

TOWN OF CORNWALL  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
Cornwall Town Office  
Tuesday, October 1, 2013

**Present:** Bruce Hiland, Abi Sessions, Ben Wood, Dave Sears, Sue Johnson,  
Stu Johnson

**Guests:** Ben Marks, Holly Noordsy, Bobbie Carnwath, Jack Carter, John Roberts

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

**GENERAL FUND and HIGHWAY ORDERS**—signed.

**RECONCILED BANK STATEMENT**—reviewed.

**MINUTES**

- Minutes **September 3** meeting—Ben MOVED, Abbi SECONDED, to approve the Minutes as presented. *Motion passed.*
- Minutes **September 17** meeting—*Postponed*

**CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW**

- Burton Appeal—Proposal regarding outstanding tax issues referred to Listers
- Oscar Gardner—Certified mail delivered.
- Dog Ordinance Review Committee—Katherine Branch will head

**PUBLIC COMMENT**—None

**TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT**—Sue Johnson;

- **Audit Questionnaire**—Sue needs questionnaire done asap.
- Health Care— Sue suggested Blue Cross' Platinum Plan for town's employees; town to pay 80% of premium; a 2-person plan will be only slightly more than current plan Board requested a 1-page plan comparison for review.
- **Public Record**—The Board was reminded that, per 1 VSA §317(b), any written or recorded board business discussions are a public record, including any one-to-several emails. Emails entailing Board business should be replied to the sender only, not “reply all.” Emails may contain info, just no dialogues among 3 or more SB members.

**ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**—Stu Johnson

- **New Truck**—Stu is ready to move on acquisition of new International, wants to hold on to old truck until new one arrives; price comes to \$140,000plus a 7-year warranty (lower than provided for in capital budget).
- **Hearing on Parkhill intersection**—Board set second meeting in November for a hearing addressing the Parkhill Rd/South Bingham St. intersection.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **VGS Pipeline Update:** [Ben Marks] By week's end, town should be receiving the 45-day notice of intent to file for a public good certificate from the PSB for Phase II of the Addison Pipeline. The notice will be information dense, but fairly general, and will include a more defined route map. Ben noted that the ANR/VGS agreement regarding Phase I addresses many issues land technical difficulties likely to arise in Phase II. The petition will be filed in late November. In the MOU with ANR, two main strategies are delineated: *horizontal boring*, and *conservation easements* (land swaps).
  - A question Ben has for VGS, after reviewing maps he has acquired, is why no gate station or delivery lines are shown.
  - Ben also noted that biologist Brett Engstrom will walk the proposed route; his summary to date is that several Class II and III wetlands are in the path, thereby inviting federal interest. Ben recommends that the original plan between Engstrom and the Conservation Committee be followed as planned. There is a forum scheduled October 16 where Engstrom will present his inventory on Cornwall's natural resources.
  - [Bruce] The SB's response should be 2-fold:
    1. Make sure State is fully apprised of town sentiments by: (a) encouraging residents to contact legislative representatives and express their opinions; the PSB website explains how citizens can contact the PSB directly during the 248 process. The site explains residents' rights in the matter. The problem lies in motivating residents to do so. (b) the Board reviewed and discussed a letter to be sent to Gov. Shumlin expressing their opinions.
    2. Prepare to negotiate the best possible deal for the town
- **Town Garage Salt Issue**—[John] The Salt Committee met and discussed the legal agreement that had been signed in the early 90's by the Pratts, LaRocques, and the town. Although it needs a thorough check, it appears that the town is absolved of any obligation or liabilities by the fact of the signing, and the expiration of a 3-year statute of limitation with no legal action. John mentioned the possibility of a test of the chlorine isotopes which, upon analysis, may indicate the source of the salt.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Review/approve Autumn Newsletter Report:** Public Forum, October 16, on town natural resources and conservation to be included. Also, notice of opening on Selectboard in March; Judy will not be running for her seat in 2014.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Abbi MOVED, Ben SECONDED, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. *Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Conway, Substitute Minutetaker