

Approved August 6, 2019

CORNWALL SELECT BOARD
Regular Meeting, Cornwall Town Hall
July 2, 2019

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

ALSO PRESENT: Sue Johnson, AnGayle (AJ) Vasiliou

Quorum - established

General Fund and Highway Orders - signed

Report on Reconciled Bank Statement - reviewed

AGENDA - Magna D. MOVED / Ben W. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda with two additions -

- Under New Business - Joint Cellular Project
- Under Other Business - Ben Marks' report of a conversation he had today with Cornwall's Animal Control Officer.

Motion passed - 3 in favor, 0 opposed.

MINUTES - June 4, 2019 - Magna D. MOVED / Ben W. seconded a motion to approve the minutes as amended with the deletion of the second sentence under "Hearing."
Motion approved - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

(Brian Kemp arrived just before the vote on the minutes.)

CORRESPONDENCE

- **Request to Cater Malt, Vinous and/or Spirituous Liquors** from Waybury Inn for a dinner party for 60 people July 13 at 299 Ridge Road. Board has no objection, Sue J. will sign approval.
- **Request from board member of the Middlebury Farmer's Market** to put up a sandwich board advertising the market on the two days it operates. The board member said she will put up and take down the sign each day at the intersection of Route 30 and 74. Board has no objection at this time, is willing to see how it goes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT - Sue Johnson

- **Grand List** - today the Listers logged the abstract of Cornwall's Grand List, which has now increased by over \$1,860,000. The Board and the Town Clerk expressed appreciation and praise for the hard work of the Listers, and plans to put Salary for Listers on the agenda for the next meeting.
- **Notice from Vermont Department of Taxes** - Common Level of Appraisal is back up to 99.93%, which is good. The homestead tax rate is going up by nearly 2 cents,

to 1.5844. The non-residential tax rate is going up by almost 2.5 cents, to 1.5951. It remains to be seen if the increase in the Grand List for 2019 will offset the increased education tax rates as reported by the State.

- Town has received the **annual financial questionnaire** from the State Auditors for Select Board to complete and sign. Town computer data is backed up with the New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) in the cloud. At the request from the Board, Sue J. will ask NEMRC for details on how their servers are backed up.
- **Fiscal Year End Report** - Town Clerk and Select Board discussed the report - with the 2018-19 actual budget numbers complete.
- Sue J. informed the Board that she intends to participate in the **New England Municipal Clerk's Institute** during the week of July 13 at Plymouth State College, NH. The Institute is a three year program. This will be the first year for Sue J.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Brian Kemp

- Road Commissioner discussed **highway department overtime** and how it could be better managed during plowing season.
- Following up discussion about the **highway budget**, Sue J. asked Brian K. to convey to the Road Foreman (in person, by phone or email) which account he would like expenses drawn from, when there is a choice of more than one account.
- **Route 74 speed study** appears to be underway, with lines in place. Board would like Brian K. to ask the Transportation Advisory Committee how the data is used.
- **Road Work** - 98% of the DeLong Road project is complete. Next project is Ridge Road. Outcome will be a wider road.
- **Paving bids** - need to go out as soon as possible
- New truck - was in for service under warrantee, back now.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Meeting with AnGayle Vasiliou (AJ)**, recommended by Planning Commission (CPC) for appointment to the CPC. AJ Vasiliou introduced herself and provided information about her background, interest and availability in serving the Town as a Planning Commissioner. After discussion with her about the scope of the work in the coming year and duration of the appointed term, Ben W. MOVED / Magna D. SECONDED a motion to appoint AnGayle Vasiliou to the Cornwall Planning Commission. Motion passed - 4 in favor, 0 opposed. Ms. Vasiliou has copies of the current Zoning and Subdivision regulations to study.
- **Vermont MicroCell Survey** - The Vermont Department of Public Service has a new idea about how to connect rural towns to basic cell service and has sent out a survey to see if enough towns are interested to make it feasible for the State to contract for microcell technology and to have the Towns pay annually for the needed devices. Magna D. said she tried to take the survey, but could not complete due to technical difficulties.
- **Discussion related to Act 38 Mandate for preservation funding**
- **of town records** - State is now requiring that a separate account be established for funds for records preservation and that a specified amount from each recording fee that the Town receives, be deposited in that fund. Ben W. MOVED / Brian K.

SECONDED a motion to establish a separate records preservation account. Motion passed - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion of Proposed Land Use and Development Regulations (LUDR)** - The Board discussed options for continued examination of the LUDR, the hearing on June 27, and the importance making written comments on the LUDR available to the public, as well as the minutes of the hearing. Next steps: Ben M. has drafted an article for the newsletter for Board review.
- **Discussion of Sheriff's Contract** - The Town has been without a contract with the Sheriff's Department for 18 months. A new contract has been drafted by the Sheriff and received by the Town. After discussion it was agreed to send the draft back with a request for specific hours of patrolling each week. Ben M. will reach out.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Animal Control Officer** - Ben M. spoke with Stacey Freeguard, Animal Control Office for Cornwall, about her investigation of an alleged animal cruelty case in Cornwall. She is doing the investigation in collaboration with the humane society, and will keep the Town updated.

Magna D. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board