

Approved February 19, 2013

TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Cornwall Town Office
Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Present: Judy Watts, Abi Sessions, Ben Wood, Stu Johnson, Sue Johnson
Guests: Jim Duclos, Holly Noordsy

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

General fund and highway orders—*signed*

January bank statement – not yet reconciled, board will review at next meeting

MINUTES: January 15 Meeting— Dave MOVED / Abi SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as amended below:

Under Public Hearing, strike phrase in parenthesis: “**Proposed capital equipment fund line item:** \$130,000 (up 10,000 from last year in order to achieve the goal of not having to borrow money for major equipment in the future).”

Amend to read: “**Proposed capital equipment fund line item:** \$130,000, level funded.”

Motion passed.

MINUTES: January 29 Special Meeting - Dave MOVED/ Ben SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Annual book from the Vermont Division of Property Valuation and Review

PUBLIC COMMENTS - *none*

TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER’S REPORT – Sue Johnson

- **Town Report** - final changes completed tonight. The report will be ready by the regulatory deadline of February 20. We will use the same procedure as last year to publicize and distribute the Town Report. Copies will be available at the Town Office, Town Garage, and the School. Sue will mail Town Reports or deliver in person by request.
- **Town Meeting** – all preparations are done. Sue will send out the traditional Town Meeting letter soliciting help with polling
- **Town buildings assessment** - proposals from 3 engineering firms were solicited. 2 have declined. Phelps Engineering is planning on submitting a proposal. Sue hopes to find 2 other sources of proposals.
- **New computer** – is set up, software will be installed next.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Sue Johnson for Stu Johnson

Stu has been talking with companies about the loader he plans to purchase. Stu met today at the Town Garage with 30 people from various towns, who came to view Cornwall's roller and learn about how Stu made it.

OLD BUSINESS

- ***VT Gas / IP Pipeline Project Update*** – Jim Duclos reported on a meeting in Shoreham, organized by Will Stevens, for Shoreham landowners potentially affected by the pipeline project. Adam Lougee was there and spoke about the role of ACRPC in the process. VT Gas not at this meeting, intentionally. Shoreham plans a town-wide meeting on February 18. VT Gas is doing a mass mailing about the pipeline project to everyone in Shoreham and Cornwall, which should arrive in a week or so.

Judy Watts reported that the PSB pushed back on VT Gas's preferred schedule for its pipeline project. The PSB set the date of the hearing for Phase One for March 21 and the deadline for party status to March 29. The PSB will not do a site visit until after mud season. VT Gas's filing for a Certificate of Public Good for Phase Two is still slated for July, 2013. Adam Lougee has urged towns affected by Phase Two to come up with a position before the filing for Phase Two.

Holly Noordsy spoke about the "map" for the Phase Two route that was supposedly submitted with the Phase One filing. Holly intends to go and pick up a copy of the filing. Steve Wark, VT Gas spokesperson, said this "map" was just for cost purposes and would be non-binding. However, as people will be asking questions at Town Meeting, it was agreed that Town officials should at least have seen that map before Town Meeting.

The board agreed that it would be good to have a meeting for Cornwall landowners potentially affected by the pipeline project, and then a town-wide meeting, as is being done in Shoreham. Jim Duclos will contact Adam Lougee for his availability and will consult with Will Stevens about how he identified the landowners.

Unanswered questions about the pipeline project include: What is the cost / benefit analysis for Cornwall? What do our firefighters need? What are the implications for road maintenance? Ditching? Going through wetlands?

Holly said that the newly updated draft of the Cornwall Town Plan does have a section on energy transmission lines. The Town Plan is only regulatory tool we have. Sue said that the Town Plan final draft from the CPC has not yet been received in her office.

- **Tax Sale Report** - The tax sale for the property on Route 74 was held. The taxpayer has one year to redeem the property by paying all taxes and fees, and may live there during this time.

NEW BUSINESS: *none*

OTHER BUSINESS: Sue would like to take a few days off to visit an ill family member – before Town Meeting. The Town has only one back up person for Sue. If Joan were not available, that would be real problem. The board discussed the need for training for another back up person, and planning for this in the budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Selectboard