

Approved January 2, 2018

**CORNWALL SELECT BOARD**  
Regular Meeting, Cornwall Town Hall  
December 19, 2017

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Sue Johnson, Michael Sunderland, Holly Noordsy, Jamie McKenna

**PUBLIC HEARING: One-Year Extension of Solar Screening Ordinance**

The PUBLIC HEARING was called to order at 7:00am.

Quorum – established.

No member of the public was present at the hearing.

After a short discussion about the ordinance and its' effectiveness, John R. MOVED/ Magna D. SECONDED a motion to extend the solar screening ordinance for one year from today's date. Motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Magna D. MOVED/ John R. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the hearing. Motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:03 pm

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

**AGENDA**

John R. MOVED/Magna D. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as posted. Motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

General Fund and Highway Orders - signed  
Report on Reconciled Bank Statement – not yet available.

**MINUTES – December 5, 2017**

Ben W. MOVED / John R. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as posted. Motion passed – 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.

**CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW**

- 2017 Equalization Study Results from State of Vermont Department of Taxes  
Common level of Appraisal (CLA) is 100.59%. Co-efficient of Dispersion (COD) is 18.87%. These numbers mean that Cornwall properties are selling slightly above their appraised level. The letter is available at the Town Clerk's office for public to review.

- Notice from Vermont Land Trust (VLT) informing the Town that Matt Bonner is working with the VLT to place a permanent conservation easement on 123 acres of his property on Route 74, Cornwall.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-** none

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

- Sue J. thanked the Board for their support during the time recently when her father was ill and passed away.
- The need for an Assistant Town Clerk remains. Sue J. has been talking with someone who is interested.
- Seasonal problem with mice in the building has reoccurred, with mice seeking warmer nesting places for the winter. Sue J. asked the Board for permission to call an exterminator at this time every year. Board agreed.
- Sue J. reminded Board members up for re-election of the January 29 deadline for signed petitions.
- Sue J. will be sending out letters regarding town reports and deadlines.

**ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT** - Mike Sunderland

- Following up a discussion at a previous meeting, Mike S. said that the Town is not using any road material different from last year. He suggested that what may be causing the slickness on road surfaces are drainage issue on the roads of concern.
- Planned work on DeLong Road will be done this summer with a grant.
- Mike S. is going on vacation December 21-27. Coverage as needed will be provided by Brian Kemp and Joe Severy.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Report from Planning Commission (CPC) on Zoning By-Law Revisions**  
Holly Noordsy and Jamie McKenna provided information on the progress made in work being done to update the Zoning and Subdivision regulations and to consolidate these two documents into one. The CPC now has a full board of seven members, with the addition of two new members in the past few months.

Work began during the summer with consultant Sarah Pelkey from LandWorks. The CPC has met with the Zoning Administer, the Conservation Commission, and the Development Review Board and have gathered information about what is being done in similar towns in Vermont, as part of the planning process. The CPC held two working sessions in November and December in addition to discussions during CPC monthly meetings.

The work has focused on information gathering, identifying areas of concern, and consideration of changes, such as some minor changes to district boundaries, and adding natural resources overlays (as recommended in the

Town Plan). The overarching goal is to ensure that Town by-laws are clear and consistent, address all issues that the Zoning Administrator and Development Review Board are dealing with today, and that the process for applicants is as simple as possible.

Cornwall's Town Plan is set to expire in March. The CPC is recommending re-approving the Town Plan as is for now. The re-approval is good for 8 years. The Town Plan does not need a major overhaul, but some needed changes have been identified. After July 1, if the CPC has available funds, it will begin reviewing the Town Plan. The 2020 census may provide valuable information to incorporate into the next Town Plan.

- **Preliminary Discussion of 2018-2019 Town General Fund and Highway Budgets.** The Board discussed proposed general fund budget items with the Town Clerk/Town Treasurer. Michael S. said he would like to propose level funding for Town Highway budget.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- **School Transfer** - Ben M. is meeting with lawyers for both parties on the 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the school transfer.
- **Fund for Planning** - Sue J. said that the Town's Act 200 Fund has a current balance of \$17,000 available for planning expenses.
- **Feasibility Study** - Brian K. spoke with Dick Hoskins at VTrans to inquire about feasibility study by the State mentioned by Salisbury Board member. Dick H. said he will follow up with Salisbury to clarify what they referred to. If it is the TIP program, it could be a very long time (10 years or more) before the State could come in and do a bridge feasibility study.

John R. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board