

Town of Cornwall
Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 5, 2010

Present: Joe Severy, Mike Quesnel, Bruce Hiland, Nancy Kemp, T Tall
Also Present: Llyn Rice, Jake Chapline, Kate Gieges, Rodney Cadoret, Holly Noordsy,
Dennis Rheaume, Sean Stearns, Dave Berno

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 P.M.

T Tall/Bruce Hiland moved to approve the recommendation of the capital committee for the \$120,000 line item in the General Fund budget for FY 2010-2011. The motion carried on voice vote.

T Tall/Bruce Hiland moved to approve the December 15, 2009 minutes as written. The motion carried on voice vote.

The General Fund and Highway orders were signed by those present.

The December 2009 reconciled bank statement was reviewed by the Board.

New Business:

Rodney Cadoret, the town's Delinquent Tax Collector was present at the meeting to indicate that one of the delinquent taxpayers has filed for bankruptcy. Mr. Cadoret was looking for direction from the Board in regard to this situation. Mr. Cadoret indicated that in the past he has done nothing, and eventually the town is paid. The Board had no specific direction for the DTC and deferred to his plan. Sue Johnson suggested that a formal lien be created and recorded in the land records. Mr. Cadoret indicated that he also had a check for \$100 from this taxpayer. The Board felt the check should be processed.

Mr. Cadoret indicated that there were several delinquent taxpayers that owed significant amounts to the town, owing taxes from 2006. The Board felt that an ultimatum of payment by May 15, 2010 or tax sale would be appropriate. Mr. Cadoret will follow up on that suggestion.

Holly Noordsy was present to discuss the Route 74/Route 30 intersection. Ms. Noordsy explained that the Cornwall Town Plan suggested that this intersection be reconfigured into a T intersection. As VTrans is planning to pave Route 30 next year and are in the midst of the design phase, this seemed like an appropriate time for the town to make the State aware that this intersection is dangerous and needs attention. The Planning Commission will be sending letters to Kevin Marshia and Kevin Locke at the AOT and would like to see the Select Board send a letter to these gentlemen as well. The Planning Commission had asked Adam Lougee to take a look at the intersection and then compose a letter template that they could use to create their letter to send to the state. The Select Board felt that they would like to draft their own letter which would ask the State to address the safety at this intersection in whatever manner they deemed appropriate as they move forward with their design for repaving Route 30. The Board

would like to see the final design for the intersection. Joe Severy will draft the letter from the Select Board.

Sue Johnson shared information from Adam Lougee that VTrans is going to take over the Route 30 Cornwall/Middlebury Bike Path Project. There will be a meeting on January 14, 2010 at the ACRPC office discussing the plan for handing the project over to the State and determining whether any additional funding is needed from the various towns. Sue Johnson will attend the meeting to better understand the process.

Correspondence:

Received notification from PVR that the town's CLA is 100.74% and the COD is 7.37%, which are both excellent.

Notification received from the Auditors that the Select Board report for the 2009 Town Report is due on January 15, 2010.

Town Clerk Report:

Need winter newsletter information by Friday 1/8/10. Bruce Hiland gave an overview of items that will be included in the Select Board report for the newsletter.

The emergency management group has discussed an effective way to communicate emergency information to townspeople. One of the suggestions was to create an email group that would be used exclusively for emergency notifications. The Board had no issue with moving forward with the concept.

There was a discussion of the capital fund and how it works. It was clarified that the town will no longer be voting on specific pieces of equipment, but will be voting on the capital budget and program when they approve the General Fund budget which includes the line item of \$120,000 or whatever figure is needed to sustain the fund.

Old Business:

Article for Town Hall Generator: Kate Gieges shared her draft for the article that would deal with obtaining a generator. The amount Kate included in the article was \$8000. Dennis Rheume indicated that the generator should have a manual shut off for the glow plugs that are not needed in the summer months. He said that the CVFD's electricity bill was increased significantly prior to the shutoff switch being installed. Mike Quesnel obtained two estimates for generators: Taylor Rental (generator and disconnect only \$5000, annual service fee \$150 per month) and Dennis Newton (generator \$5930, installation \$2487). The grant that is being applied for must be submitted by January 29, 2010. Kate needs the cost of the equipment vs. wiring and installation for the grant application. There was discussion of possible locations for the generator and the need to get installation costs to request an appropriate amount of funding for the generator.

Article on the Administrative Assistant: Joe Severy brought for discussion the article requesting funding for an Administrative Assistant. After discussion, the figure that was settled on was \$10,000. Bruce Hiland/T Tall moved that an article be adopted in the amount of \$10,000 for administrative support for the Select Board to be spent only

as needed for grant writing, human resource work and other administrative tasks as they come up. The motion carried on voice vote.

New Business Continued:

Sue Johnson will have the first draft of the Town Meeting Warning ready for the meeting on January 19, 2010.

Joe Severy indicated that Jim Carroll will represent the town at the status hearing on January 6, 2010 in regard to the tax appeal brought by Robert Burton Jr. Mr. Carroll indicated that it is not required that anyone from the town be present at the hearing. Mr. Carroll also presented a timeline for the process moving forward.

Bruce Hiland indicated that he had received a phone call from a towns person making a complaint about the Vincent Gardon property on Douglas Road. The complainant has spoken to the Zoning Administrator and was not satisfied with the result. Mr. Hiland wondered what the process was for following up on this type of complaint. Mr. Hiland suggested that Mike Brinkman be invited to the next Select Board meeting as well as the complainant to discuss the scenario and possible solutions.

Nancy Kemp felt that the thermostat should be regulated to a lower temperature during the hours when the building is empty.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Johnson
Acting Clerk