

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

Tuesday, April 20, 2021
7:30 p.m. – Remotely via Zoom

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway; Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey; Selectman Priscilla Pavel; Cornwall Bridge Expert Roger Kane; two members of the press; twenty members of the public.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

MINUTES: Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey moved to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Priscilla Pavel seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

COMMUNICATIONS: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway reported that the annual High School referendum will be held on May 4th, 2021 at the Town Hall.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway provided an update on the Covid-19 Pandemic. Efforts are ongoing to provide Covid-19 vaccinations. Also, food scarcity continues in Cornwall for those in need. First Selectman Ridgway expressed gratitude to Social Service Director Heather Dinneen and the volunteers who help keep the Food Pantry running each week.

MEMORIAL DAY SCHEDULE: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway discussed the Memorial Day schedule. A firetruck parade will begin at 9:30 AM from the North Cornwall Cemetery and then proceed as follows: 9:45 AM- Cornwall Hollow Cemetery; 10:00 AM – West Cornwall; 10:30 AM – Cornwall Bridge; and 11:00 AM – Cornwall Village where Taps will be played and the Honor Roll will take place.

TOWN MEETING APRIL 23RD: The Board of Selectmen discussed the Town Meeting scheduled for April 23rd - 7:30 PM. Items on the Town Meeting Call are 1) Reviewing the 2019/2020 Town Report; 2) The Five-year Capital Plan; 3) Proposed sale of the old firehouse lot in West Cornwall Village; 4) Proposed closing of the Sydney Kaye Fund and transfer to the Endowment Fund. The Budget Hearing will follow immediately after the Town Meeting.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway provided an update on the American Rescue Plan Funding which is approximately \$100,000. The Town can use the funds to pay for expenses incurred due to the pandemic as well as infrastructure projects and Covid recovery projects. There is also potential funding for Non-profits affected by the pandemic.

CORNWALL BRIDGE TRAFFIC STUDY: The Board of Selectmen discussed the Cornwall Bridge Traffic Forum held via zoom on April 12.

BRIDGES, SUMMER – SCOPE OF WORK: The Board of Selectmen and Bridge Consultant Roger Kane discussed the scope of work for repairs to 4 bridges: One on West Rd; Two on Popple Swamp Rd; and One on Music Mountain Rd. First Selectman Ridgway noted that the work would address scouring issues, wingwall masonry, as well as waterproofing membranes on two of the bridges. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey moved to proceed with Hammonasset Construction

regarding the repair work on the 4 bridges. Selectman Priscilla Pavel seconded, and the motion unanimously passed. The guiderail on the Cogswell Rd. Bridge was also discussed.

HOUSING FORUM MAY 24TH: The Housing Forum is scheduled for May 24th at 7:00 PM. First Selectman Gordon Ridgway explained the Town is required by the State to come up with a housing plan. First Selectman Ridgway also noted that the Town is looking to receive community input on the subject.

CYBER SECURITY QUOTE: First Selectman Ridgway reported that the Town has requested a quote from CIRMA and is waiting to receive that quote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were several public comments regarding the Northwest Hills Council of Governments, and also about the guiderail on the Cogswell Road Bridge.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Berry
Administrative Assistant
Town of Cornwall