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CORNWALL SELECT BOARD

Regular Meeting

Location: via Zoom and at Town

Hall

May 2, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Burns, Ben Marks, Brian Kemp

ALSO PRESENT: Sue Johnson, Stu Johnson, Stan Grzyb, Woody Jackson, Annie Wilson, Gail Isenberg, Marge Drexler, Liz Marino, Meg Harris

Recording of meeting—announced

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by the Vice-Chair

QUORUM—established

General Fund and Highway Orders - signed

AGENDA - Don B. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as amended by moving CORA Committee matter to the top of the agenda and by adding approval of June 20, 2022 Special Meeting minutes. ***Motion passed***—3 in favor, 0 opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area (CORA) Committee

- **Update on recreation area plan, including pickleball court** - Gail Isenberg and other members of the committee shared information about plans to develop an outdoor recreation area on the two-acre Town-owned parcel adjacent to the school. A recent survey of Cornwall residents showed support of the project. Gail I. also spoke about the physical, social and emotional benefits of group recreation activities such as pickleball, and how they can create community.

The long term vision for an outdoor recreation area in this location includes an ADA compliant walking trail, picnic area, game area, tennis court and pickleball courts. The CORA Committee knows that will take several years to develop. In the short term, they want to focus on making one tennis court (that can be also used as two pickleball courts) and two additional pickleball courts. The goal is to have these courts built within a year. The Committee walked the site with Sean Stearns, and identified the best site for the courts.

The CORA Committee has has used pro bono consulting services to do the survey and develop the plan. A free architectural design for the area is included in the pro bono consulting services.

The Committee has been working to identify funding sources. Once Cornwall has a Village Designation, the Town will be eligible for a Better Places grant. Other sources include AARP, US Tennis Association, and US Pickleball Association. Stan Grzyb said he was going to be meeting with staff from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) for help in identifying more funding sources.

- Request for ARPA funds for court site preparation - the Committee and the Board discussed the scope of this project, funding needs, and funding options, including ARPA funds and Capital funding. Ben M. suggested that the CORA Committee collaborate with the garden enthusiasts who were interested in establishing a garden on the south side of the Town Hall. Sue J. mentioned that there will be a Capital Plan meeting in May. The request for ARPA funds from the CORA Committee will be considered along with all the other requests at a future meeting.

MINUTES

- **April 18, 2023** - Don B. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as presented. ***Motion passed—3 in favor, 0 opposed.***
- **June 20, 2022, Special Meeting** - Brian K. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as presented. ***Motion passed—3 in favor, 0 opposed.*** It was noted that these minutes were posted on the website in draft format but approval had been overlooked.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Latest salt report
- Draft contract from S & J Stearns, for demolition of salt/sand shed and site preparation for new salt/sand building - has been forwarded to Benj Deppman for legal review.
- Information from VLCT about new portal
- Official letter requesting an extension is needed by the Listers - Ben M. is signing as Vice-Chair.
- Emergency Mutual Aid agreement for member municipalities from Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC)- Brian K. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to empower Ben M. to sign as Vice-Chair. ***Motion passed—3 in favor, 0 opposed.***
- From ACRPC, - Stan Grzyb is continuing as Cornwall's representative and Don Burns is not, so there is an open representative position .
- From the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) asking if Brian K. would like to continue on the committee.
- Communication from the Regional Emergency Management Committee appointing Ben Marks as Emergency Manager in Cornwall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT - Sue Johnson

- Tax payments are coming in.
- Carolyn and Sue will be attending the VLCT training on Thursday in West Rutland. Sue J. is attending as one of the teachers, and Carolyn as a participant.
- Sue reminded the Board that they need to meet with Carolyn prior to her start date, to discuss benefits and salary.
- Sue said she would attempt to make a list of “invisible tasks” that she does. She cautioned the Board that the new Town Clerk / Town Treasurer will be focused on learning key tasks and procedures and will need their proactive support, especially in the first year of this complex job.
- Sue said she will be away for a few days at the end of May and will be on vacation for the month of October.

ROAD COMMISSIONER’S REPORT - Brian Kemp

- The Road Foreman Steve Rheaume is on leave and has given a list of tasks to Nick. Nick can call upon mutual aid from neighboring towns if more hands or equipment are needed for tasks before Steve’s return.
- Salt and sand shed is ready for demolition.
- The Development Review Board (DRB) approved the application for a waiver on May 1, for the project to construct the new salt shed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Discuss amendments to Town Plan and schedule for public hearing** - a joint meeting of representatives from the Select Board, Planning Commission, Conservation Commission and Development Review Board was held recently and was recorded. The group came to agreement on a general statement about balancing land uses. Next steps for the Select Board are to read the new sections on Forest Fragmentation and Flood Resilience as well as the Goals and Implementation section. Select Board members are then to send their questions in writing to Planning Commission Chair Conor Stinson by May 9. Conor S. will attend the next meeting of the Select Board on May 16. The Select Board will hold their hearing on the Town Plan on June 6 before the regular meeting. The hearing needs to be warned in the May 18 edition of the Addison Independent. Sue J. will find out the deadline for submission. Don B. will inform the Planning Commission and Conservation Commission of this work plan.
- **Salt Shed Project Status** - The target date for demolition by Sean Stearns in May 15. Lussier Barn Builders will be constructing the new shed.

NEW BUSINESS - continued

Open Lawn Mowing Bids

Only one bid was received, in the amount of \$6,400 for the year, from Lawn Cuts for Less. The bid includes the mowing of Pleasant Hill Cemetery, newly added to the list. Sue J. said that Lawn Cuts for Less has done a good job in the mowing of Town properties in Cornwall in previous years. Brian K. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to award the bid to Lawn Cuts for Less. **Motion passed**—3 in favor, 0 opposed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Salt Issue at Town Garage

Don B. reported that there is a new Brownfields Project lead, who is proposing to assist Cornwall by doing a site visit, assessing the extent of the issue with a technical assessment. Years and years of pumping do not seem to be lowering the level of salt in the water. Town officials want to know if there are alternatives to pumping. Stu J. said he may be able to help with the site visit, if Steve is not yet back from leave.

ADJOURNMENT

Brian K MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. ***Motion passed-***
—3 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board