

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

Tuesday, February 2, 2021
7:30 p.m. – Remotely via Zoom

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway; Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey; Selectman Priscilla Pavel; Ten Members of the Public; Two Members 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 19, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Joanne Wojtusiak asked if the Board of Selectman can post all of the Town Ordinances in one place on www.cornwallct.org.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway provided an update on the Covid-19 Pandemic: 140 Cornwall Residents have received their first Covid Vaccine dose. Huge thanks to Park and Rec Director Jen Markow for helping eligible residents register for Covid vaccine appointments. Also, the Cornwall Covid Group continues to meet each Wednesday, and Covid vaccine appointment info is up on the website.

NEW ZOOM MEETING PROCEDURES: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway reported that last Wednesday the Housing Task Force zoom meeting was interrupted by a group of unidentified individuals making obscene comments. The incident was reported to Connecticut State Police. Recommendations from I.T. professionals have been implemented in order to prevent a re-occurrence. First Selectman Ridgway also noted that he spoke with the Connecticut Freedom of Information office regarding the new Zoom procedures.

CORNWALL BRIDGE TRAFFIC PLANNING: The Board of Selectmen discussed a traffic planning proposal for the intersection of Route 4 and Route 7 in Cornwall Bridge. The Board has received some feedback from the public including comments from several Cornwall Bridge business and Cornwall residents. The Board noted that it will continue to accept public comment on the traffic proposal.

WEST CORNWALL FIREHOUSE LOT: The Board of Selectmen discussed the potential sale of the "Firehouse Lot" located in West Cornwall Village. The new owner of the Farnsworth Bookstore has expressed an interest in purchasing the lot from the Town. First Selectman Gordon Ridgway moved to put the proposed Firehouse Lot sale on the agenda for a Town Meeting in April. Selectman Priscilla Pavel seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

TOWN PLAN UPDATE FEBRUARY 4th: The Board of Selectmen discussed the upcoming Planning and Zoning - Town Plan Update Meeting scheduled for February 4, 2021.

BUDGET ITEMS: The Board of Selectmen discussed the 2021' – 2022' Budget draft. First Selectman Ridgway covered points on each section of the draft as well as capital projects.

TAX REFUND REQUESTS: The Board received several requests for tax refunds all due to overpayments. First Selectman Gordon Ridgway moved to grant the tax refund requests. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board of Selectmen heard several public comments. Topics included: Town employee salaries; the new Zoom protocols aimed at preventing egregious, harmful intrusions; and, the intersection of Route 4 and Route 7 in Cornwall Bridge.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Berry
Administrative Assistant
Town of Cornwall