

Approved February 18, 2025

CORNWALL SELECT BOARD

Regular Meeting

Location: via Zoom and at Town Hall

February 4, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tanya Byker, Don Burns, Brian Kemp, John Roberts

ALSO PRESENT: Laura Fetterolf, Nicholas Gill, Morgan Huestis, Sue Johnson

Recording of meeting—announced

The meeting was called to order by the Chair Tanya Byker at 7:00 pm.

QUORUM—established

General Fund and Highway Orders - signed

AGENDA - Brian K. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as distributed. **Motion passed**—4 in favor, 0 opposed.

APPROVE CAPITAL BUDGET LINES FOR THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Don B. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to approve the recommendations of the Capital Committee, and to add the recommended capital budget lines to the General Fund Budget FY 2025-26. **Motion passed**—3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained (John R.).

MINUTES:

• **January 7, 2025**

Brian K. MOVED / Don B. SECONDED a motion approve the revised version of the minutes include the time when the Board came out of Executive Session. January 7, 2025. **Motion passed**—4 in favor, 0 opposed.

• **January 21, 2025**

Don B. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to amend the January 21 minutes to reflect the approval of the recommendations of the Capital Committee. **Motion passed**—3 in favor, 0 opposed 1 abstained (John R.)

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Contract from Civic Plus, the new website company - Tanya will sign. John R. MOVED / Brian K. SECONDED a motion to accept Civic Plus's contract. Tanya added that the Town has used ARPA funds to prepay 4 years of service from Civic Plus to update and maintain the new Town website.
- Subscriber agreement for electronic reporting of water results.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

TOWN CLERK REPORT - Laura Fetterolf

- Website build is beginning, after recent meeting with the project manager. In 18-20 weeks will have something to review and finalize.
- Phone build is also in progress. Laura met with the technician from WCVT. Decisions about attendant message and mailboxes need to be made.
- New bulletin board is fantastic, put up by Morgan and Anthony.
- Town Warning is almost ready for printing by Friday.
- Town Warning newsletter will go out next week.
- Fire extinguishers at Town Garage need to be mounted on the wall.
- Public wi-fi is back up, providing again a Cornwall hot spot in the Town Hall parking lot. Have one year license to operate this one. WCVT will be installing a brand new router that will include a firewalled network for the hot spot, so the use of the hot spot will not affect the speed of internet in the Town Hall. The new router will also include boosters to the library computer.

TOWN TREASURER REPORT - Nicholas Gill

- Account with MNT should be available soon. Paperwork was signed today. There is no minimum for amount in the account. Nicholas suggests \$500,000 to start.

ROAD COMMISSIONER REPORT - Brian Kemp and Morgan Huestis

- The second quote for repairs to the truck chains on the shared excavator has been received, coming in lower than the first quote. Winmill has quoted \$4,200 for parts, or \$7,400 with labor. Morgan feels that road crew can do the labor, especially if Shoreham crew can assist.
- Fire extinguishers were inspected yesterday.
- Grant funded dangerous tree cutting work is done - finishing up with the paperwork now.
- Paving grants can now be applied for. Brian will follow up to identify potential roads.
- Changed all the exit signs batteries in both buildings.
- New billboard is up.
- State is giving away box culverts (6'x6'x6'). Morgan applied for 10. Waiting to hear official word. Will need transportation to get them here.
- Brian K. got a call from Chris Bagley, who found that \$300 more repairs are needed on the generator. Brian approved this additional work.

OLD BUSINESS

- **FY24 Surplus/Deficit Discussion** - FY 2024 deficit of \$150,000 expected, and probably another deficit in FY2025. This is a cash flow situation because of the impact of ARPA funds in 2022-2023. This deficit will not affect taxes but a clear explanation needs to be given. The deficit will show up on the balance sheet. Nicholas said by 2026, it will all be resolved, and added that the Town is in good shape. Everyone agreed that this information should be included in the Town Warning newsletter, so that everyone in Cornwall will be informed. Nicholas and Tanya will draft something for the newsletter

and will get it to Laura by Thursday. All agreed that during Town Meeting, a motion should be made to NOT add the deficit to the taxes, so it is absolutely clear to the voters.

NEW BUSINESS - none

OTHER BUSINESS

- John R. as the ethics liaison, is going to a training. Laura added that there is also an Open Meeting law training that everyone needs to take.
- Brian said that Todd Eaton from the Agency of Transportation has met with Morgan and also wants to meet together with members of the Select Board and Morgan about work flow issues.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the Select Board