

UNAPPROVED
Candia's Virtual Selectmen's Public Session Minutes
August 11, 2025, 6:30 pm

Note: Individual roll call has been taken after each motion.

6:30 pm Chair Brien Brock opened the Public Session Meeting followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Chair Brien Brock, Selectman Patrick Moran, Selectman Boyd Chivers, Selectman Susan Young and Town Administrator Amy Spencer. Absent: Selectman Stephanie Helmig.

6:31 pm Opened Public Hearing

Chair Brien Brock opened the Public Hearing for the Historical Barn Preservation Easement on Map 406 Lot 025-2 back into place. The Board had signed it previously, but he opened the meeting to the public for comments. None were noted. It will require an official vote by the Board to be on record.

Motion: Selectmen Young made a motion to approve the Barn Easement for Map 406 Lot 025-2. Selectman Moran seconded. Motion carried by a vote of (4-0-0).

6:32 pm Closed Public Hearing

Approval of Minutes: Public session minutes of August 4th, 2025.

Motion: Selectmen Moran made a motion to approve the August 4th, 2025, Public Session Minutes as presented. Selectman Chivers seconded. Motion carried by a vote of (4-0-0).

The 2025 NH Perseverance Alliance Award to The Smyth Memorial Building

Executive Director, Jennifer Goodman of the NH Preservation Alliance came before the Board to present the Town of Candia with the 2025 NH Preservation Achievement Award for the Smyth Memorial Building and to celebrate the towns thoughtful and robust stewardship. She explained what the NH Perseverance Alliance does for recognizing historical buildings, outstanding leaders and educational efforts across the Granite State. A ceremony was held on June 11th, 2024, at the Tilton School to unveil all the 2025 winners. The Smyth Memorial Building Preservation Project was recognized with high regards for all their hard work and commended for winning this award.

Chairman, Carla Penfield of the Smyth Memorial Building Trustees pointed out the building had no maintenance work performed on it for several years, and then it was moved. By this time Chairman Fred Kelly of the Selectboard, suggested having the building placed on the NH Historic Register, and confirmed that it was achieved. Chairman Carleton Robie of the Selectboard saw that no one was checking up on the building and knew the building needed repairing. That is when he pushed for a Board of Trustees for it and that is how five members were appointed as Trustees by the Board of Selectmen. Many of the Trustees were present to accept the award, Betty Sabean, Paul LeBlond, Diane Philbrick and Chair Carla Penfield. Others that were involved but were not present were Bob Stout and Sue Hayden.

Ms. Penfield said the Selectboard at that time wanted the Trustees to do the repairs and to find a use for the building. That is when the renovations began on the building, over 12 years ago. She thanked everyone for attending, the award received from the NH Preservation Alliance and most of all the voters as they are the ones who gave the money and support to do the work necessary for the

Candia Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes of 8/11//2025

project. She encouraged everyone to take a visit to the Smyth Memorial Building as it is open to the public, and to see all the updates that have been completed.

Judith Szot (Resident) spoke about her longtime friend Carla Penfield, who is the one that attended the budget meetings and fought for the appropriations every year. Then she would find the individuals to do the work and supervised the completion. Although all the Trustees discussed the projects and helped with some of the demolition work locating people who could perform the work historically correctly, the supervision of the workers fell on Ms. Penfield's shoulders. As the Town receives this award, she hopes this Board recognizes the time and selfless effort that Ms. Penfield has made to the Town. She was the driving force behind the reconstruction of this beautiful building. Ms. Penfield and Carleton Robie were responsible for negotiating the lease with Jesse Remington High School for daytime use of the building. She asked that the community recognize the tremendous accomplishments of this remarkable woman that she has made in preserving and restoring this valuable landmark in our Town.

The Board presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Penfield. Ms. Penfield thanked everyone for all of their support and encouraged folks to visit the renovated Smyth Memorial Building.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Highway: Road Agent Wuebbolt read the report and gave updates.

Police: Chief Shevlin presented certificates to Officer Michael McGillen and Officer Richard Langlois in recognizing their dedication of working at Candia's Police Department for over 25 years. The Officers were thanked for their services.

Officer Isabella Schaffer was recognized for a dispatch call she went to on July 2nd, 2025. Upon arriving at the scene, she encountered a motorcyclist that was lying down on the ground and unresponsive a bystander was performing CPR. Without hesitation Officer Schaffer jumped into action and started life saving measures by continuing CPR until medical personnel arrived and took over. She then remained on the scene and helped Deerfield Police with their investigation by demonstrating teamwork and a strong commitment. Her professional manner and willing to help is just an example of her dedication and professionalism to the community of Candia. Officer Schaffer is a credit to the Candia Police Department. Chief Shevlin thanked her for doing an excellent job as many of these types of calls can be very difficult. Officer Schaffer was thanked for her services.

Officer Alec Grenier was recognized for his assistance to a call he responded to on July 4th, 2025. He demonstrated silent and tactical judgement and was calm under pressure when he deployed stop sticks in a dangerous situation where the State Police were chasing a vehicle from the Hampton, NH area on Route 101. His quick thinking and precise execution directly contributed to the safe apprehension of the subject. He deployed the stop sticks out on Exit 3 he was able to deflate 2 tires. The pursuit continued on Route 101 westbound thru Candia into Auburn. The subject drove over a second set of stop sticks deployed by Officer Grenier when the other 2 tires were deflated. He remained focused and committed to stopping the fleeing vehicle in a manner that prioritized public safety. While deploying the device, Officer Grenier sustained a minor injury In the line of duty. It is an unfortunate reminder of what our law enforcement officers take every day on the job. Officer Grenier's actions reflect courage, selflessness and steady fast commitment to protecting the lives of others. His willingness to place himself in harms way and bring a dangerous situation to a safe resolution. His professional manner and willingness to help is just an example of his dedication to the community of Candia. Officer Grenier was thanked for his services. Chief Shevlin stated that when an Officer has a

Candia Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes of 8/11//2025

successful stop stick deployment, the company will send a stop stick pin for them to wear on their uniform. Officer Grenier was awarded a stop stick pin and was thanked for his services.

Chief Shevlin said the Police Department has been receiving many calls on injured animals. As a reminder, he strongly urges people not to hug a wild animal such as a hawk. They are wild animals and could seriously injure a person. NH Fish and Game as well as Millstone Wildlife Center or Wings of Wildlife are people you can reach out to for their assistance. He also mentioned the dog that was on social media on 7/3/2025. An arrest was made on the case involving a Pitbull that was being neglected. The person involved has had 5 charges brought against them and the dog has since been rehomed and is doing very well.

Chief Shevlin read the report and gave updates. He has received a lot of complaints of vehicles speeding. SNHPC will be conducting a road study on some of the roads, in order to have some of the speed limits reduced. He gave an update on the Exit 3 intersection, in reporting there have not been any accidents at that location since the new signs were installed. However, there has been one near miss accident and he has received requests for the stop sign to be lit. He feels having a blinking light will help a lot and will ask the state if this is something we can have done. Discussion ensued.

Fire Department: Selectman Chivers read the report.

The Board received appointment letters from Captain/Paramedic Michael Kelley for seven grant funded trainee positions. They are requesting to bring them in as a “trainee” status in which they have not done before. This is a temporary position, one in which each employee has agreed to participate. The appointee names are Anthony Hicks, Jessica St. Louis, Jacob Newman, Isabella Edwards, Braelyn Morganthal, Kayleigh Attanasio and Makaila Tavarez. See letter attached.

Motion: Selectmen Chivers made a motion to accept the recommendation from Captain/Paramedic Michael Kelley to temporarily appoint the seven grant funded trainee positions to the Candia Volunteer Fire Department as of August 11, 2025. Selectman Moran seconded. Motion carried by a vote of (4-0-0).

Safety Officer George May of the Fire Department stated this grant is for three years and they have just entered the third year. They have exhausted various forms of advertising and the ability to get people living in or near Candia as well as within their geographic requirements for regular membership. In order for the grant not to go to waste, Candia has attracted 9 people and Deerfield (in this plan also) has attracted 2 people, therefore they have used 11 out of the 24. With these 10 people, we are taking advantage of the grant as it explains and leaving a few positions in the event someone from Candia or Deerfield comes in this last grant year, and if they get certified they will be a firefighter somewhere. He stated one of the requirements is that they must be 18 years old.

The Board received a recommendation from the Fire Chief Young to appoint Michael MacCorkle as a permanent Firefighter and AEMT to Candia’s Volunteer Fire Department as of August 11th, 2025.

Motion: Selectmen Chivers made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Fire Chief for Michael MacCorkle as a Firemen and AEMT to the Candia Volunteer Fire Department as of August 11th, 2025. Selectman Moran seconded. Motion carried by a vote of (4-0-0).

Building Department: Chair Brock introduced the new Building Inspector Rich Lavoie. Building Inspector Lavoie said he did not have much to report, because he only worked 2 weeks in June.

Motion: Selectmen Young made a motion to appoint Rich Lavoie as the Health Officer as of August 11th, 2025. Selectman Moran seconded. Motion carried by a vote of (4-0-0).

Solid Waste: Selectman Chivers read the report and gave updates.

Budget Committee: Selectman Young said the next Budget Meeting is August 13th, 2025.

The Board of Selectmen will begin their 2026 Proposed Budget meeting on Saturday, September 6th, 2025, at 9:00am in the Meeting Room. All department budget proposals need to be in no later than Wednesday, August 20th, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

Matt Philips (440 North Rd.): To inquire as to the town ownership and disposition of lot 403-9, and whether it ought to be added to the list of upcoming auction properties.

Matt Philips (resident) of 440 North Rd. stated he owns another property on North Rd. (Map 403 10). This property on North Rd. Map 403 Lot 10 is basically all pond and is showing on the tax map as unowned ownership, and he believes the town may own this parcel. He explained there is a 12 acre piece and 34 acre piece on the same deed. However on the 1958 tax sale, it indicates 34 acres on Knowlton Rd (not including the 12 acres). He has been in contact with Selectman Chivers and the auction company's lawyer. Mr. Philips was told the town may need to look at the old tax books to see what the town was taxing the owner, and if it included the 12 acres. He said it would be interesting to find out if the town does own this property and if they do own it, what do they plan on doing with it? Selectman Chivers stated that he has talked to the auctioneers and they have confirmed that the town does have a title to that property. With the Boards permission, to include this one with the other properties they plan to sell off this summer. Mr. Philips questioned if it included the 34 acres. Selectman Chivers said he did not receive a clear answer on that question from the auction company's lawyer. Mr. Philips said when he had a conversation with the lawyer, he was uncertain whether the town owned it and asked if it had changed. Selectman Chivers said he believes that it did.

Selectman Young asked if it was certain they were going to auction these parcels off? And if they have made a decision on it. Town Administrator Spencer said there will be one more meeting with the Conservation Commission and then two public hearing that will begin in September. Mr. Philips said he will be curious to hear why the Lawyer thinks the town has clear ownership of it, and where the 34 acres went. Selectman Chivers mentioned that during this process the Lawyer has found an additional 4 parcels the town did not know they owned, and they will be included in the auction. Discussion ensued.

Jimmy George (resident) asked if this parcel needs to go to auction? Chair Brock said if they decide to get rid of it yes, it will need to go to auction, and they may have a sealed bid or an auction. They will not be placing a minimum bid on them, because the auction company is not charging for their work on this. Mr. Philips asked if there is any other options and Chair Brock said a sealed bid or an auction and there will not be any direct sales.

Mr. Philips said he would like to direct their attention to RSA: 80:80. Selectman Chivers said it is left to the Boards discretion. Mr. Philips said there is an alternative method besides the auction of the sealed bids. He said as an alternative the town can where justice requires is the secret clause to do something else with it. This means if you want to transfer the lot to abutting owners for consolidation into existing lots for the purpose of preserving open space, they could do that. Chair Brock said that is

why they went the other route of hiring a company to let them handle it and the Selectman would be removed from it. Selectman Chivers said the Board would rather sell it at auction. Selectman Young said that is if the Board decides to sell it. Selectman Moran said that the parcel might need to go on the ballot for a majority vote at an annual meeting. Mr. Philips said he would like to know why the lawyer believes the town has clear title to the parcel, and if it is shareable to the public. Selectman Young said yes, it is shareable. Selectman Chivers said that Mr. Philips may call the lawyer.

OLD BUSINESS:

Standard Power: Energy Consultant Ryan Polson of Standard Power came before the Board. They have been our energy consultant since 2018. They have been helping the Town with electricity contracts for the municipal buildings and has been a member of their Group Net-Metering Program as well as developed a Community Power Plan that has not launched yet. The municipal town buildings electric contract is up in November, so he would like to go out to bid and receive some quotes to present back to the Board. Selectman Chivers asked how much have they receive in rebates. Mr. Couch confirmed they received 4 rebates of \$597.99 each. He asked Mr. Polson how Standard Power figures out the rebates. Mr. Polson said they calculate all of the towns municipal electric usage over the three month period of each quarter. They multiply it by the rebate rate of .05 cents and then they send out the check to the town. Chair Brock asked how they come up with .05 cents. Mr. Polson said they partner with Hydro Electric Facilities and as a participant they look across the state and are able to get a greater revenue stream so that they retain more and send Standard Power a portion, then they distribute the benefits out to the customers.

Mr. Polson is asking for the EPO (Energy Profiler Online) Service Agreement form to be signed by the town. This will allow him to send the form to electric suppliers into the market for the pricing process, which would pay for the fees associated on it as the town does not pay these fees. This is the only form he will need signed in order to receive quotes for the town. Selectman Young asked how he is compensated. Mr. Polson said by the town signing an electric contract and they would have a small margin on it, and they would be paid by the supplier.

Mr. Polson explained it could be a yearly contract if they want, but the one Candia had in place before was for three years. He indicated they would provide them with the pricing and terms and make a recommendation to them, but ultimately it is the town's decision. Selectman Chivers asked if they could be subject to paying more for electricity through Standard Power than if they stayed with Eversource and just subject themselves to the fluctuations of the market? Mr. Polson said there is always that risk and they encourage a fixed rate for the 6 month term. Selectman Young asked if a longer term a better rate for them. Mr. Polson said historically speaking the further they go out on a term the lower the rate is. However, that is not always the right choice to make. Selectman Young said she has never heard of the rate going down.

Selectman Chivers said he would like to hear the recommendation of the Recycle & Energy Committee on this matter. Mr. Couch said he did not know enough about this to be able to give an answer. He does like the fact that Standard Power looks at a number of different sources to buy from. They are looking at renewable energy sources, which is a plus, and asked if they would know that before the end of the contract that they have now? Mr. Polson said the current Eversource rate is shy of 11.2 cents for the supply side. The pricing they have seen for other towns within the last 4 months has been in the mid to upper 10 cents rate range. For this initial 6 month period, you would likely see the savings vs. what Eversource is. Moving forward they cannot guarantee that would be the case as

there are always periods when the default rate will fall below what the contract rate is. He can get definitive numbers historically for the town but would say the town has saved over the default rate since starting working with them. You are basically betting on what the market will be like and it is very uncertain right now.

Chair Brock asked if Standard Power would shop around for the best rate. Mr. Couch said from what he understands is that once the contract is in place that the town will have the same rate for the whole contract term. Therefore, Eversource could go up or down like the stock market. He said right now Eversource has gone up to 11 cents. What Mr. Polson has told us is that it should be a good rate, and it will stay the same for the contract term.

Mr. Polson confirmed that signing the EPO form today is to get pricing and it would not be signing for a new contract. The Hydro Contract is also up for a new contract as well. A new Community Power update which is the residential program that they are trying to get updated utility data, so they can get new pricing for that program. Once he has all the information he will come before the Board again. Mr. Couch said the EPO Form a \$50 fee and Mr. Polson confirmed the supplier pays this fee. They have the Eversource data for the town, but now the town will need to email Co-op for their data.

MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to authorize Town Administrator Spencer to sign the EPO Form. Seconded by Selectman Young. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of (4-0-0).

Chair Brock thanked the Selectboard for their support for him as Chairman.

Calendar:

- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8th, 2025.

7:53 pm - Selectman Moran made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of (4-0-0).

Linda Chandonnet
Recording Secretary