

Approved July 5, 2011

TOWN OF CORNWALL  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, June 7, 2011

**PRESENT:** Bruce Hiland, Dave Sears, Ben Wood, Nancy Kemp, Sue Johnson  
**GUESTS:** Jim Bolton, Planning Commission Co-Chair; Katie Gieges,  
Emergency Planning Director; Conservation Commission: Marc  
Lapin, Mary Dodge, Lawrence Pyne

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

The General Fund and Highway Orders were signed.

### MINUTES

**May 17 Minutes** — Dave MOVED / Ben SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- **Grid news** - Notice from PSB that Joy Blix has applied for a Certificate of Public Good for Interconnected Net Metered Power Systems.
- **Request to save fledgling birds** - Copy of letter to CVPS from Mary Dodge and Nancy Kemp with request concerning contracted removal of trees during non-nesting season for birds.
- **Legislation on new planning requirements** - Notice from ACRPC. Economic development planning will now be included in local and regional plans.
- **Proposed amendments to ACRPC regional plan.** Notice of public hearings in June and July. Dave will assist Bruce in reviewing the proposed amendments.
- **ACRPC needs town position info** - Sue will send the list of people currently filling town positions. Bruce will appoint someone to the AOT Transportation Advisory Committee.
- **Emergency management - ICS courses** – June 16 in Shoreham and June 23 in New Haven, intro to the incident command system for elected officials and others.

### ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Sue Johnson for Stu Johnson

- **Route 74 repair** – AOT doing crack sealing in June, may be completed already
- **Paving grant** - Town has yet to hear whether it will receive a paving grant this year or not from AOT.

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

Amendment to the finance and maintenance agreement for the enhancement grant for the Route 30 bike path project from AOT has arrived. Sue gave to Selectboard Chair to sign.

### OLD BUSINESS

- **Town Plan Update - CPC Community Survey** – After discussion on content and timing of the survey, Jim Bolton agreed with the board to take the question about Lavalley Store out of the survey. The survey is planned for September.

The question of the future of the store will be presented to the Town in a targeted way at a later date.

- **Town Hall Energy Update** – Ben presented a comparison of the recommendations and estimates of with two energy efficiency contractors. Next step: Ben will check on the cost of obtaining a review of these differing recommendations from an architect.

### **JOINT MEETING WITH CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Conservation Commissioners Marc Lapin, Mary Dodge, and Lawrence Pyne are here tonight. Eric Mortensen and Pat D'Angelo also serve on the Conservation Commission (CC). The Cornwall CC was revitalized five years ago, as the result of the Town Plan. Goals 23 and 24 of the Town Plan are the goals of the CC. For many towns, a Conservation Commission is a newer concept than that of a Planning Commission and not all towns have one.

Primary role of the CC at this time is to advise the Planning Commission on conservation issues raised by specific subdivision applications. The CC partnered with MALT in creating the Beaver Brook Watershed Conservation Plan (July 2010) and is engaged with the ongoing question on what to do with Douglas pond.

CC goal of doing a natural resource inventory in Cornwall remains a priority. CC has not yet been able to obtain a grant to do an inventory. Having an inventory of natural resources such as vernal pools would allow the CC to be more proactive in providing information to landowners and the Town. A natural resources inventory does not recommend conservation areas, nor stop development. It does identify natural resources of value, areas that are deemed worthy of some level of protection and reports explaining why.

Mary Dodge – “Is inventory something important to the town and if so how could it be done in Cornwall?”

Ideas discussed:

- Fee for subdivisions to fund the ongoing work of the CC
- an article to fund the inventory be warned at Town Meeting
- a very small assessment on the tax rate to fund the CC
- talking with the association of PCs about how conservation commissions are funded I other towns and what makes sense for Cornwall
- the need for outreach to people in Cornwall, to inform them about what the CC does
- the opportunity of the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration on Sept 24 as a great time/place to provide information on the CC

The board suggested that the CC talk with the Planning Commission about the idea of a fee for subdivisions. Sue Johnson also advised the CC that, as a Town entity, they should send her the minutes of their meetings, as a record of when they met and what decisions were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Selectboard