

Approved October 21, 2014

TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Cornwall Town Office
Tuesday, September 16, 2014

PRESENT: Bruce Hiland, David Sears, Magna Dodge, Ben Marks, Sue Johnson,
Stu Johnson

GUEST: John Roberts

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Agenda – *approved without changes*

General Fund and Highway Orders – *signed*

Reconciled Bank Statement Report – *reviewed*

MINUTES

September 2, 2014 - Dave MOVED / Magna SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW – none

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT – Sue Johnson

- ***Sept 15 & 16 VMCTA annual meeting*** – focused on safety and security at municipal offices
- ***Sept 10 VT Open Meetings Law workshop*** – Sue shared some key information about the new Open Meetings law and distributed the Power Point to the board and board clerk

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Stu Johnson

- Sand is being stored at Town Garage starting September 18
- Stu has constructed another pusher – at significant cost-saving to the Town

NEW BUSINESS

- ***North Bingham Street Culvert Issue*** – *has been handled by the Town Attorney*

OLD BUSINESS

- **Salt Issue** – John Roberts, chair of an ad hoc committee appointed to study the salt issue, presented a brief history of the issue of excess salt affecting wells at the Town Garage and neighboring properties, and mitigation efforts since 1985, when the problem was first identified. The board, Town Clerk and Road Commissioner discussed the issue at length with Mr. Roberts, from both a legal and ethical perspective, and considered options for next steps. The board asked Sue J. to calculate the full ongoing cost of the salt mitigation. The next step is to get relevant files to Town Attorney Jim Carroll. The board wants to consider ongoing costs and get advice from Jim Carroll, before deciding to stop or continue pumping. Bruce Hiland thanked John Roberts and his committee for their thorough study of the matter and released the committee from its duties.

Pipeline Update – Ben Marks (in role of attorney representing Cornwall in the matter)

Magna MOVED / Dave SECONDED a motion to find that premature general public knowledge of negotiations with Vermont Gas Systems will clearly place Cornwall at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing Cornwall's negotiation strategy. Motion passed.

Magna MOVED / Dave SECONDED a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the Town's negotiations with Vermont Gas Systems under provision of Title I, Section 313(a) (1) of the Vermont Statutes. Motion passed.

The board went into executive session at 8:20 pm and out of executive session at 9:11 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Select Board