

Approved September 20, 2022

**CORNWALL SELECT BOARD**  
Regular Meeting  
Location: via Zoom and at Town Hall  
September 6, 2022

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tanya Byker, Ben Marks, Don Burns, John Roberts

**ALSO PRESENT:** Steven Rheaume, Sue Johnson, Ian Phair, Tim Fisher, Douglas Black  
**Recording of meeting**—announced

**The meeting was called to order** at 7:02 pm

**QUORUM**—established

**AGENDA** - John R. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as modified, with the moving of the Solar Project item up in the agenda before approval of the minutes.  
**Motion passed**—4 in favor, 0 opposed.

**General Fund and Highway Orders** - circulated for signing.

**Reconciled Bank Statement** - reviewed

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Cornwall Solar Project** - status update

Ben M. reviewed the progress on this project to date, including the previous plan for one solar array on the roof of the Town Hall and another mounted on the ground on the south side of the building. After the Town listened to objections from the neighbors and other residents to the ground mounted array, the Town explored other solutions. It was determined by engineers that the shed roof on the east side could also effectively hold solar panels. The modified plan for all solar panels to be roof mounted (some on the south facing roof and some on the shed roof) will still provide the Town with over 90% coverage of its current electricity costs. Ben M. said that the neighbors are happy with this plan. The lease contract was modified to remove any reference to the ground mounted portion of the array and the cost adjusted (cost decreased slightly). John R. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve and sign the modified contract. **Motion passed**—3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained (Tanya B.)

**MINUTES**

- **August 2, 2022** - tabled until Magna Dodge has a chance to review the minutes of her presentation on Maple Broadband.
- **June 20, 2022 Special Meeting** - John R. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes. **Motion passed**—4 in favor, 0 opposed.

**CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW**

- Notice from the League of Cities and Towns regarding business meetings that are included in the upcoming Town Fair in October.
- Internal Financial Controls Checklist for Municipalities - annual checklist for Select Board to sign
- Latest Chloride and Sodium readings from regularly scheduled water tests at the Town Garage - levels remain over the recommended limit. Don B. suggested that the Town revisit the idea of analyzing the isotopes. Don B. will follow up to see if this type of analysis will distinguish

between naturally occurring deposits and deposits caused by long past practices of the Town, and will get a quote on the cost of isotope analysis.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tim Fisher thanked the Board for their good work.

## **TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT - Sue Johnson**

- Tax bills went out.
- Carolyn Anderson is coming in for training at least twice a week.
- Primary election voting on August 9 went exceptionally well. The turnout was nearly 50%, very high for a primary,

## **ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Steven Rheaume, Road Foreman**

- Swamp Road - bids are still in process for the tree work.
- Steven R. has started grading on his own, with two roads so far.
- Ken M. started hauling winter sand today. Mutual aid with Shoreham is planned for hauling more sand.
- One person has requested an application for the job opening for road maintenance staff (not submitted yet). Steve R. commented that many area towns have road maintenance openings and it is hard to find people who want to do this type of work, which includes availability for plowing at night and on weekends.
- Stu Johnson is in charge of next steps on salt/sand shed.
- John R. praised the recent work in brush mowing on Parkhill Road.

## **OLD BUSINESS continued**

**Swamp Road Bridge Replacement** - status update - there has been no recent update from the Vermont Department of Transportation. The Town may need to reach out to Laura Stone to request a meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Discussion and Possible Vote on Culvert Replacement Policy** - after discussion on the possible need for a culvert replacement policy, and review of the Highway Ordinance, it was determined the this ordinance includes a culvert replacement policy. Based on this policy, John R. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve the request for reimbursement of \$500 spent by a local resident to replace a 30-year old damaged driveway culvert. **Motion passed - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.**

- **Tim Fisher to Discuss Maintenance and Upkeep of Fisher Road**

The Board listened as Tim Fisher presented the long history of Fisher Road during the time he has lived there. Fisher Road has always been classified by the Town as a Class 4 road, but for a short period of time in the 1990s the Town maintained the road. Mr. Fisher has asked that the Town resume the maintenance of the road, giving several reasons in support of his request, including the fact that there are now 4 houses on the road with another house recently approved. After a long discussion, and review of 3 sets of Select Board meeting minutes from 1998, it was agreed that more information is needed. The Town will search for any more relevant records and has asked Mr. Fisher to do the same, especially any documentation from the State, regarding the road meeting the criteria for Class 3 at the time. John R. commented that the issues regarding Fisher Road should have been resolved 30 years ago. This Board is committed to work toward

resolution, based on the relevant Town and State regulations.

**OTHER BUSINESS** - none

**ADJOURNMENT**

John R. MOVED / Tanya B. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. ***Motion passed*** - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board