

CORNWALL SELECT BOARD
Regular Meeting, Cornwall Town Hall
March 20, 2018

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

ALSO PRESENT: Sue Johnson, Jim Duclos, Mike Sunderland

CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00pm by Town Clerk Sue Johnson.

QUORUM—established

ORGANIZATION

- ***Oath of Office***—Newly elected Selectboard members, Ben Marks and John Roberts, were sworn in by the Town Clerk.
- ***Officers***—
 - John NOMINATED, Brian SECONDED, that Ben M be named Chair of the Selectboard. **Motion passed.** 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.
 - Magna NOMINATED, Brian SECONDED, that John be named Vice-Chair of the Selectboard. **Motion passed.** 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention
- ***Secretary***—Magna NOMINATED, John SECONDED, that Sharon Tierra be named Secretary of the Selectboard. **Motion passed.** 4 in favor, 0 opposed,

AGENDA

Ben M. suggested adding Jim Duclos to the agenda following the close of the organizational items. Magna. MOVED/Brian SECONDED to approve the agenda as modified. **Motion passed** – 4 in favor, 0 opposed

ADDITIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

- ***Meeting Schedule***—Ben M. MOVED, Magna SECONDED, to set the schedule for regular meetings to be the first and third Tuesdays of each month, excepting June–August which will have just the first Tuesday meetings. **Motion passed.** 4 in favor, 0 opposed
- ***Rules of Order***—John NOMINATED, Magna SECONDED, that *Roberts Rules of Order* be accepted as the meeting guide for Selectboard meetings. **Motion passed.** 4 in favor, 0 opposed
- ***Newspaper of Record***—John MOVED, Magna SECONDED, that the *Addison Independent* be approved as the Board's newspaper of record. **Motion passed.** 4 in favor, 0 opposed
- ***Appointments***—John MOVED, Brian SECONDED, to approve the slate of candidates for appointment as presented by the Town Clerk.. **Motion passed.** 4 in favor, 0 opposed
- ***Justice of the Peace***—Ben M. MOVED, Magna SECONDED, to recommend to the Governor that David Anderson be appointed to the position of Justice of the Peace. **Motion passed.** 4 in favor, 0 opposed

GENERAL FUND and Highway Orders—*signed*

REPORT on Reconciled Bank Statement—*None this meeting*

AGENDA ADDITIONS

- **Zoning**—Jim Duclos, ZA, advised the Board of one, possibly two, enforcement actions that he may have to undertake, with the Board's approval. The initial issue involves the increased business activities, equipment, and materials causing decreased set-backs on an already non-conforming property thereby increasing its non-conformance. The increases also appear to be in violation of a decision by the ZBA on November 8, 2001, in which the ZBA upheld the Statute of Limitations regarding an appeal of the same property, but indicated that any expansion of non-conforming uses could require ZBA(/DRB) review and approval. Jim will seek to resolve the issue with the property/business owner, but seeks SB approval to take it to begin the notice of violation proceedings if negotiation fails. The second issue is similar, and he seeks Board approval to begin the violation proceeding in that case as well, should private talks not resolve the issue. Board concurred that regulations must be enforced and violators brought into compliance, but that a resolution first be attempted through private talks, with notice of violation proceedings (and attendant expense) to follow if necessary.

MINUTES

- February 20, 2018 – Jon MOVED / Brian SECONDED, to approve the minutes as amended. ***Motion passed*** – 4 in favor, 0 opposed
- Town Meeting Minutes, March 5, 2018 – John MOVED /Magna SECONDED, to approve the minutes as posted. ***Motion passed*** – 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Letter from resident, with several additional residents' signatures, regarding establishment of a noise ordinance to address excessive construction noise. Discussion ensued regarding possible conditions, crafting a regulation that would cover all possible differing circumstances, and enforcement, among other issues. In the end, the SB decided that such an ordinance would not be feasible, but that there are other avenues through which such concerns can be addressed. Ben M will contact the writer to discuss the Board's position.
- Salt Report—Date March 7, levels at the Town Shed somewhat high at this report.
- Request by Town for a Year's Extension on the Bridge Project—State granted a 6-month extension.

PUBLIC COMMENTS -none

TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT – Sue Johnson

- **Computer Issues**—Silloway will be in the Office Wednesday to see about Sue's computer which has steadfastly refused to turn on for the past week. She has cloud back-ups and a laptop, but needs her main computer back asap.
- **Constable**—Denny Rheume received enough write-in votes to be elected as First Constable, and has been sworn in.

- **Vt Elevator Inspection** called to say they would be in on 3/21 for the elevator's annual inspection. Sue called the installer to see if anything additional needed doing and was told that they usually conduct a test just prior to the inspection date. Thus, they too will be in on the 21st, hopefully before the inspection visit.
- **Annual Homeward Bound Contract**—Option 1: \$450 plus \$75 per dog after the first 3; Option 2: flat \$600 regardless of number of dogs. John MOVED/Ben M SECONDED, that the Board select option 1 as there have been few, if any, stray dogs impounded in the past year or so. **Motion passed.** 4 approved, 0 opposed

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Brian Kemp

- **Paperwork Signed**—Grants, Financial Plan, Highway Mileage
- **Sign Ordinance** has been updated to include the stop sign at the bridge; will be sent to Sheriff's office.
- Windshield on the 14 has cracked and needs to be replaced.
- **Swamp Road**—[Brian Kemp reported that the Addison County Regional Planning Commission has ranked replacement of the Swamp Road Bridge as its No.1 priority on its list of Addison County transportation issues. As a result of a meeting among Brian Kemp, Paul Vaczy \(of the Salisbury Select Board\) and VTrans personnel, and subsequent requests made directly to VTrans by the two towns, the Swamp Road bridge has been placed Vermont 's Town Highway and Bridge Program's priority list of bridge construction projects. This will kick off a process by which the state can provide a substantial portion of the funds for bridge replacement. Brian was assured that Cornwall would have input into the design phase of the project.](#)

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Throwing-up Old Roads**—No response as yet from the State regarding Town's request for a waiver regarding last fall's Robbins Road site visit notice. Town will proceed.
- **FD Radio Tower**—A check of the Chipman Hill possibilities has shown there is little room left on-site, but further research is in order.
- **Tax Abatement Issue**—Prior to further action, Board needs to check with Tax Collector. Property in question is under Agreement for regular payments and to be up-to-date on current taxes. It is not clear to the [Board](#) where this stands.

NEW BUSINESS: *None*

OTHER BUSINESS –*None*

ADJOURNMENT: Magna MOVED / JohnSECONDED, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05.
Motion passed. – 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Robin Conway, Substitute Minute-Taker