

Approved April 15, 2014

TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Cornwall Town Office
Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Present: Bruce Hiland, Abi Sessions, Ben Wood, Ben Marks [by phone], Stu Johnson, Sue Johnson

Absent: Dave Sears

Guests: Holly Noordsy, Joan Lynch, Bobbie Carnwath, Jack Carter

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

- **General Fund and Highway Orders - signed**

- **March Bank Statement – reviewed**

- **MINUTES**

- **March 18, 2014** –Abi MOVED, Ben W SECONDED, that the minutes be accepted. *Motion passed.*

- **CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW—**

- The State is requiring all municipal Selectboards, officials, employees, emergency management, support personnel (anyone who might respond to an emergency at the behest of the Town) to take ICS-100 and ICS-200 in compliance with the State’s NIMS Implementation Plan (National Incident Management System), and as a requirement for funds under the ERAF (Emergency Relief Assistance Fund) program. Bruce will pursue with Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security officials, to express his displeasure.

- Paperwork received from Downs, Rachlin, Martin regarding VGS response

- Written notice of Ticonderoga Selectboard's affirmation of support for the natural gas pipeline, from a special Selectboard meeting.

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS —**

- [Bobbie] The Times-Argus covered Ti at length, can Cornwall submit comment(s) for similar coverage?

- [Bruce] Reported that he'd decried Ti's town management for chutzpah for taking it upon themselves to participate in ACRPC deliberations, when asked for a press comment on the Ti Resolution.

- [Ben M] Suggested that, perhaps, RPC comments be limited to how pipeline would benefit Vermont. In response to a query, Ben indicated that he could, as Counsel, confer with Cornwall's RPC reps on tactics for interactions with RPC.

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

- **Emily Benson Thesis**— SB received their copies.

- **Catering License**—Ben W. MOVED, Abi SECONDED, that a catering license be granted to Bruce and Sue Byers for an event they are hosting. Motion passed..

- **Intervenors' Workshop**—The PSB will be holding an intervenors' workshop in Cornwall for prose participants in the VGS Phase 2 process. Workshop will be at Town Hall. Abi will open and close the building.

- **ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Stu Johnson**

- New truck road-tested today

- **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Auditors' Report** – Abi MOVED, Ben M. SECONDED, that the Board accept the *Auditors' Report* as presented to the SB, and attested to by Cornwall Auditors and Telling and Associates.. *Motion passed.*

- **LaValley Property** –Joan Lynch presented a blueprint for improvements to the property. Included are areas for picnic tables, benches, two horseshoe pits, a Bocce Ball area, and trees and flower beds. Discussion ensued on funding (no taxpayer money to be involved), encouraging people to use the space, who/how will gardens be maintained,. Board requested Joan draw up a list of six primary questions Board needs to answer, also that she provide the blueprint as a PDF to have at the Clerk’s counter. PDF could also go on the web along with a short survey to determine what residents want the space to be.
- **Cemetery Mowing** – Postponed
- **Pipeline** – [Attorney Marks] The Town’s motion to intervene has been accepted; PSB has preliminarily groups intervenors in an effort to consolidate and reduce the volume of briefs; Cornwall has been grouped with Middlebury, the ACRPC, and Shoreham, which Cornwall will request a change to as there are such dissimilar sentiments between Cornwall and the others; [Abi] asked what the others’ positions are; [Att’y Marks] Middlebury favors the pipeline, Phase 2, ACRPC is expected to follow their Phase 1 position, Shoreham residents voted against the pipeline but Selectboard favors it.
 - Abi MOVED, Ben W SECONDED that the Board authorize Attorney Marks to approach the PSB requesting a change to the grouping. *Motion passed.* Ben Marks abstained.
 - Discovery is scheduled for April 15. Short discussion ensued.
- **NEW BUSINESS**
 - **Consulting Contract** – Ben W. MOVED, Abi SECONDED that the Board approve and sign the Expert Witness Consulting Contract with Nick Muller. *Motion passed.* Ben Marks abstained.
 - **Conflict of Interest Policy** – [Ben M. recused himself] VLTC provided a base policy that can be adopted as is, then tweaked later. Abi MOVED, Ben W SECONDED that the Board approve the VLCT model conflict of interest policy as presented, with a roughly 30-day period to review and modify it. Any modifications to be taken up at the first Selectboard meeting in May. *Motion passed.*
 - **Merger with Whiting** – Postponed (*April Fool!*)

The meeting was adjourned 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Conway, Substitute Minute-Taker