



**Town of Savoy  
Massachusetts 01256**

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**SAVOY SELECT BOARD MEETING  
SAVOY TOWN HALL  
Tuesday, March 25, 2025 5:00pm**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 5pm by Justin Kaczowski, seconded by Marie Saucier.

The minutes of the March 11, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Residents from 41 Main Road brought to the selectboards attention that due to the highway department unclogging a river drainpipe upstream from their residence has resulted in the river overflowing its banks and washing out their backyard. The washout has resulted in the riverbanks now being almost even with their backyard and they are accruing a buildup of silt and mud in their backyard. They would like to know the proper course of action to take to put the riverbed back to its original state. The selectboard informed the residents to contact the Savoy Conservation Commission for advisement.

The Town Clerk brought to the selectboards attention that remote meetings are set to end on March 31<sup>st</sup>. A bill has been passed in the house to extend the date to June of 2027, and is dependent on passing in the senate.

The Town Clerk presented a petition to the selectboard to make the current town website the official town website. The petition will enact an article listing on the warrant for the annual town meeting on May 5, 2025. The Town Clerk stated that residents have had to rely on Facebook too heavily to get pertinent town information. The selectboard cautioned that the town does not have funds to spend on an official municipal website redesign, that it may be costly to maintain if it requires a paid position, and the town can face fines if found in violation for not following state official website mandates. Selectboard chair, Justin Kaczowski, will get quotes for a municipal website redesign and the associated costs of instituting an official website to present to the towns people on the warrant article.

**DEPARTMENT CHECK IN:**

**Highway Department...Jon Choquette**

- The highway department has been making repairs to roads damaged by winter storms and recent rains.

- They are anticipating the black top plant to reopen on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and will begin filling in potholes.
- The full-time highway position remains unfilled. They are also looking for part-time summer help.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Parks & Recreation Committee...Stephanie Harris**

- The Parks & Recreation Committee has established that the week of April 13-19 will be a townwide road clean up week.
- April 13 will be "Community Clean-Up Day" with clean up concentrating on Loop Road.
- Transfer Station will be open that day for drop-offs, no sticker or official transfer station bags are needed to collect the roadside trash.
- Collected trash can be dropped off at the Town Park if people can't get it to the Transfer Station.
- Parks and Recreation has contacted Cassella Waste regarding large items such as mattresses that were dumped on the roadside; Cassella Waste responded they will accept mattresses if they are brought to the Lenox location; they will charge \$55/per mattress for disposal. Windsor will accept tires for a \$5-\$7/each disposal fee.
- The Parks & Recreation Committee encourage residents to report dumping to them via email at [savoyparksandrec@gmail.com](mailto:savoyparksandrec@gmail.com)
- Parks & Recreation will put in FY26 budget for a Port-a-John toilet purchase for the Town Park.

#### **Conservation Commission...Dan Harris**

- The previous issue presented by 41 Main Road residents was brought to attention; He agreed they will need to contact the Conservation Commission for a consult.
- An update on the Chapel Road Culvert is that ConCom reached out to the Army Corp of Engineers for a status update. The Army Corp of Engineers is waiting to hear from Weston & Sampson, the design engineers, and has had no response as of March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Marie Saucier has spoken with Weston & Sampson; they are working on the redesign.
- It is not expected that the permitting process will be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>; Marie Saucier has submitted a grant extension with MassWorks.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee-Community Best Practice Grants ...Kathy Luczynski**

- Kathy gave an update to the selectboard on the progress for the town bylaw review and HR assessment that is being done by the Collins Center.
  - Representatives from the Collins Center will be conducting interviews via email starting with the Town Clerk, a Selectboard representative, and the Town Moderator.
  - The selectboard unanimously approved the email to be sent.
- Justin Kaczowski reported that the quote has been received for the communications upgrade to VIOP and two laptop computers.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

### **School Committee...Arleigh Cooper**

- A meeting date and time was discussed for the school committee to meet with the selectboard and the finance committee. The meeting date will be March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6pm at Emma L. Miller Elementary School.
- There has only been one person to take out nomination papers for a seat on the school committee; there are two open positions.
- There is a need for two school buses to transport the elementary school and middle/high school children in the afternoon. Dufour has given an estimated cost of \$83,000 to \$156,000 for FY26.
- It was put before the selectboard to consider the purchase of a transport vehicle that could be used in place of the second bus. Things to consider would be:
  - The vehicle could have flexible usage, e.g. after school sports.
  - Salary for driver
  - Maintenance and upkeep of the vehicle.
- The school union is under negotiations with the teachers' contract.
- The school committee anticipates the FY26 budget to be finalized by April 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **FY 23-24 Annual Town Reports**

- Reports from various departments continue to be collected for the FY23-24 Annual Town Report.

### **FY26 Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

- The warrant for the Annual Town Meeting is being drafted by selectboard member Justin Kaczowski.
- Kathy Luczynski suggested the Finance Committee give an informational session before the Annual Town Meeting to explain expenses; she will work on putting an informational packet together.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- The PILOT program announcement on April 7<sup>th</sup> will not be held in Savoy, but in Windsor.

## **SELECTBOARD ITEMS:**

- The selectboard would like a solar light placed on the flagpole at the Town Office to illuminate the flag.
- The Windsor plumbing inspector will need to be contacted to see if he'll cover inspections for Savoy as needed. If he is unavailable the Cheshire plumbing inspector will be contacted.

**ADJOURN MEETING:** Brenda Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm; seconded by Marie Saucier. Unanimous.

**APPROVAL DATE:** 4/8/25

Justin Kaczowski

Marie Saucier

Brenda Smith