

Approved January 19, 2016

**CORNWALL SELECT BOARD**

Regular Meeting  
Cornwall Town Hall  
January 5, 2016

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ben Wood, Brian Kemp, Magna Dodge, Ben Marks  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Sue Johnson, Holly Noordsy

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Quorum – *established*

Agenda - approved

General Fund and Highway Orders - *signed*

Report on Reconciled Bank Statement - *reviewed*

**MINUTES** – December 15, 2015

Ben W. MOVED/Ben M. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes with the addition of Ben Mark's name as the board member who abstained in the vote on the solar siting amendment. Motion passed - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

**CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW**

- **Annual letter from Department of Taxes** - Division of Property Valuation and Review Certified Equalized Education Property Value (effective 1/1/2016). The equalized education property value is listed as \$182,475,000 and the coefficient of dispersion is listed as 17.05%. The numbers are about the same as last year, and indicate a favorable outcome for the Town.
- **Resolution of Dog Issue** – copies of correspondence between two neighbors showing how they resolved a nuisance dog issue.
- **Statement from the Public Service Board** verifying withdrawal of SunCommon's application for project on West Street.
- Copy of letter from **Cornwall Select Board to Shoreham Select Board** regarding concerns about traffic on Wooster Road.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

**TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT** – Sue Johnson

- Sue J. sent out petitions to those who are up for re-election
- Tom Telling of Telling & Associates, firm that did the full financial audit for the Town, has offered to come and talk about the audit report. It was agreed this would be beneficial. Sue J. will follow up with Mr. Telling.
- There continues to be a mouse infestation at the Town Hall. Sue J. prefers to use traps, not poison.

- Town Meeting is early this year–Feb 29. Voting will take place on March 1. There will be 3 ballots that have to do with the school, including one on the merger proposal.
- Preparations for Town Meeting continue. The Auditors are meeting January 6.

## **ROAD COMMISSIONER’S REPORT – none**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Draft Document of Funding Principles**  
Continued discussion on draft of a set of principles for review of new funding requests that may come from citizens who are not part of an official town board or committee. Principles would not apply to appropriations that have already been through a vetting process, or governmental functions in an ordinary course. Based on suggestions tonight, Magna will edit the document and send the draft back to the board for review before the next meeting.
- **Conservation fund request** - Holly Noordsy discussed with the board. The written request has clear goals, but no specific project or dollar amount is specified. It was agreed to table the issue until the board has a chance to talk with Dave Anderson. The board would like to separate the legal issue from the funding issue.
- **Planning Commission funding request** – Holly Noordsy spoke on the issue. The Planning Commission is asking for \$3,500 match for a grant application for zoning update. This would be a line item on the 2016-17 general fund budget. The Planning Commission is required by Statute to update Town Zoning Regulations. Current Zoning Regulations in Cornwall were last updated 10 years ago and are out of date. Ben M. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to add \$3,500 as requested to the 2016-17 general fund budget to support the revision to the towns zoning bylaws. Motion passed - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.
- **2016-17 Budget Discussion** – the board discussed budget details with the Town Clerk/Town Treasurer.
- **Requests from Irasburg and Swanton Select Boards** – decided not to take any action. Swanton asked Cornwall to formally support the Rutland resolution.
- **Development Review Board (DRB) developments** – Meeting held with Jim Carroll to determine next steps. Resolution document is being prepared, based on a model from the Town of Chester. DRB members - 5 minimum, with 2 alternates. Will need to adopt Municipal Administrative Procedure Act (MAPA). Title 24 VSA Chapter 36 – MAPA specifies development review procedures (rules of procedure) for quasi-judicial boards. A decision will need to be made on the process for appeals of DRB decisions. Most DRBs in Vermont use “de Novo” as the simpler process. Board members should generate list of questions to ask interested candidates, before the next meeting.

- **Lemon Fair Insect Control District (LFICD) formation agreement amendments** Ben W. received a message from David Dodge stating that the Bridport Select Board approved the Formation Agreement amendments and do not plan on presenting the changes at their Town Meeting. Ben W. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to approve the LFICD Formation Agreement amendments. Motion passed – 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 recused (Magna Dodge).

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

(9:45 pm) Ben W. MOVED/ Brian K. SECONDED a motion to go into executive to discuss salaries of Town employees for the 2016-17 budget. Motion passed – 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

The board came out of executive session at 9:55 pm.

Ben M. MOVED/ Brian K. SECONDED a motion to approve a 2.5% pay raise for Town employees in FY 2016-17. Motion passed – 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

Magna D. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed – 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Select Board