

**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
Mallory Town Hall
July 9, 2026
7:00 PM**

Present: First Selectman Don Lowe; Selectman Joel Bruzinski; Selectman Bob Ostrosky; Treasurer Andrea Maloney; Business Manager Liz LaVia

Absent: None

Invited & Audience: Martin O'Connor; Mark Howarth; Fran Frattini; Michael Conforte

Clerk: Nicole Zegley

Call to Order: First Selectman Don Lowe called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the boat docks currently being unused by CLA. Of the 8 slips, the Town would be looking to acquire 6 of them.

First Selectman Don Lowe read a letter of opposition on the record.

Dear Members of the Board of Selectmen,

I am writing to formally express my continued opposition to the proposed dock expansion at Sherman Town Park, particularly regarding any development south of the town beach.

As you are aware, I have long held concerns regarding the safety and navigational risks any expansion poses to an already congested area of Candlewood Lake. The area south of the town beach is an even more vital area for non-motorized recreational activities, including kayaking, standup paddleboarding, and swimming. Introducing town slips in this specific location creates an unacceptable public safety hazard and is fundamentally inappropriate for this recreational zone.

I am writing today because I am deeply concerned by recent suggesting that docks south of the beach are still being actively pursued, despite previous assurances I received from First Selectman Don Lowe. In July 2025, I was assured that while docks south of the beach appeared on existing plans to minimize costs, they were "NOT part of the plan" and the town was "NOT seeking approval from them".

However, recent reporting in the Town Tribune indicates that the “Town Beach Dock Slips project is nearing approval” with multiple plans under consideration, and the First Selectman has stated, “It isn’t stagnant. It is happening and there’s a plan afoot”. Furthermore, on June 30, the Sherman Sentinel reported that the Park and Recreation Commission discussed a proposal to add six new fingers to the dock at the south end of the park, potentially representing a total of 18 slips.

I call upon the Board to permanently abandon any plans for town resident docks south of the town beach. The Board must honor its previous commitment to exclude this southern area entirely, ensuring that this vital public recreational space remains safe, accessible, and free from the hazards of additional motorized vessel congestion.

Thank you for your time and attention to these critical issues.

*Sincerely,
David Wieder
8 Oak Drive, Sherman, CT*

Mark Howarth from CLA stated that he has reservations about using the slips for non-medical applications. He also spoke with Brian Wood at First Light and the permit is currently written for CLA use only.

Selectman Bob Ostrosky suggested having the permit modified for shared use between the Town and CLA.

Kris Fazzone also clarified that SVFD used Sail Harbour as their command center and does not bring patients back to those docks.

Mark Howarth expressed concerns of unknown changes in CLA’s needs and the security at the shared slip area.

Kris Fazzone suggested surveillance and fenced locked areas.

Martin O’Connor for clarification stated that the Town wanted to go to First Light and request that the CLA permit be changed to a multiuse permit, that the one CLA boat be moved to the SVFD dock (unused) and that 6 of the 8 slips would be used by the Town.

First Selectman Don Lowe and Selectman Bob Ostrosky thanked everyone for their openness to discuss this topic.

First Selectman Don Lowe moved the meeting to discuss the \$550,000 needed to pave Anderson Road.

Business Manager Liz LaVia suggested moving this item to a future meeting.

Treasurer Andrea Maloney agreed.

Kris Fazzino added that the Fall would be a better time to pave with the cooler weather.

The Selectmen collectively agreed to move this item to a future meeting.

Adjournment:

Time: 7:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted By Nicole Zegley