

Approved May 20, 2014

TOWN OF CORNWALL  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
Cornwall Town Office  
Tuesday, May 6, 2014

**Present:** Bruce Hiland, Ben Wood, Abi Sessions, Ben Marks, Dave Sears

**Guests:** Morris Jones, Wayne Burlett, Meg Harris, Barbara Wilson, George Gross, Jack Carter, Bobbie Carnwath

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

General Fund and Highway Orders – *signed*  
Reconciled April bank statement - *reviewed*

#### MINUTES

- **April 15, 2014** – Dave MOVED / Ben SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes with the following addition at the end of the paragraph on the Conflict of Interest Policy under Old Business: *Ben M recused himself from discussion on this matter.* Motion passed.

#### CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Invitation from the Wine Council of Canada to attend a wine tasting in Burlington.
- Notice from VLCT about an all day Municipal Dog Control Workshop on May 29. Sue J. said she plans to attend.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

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

- **Paving of State Roads** – The Town received notice from Dick Hoskins from VTrans that the following routes will be “full width leveled” this year Mr. Hoskins will notify the Town once start dates are determined.
  - VT 125 Bridport, starting where paving stopped last year and extending to VT 22A
  - T 125 Cornwall – Middlebury, between Cider Mill Road and the Middlebury Class 1
  - VT 74 Shoreham, starting at VT 22A and extending to the Cornwall Town Line.
- **Annual appointments form from ACRPC** has been received. Cornwall Select Board needs to appoint someone to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) by May 30. It was agreed to ask our ACRPC delegates for recommendations - one of themselves or someone else.
- **Emerging Needs** - Sue has attended several workshops recently and has identified some emerging needs for the Town:
  - Involving young people in Town government
  - Social media policy
  - Drug and alcohol policy.
  - Annual review of all Town policies
- **Taxes** are in. About 24 property owners have not paid their taxes, which is fairly normal.

- **Dog Registrations** - 100 citizens known to have dogs have still not registered their animals. Sue will send a letter with a deadline. If the owners do not respond, they will receive a letter from the Select Board.

#### **ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Stu Johnson**

- No disc harrowing this spring, as conditions not right, will try in the summer.
- VTrans employee that Stu J. and other road commissioners advocated for has just received an award as VTrans Person of the Month..
- Plans are underway to work with Bridport and Weybridge to do work on Snake Mountain Road

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Conflict of Interest Policy** – Ben Marks recused himself from discussion and vote. Ben W. MOVED / Abi SECONDED a motion to adopt VLCT's conflict of interest policy. Motion passed with 4 in favor and 1 recused.
- **Catering Permit – Knapp/ Wheel Inn** – Morris Jones and Wayne Burlett provided information and answered questions about an event they would like to hold this year in Cornwall. It is intended to be a family oriented event. Beer and wine will be sold. Mr. Jones and Mr. Burlett described how they intend to control consumption of alcohol at the event and to manage parking. They have made the Sheriff's Department aware of the event. Ben W. MOVED /Abi SECONDED a motion to approve the application, pending receipt of a copy of the caterer's insurance binder and copy license. Motion passed.
- **Burger Nights on Town Green** – Mark Cesario – Mr. Cesario would like to grill burgers on the Green for community consumption, twice a month. Sue will contact him, no requirements for him to use the Green in this manner.
- **Updates**
  - **Dog Ordinance** – It was agreed to postpone discussion until Sue reports back on what she learned at the May 29 workshop on Municipal Dog Control.
  - **Pipeline** - Ben Marks as counsel updated the Select Board on the latest PSB proceeding. Currently the process is in the discovery period. May 7 will be a site visit and public hearing in Shoreham. Ben M. will attend the public hearing, if he can get in the room. A second public hearing will be held in Middlebury at a later date. Then will be a second round of discovery. Bobbie Carnwath expressed concern about the fact that Vermont Gas has asked the PSB for a protective agreement for Phase 2. Ben M. responded that the PSB has approved a version of this agreement in most of these big cases. What is protected are propriety models, and competitively sensitive information that corporations may have. Under this agreement information is disclosed to parties who agree that they will not disclose this information broadly. Parties in the case can get information but not share broadly.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Mowing bids** – The Select Board opened, reviewed several bids. Ben M. MOVED / Ben W. SECONDED a motion to accept the bid of the lowest bidder, Lawn Cuts for Less. Motion passed.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- **Capital Budget Issue** – the Capital Committee will meet to discuss, among other issues, the recent discovery that the permit for a new well will cost \$3,500 and not \$500.
- **Community Owned Solar Coop** – George Gross and Barb Wilson presented information about a proposed community owned solar coop, to be sited in Shoreham

or Cornwall. A grant deadline is rapidly approaching and Mr. Gross and Ms. Wilson have come to seek a letter of support from Cornwall, to submit with the grant application. The Select Board responded by saying that while they are very supportive of the goals of the project, to put the Town's stamp of approval on the project implies a level of understanding that the Town does not at this point have. Ben Marks said for a project like this, there has to be a business model in place that looks forward decades. Bruce said that there were people interested in the board of education solar project and he would put them in touch. George Gross said that his next step would be to follow up and see what is possible.

The board went into executive session at 8:45pm to discuss litigation strategy.

The board came out of executive session at 9:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Select Board