

Approved March 15, 2022

CORNWALL SELECT BOARD
Regular Meeting
Location: via Zoom and at Town Hall
February 15, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Magna Dodge, Tanya Byker, Ben Marks, Brian Kemp, John Roberts

ALSO PRESENT: Sue Johnson, Don Burns, Steven Rheaume, Stu Johnson, Paul Vaczy, Patrick Dunn, Jonathan Blake, Kip Andres, Stephen Rooney

Recording of meeting—announced

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm

QUORUM—established

General Fund and Highway Orders - Orders have been circulated for signing, either by email or in person.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

• **February 1, 2022**

Brian K. MOVED / Magna D. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as posted. **Motion passed** - 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Latest letter from Robert Burton regarding the tax appeal.
- Email from Beth Keefe asking about the possibility of applying for a Village Center designation. The Planning Commission has also been made aware of her inquiry. If Cornwall had such a designation, funds for beautification projects would be available. Sue J. said she attended a workshop a few years ago on this program, and is not sure if Cornwall is eligible. Ben M. told Beth K. the Town will investigate the possibility when time permits.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT - Sue Johnson

- 950 ballots have been sent to the voters;
- Special newsletter regarding the upcoming Town Meeting has been sent to each household;
- The information letter from the Select Board has also been sent out;
- Sue J. was contacted by a resident who is upset about the prevalence of dog waste on one of the town roads;
- Sue thanked Steve R. and Ken Manchester for their fine job in rebuilding the notice sign that is outside the Town Hall.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Brian Kemp and Steven Rheaume

- **Road maintenance** - the crew has been busy with keeping the roads clear in the recent difficult storm. Brian K. assisted with road maintenance during this storm. Rain and cold temperatures are on the way, presenting another challenge. There has been no time available yet to fell the

trees on Swamp Road.

- **Road Foreman's Meeting** - Cornwall is hosting the meeting tomorrow at 10 am and all Select Board members are most welcome to attend.

MEETING WITH SALISBURY SELECT BOARD

Members of the Salisbury Select Board in attendance: Paul Vaczy, Patrick Dunn, Jonathan Blake and Kip Andres. The purpose of the joint meeting was to discuss and come to agreement on how to present information to the voters of both towns regarding replacement of the Swamp Road bridge and to have a sense of what type of bridge is preferred by the voters.

All agreed that people in both towns need to be given the same message and asked to weigh in, in the same way, at the same time. All agreed that both towns will alert voters during Town Meeting that there will be a joint Salisbury/Cornwall informational meeting on April 7, with Paul Vaczy chairing that meeting, and Laura Stone, from the Agency of Transportation presenting information on two viable bridge replacement options. A gatekeeper will be needed for this meeting, to ensure that residents from other towns do not interfere.

All agreed that the following day, on April 8, a survey will be mailed to each and every registered voter in both towns, return postage paid. This survey will look something like a ballot, and will be advisory in nature. The final decision is in the hands of the Select Boards of Cornwall and Salisbury.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Maple Broadband - Update** - Magna D. reported that 8 towns have now contributed to the initiative. Yesterday, Maple Broadband was granted a \$650,000 supplement to the pre-construction grant from Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB), increasing pre-construction funds from VCBB to a total of \$2,900,000. Maple Broadband is now eligible to apply for the construction grant from VCBB.
- **Discussion of recent water test at Town Garage** - the most recent test results showed a high level of chlorine. It is likely that the high level is caused by the pump being temporarily not operational because the water is frozen.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of the Breadloaf study in regard to the Town Garage complex

Stephen Rooney from Breadloaf discussed his firm's report of the assessment of the sand and salt shed site, provided preliminary numbers on costs for site excavation and for construction of a frame and fabric structure to replace the current shed. The site is constrained both north/south and east/west and would need more excavation work than normal. The proposed basic cost of \$690,000 (with a 6 foot high foundation) is way beyond the \$175,000 currently budgeted in the capital fund for shed replacement. More research is needed to determine next steps, and Stephen Rooney will be providing more information to the Select Board. The Town may need to make do with the current shed for another year, or more.

ADJOURNMENT

Magna D. MOVED / Tanya B. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. ***Motion passed*** - 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board