

Approved: September 4, 2018

**CORNWALL SELECT BOARD**  
Regular Meeting, Cornwall Town Hall  
August 7, 2018

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Sue Johnson, Mary Dodge, Mark Ringey

**CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:00pm

**QUORUM**—established

**AGENDA**

John. MOVED/Magna SECONDED to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion passed** – 5 in favor, 0 opposed

**GENERAL FUND** and Highway Orders—*signed*

**RECONCILED BANK STATEMENT**—*reviewed*

**MINUTES**

- **July 3, 2018** – John MOVED / Brian SECONDED, to approve the minutes as amended [fix date, add “M” after Ben, under Clerk's Report]. **Motion passed** – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

**CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW**

- **Taxes**—Vt Department of Taxes advised that the State Education Tax rate for 2018 is set at Non-Residential—\$1.5707 and Residential—\$1.5651.
- **VLCT Workshop**— September 11, Budget and Borrowing
- **ACRPC**—A CD has been received with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission's amended energy section, SB requested to review (CD is at the Town Office).
- **Dog Bite**—The Durhams have submitted a letter to the SB indicating the remedial actions they have taken in response to the SB's ruling regarding their dog-bite incident.
- **Salt Report**—Levels at the Town Shed remain somewhat high this quarter.
- **Comments on Proposed Zoning Regulations**—Raph Worrick has sent a copy of his comments regarding the proposed zoning regulations. The letter was also sent to the Planning Commission and the DRB.
- **Special Event Permit**—*see under Other Business.*

- **Champlain Office of Economic Opportunity**—Letter received with an offer from the OEO to come down and present their programs to the Select Board. Ben M will follow up with them.
- **Highway Funds**—State aid to highways amount for this quarter's funds (amounted to \$16,499.11, with subsequent quarterly payments to be \$16, 499.09.
- **Emergency Management Conference**—Notice received of this year's conference to be held at Lake Morey, September 7 and 8.
- **Addison County Solid Waste District**—ACSWD is looking for places to host drop-off locations.
- **Financial Controls**—State document regarding town financial controls used to assist SB reviews of the status of policies and their effectiveness.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS -Mary Dodge, Mark Ringey**

**Norinsburg Dam** —Mary and Mark brought to the SB's attention an imminent problem at the Dam. The dam is on private land, but if breached as it appears it may be, there may be significant negative effects on land and possibly a road or two downstream. They feel the situation calls for professional evaluation and brought the issue to the SB for their information and decision regarding next steps. Ben M will contact the Town Attorney and John will contact DEC/ANR, for more information on the obligations and potential courses of action; if warranted, the owner will also be contacted

#### **TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT – Sue Johnson**

- **Property taxes**—Sue suggested a short meeting to set the tax rate. Ben M MOVED, Magna SECONDED, that the Select Board set August 21 at 7:00pm at the Town Office as the date/time/place for a Special Meeting for the purpose of setting the 2018 Cornwall Property Tax Rates. **Motion passed** – 5 in favor, 0 opposed
- **Bill for Stray Dogs**—Recently, two lost/stray dogs were taken to the Humane Society. Because Cornwall has no Animal Control Officer, Barry Forbes, Middlebury's ACO, was contacted and was kind enough to meet them at the shelter and handle the sign-in paperwork. He has offered to do the log-in paperwork again, at a cost of \$125 per incident, but only on a temporary basis until Cornwall can find someone willing to take on the job.
- **Bridge Extension**—Jen Woodward contacted the Office reminding that the extension period is about up, and suggesting that it be extended once again. The Town is waiting to hear from the State as there has been no word from them since the Town was put on the priority list for bridge projects.
- **Dog Bite**—The lawyer for the injured party has requested all materials relating to the April incident.
- **August 14 Elections**—The new voting machine has been tested and appears to be working well.

- **Fire Concern**—Concerns have been brought to Sue regarding a recent fire—more of a bon-fire, not structure fire, of undetermined content. Concern centers on possible ill effects from contaminants on groundwater and springs in the area. Board will look into it and contact the Sheriff's Department.
- Sue advised the Board of her recent participation in the Burlington Dragon Boat Races last weekend. It was quite an experience, a very good one and highly recommended.

#### **ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Brian Kemp**

- **Delong Road**—Work is to be scheduled as soon as possible on the ditching needed on Delong. The work is funded by grant monies received.
- **Swamp Road**—Conversations with Salisbury indicate an increased use of the Swamp Road and bridge by large trucks. If a “No Through Trucks” ordinance were in place it would provide the necessary authority for the Sheriff's department to take action against any such trucks caught going through. Brian will continue to pursue the topic with Salisbury. He noted that Cornwall has a lower weight limit on its section of road than does Salisbury. It would make sense—as an initial step — that the weight limit be set the same for both towns.
- **Signs**—The stop sign at the junction of Sperry and Rte 30 is obstructed and needs clearing. Mowing and grading continue.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Zoning Process**—Ben updated the Board on the process involved in adopting new zoning regulations. After the PC has their final hearing and adopts their draft, it will be presented to the Select Board. The SB must have at least one hearing, and if substantial changes are made they will need another hearing. Discussion centered on the best way to approach a review of the draft regulations with Board members concurring that because the changes are so extensive, it will be best for each member to thoroughly review the entire document.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Animal Control Protocols**—In the absence of an Animal Control Officer, Ben M has been the point person for loose/stray animal-related issues. While it will be very helpful to have the assistance of Barry Forbes, Cornwall needs to have an ACO on-board. Until that happens, the Board will develop protocols that will help them to assist residents having stray animal issues. Ben M acknowledged that he as SB Chair, is the most likely one to be the primary contact, but other board members will need to be on stand-by for times when he is not available.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

• ***Application for Special Event Permit***—Ben M MOVED, John R SECONDED, that Sue Johnson was authorized by the Select Board to sign the Special Event Permit for an event on July 18, 2018. **Motion passed** (4 in favor/0opposed/1 abstention (Magna),

**ADJOURNMENT:** Magna D MOVED / Ben W SECONDED, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30. **Motion passed**. – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Respectfully Submitted

Robin Conway, Substitute Minute-Taker