

Approved December 20, 2011

**TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, December 6, 2011**

Present: Bruce Hiland, Dave Sears, Judy Watts, Ben Wood
Sue Johnson, Nancy Kemp, Sue Johnson, Stu Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 pm.

General fund and highway orders - signed.

Reconciled November bank statement - reviewed.

MINUTES - November 15 Minutes—Nancy MOVED, Judy SECONDED, to accept as presented. *Motion passed.*

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS—None

TOWN CLERK/TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

- Mr. Gardon, Douglas Road resident, has submitted proof that he has installed a septic system.
- Nancy Kemp is not running for re-election to the Selectboard. To date, only one petition for the open seat has been taken out by a Cornwall resident. Bruce reminded the board that recruiting candidates for open positions on the Selectboard is part of the role of current board and all members should consider potential candidates.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Brush cutting on Snake Mountain Road is going well, using surplus funds to hire additional labor.

OLD BUSINESS - updates

- **Groves Appeal – attempt to settle out of court.** Committee reached consensus to propose to Groves that the property be valued at \$673,176 for tax purposes. After discussion and review of the letter to be sent to Groves, Dave MOVED /Judy SECONDED a motion to accept the above proposed valuation. Motion approved. Bruce H. will mail the letter.
- **Route 30 Speed Limit Review** – Bruce is looking for an interested citizen and interested SelectBoard member to put together a draft of request that the speed limit be reviewed. Judy said she is interested. Bruce will contact Eric Davis and Bob Gerlin, to see if they have interest.
- **LFICB** – is down to two candidates and will present one at the next SB meeting.
- **Capital Budget and Plan**– the committee, currently without a chair, held a recent meeting, which Sue attended. They reviewed the list of highway

and fire dept vehicles and equipment, looked at value, and verified replacement dates. The overarching goal of having a capital budget and plan is to get to the point where the Town does not have to borrow money. To this end, the committee considered annual capital budgets of \$120,000, \$130,000 and \$140,000 (this does not include capital expenses for Town buildings). The committee is tasked with coming up with a viable figure for this year and figures projected out for five years. At this point, the committee knows nothing about the capital needs of the school.

Ben spoke about the need to also make a list of the buildings on a separate spreadsheet for the purpose of creating awareness and to form the basis for future capital planning for the buildings. Ben posed questions for future discussions: is it cost effective to plan for capital expenses for buildings? Is it wise to keep a slate roof on the Town Hall?

Sue will create a spreadsheet for buildings. It was suggested that capital planning information be added to the Town website for transparency.

NEW BUSINESS

- ***Lavalley Questionnaire Results*** Bruce would like each board member to read all the survey results, including the comments. Option B received the most votes. Judy and Sue will draft an article for Town Meeting, with language of option B.
- ***Sheriff's patrol*** – if board members receive any public comments about the patrolling, send to Bruce and he will forward to the sheriff's department.
- ***West Cornwall Fire Station*** – Dave reported that the Fire Department is planning on putting forth an Article at Town Meeting seeking approval to spend \$100,000 to rebuild the West Cornwall Fire Station. Dave Burno is in charge. The Fire Department had to scrap it's former plan to put on an addition to the fire station due to State requirements.
- ***2012 Budget Development – the rest of the meeting was spent as a working session on the budget.*** Sue will send out the final draft of numbers for board review.

OTHER BUSINESS

- ***MVAA*** - in Nov 2008, by request of MVAA, Cornwall signed a contract with them to pay a certain amount per capita per month instead of a one-time allocation. Dave offered to get more information for the Selectboard to clarify what services are being provided by this contract.
- ***VPR Public Post*** - It was suggested by Judy that minutes of Selectboard meetings be posted to VPR Public Post webpage.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Selectboard