TOWN OF HEBRON SELECTMEN'S MEETING

October 6th, 2025 6pm Minutes

- 1. CALL TO ORDER and FLAG SALUTE Chairman Butch Asselin presided. Selectmen Elizabeth Olsen, Selectmen Joey Chretien, Town Administrator Alicia Bryant, Highway Foremen Brian Whittier, citizens Kevin Bryant, Pete Adams, and Penny Latham were present.
- 2. ACTION ON MINUTES Action on Minutes dated September 22nd, 2025 *Elizabeth motioned to accept the minutes dated September 22nd, 2025. Joey second, 3-0.*
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS Kevin Bryant was asked to come to the meeting by Pete Adams and give his thoughts of road maintenance on his dirt road. He stated that Pete was more concerned with summer roads and Kevins concerned with winter roads, specifically with mostly plowing the tar portion of Sodom Road during the storm then forgetting the dirt portion after, "they drive by to check the roads and see the end is plowed and don't remember that the dirt needs to be plowed or don't check." Stating it's been a big problem for about ten years now, he usually comes to a meeting at least once a year to discuss this. He does understand the issues with the fall and spring with the ground not being frozen. Penny Latham came to speak about her concerns with Goodrich Road, she agrees with Kevin and is having similar issues. She also understands about spring and fall about it being soft not being as able to plow the dirt roads. She used to work nights and would come home often and the plowing would stop at the dump. She said she usually has to speak to the road crew during the winter season.

4. BUSINESS ITEM -

4.1. Discussion of the road maintenance on Patten Hill Road – Butch stated that he received a phone call from Pete Adams regarding the letter the town had sent him and Pete's concerns about our road maintenance. Pete went over his concerns with the town's maintenance for Patten Hill Road, stating he has been plowing and grading it for a very long time and no one has complained. Says he even opens up the driveways and almost everyone is happy. Pete spoke to state trooper, Ricky Scott, and he said that there is no law against plowing a town road, stated he thought it was a liability to the town, but was unsure and that he would check into it more if needed. Pete said "I want to grade it, I have never had a problem with it and no complaints, I want it my way, the way I did it and the town doesn't do it right. Culvert is not right, not deep enough. People are now putting calcium chloride on the road and have had many complaints since the takeover". Butch doesn't think there would be an issue if there was an emergency and anyone needed in or out and he had to plow; we all understand that. What could be an issue is it is a liability to the Town to maintain the road and the Town could be sued, according to Maine Municipal Association Legal. Should you have any issues it would be best that you reach out and address it to the Highway Forman, we have a new different one now. Looking forward to him addressing your issues and as well as Penny's issues on Goodrich Road. Butch explained that the letter was a process that the Town has to follow with proper documentation, saying to please stop as we have a highway

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department. Butch does agree that the road did lack attention for several years, which is upsetting as tax payers, and you should get that. Pete mentioned that the road needs lots of gravel/dirt brought in to bring the road back up. Butch asked if we set money aside for grading, if Pete would be happy with that. Pete said yes, no problem at all, probably better, then easier for them to maintain all the dirt roads after they have all be graded. Brian agreed, however he said he put \$2500 in just gravel on Patten Hill this summer and it doesn't even look like it and the whole summer budget for material is \$10,000. Stating that there is eleven miles of dirt road in town and they all need gravel, some needing 2-3 feet in spots. Butch said it sounds like a budget issue that needs to be addressed and continued to be addressed annually. Get real costs and come back to us. Elizabeth asked why our gravel roads are not part of the road maintenance, we set money aside for maintenance it is called tarring/paving, but if the gravel roads need attention and are a priority then move them up the list. Joey agreed. Butch reiterated that it is a money issue and we apricate the support, and we will work on it, but please let the Town know if there are any issues needing attention, nothing personal, but it is a liability for the town and there is a process we have to follow.

- 4.2. Review of State Valuations Board reviewed that state valuations for 2026. Elizabeth mentioned to share to our assessors, as they need this for their review and future.
- 4.3. Review, discussion and decision of tax rate for 2025 Board reviewed and discussed the proposed tax rates and overlay for 2025. Elizabeth mentioned to the board that the decrease in the municipal budget for 2025 from undesignated funds was used, voted on at the town meeting and approved to help offset taxes for anticipation for county and school taxes going up. Board discussed the towns revenue trend for the 2025, BETEs and exemptions. Elizabeth motioned to go with the mil rate of 11.65 for 2025 taxes. Butch second, 3-0.
- 4.4. Discussion and decision of updated new road form Board reviewed the new road form. Board suggested to add to the form the fee paid prior to being ordered. Butch motioned to accept the new road form with the addition of noting that the sign fee be paid for prior to the road sign being ordered and installed. Elizabeth second, 3-0.
- 4.5. Discussion of fax options Board reviewed the fax quotes from First Light. Yearly cost, verse staying with the voice over IP fax line that it having issues and cost to go digital. Joey mentioned if we went with first light that we would also have a coper phone line in the event of an emergency. Elizabeth motioned to go with FirstLight for our fax line. Butch second, 3-0.
- 4.6. Review of monthly reports *Board reviewed monthly reports and revenues*.
- 5. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES Alicia went over and discussed a commercial solar moratorium. Putting this into motion this will give us 180 days, April, to come up with some type of ordinance or plan before any commercial company or community solar to proceed. Doing this allows for the town to decide, make rules, etc before can move forward,

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if the final ordinance allows. Board agreed this is a good idea to halt everything as it is and this gives the town time to think. Elizabeth motioned to put this solar moratorium into effect. Butch second, 3-0.

Brian had requested the board look into our transfer station fees, as the cost/charges are going up for the town. We requested a new set of fees list. Board suggested we have to be more diligent about checking to make sure that it is Hebron only residents. If they have to pay then more trash will be around.

- 6. SELECTMEN ITEMS *Board spoke about budget preparation.*
- 7. SIGN WARRANTS Warrants #50, #51, & #52 Elizabeth motioned to sign warrants #50, #51, and #52. Butch second, 3-0.
- 8. ADJOURNMENT Elizabeth motioned to adjournment at 9:04pm. Butch seconded, 3-0.