

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, August 22, 2017

7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, Selectman Bramley, Selectman Heidi Kearns, three citizens, one reporter

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

MINUTES: Selectman Kearns made the motion to approve the minutes of August 22, 2017 as presented. Selectman Bramley seconded. Selectman Kearns made a correction under KIOSK CORNWALL BRIDGE, correction on the motion made of Cornwall Miller to Cornwall Millwork. Motion with correction passed unanimously.

COMMENTS: There were no comments pertinent to the agenda from those present.

COMMUNICATIONS: A citizen inquired concerning the West Cornwall Visitor Center agenda item, if her previous suggestion of placing stanchions in front of the now closed Wandering Moose to invite people to park there rather than discourage visitors with the no parking signs.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND TOWN FUND BALANCES: First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on the Governor's new proposal which would cut to zero for half the towns in the state education aid and the state's request for the towns to report their fund balance. The Board discussed this and the impact on towns, and why some towns lost all funding while others did not lose any, why the state is requesting town fund balances and the situation of the lack of a state budget. First Selectman Ridgway will continue to stay in touch with the state representatives.

NWCONNECT/FIBER OPTICS: First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on a meeting with NWConneCT Project Coordinator Felicia Jones and the plan to bring fiber optics to the area. The Board discussed this and the benefits this would bring to Cornwall.

CORNWALL YOUTH INITIATIVE: First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on the work the summer intern, Dean Saccardi, has done on researching the lack of youth in Cornwall and what may be done to encourage young people to live in the area.

WEST CORNWALL VISITOR CENTER: First Selectman reported on an e-mail received concerning the lack of a visitor center in West Cornwall. The Board discussed the sign on route 7 indicating information in West Cornwall, what information is available at businesses in the village, the plans for the West Cornwall library to be open for visitors and the possible soon re-opening of the Wandering Moose space as a new restaurant.

**HARTFORD COURANT JUNK MAIL:** First Selectman Ridgway reported on the efforts made on behalf of the town to discourage flyers being lobbed into people's driveways by the Hartford Courant. Complaints from citizens have been received in the office. The Board discussed the situation. First Selectman Ridgway asked for and received the Board's support to continue his efforts to shut down this activity.

**TAX REFUNDS:** The Board reviewed requests received for tax refunds. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to grant, upon the recommendation of the Tax Collector, \$20.33 to Ralph Dzenutis, \$6.59 to Sally Hart, \$42.14 to Doug Weier, \$12.04 to Anne Scott for overpayments of motor vehicle tax. Selectman Kearns seconded. There was discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM:** The Board discussed the Prescription Drug Program offered by Connecticut Conference of Municipalities for discounts off scripts. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to pursue the CCM drug program, get the cards for citizens and pursue distribution. Selectman Kearns seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**SENIOR VANS:** First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on the ridership program with the joint Goshen/Cornwall van. The Board discussed the rider use, the cost per trip as compared to the GEER Dial-a-Ride and adjustments that may need to be considered and whether Goshen can continue with the program without Cornwall's support.

**RAIN BOMB:** First Selectman Ridgway reported on the rain bomb of August 2, 2017 where concentrated amounts of rain fell in the area of Cornwall Village, washing out route 125 and many driveways. Four to five inches were reported while West Cornwall village and North Cornwall reports were an inch. The Board discussed the damage/repairs made and the unusual weather patterns that are happening and how this impacts the town.

**PAINTING TOWN BUILDINGS:** First Selectman Ridgway reported on town buildings that need painting and repair: Transfer Station buildings, Foote Field pavilion, town office buildings, town garage and the West Cornwall firehouse. The Board discussed what needs to be done. First Selectman Ridgway will get estimates for the work.

**COMMENTS:** The Board received and answered questions from the press concerning agenda items NWConneCT and the Hartford Courant junk mail.

**BILLS** were paid and **BANK RECONCILIATIONS** were done in the usual manner.

Selectman Kearns made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Hart, Administration Assistant