

**TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 21, 2010**

PRESENT: Bruce Hiland, Joe Severy, Nancy Kemp, Mike Quesnel, Judy Watts

ALSO PRESENT: Sue Johnson, Llyn Rice, Jake Chapline, Frank Punderson

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. The General Fund and Highway Orders were signed.

MINUTES

It was moved/seconded to approve the minutes of September 7, 2010 meeting with the following changes. The motion carried on voice vote.

1. Added one abstention to voice vote approval of the August minutes.
2. In Old Business, Barking Dogs, clarified one sentence to read:

After careful consideration of the issue, the board decided not to take any action and concluded that the definition of "excessive barking" is inherently subjective and therefore is a matter that is best resolved by direct communication between neighbors.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

Received a letter from Monte Provencher regarding his plans to move a small house from West Street in Cornwall to Bridport and his request for permission from the Town to use West Street as a transport route. He will show proof of insurance to the Town before the move. It was moved/seconded to give Monte Provencher permission to use West Street as a route to move the house. The motion carried on voice vote. Bruce will notify him of the decision.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT - Bruce Hiland and Sue Johnson for Stu Johnson

Bruce Hiland reported that there is a meeting scheduled tomorrow morning at the firehouse, to discuss traffic problems with the intersections of Route 30 and 74 and Route 30 and Sperry Road, caused by changes in the level of Route 30 as a result of the current paving project. While both intersections are problematic, the priority is solving the Sperry Road intersection problem.

Sue Johnson said that there is a new federal mandate that by 2012, all road signs will need to be retro-reflective and measure at least 12". The Town will need to do a sign survey and have it on file. Sue suggested that the new rules were created in response to the needs of older drivers in an increasingly aging US population. According to US Census projections, by 2020, 22.2% of the population will be 60 and older.

Nancy Kemp pointed out that along those same lines, AARP is conducting a survey of crosswalks in Burlington, St. Johnsbury, Brattleboro and Rutland to see how safe they are for walkers of all ages. The results will be used to demonstrate the need for state legislation, which would assure that road design incorporates the needs of all people, including cyclists, people with disabilities, and those who travel without a car.

TOWN CLERK/TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT – Sue Johnson

- On general election ballot, there will be a vote on a constitutional amendment. The whole impetus is that it would allow a 17 year old who will be 18 in the general election to vote in the primary. However, individuals have to be 18 to take the voters oath. Town Clerks statewide oppose the proposed amendment.
- Sue J. said that many new federal election requirements do not take into consideration the needs and resources of small states and small towns – for example a requirement that voters be notified by mail of the location of the polling place one week before the election.

OLD BUSINESS

Lavalley Store

Bruce compiled a summary of several years of discussions at public meetings regarding the Lavalley House and Store. He will meet with Cy Tall to review the concerns expressed by citizens in this document and give her copies for the Lavelly House and Store Project committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Capital Budget and Planning Committee Report – Llyn Rice

Llyn Rice reported that it is time for his committee to look at active buildings – this is buildings in use – which are owned by the town. He has spoken with David Donohue and will continue to talk with him, as some towns include school buildings within the scope of the capital planning process. The committee will look at big maintenance items like roofs, heating systems, and may also look at energy efficiency measures. Llyn added that while bringing a capital budget for town buildings before the voters this year would be challenging due to the downturn in the economy, capital planning is supposed to look at all capital needs of the town. Bruce H. suggested that we go forth with the planning process without taking the cost to the town, because having an inventory of the buildings and a commentary on the issues would be very useful to share with folks at Town Meeting. Jake C. added that we need to make our best bet for what needs to be done in the next 5-10 years and not project out further, as it is difficult for those without engineering or other professional expertise to assess the age at which components of a building will need to be replaced. Lynn said the committee would do an inventory, and would present the issues at Town Meeting 2011. Perhaps at the following Town Meeting in 2012, they would propose money for a consultant.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Q did some research on heating fuel prices, as follows:

- Mikes: rack price plus .18
- McIntyre: rack price plus .15 , with cap of 3.98
- Champlain Valley: rack plus .12, with cap of 2.45

It was moved/seconded to contract with Champlain Valley for heating fuel for town hall and town garage for the coming season. The motion carried on voice vote. Mike will contact McIntyre (heating fuel contractor last year) as a courtesy.

The board went into executive session at 7:55pm to discuss the property assessment appeal.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Selectboard