

**TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

PRESENT: Bruce Hiland, Nancy Kemp, Judy Watts, Ben Woods

ALSO PRESENT: Sue Johnson, Stu Johnson, Katie Geiges, Mike Quesnel

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 pm by Bruce Hiland, Acting Chair. The General Fund and Highway Orders were signed.

MINUTES

- Judy MOVED/ Nancy SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes of February 15 as distributed. Due to retirement of two members, a qualified quorum was not possible. Judy said that minutes accurately reflected the content, tenor and tone of the February 15 meeting. The motion carried on voice vote.
- Judy MOVED/ Nancy SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2011 Town Meeting as distributed. The motion carried on voice vote.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

- Nancy MOVED/Ben SECONDED a motion to nominate Bruce Hiland as Chair of the Selectboard. The motion carried on voice vote with one abstention (Bruce).
- Bruce MOVED/ Nancy SECONDED a motion to nominate Sharon Tierra as Clerk of the Selectboard. The motion carried on voice vote.
- Nancy MOVED/Ben SECONDED a motion to nominate Judy Watts as Vice Chair of the Selectboard. The motion carried on voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Notice of court hearing on March 29 for litigation. Bruce will attend.
- Information from VLCT about upcoming educational offerings for town officers, including institutes for selectboard members in March and April

PRESENTATION TO ROAD COMMISSIONER

Bruce Hiland presented Stu Johnson with his Masters Level certificate from the Vermont Local Roads Program. Bruce thanked Stu for the quality and quantity of his work this winter in keeping our roads clear and safe. Stu replied that all the crew should get the credit.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Stu Johnson

- ***Cornwall Town Roads and Bridge Standards-*** , Stu presented a draft which updates the 2005 version. The updated document contains language required by FEMA, should Cornwall apply for FEMA funds after an emergency. Act 110 and water quality concerns are what mandated the updated language in the revised Roads Standards document. Following a discussion of the details of the document, Nancy MOVED/Ben

SECONDED a motion to approve the updated Cornwall Town Roads and Bridge Standards, dated January 4, 2011. The motion carried on voice vote.

- **Grant to pave Swamp Road** - Stu plans to submit an application for a Class II paving grant to put another layer of pavement on Swamp Road. 80% of the cost, will be paid for by the State with this grant.
- **Class II Structures Grants** – Stu said he wants to wait until next year to address this issue of structures, and not apply this year.
- **Equipment Grant** - VLCT has a 50% matching grant program for equipment that provides safety improvements for your Town facilities. To improve our compliance with State safety standards, what is needed most is a hazardous materials storage locker at the Town Garage. Total cost is \$1155. Town cost will be \$578. The board agreed that Stu should move forward with this project.
- **Spray Permit** – Stu is working on getting a 2011 Spray permit from the Dept of Agriculture. As part of the application process, he has created the **Town of Cornwall Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Plan**, which contains 11 key points that are relevant for rural towns and basic best practices in vegetation control.
- **Dirt Road Discing** - In reply to Judy's question about whether more "conditioning" of dirt roads will be done this year, Stu said it is a little too early to know whether we will have the right conditions to do the discing of roads this year or not.

TOWN CLERK/TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT - Sue Johnson

- **Close race for Planning Commission** - Recent election of planning commissioners was closest town officer race in Sue's memory. Two votes separated third and fourth place. Two incumbents and one new commissioner were elected.
- **Addison County Humane Society Contract.** Yearly renewal. Two options are flat rate or charge per animal. We needed 10 animals picked up last year. Nancy MOVED/ Judy SECONDED a motion renew the Humane Society contract with the option of the flat fee of \$500 with no extra charges. The motion carried on voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Town Plan Re-adoption** – A December 21 hearing to readopt the Town Plan was duly warned, but the matter was inadvertently omitted from the December 21 agenda. No citizens came to the hearing. Judy MOVED/Ben SECONDED a motion to readopt the Town Plan with no changes, effective on the date of the legal warning of the matter on December 21, 2010. The motion carried on voice vote.
- **Dog/Animal Control Update** – Bruce obtained information from the Secretary of State's Office regarding responsibility for animals other than dogs. There is nothing in the statutes that applies. All towns are required to have a pound, according to an ancient statute, but this is not enforced.

Dog Control Officer is now the official title for the position in Cornwall. Our position on other problem animals (such as skunks, cows) is that they are the responsibility of the State Police.

- **Sheriff patrols** - Sheriff suggested we stay at 16 hours a month and see what develops with warm weather.

NEW BUSINESS

Vacant Positions for Appointed/Elected Officials – appointed officers will be contacted to see if they wish to continue in their position, and write in candidates will be contacted to see if they wish to fill vacant elected officer positions.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Energy Efficiency:** Mike Quesnel met with Oakley Smith, energy efficiency contractor. He recommended plastic on basement floor and foam on outside basement walls. He does not think louvers in the attic would help for ventilation because it might put more moisture in the building. Town could have energy audit that would cost from \$250-\$300. Spraying the basement with foam would cost about \$ 600. He suggests removal of the insulation under the floor of the Town Office and recommends adding two feet of cellulose in the ceiling upstairs. Mike said that there is already fiberglass in that ceiling with R38. After discussion, the board agreed that it would be good to have the energy audit done and a second opinion on the upstairs.
- **Point Person for Town Buildings** - Ben Wood agreed to take on the role of being the point person for buildings. Ben will contact Jared Moats as the next step.
- **Lavalley Store/House** – At Town Meeting, the motion to allocate funds to demolish LaValley house was tabled. Bruce will give Ben and David information on the history of discussions and actions regarding the building.
- **Joint meetings** – Bruce suggested that we repeat joint meetings with the school board, Fire Department, and Planning Commission in the coming year and add joint meetings with the library board, cemetery board and conservation commission.
- **Review of compensation of town employees and boards** – Bruce suggests we review this year.
- **Emergency Management** - Katie Gieges said her group updates the local emergency plan annually. They would like to bring the Plan to the Selectboard for review within the next few months – another opportunity for a joint meeting.

At 8:15 pm, the board went into executive session to discuss litigation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Selectboard