

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Tuesday, November 3, 2020
7:30 p.m. – Remotely via Zoom

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway; Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey; Selectman Priscilla Pavel; Five Members of the Public

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

MINUTES: Selectman Priscilla Pavel moved to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway moved to add Christmas in West Cornwall to the agenda. Selectman Priscilla Pavel seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway provided an update on Covid-19. Covid infection rates are up in Connecticut. First Selectman Ridgway asked people to be cautious as things move back inside this time of year. There were two active cases reported in Cornwall after several months without new reported cases in town. The Cornwall Covid Group continues to meet each week. First Selectman Ridgway also reported that voting was going well at CCS.

ALLEN CEMETERY: First Selectman Ridgway reported that the Town crew did an excellent job clearing the overgrowth. They are also installing a new fence that is similar to the previous fence at the Allen Cemetery. Allen Cemetery is the final resting place of Joseph Allen, father of Ira and Ethan Allen. First Selectman Ridgway also noted that Veterans Day is coming up and discussed the Monument at the cemetery which credits Ethan Allen and his four brothers as having helped capture Fort Ticonderoga. First Selectman Ridgway commented that it was important to recognize Cornwall Veterans, and expounded on the achievement at Fort Ticonderoga and what that meant to the American Revolution.

CORNWALL BRIDGE CHRISTMAS TREE: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway announced that although there will be no caroling or hot chocolate party this year due to Covid-19, the Christmas Tree at Cornwall Bridge will be lit.

CHRISTINE GRAY, PLANNING AND ZONING ALTERNATE: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway moved to appoint Christine Gray to the Cornwall Planning and Zoning Commission as an alternate. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

TRANSFER STATION REQUESTS FROM OUT OF TOWN: The Board discussed requests from Sharon, CT residents to use the Cornwall Transfer Station. Each member of the Board of Selectmen concurred not to open up the transfer station to non-Cornwall residents.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM RESOLUTION: The Board of Selectmen considered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Cornwall Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the **State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security** any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Gordon Ridgway, as First Selectman of Cornwall, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Cornwall Board of Selectmen and to do and perform all acts and things which he/she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Selectman Priscilla Pavel moved to approve the resolution. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

CHRISTMAS IN WEST CORNWALL: The Board of Selectmen discussed efforts by Bill McClane to organize plans to decorate windows in West Cornwall Village for Christmas. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey reported on the plan to have Cornwall artists decorate 12 different windows located in West Cornwall Village: the “12 Windows of Christmas”. She also discussed a potential scavenger hunt that would be Covid safe for kids and adults. Bianca Griggs of the Wish House in West Cornwall commented that, in addition to the 12 windows, there would be lights put up in West Cornwall Village after Thanksgiving. The Board agreed it would be good to have West Cornwall lit for Christmas.

TAX REFUNDS: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway moved to grant a tax refund of approximately \$22.00 for overpayment of motor vehicle tax. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey moved to adjourn. Selectman Priscilla Pavel seconded, and the motion unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Berry
Administrative Assistant
Town of Cornwall