

**TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, December 1, 2009**

PRESENT: Joe Severy, Bruce Hiland, "T" Tall, Nancy Kemp, Mike Quesnel
ALSO PRESENT: Sue Johnson, Stu Johnson, Cy Tall, Beth Karnes-Keefe, Jake Chapline, Tom Keefe, James Schonzeit

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. The General Fund and Highway Orders were signed. The reconciled November bank statement was reviewed.

MINUTES

It was moved/seconded to approve the minutes of the November 17 meeting as written. The motion carried on voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

There was no correspondence of note to review.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Stu Johnson

- Stu J. presented options and recommendation for extended warrantee on the 2009 plow truck. It was moved/seconded to authorize Stu to get the extended warrantee he recommends. The motion carried on voice vote.
- Cornwall Emergency Management group would like the Town to look into what it would take to put emergency generators at the school, Town Hall, and the town garage. Stu J. obtained one estimate of \$6400 for each generator for the Town Hall and Town Garage, plus the cost of installation. The generator at the school would cost more.
- Stu J. presented a rough estimate of cost of a geothermal unit for the Town Garage. Preliminary energy efficiency grant application is due December 8. SB directed Stu J to submit this initial application. The final grant application is extensive. The grant requires a 20% match.

TOWN CLERK/TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT – Sue Johnson

- Town office will be closed Christmas week. A sign will be posted at the door so that residents will know whom to call if they have an emergency need.

NEW BUSINESS

Cornwall Historical Society – store update from building committee

Members of the Cornwall Historical Society building committee met with the SB to update progress on plans to restore the old Lavalley Store for the benefit of the people of Cornwall. Cy Tall reported that a review confirms that the building is sound with no appreciable mold. Exterior paint is peeling and roof is in need of repair, so that the building from the outside looks worse than it actually is. Beth Kames-Keefe went to a preservation workshop. The building committee is consulting with the Preservation Trust of Vermont. The committee has been

inspired by the Shrewsbury Store - a fine example of an old building turned into a store. Work has begun on a business plan for a non-profit store (similar to the model of Neat Repeats in Middlebury and Sweet Charity in Vergennes) that would distribute profits back to the community. The goal is to have a business plan with financials done by February 2010.

No funding will be requested from the Town for this project. The viability of the project depends on completing a solid business plan with numbers that add up, and obtaining start-up funding through grants and individual donations. Septic and water issues present a major challenge. The CHS committed to presenting a final report as to whether or not the project is viable no later than the first Selectboard meeting in December 2010. The Town holds title to the building.

The Historical Society has already received a small grant to further stabilize the building. Members of the Historical Society organized and carried out a sale of items that were in the building. It was moved/seconded that the Historical Society shall be allowed to cash the check from the sale of items and put it in their account. The motion carried on voice vote.

Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant (EECBG).

Tracy Himmel Isham from the Planning Commission would like to apply on behalf of the Town for an EECBG. The SB approves and Joe Severy will contact Tracy H. I.

OLD BUSINESS

Administrative Assistant – Bruce Hiland did not get any information from the Planning Commission as to whether or not they need an administrative assistant. He is continuing to gather information.

Town officer liability- Bruce H. said that there is no difference between elected Town officials and district appointed officials - both enjoy the protection of sovereign immunity when performing duties. The insurance that the Town purchases through VLCT also covers the legal costs of frivolous suits.

Budget work

- As requested at the last meeting, Sue Johnson provided detailed information on what things are covered in Misc. line item of the budget.
- Sue has done research on health insurance and the best option looks like a high deductible \$1500//\$3000 plan with HSA. ISB authorized Sue J. to make the switch to such a plan.
- The rest of the meeting was spent on details of the budget for FY 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Selectboard