

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– March 30, 2026

Present: Chris Ellms, Richard Bielefield, Rusty Talbot

Guests: Kathy Jablonski, Mike Harris, Joel Lanz, Larry & Judy Sawyer

MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 16, 2026, seconded by MR. TALBOT. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

Jennifer Gaudette reported on the transparency report that appeared in the Caledonia Record. Sugar Hill had a score of 68 out of 100. The areas that the town didn't score any points were for not live streaming meetings, remote participation and posting of same on website. Due to wireless limitations this has not been done. The last several planning board and zoning board meetings were available vis zoom.

PATRICK MORGAN sent a letter asking what the town/board has done regarding the Casella Landfill situation and more out of state trash coming into the state. Jennifer responded that the board has been vocal in pushing back against the expansion and new build in Dalton with area towns and as part of Tri Town Transfer, voted to transport trash to Mt. Carberry.

Jennifer updated the board on information from the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs regarding Planning and Zoning handbooks and tests for participants.

The board signed the 2025 Municipal Assessment Data Certificate.

The board reviewed and signed a Veteran credit.

The board discussed a welfare request.

Jennifer noted that E911 is questioning the name of Ski Pines Road as it is listed a singular Ski Pine Road in Franconia. It appears the singular is correct.

COFFIN POND – Mr. Ellms has spoken with DES Commissioner by phone and in person. He has also talked with the DES Engineer for the project. Once they have completed their work, they will arrange a meeting for all the parties. The office has received multiple inquiries and will keep the newsletter and Facebook updated.

The board received information that the State will be paving/shimming on Route 117 this summer. Chris will follow since there is a question as what was said previously by NHDOT about how it would be done in the future. The board must also sign off on the crosswalk as well.

Jennifer will get copies of a draft personnel policy to the board members.

The board approved a building permit for Steve Naboicheck Map 218, Lot 64 to replace a deck and add a shed roof.

Jennifer reported that the town can't do a standard routine roadway maintenance permit for the replacement of the culvert on Pearl Lake Road. The watershed is too large and will require a full wetland permit. Mr. Glover is working with the Town Engineer Mr. McCarthy.

MIKE HARRIS from Harris Flooring met with the board to submit the three options for the new flooring in the Crapo Building basement. The board chose an option that will not need waxing and polish. The flooring will be a tile that looks like a floorboard.

JOEL LANZ met with the Select Board over his concern that the town did not do a good job assisting residents with their rights during the Blue-Sky Cell Tower hearing before both the Zoning and Planning Boards. Mr. Lanz felt he was not allowed to speak and that they did not request to see pictures. Mr. Lanz did not feel the boards represented the residents and the town's Master Plan. He believes there are more people who do not want the tower but do not want to speak up. Mr. Lanz had a realtor that was willing to put in writing that the tower would diminish his property value. The board stated that residents want cell service and Federal Law makes it very hard to block. Mr. Lanz asked the board if they can do anything to change the height that is proposed. The board was not aware of any avenue for them. The board said that they will share concerns with the land use board and that they will need to be clearer on how someone can make a complaint and follow the process. Mr. Lanz did show a picture of a tower superimposed from his property. Mr. Ellms mentioned that many residents do not like ridgeline development as those lights interfere with people's night sky. Mr. Lanz felt that the boards could have tried harder to represent the residents.

Mr. Talbot, and representatives from the Easton and Franconia Selectboards will meet with. Jace Wirth, Cannon Mountain General Manager about how communities can work together with the mountain.

With no more public business before the Board, MR. TALBOT made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. ELLMS the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday April 6, 2026, at 5:00 pm at the Crapo Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Town Administrator