 1st week of implementing having busses pull up to the end of the parking lot, so we will see if that helps the situation.

h. 2027 Fireworks/Tricentennial
    i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 4 for previous discussion.
    ii. Beth asked if Ken had checked with JPI Pyrotechnics about doing something extra special for the fireworks next year in honor of the Tricentennial.
    iii. Ken explained the JPI rep wasn't sure what we meant by extra. They said that usually people get bored with anything over 18 minutes.
    iv. Beth mentioned that we used to have something that could spell out Canterbury in fireworks. Someone would have to rebuild it in order for JPI to make use of it.
    v. There was some discussion about funding for the Tricentennial. The Committee is aware that they need to submit their budgets soon.
    vi. The Tricentennial Committee has discussed donating any leftover funds at the end of 2027 to a worthy cause. The Town funds and the Tricentennial Committee funds couldn't comingle anyway, so funding certain events through the Town wouldn't prevent the Tricentennial Committee from donating their own leftover funds.
i. Review Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
    i. See Selectboard minutes 9/1/26 section 4.a. for previous discussion.
    ii. Ken and Kal reviewed the updates that need to be done to the CIP: closing out projects that have been completed, adding upcoming expenses like the salt shed and next fire engine replacement, updating the tax rate, etc.
    iii. This is supposed to be done by the Planning Board, but it would be helpful to have it ready to bring to the Budget Committee, so we will do the work and run it by the PB.
    iv. There was discussion about Transfer Station Manager Dave Bowles' idea to have a second compactor. Ken explained that he and Road Agent John O'Connor have discussed it and neither are sure it is the way to go. They have cost and electrical usage concerns, but the main issue is that there still isn't a long-term plan for the facility, so making this purchase would be premature.
    v. The Selectboard discussed how to move forward with the Aries report. Replacing the salt shed is part of it, but the wider questions still remain open. Ken will schedule a work session with the Selectboard, John, and Dave to discuss this in a few weeks.
j. The Selectboard briefly discussed rescheduling their next meeting so Calvin can attend, but decided against it. Calvin will send his selectboard representative reports in ahead of time.
k. The 2026 revaluation is complete and the new assessments will be sent out this week or next. Land owners will be able to make appointments with Assessor Mandy Irving if they have questions. The tax rate won't be out until mid-November.
l. Tricentennial Badge Presentation
    i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 8.g. for previous discussion
    ii. Ken reminded the Board that they will be presenting the shadow box with the Tricentennial police badge at CES this Friday at 8:30 a.m.
    iii. Scott confirmed Heidi will be there, but wasn't sure yet if Naomi could attend.
m. Tricentennial Bonfire in the Center
    i. See Selectboard minutes 9/21/26 section 3.c.ii. for previous discussion.
    ii. Beth asked if we had pursued the question of a bonfire location at all.
    iii. There was discussion about potential locations. Hildreth's Field isn't good for parking. The Center is too congested and the big parking lot is private property. Shaker Village has historic buildings to protect. The only safe option is something small like the little one Brian Magoon makes for the Halloween celebration in the Library parking lot.
    iv. The Selectboard agreed not to authorize a bonfire in the Center for the Tricentennial.

7. Executive Session

   a. Scott made a motion at 6:32 p.m. to enter into Non-Public session as per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss a personnel matter and (c) to discuss the 418 Shaker Road zoning violation. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
   b. Scott made a motion at 7:10 p.m. to exit the Non-Public session. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
   c. Scott made a motion to seal the minutes. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
8. Beth asked when the Municipal Records Committee would meet next. Kal explained they don't have time to schedule that right now, but it is on the to-do list.
9. Discontinued Roads
   a. Calvin explained that Sam Papps gave him a bunch of documents that were found pertaining to the Town's roads. Bill Adams also gave Calvin copies of the road layouts he had collected for a Historical Society project.
   b. Calvin is going to work with Web Stout to try and find answers for some of the outstanding questions about discontinued roads.
10. Adjournment
   a. Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Beth seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Next Meeting: 2026 October 19, 5:00 p.m. at the Meeting House

Minutes submitted by Kal McKay, Administrative Assistant