



# Town of Hartland

22 South Road  
EAST HARTLAND, CT 06027  
860-653-6800

[www.munic.state.ct.us/hartland/hartland.htm](http://www.munic.state.ct.us/hartland/hartland.htm)

## MINUTES SPECIAL SELECTMEN'S MEETING Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Attending: Magi Winslow, Scott Levan, Greg Sottile, Jennifer Abalan-Kershaw, Craig Wellman (President Hartland Pond Assoc.), Robert Mierzwa (Pond Assoc.) – Via tele-conference due to Corona Virus restrictions/guidelines.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by First Selectman Magi Winslow.

### West Hartland Town Right of Way at Hartland Pond

The ROW was officially opened on Memorial Day Weekend this year--

The hours were reduced to: gate open at 10am and closed at 4pm (swimmers/fishermen), due to the small size of the beach area (coronavirus CT rules/regulations) and because of vandalism and trespassing issues. Currently we are following CT DEEP Swimming Area Rules: 6 ft distance, clear walkways, masks when moving from sitting spot when 6ft rule can't be followed, groups of no more than 5 (immediate family preferred). Because the beach area is so small, social distancing has not been possible in many cases. Most swimming areas in other Towns have been closed and/or continue to be closed to the public due to the coronavirus. The complaints/vandalism have been escalating at the ROW, i.e., people coming in early and leaving late, loud, abusive language, bringing pets into the ROW and swimming areas, trespassing on private decks/docks – driving on the private road surrounding the pond, verbal confrontations with residents at the pond. We have been trying to check stickers as we have had out of town and out of state people trying to access the pond area and have also found many Hartland residents do not have the stickers needed to use the ROW. Garbage has been left by both fishermen and some swimmers – when asked to leave private areas, some people have refused to do so. ATVs and people riding bikes/walking into the ROW after hours have been a problem. State Police have been called quite often to try to handle some of the complaints. State Police have advised us to close the gate promptly at 4pm. Anyone that has not left the pond by the 4pm closing time would have to contact State Police to exit the ROW – they may also receive a ticket at that time. Hartland Pond representatives had been assisting the Town by opening and closing the gate for us but were verbally attacked in some instances – opening/closing responsibility was then turned back to the Town. We are called each time there is a disturbance or issue at the Town ROW.

The Town will make sure all signs are consistent with the current hours of the ROW, etc. Camera surveillance will hopefully identify some of the trespassers and people that are causing some of the concerns. We are in constant contact with representatives of the Hartland Pond and the State Police.



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## Camp Alice Merritt Swimming Pond

The Pond continues to be open to Hartland Residents (only) with Hartland Use Stickers required. We have had some problems with vandalism (floating dock) and people driving motorized ATV's, etc., driving in the woods and around the Pond and on the beach. We have had vehicles driving across the Dam causing further damage to the Dam that has been sited by the State and is scheduled for repair this year. The Town policy prohibits motorized vehicles on Town property. There have been reports of cars driving thru the woods to access the back of the pond via Route 20.

We are having the Camp area patrolled several times per day. For the most part, we have not had too many problems. Brian Kershaw made a beautiful metal gate to replace the old gate and that will be installed shortly. We will be trying to reclaim the beach area on the other side of the pond so that there is plenty of room to comfortably social distance. Repairs to the floating dock were made by a Town resident and we are grateful for the time/materials donated. We are looking to install a floating pier (in Wade's honor) and are exploring funding proposals. There have been a few problems with wildlife and our Animal Control Officer patrols the area every day. We will continue to update on Camp Alice Merritt.

Motion: Magi Winslow/Greg Sottile – Unanimous  
To adjourn the meeting at 7:55p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Magi Winslow

mmw