

Approved November 1, 2022

## **CORNWALL SELECT BOARD**

Regular Meeting

Location: via Zoom and at Town  
Hall

October 18, 2022

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Steven Rheaume, Sue Johnson

**Recording of meeting**—announced

**The meeting was called to order** at 7:04 pm

**QUORUM**—established

**AGENDA** - Tanya B. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as posted. ***Motion passed***—3 in favor, 0 opposed.

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

### **MINUTES**

- **October 4, 2022** - tabled for quorum at future meeting

### **CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW**

- Letter from FEMA regarding their Otter Creek Watershed Study asking the Town if the risk maps for Cornwall are accurate. Ben M. will bring this letter and the maps in question to the Planning Commission meeting tomorrow night.
- Email from Cornwall resident Jack Downy in response news in the Cornwall newsletter about the Fire Department closing off the “shortcut” from Sperry Road to Route 30 through the parking lot of the Fire Station. Taking this “shortcut” has given drivers a better view of the traffic on Route 30, whereas the intersection of Sperry Road and Route 30 affords drivers almost no view of the Route 30 traffic in both directions. The parking lot of the Fire Station is a working area for the Fire Department, and must be kept clear of non-fire department vehicles either parked or using it as a “shortcut.” Steve R. said the Town has mowed brush back as far as possible, but the intersection remains dangerous, due to the way Route 30 was constructed in that area. Ben M. suggested that extending the 40 mph speed limit for northbound traffic on Route 30 in the Village from where it currently ends at the school, would be one solution. In the meantime, the Town will notify the Vermont Department of Transportation about this change in local traffic behavior.
- Maple Broadband 2022 Annual Report and budgets. A public hearing on the matter is scheduled for November 2. Ben M. said he will not be at this hearing, but other Select Board members may wish to attend.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

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

- Tax payments continue to come in.
- Completed ballots continue to come in.
- The office will be closed for the next 3 days - October 19, 20 and 21.
- Sue has sent an email to poll workers and has heard from some.
- Sue discussed with the Board the advisability of putting the bridge insurance payout funds in a reserve account separate from the general fund. Sue will explore options and report back to the Board.

**ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT** - Brian Kemp and Steven Rheaume

- Swamp Road will be closed tomorrow and possibly Thursday as well for the tree work to be done.
- Nick Cram has been hired for the road crew position. His first day will be October 24.
- Road crew transition planning will be discussed in Executive Session at a later meeting.
- The price of salt has increased significantly compared to last year, to \$100/ton.
- Ken has been working with the mower to push back shrubs and trees. No complaints from the public lately about brush mowing.
- The missing DeLong Road sign was located on the grounds of Middlebury College by a college employee.
- Stu Johnson has been assisting with the final grading. Recently the grader stalled while he was working, causing machine and driver to go into a ditch. Fortunately Stu was not injured. The grader has some dings and scratches.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Discussion of ARPA funding alternatives/priorities** - discussion tabled until discussion on salt/sand shed takes place
- **Salt Contamination Update Town Garage** - Don Burns

Don reported that he has done some research and plans to continue to investigate. It seems that it might be more difficult than he expected to differentiate marine sediment salt from the type the Town used on the roads and stored at the Town Garage.

- **Salt/Sand Building Replacement Update** - Don B. reported that Stu Johnson has re-engaged with the process, and Don has invited him to come to the November 1 meeting of the Select Board. Ben M. will add an update report by Stu J. to the agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS** - none

**OTHER BUSINESS** - none

**ADJOURNMENT**

Tanya B. MOVED / Ben M SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. A vote could not be taken, because Don B., who was attending via Zoom, lost his internet connection again.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board