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CORNWALL SELECT BOARD

Regular Meeting

Location: via Zoom and at Town
Hall

December 20, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tanya Byker, Ben Marks, Don Burns, Brian Kemp

ALSO PRESENT: Steven Rheaume, Sue Johnson, Sarah Pelkey, Jon Kaplan, Chris
Kramer

Recording of meeting—announced

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

QUORUM—established

AGENDA - Brian K. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as amended, moving Discussion About Cornwall Students to top of the agenda. ***Motion passed***—4 in favor, 0 opposed.

General Fund and Highway Orders - circulated for signing

MINUTES

- **December 6, 2022** - Brian K. MOVED / Tanya B. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as posted. ***Motion passed***—4 in favor, 0 opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion related to Cornwall School students traveling to the Town Hall

Chris Kramer, Co-chair of the Friends of Cornwall School, discussed with the Select Board and with Jon Kaplan from the Vermont Department of Transportation concerns about students walking on Route 30. Some students walk to school in the morning on Route 30 and some students walk to the Town Hall for after school programs on Route 30, when it is not possible for them to walk through the field.. There is no sidewalk and Route 30 is a busy highway. Short term and long term options to improve safety for the students were discussed. Short term options discussed included orange flags (currently in use), cones, signs, and transport by school bus to the programs after school. Long term options discussed included a crosswalk, and scoping study (cost \$40,000 with an \$8,000 Town match) for a possible sidewalk. A sidewalk is a prerequisite for a crosswalk, according to Jon Kaplan. Road Foreman Steve Rheaume said that the safest thing for the children to do right now is to make arrangements with the bus company to transport the children to their after school programs. Chris Kramer and the Board agreed. The Board also agreed to move forward with a long term option. Jon Kaplan said he will get more information for

the Board to consider. Sarah Pelkey added that there was a traffic study done recently in the two village centers, as a good place to start for traffic data.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Notice of a public meeting to present the proposed Addison County budget, January 20 at the Addison County Courthouse
- 2022 Vermont Municipal Compensation and Benefits Report
- Correspondence from Holly and Jeff Noordsy with request to have input when replacement tree(s) are chosen for the Green
- Email from Chris Kramer expressing his interest in running for the pending vacancy on the District School Board
- Salt Report - high readings remain
- Budget and final report of the Lemon Fair Insect Control Board. Town subsidy requested is the same as last year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Chris Kramer said he wants to run for the District School Board seat that is expected to soon be vacant, as Peter Conlon plans to step down.
- Sarah Pelkey said that she sent to the Board information about grants for a scoping study in the Village and for municipal wastewater development. She encouraged the Town to take advantage of grants available. She has observed that the Village has been used in positive ways with more community activities taking place at the church and the Town Hall. She requests and encourages planning for development in the Village.

- **TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT** - Sue Johnson
- Sue J. reminded the Board that newsletter reports are due next Friday
- The office will be closed all next week for the holidays.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Steven Rheaume

- Nick has completed most of the training hours and will be scheduling his CDL test soon.
- Latest storm with over a foot of wet heavy snow resulted in trees and lines down everywhere, some being across the road. There is a lot of tree work that needs to be done in Cornwall. The road crew has begun that work. Ben M. added that the Fire Department is also a resource to help with trees in emergency situations.
- Water pump at the Town garage stopped working today. Brian K. will follow up with the company.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion of Salt Shed Project Management** - Sue J. conveyed information from Stu J. that the permit process has started and that he has spoken with two interested contractors (3 bids will be needed). After discussion, the Board said it gives permission

for demolition materials to be dumped, buried and the soil graded on site, provided that the contractor agrees. Stu J. is putting together a packet of information about the project for prospective contractors to review.

- **Discussion of ARPA funding alternatives/priorities -**

Spreadsheet of ARPA funding requests/priorities will be posted on the website, and special meeting for citizens in January to follow.

NEW BUSINESS - continued

First read-through and discussion of 2023-2024 budget - to be continued at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board