

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 - 7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, Selectman Richard Bramley, Selectman Heidi Kearns, Highway Foreman Jim Vanicky, two citizens, one reporter

First Selectman Ridgway called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

MINUTES: Selectman Bramley made the motion to approve the minutes of April 4 and April 12, 2017 as presented. Selectman Kearns seconded. Selectman Kearns requested, concerning the April 4 minutes, under topic THE BEND of adding “or neither” and changing lease to “licensing” to make sentence read: “The Board discussed options and scenarios of licensing or purchase or neither of the property.” Minutes with corrections passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway presented items to add to the agenda: Report from NHCOC, Report from COST; Selectman Kearns had an item to add: Grange Trust Fund Request for Cornwall Farm Market. Selectman Kearns made the motion to add to the agenda NHCOC, COST, Grange Trust Fund Request. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: First Selectman Ridgway reminds everyone the Budget Hearing will be April 21, this Friday, 7:30 p.m. at CCS. Copies of the Budget are available at the post offices, Town Hall and on line.

Selectman Kearns inquired about a letter received by the Board concerning unregistered vehicles on Smith Place. First Selectman Ridgway informed the Board of his reply.

Selectman Kearns inquired about a letter received concerning the planter boxes at the Library and the need to move them to the school. The Board discussed how and when this may be done.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Citizen present thanked the Board for a job well done by the highway crew in resurfacing the road by her house in Cornwall Bridge.

TOWN PICK UP/HIGHWAY REPORT: Highway Foreman Jim Vanicky reported the road resurfacing in Cornwall Bridge area is done and sweeping is on track. The Board discussed the job and sweeping.

First Selectman Ridgway reported on the condition of the highway pickup truck and work done to find replacement. The Board reviewed a quote Mr. Vanicky had procured for a new truck. The Board reviewed and discussed the quote and where funds may be obtained. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to transfer \$15,500 from Capital Road Improvements 02-49-92815 to Capital Highway truck 02-90091715 for the pickup truck. Selectman Kearns seconded. Motion passed unanimously. There was further discussion of cost and fleet discount. The Board signed the transfer authorization.

First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to accept the quote from Litchfield Ford for \$23,743 for a new F250 4x pickup truck and to authorize Mr. Vanicky to secure the purchase after receiving permission from the Board of Finance. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2017 BRIDGE PROGRAM: First Selectman Ridgway reported to the Board he and Mr. Kane had met with the company Towne & Aurell last week and signed a contract for the purchase of a precast bridge replacement for Flat Rocks Road bridge and he has signed documents for the loan. The Board discussed this.

CAPITAL PROJECTS REVIEW: The Board reviewed the current status of capital projects and discussed work that needs to be done on town buildings. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to transfer \$10,000 from Capital Town Clerk LoCIP 02-49092315 to Capital Town Buildings 02-49092415 and to transfer \$5,000 from Capital Reval 02-49095115 to Capital Transfer Station Buildings 02-49092015. Selectman Kearns seconded. There was discussion. Motion passed unanimously. The Board signed the transfer authorizations.

BEACH DIRECTOR: The Board reviewed and discussed a draft of the job description for beach director. The Board discussed the job requirements, salary, options of additional hours as life guard substitute and Water Safety Instructor, posting of job and timetable for interviews. It is the consensus of the Board to set the salary at \$7,000.

WEST CORNWALL COVERED BRIDGE: First Selectman Ridgway reported to the Board on his discussion with the Department of Transportation the scheduling of the rehabilitation work to be done on the Covered Bridge. The Board discussed this. Presently looking at August of 2018.

CORNWALL BRIDGE VISITOR KIOSK: First Selectman Ridgway reported on a request from the Economic Development Commission for a kiosk in Cornwall Bridge at the picnic area of the market and reported there are funds in the Main Street program. The Board discussed this and need for Town Meeting authorization. Selectman Kearns inquired if this would take away from the proposed crosswalk. The Board discussed this.

Selectman Kearns made the motion to request from the Board of Finance \$4000 to go to Town Meeting in May to do the kiosk in Cornwall Bridge with the understanding this would be reimbursed by Main Street grant. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

SUSPENSE TAX LIST: First Selectman Ridgway reported to the Board on the receipt of the Suspense Tax List from the Tax Collector. The Board discussed the purpose of the list. No action was needed.

TAX REFUND: The Board reviewed a tax refund request. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to refund, upon the recommendation of the Tax Collector, \$379.41 to USB Leasing Lt due to the end of a motor vehicle lease. Selectman Kearns seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COST: First Selectman Ridgway reported on a Council of Small Towns meeting where he learned of a mental health first aid course. The Board discussed this and perhaps offering the course in town.

NHCOG: First Selectman Ridgway reported on a meeting of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments where reports from legislators were received on what is going on in Hartford. The Board discussed some of the reports, in particular the Education Cost Sharing and the shifting of the Teacher Pension costs to the towns and the impacts these will have on Town finances.

GRANGE TRUST FUND REQUEST: Selectman Kearns reported to the Board she had received a reply from the Cornwall Grange Trust Fund Advisory Committee to her questions. Selectman Kearns feels the request is appropriate to fund. She will send a report to the Finance Director to release the funds requested.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board received public comment from citizen present concerning the amount anticipated to budget the teacher pensions per state actions and answered questions from the press.

BILLS and BANK RECONCILIATIONS were done in the usual manner.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Hart, Administrative Assistant