

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, August 7, 2018 - 7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, Selectman Richard Bramley, Selectman Priscilla Pavel, one citizen, one reporter

First Selectman Ridgway called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

MINUTES: Selectman Pavel made the motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2018 as presented. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Selectman Pavel made the motion to add to the agenda Cornwall Consolidated School and First Selectman Ridgway's addition of Water Testing. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: First Selectman Ridgway reported of a communication received from the State of the Foster House, 417 Sharon Goshen Tpke, addition to the State Historical Registry.

First Selectman Ridgway announced he has a free high chair left from the Rummage Sale available to any who need one here in the office.

First Selectman Ridgway announced there are several Cornwall young baseball players participating in the Babe Ruth championship as part of a region one team, game in progress this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no comments.

TOWN MEETING CALL: First Selectman Ridgway announced there will be a town meeting on August 24 for the purpose of executing a license agreement with Eversource for the public use of property on Lower River Road known as the Bend. The Board reviewed and discussed the call, the time line and what needs to be done. Selectman Bramley made the motion to sign the Call to Special Town Meeting for August 24 for the purposes of authorizing the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease agreement with Eversource and sign the Return of Notice. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

WEST CORNWALL BRIDGE CLOSURE: First Selectman Ridgway reported there has been chatter about town about the closure date for the Covered Bridge. The date is on track for the day after Labor Day and open a month later, September 4 to October 4. Mohawk Northeast, the contractor, is ready to go. Detour signs will go up two weeks before closure.

Selectman Pavel reported the Cornwall Association and Cornwall Foundation is planning on having a breakfast at Pearly's, by the bridge, on September 29, whether bridge is open or not, in celebration of the new bridge. Everyone is invited.

SENIOR BUSES: First Selectman Ridgway reported on the Goshen Cornwall van. Cornwall is using the van 2/3 of the time, more than Goshen. The grant calls for equal use. Cornwall may have to increase its contribution. First Selectman Ridgway is encouraging citizens to use the GEER bus more, which is also available and part of town budget. The Board discussed this, funding, use and coordination of destinations.

CCM DISCOUNT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM: First Selectman Ridgway reported on the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities Prescription Drug Program which Cornwall will be participating in. Cards and information will be coming in the mail to citizens in September. Using this card will save citizens on costs of prescription drugs, dental, eye glasses and some pet prescriptions.

RESILIENT/SUSTAINABLE CONNECTICUT: Selectman Pavel reported on a meeting sponsored by Northwest Hills Council of Governments which she attended about resilience and sustainability in Connecticut.

CRICKET VALLEY: Selectman Pavel reported on a meeting she attended in Kent concerning the Cricket Valley power plant being built in Dover, New York and its impact on pollution issues in Connecticut. The Board discussed the impact, present monitoring of air pollution and additional monitoring.

SUMMER HIGHWAY WORK: First Selectman Ridgway reported on the work to be done on Ballyhack Road and Mohawk Mountain Road (aka Allyn Road) the week of August 20; the two bridges of Smith Place and Gravel Bank bridges which will have work done mid-September; the highway crew is starting to do screening for next winter's sand supply.

TAX REFUNDS: The Board reviewed three requests for tax refunds. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to grant three tax refunds: \$53.85 to Curtis W. And Onwarin Y. Hanson, \$8.62 to Cornwall Plumbing Heating LLC, \$30.58 to Yoshihiro and Rachel Matsudaira for vehicles removed from the tax rolls. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

DELINQUENT TAXES: First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to move to the end of the agenda delinquent taxes as the Board will need to go into executive session. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

WATER TESTING: First Selectman Ridgway reported he had received correspondence concerning why water testing was going on at the farm market last Saturday. The Connecticut Department of Public Health, Private Well Program had requested from the Co-op Farm Market space to promote education and outreach on private well water and to offer free kits to test for arsenic and uranium. They were looking for more data in the Cornwall area. They were granted permission by the Co-op and they were there last Saturday.

CORNWALL CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL: Selectman Pavel reported she had received an email from the principal about the After School Care Program. She was impressed by what the program does. Next year there will be seven students paying tuition to attend CCS. Selectman Pavel credits this to Janet Sanders' promotion of the school on social media.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Citizen present inquired if the town could buy air monitoring devices to measure the air quality before the Cricket Valley plant becomes operational. The Board discussed this.

Next Tuesday the Selectman's office and the Finance office will be closed for the polls and the primary vote to take place.

BILLS were paid in the usual manner.

DELINQUENT TAXES: Selectman Bramley made the motion to go into executive session to discuss delinquent taxes. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Board went into executive session at 8:07 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:27 p.m.

Selectman Pavel made the motion the town hire Attorney Robert V. Eberhard to assist in the collecting of taxes owed to the Town of Cornwall. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Hart, Administrative Assistant