

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, August 20, 2019 - 7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, Selectman Richard Bramley, Selectman Priscilla Pavel, Project Manager Roger Kane, three citizens, one reporter

First Selectman Ridgway called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES: Selectman Pavel made the motion to approve the minutes of August 6, 2019 as presented. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to add to the agenda Parking Signs in West Cornwall. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: First Selectman Ridgway conveyed the Board had received several communications.

Joanne Wojtusiak wrote requesting from the Board a timeline for when Eversource would be forthcoming with a landscaping plan and when will the vines in the evergreen tree on the Cornwall Bridge green be removed. The vines have been removed.

Hector Prud'homme wrote expressing his concern about the traffic conditions in Cornwall Bridge. The Board discussed the traffic flow through Cornwall Bridge, the speed of the drivers, the configuration of the roads around the green, where accidents occur most in town – on roads away from intersections and what may be done to prevent accidents. The roads are state roads under state jurisdiction.

Brian Savin wrote requesting the transfer station be opened at 8:00 on the days it is open. The Board discussed this, the additional cost to the town, the need for the additional hour, what the busy times may be and what other towns offer. The consensus of the Board is to consider this request next budget season and to meanwhile ask for input from the transfer station workers on when peak hours/days are.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board received comments from Mr. Prud'homme concerning the traffic through Cornwall Bridge.

CULVERT BIDS: Mr. Kane reported to the Board he had reviewed the two bids received for the culvert work on Cream Hill Road and Lake Road: \$321,000 from Dayton Construction, \$163,400 from Towne & Aurell. Mr. Kane reported he has spoken with Mr. Towne and is confident Mr. Towne understands the scope of the project. Mr. Kane presented to the Board a bid comparison report. Mr. Kane recommended the Board accept the bid from Towne and Aurell. Mr. Kane discussed with the Board the Notice to Proceed date and pipes that need to be purchased for the project. Selectman Bramley made the motion to accept the Towne and Aurell

bid to repair and replace culverts on Cream Hill Road and Lake Road for \$163,400 as specified in the bid and to authorize First Selectman Ridgway to sign all contracts and documents needed for the project and to purchase three eight foot sections of pipe from the town of Bethlehem for \$3,000 and to purchase eight 72 inch pipe from Target. Selectman Pavel seconded. The Board discussed the time table, detours/road closure and school bus schedule. Motion passed unanimously.

LT. GOVERNOR VISIT: First Selectman Ridgway informed the Board of the Lt. Governor's visit to Cornwall August 12 to meet with area First Selectmen and Mayors. Prior to the meeting Lt. Governor Bysiewicz met with owners of North East Builders in Cornwall Bridge and afterwards toured West Cornwall village with First Selectman Ridgway. Lt. Governor Bysiewicz appreciated touring the town and learning what the issues are for small villages.

EVERSOURCE LANDSCAPE PLANS: First Selectman Ridgway reported he had received a landscaping plan from Eversource for the screening of the substation on the corner of routes 4 and 128. The Board reviewed and discussed the plan. First Selectman Ridgway will reply to Mr. Silver the Board endorses the plan submitted and will ask him to proceed with planting when their arborist feels appropriate. The Board received inquiry as to the whether the plan submitted is adequate.

NEW BUSINESS IN WEST CORNWALL: First Selectman Ridgway informed the board a new business has secured a lease from Mr. Sawicki for the downstairs of the Wandering Moose to establish an electric bicycle rental shop. The Board discussed this new venture.

ROTARY SCHOLARSHIPS: First Selectman Ridgway informed the Board he had attended a Rotary meeting. The organization had awarded a grant to the Cornwall Child Center. First Selectman Ridgway acknowledge a variety of local organizations that award scholarships to Cornwall youth.

CIVIL WAR MONUMENT: First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on the progress of Spencer Markow's project of a Civil War Memorial in the area of Sedgwick's Monument. First Selectman Ridgway inquired of the Board as to possible dedication date and whether to invite Civil War re-enactors. The Board discussed and suggested October 5 as a possible date and it would be very nice to have re-enactors.

PARKING SIGNS IN WEST CORNWALL: First Selectman Ridgway reported that signs have been ordered and received to direct parking in the West Cornwall village to the Bend area. They should be up soon.

TAX REFUND: The Board reviewed a request for tax refund. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to grant, upon the request of the Tax Collector, \$90.99 to VW Credit Leasing Ltd for overpayment of motor vehicle tax. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board received comment concerning the landscape plan for the substation and a request to be more aggressive in requesting native plants to be used and sufficient quantity to hide the station.

BILLS and BANK RECONCILIATIONS were done in the usual manner.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Hart, Administrative Assistant