

Approved September 15, 2015

**CORNWALL SELECT BOARD**

Special Meeting  
September 8, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ben Wood, Ben Marks, Magna Dodge, John Roberts, Brian Kemp

ALSO PRESENT: Bobbie Carnwath, Sue Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

**Agenda** - John R. MOVED /Magna D SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as distributed. The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

**Public Comments** - none

**Old Business:**

**Interim Bylaw Regarding Screening and Siting Requirements for Ground-Mounted Solar Electric Generation Projects over 15KW**

The board discussed, in detail, the latest draft of the bylaw. Ben M. reminded the board that by State Statute, this bylaw is intended to be no more restrictive of solar projects than the screening requirements for new commercial development in Cornwall. This interim bylaw is being adopted to protect the Town for two years while the Select Board and Planning Commission study the issue of solar project screening, siting and setbacks.

The bylaw includes definitions, and community standards for screening, setbacks, and decommissioning. It also includes information about what citizens can do, if they feel that the bylaw has been violated.

The latest draft of the bylaw contains changes that are not substantive, so another public hearing before the Select Board votes to adopt, is not needed.

Ben M. MOVED / John R. SECONDED a motion that premature general public knowledge of a confidential attorney – client communication from Town Attorney Jim Carroll regarding the proposed bylaw would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage. Motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Ben M. MOVED/ Magna D. SECONDED a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing Jim Carroll's letter containing legal advice for the Town regarding the proposed bylaw.

The board went into executive session and 8:00pm and came back out of executive session at 8:14 pm. No decisions were made in executive session.

Magna MOVED /John R. SECONDED a motion to approve the latest draft of the interim bylaw (including final changes made tonight). Motion passed – 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining (Ben M.)

### **New Business:**

- **Request to cater liquor on Cider Mill Road – wedding reception.** John R. MOVED/ Magna D. SECONDED a motion to approve the request from the insured caterer. Motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.
- **SunCommon Application to Public Service Board (PSB) for Certificate of Public Good for proposed Solar Project on Payne property.** The board discussed how it plans to participate in the PSB process. Since SunCommon filed on August 21, the Town has until September 21 to make comments on Mr. Cooper Rider's letter dated Aug 31 to the PSB. The Select Board agreed that Cornwall will participate with representation. Ben W will call a recommended lawyer in the area, to inquire about availability and get an estimate.

Magna MOVED /Ben M. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Select Board