

Approved November 1, 2016

CORNWALL SELECT BOARD

Special Meeting, Town Hall
October 31, 2016

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

ALSO PRESENT: Paul Vaczy, Salisbury Select Board Member and Salisbury Road Commissioner, Martha Sullivan, Salisbury Select Board Chair, Patrick Dunne, Salisbury Select Board Member, Tom Barker, Salisbury Road Foreman. One member of the public was present who was not identified.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM
Quorum established. This was a joint meeting of the Cornwall and Salisbury Select Boards. The meetings were separately warned and the meeting was held at the Salisbury Town Offices.

AGENDA: Magna Dodge MOVED/John Roberts SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda

Public Comments: None

New Business

- Select Contractor for the Demolition of the Swamp Road Covered Bridge

Magna Dodge MOVED/John Roberts Seconded a motion to consider the bids that were timely submitted and publicly read on October 31.

Brian Kemp summarized the bid process to date. Several of the bidders called and asked questions about the bid process and its requirements (e.g. re: builder's risk insurance). There were also potential contractors who visited the bridge site, but did not bid. Brian has done some research on several of the actual bidders to discover which of them had experience in bridge construction or removal: Wright Construction, Blow & Cote and Daniels all appear to have had that experience. Brian re-iterated that the costs of bridge removal would be borne by the Towns' insurance (PACIF). Brian reported that PACIF's Jen Woodward told him that spending more on bridge removal would have an effect on premiums for any replacement bridge, but Ms. Woodward could not be specific about the size of that effect. Brian also mentioned that the condition of the bridge's remains has worsened with the recent wet weather. The bridge sides are leaning more severely than they were.

Paul Vaczy then spoke about his communications with Dick Hosking of the Vermont Department of Transportation, who could not attend this meeting. While Mr. Hosking did not make a recommendation among the bidders, he did mention that AOT had worked with Wright Construction and that the short duration of their expected work time made them a viable contractor. A copy of Dick Hosking's e-mail stating the same were circulated to the Salisbury Select Board.

There was a general discussion of the value of the low bidder. Ben M. argued that as the end result was a removed bridge that it was not clear where the value was in paying extra for those services. Ben M. speculated that the difference in the bids might have been simply due to the difference in size/cost structure of the low bidder and the next highest bidder. Ben M. also stated that he was familiar with S&J Stearns' work and thought well of it. Paul V. stated that despite the price difference in quotes between the low bidder and the next highest, that he felt more comfortable working with a contractor who was experienced in bridge construction. Paul V. argued that there was a better chance that a contractor with bridge construction experience would be used to working over water and would likely have all the equipment necessary for the job. Paul V. said that liked the short expected duration of the Wright Construction bid, which would allow a temporary bridge to be installed, and traffic flow restored sooner, relative to the other bids. Ben W., Magna D. and John R. agreed. The other members of the Salibury select board also supported this position.

After further discussion of the quoted prices and estimated project duration, John R. MOVED/Ben W. SECONDED that Wright Construction Co., of Mt. Holly Vermont be awarded the bridge removal contract based on their \$93,506.00 bid. The motion passed: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

The Salisbury Select Board also unanimously approved the Wright bid.

Brian K. said that he would notify the bidders of the results.

Following this, John R. MOVED/Magna D. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting, which motion passed -- 5 in favor; 0 opposed

The Cornwall Select Board meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM