

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

Tuesday, January 19, 2021  
7:30 p.m. – Remotely via Zoom

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway; Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey; Selectman Priscilla Pavel; Ten Members of the Public; One Member of the Press.

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

MINUTES: Selectman Priscilla Pavel moved to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Richard Griggs thanked Cornwall DPW Foreman Jim Vanicky for getting the Rattlesnake Rd sign up.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway provided an update on the Covid-19 Pandemic: First, Covid-19 vaccination information is up on the website. Next, special thanks to Park and Rec. Directory Jen Markow for helping Cornwall residents age 75 and up register with the State to schedule Covid-19 vaccinations.

HIGHWAY BUDGET: The Board of Selectmen discussed the 2021 – 2022 Highway Budget with DPW / Highway Foreman Jim Vanicky. First Selectman Gordon Ridgway moved to hire “Supreme Forrest” to remove the brush at the brush-dump for \$23,000. (A burn permit from the State was denied.) Selectman Priscilla Pavel seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

COUNCIL OF SMALL TOWNS REPORT: First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway provided an update on the recent Council of Small Towns Annual Meeting. Topics included - 1) Governor Lamont had discussed potentially requiring telecom companies to upgrade their infrastructure in small towns. 2) FEMA reimbursement for Isaias continues. 3) DEEP Household Waste. 4) Increase in projected State revenue. 5) Senator Blumenthal is optimistic that Covid-19 aid will be forthcoming from the Federal Government.

APPOINTMENTS: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway appointed Jill Cutler to the Cornwall Housing Task Force.

FARM YARD ANIMALS: The Cornwall Association has currently withdrawn their proposal to erect wooden barnyard animal art at the Transfer Station. Selectman Priscilla Pavel noted that new ideas are being developed by the Cornwall Association.

SYDNEY KAYE FUND: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway discussed Cornwall Finance Director Barbara Herbst’s recommendation to roll the Sydney Kaye Fund into the Cornwall Endowment Fund which has been a more profitable fund.

CORNWALL BRIDGE TRAFFIC PLAN: The Board of Selectmen discussed a proposed traffic plan for the intersection of Route 4 and Route 7 in Cornwall Bridge. First Selectman Ridgway noted that the Board would keep this agenda item open and solicit public comment on the proposed changes.

MORE BUDGET ITEMS: The Board of Selectmen discussed the Budget Meeting Schedule and considered scheduling a Special Board of Selectmen meeting in February.

TAX REFUND REQUEST: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway moved to refund \$29.63 to a taxpayer for overpayment of real estate tax. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were several comments by members of the public, including comments on: Rocco Botto's Cornwall Website presentation; the proposed budget draft; the Sydney Kaye Fund; the proposed changes to the Route 4 Route 7 intersection in Cornwall Bridge; and, Covid vaccine availability for residents age 75 and over.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Berry  
Administrative Assistant  
Town of Cornwall