

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 - 7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, Selectman Richard Bramley, Bart Jones – President Cornwall Conservation trust, seven citizens, one reporter

First Selectman Ridgway called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. First Selectman Ridgway announced Selectman Pavel will not be joining tonight due to hurting her foot. He sends a wish for a speedy recovery.

MINUTES: Selectman Bramley made the motion to approve the minutes of January 16, January 29 and February 5, 2018 as presented. First Selectman Ridgway seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to add to the agenda Spring Oiling Quote, Beavers in Cream Hill Pond, Tax Refunds. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

CORNWALL CONSERVATION TRUST PARCEL off ROUTE 4: First Selectman welcomed Bart Jones of the CCT. Mr. Jones introduced himself as President of the CCT and thanked the Board for their past support of CCT acquisition of properties in Cornwall. Mr. Jones presented a map of a present opportunity and reasons to pursue this. He then addressed a letter the Board had received from the CCT requesting the Board to reconsider their decision to not send a letter of support for the CCT pursuit of a state grant to purchase 104 acres on Furnace Brook in Cornwall. The Board discussed this with Mr. Jones and expressed their thoughts. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to support the Cornwall Conservation Trust grant application for the conservation of 104 acres off route 4 in the context of the letter received for today's meeting. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizen present spoke to the support of this acquisition.

CORNWALL AGAINST TOBACCO: First Selectman Ridgway presented to the Board a packet of letters he had received from the Cornwall Against Tobacco Club at the Cornwall Consolidated School which requests the Board to consider No Smoking signs at the town's park and recreation places. The Board reviewed the letters and discussed this. Selectman Bramley expressed he would like some time to think about this. There is presently town regulation which doesn't allow smoking in park areas. First Selectman Ridgway will be meeting with the club.

**OIL TANK:** First Selectman Ridgway announced the oil tank in Cornwall Bridge on River Road under the cement bridge is being demolished this week. Selectman Bramley reported the work had begun this morning and updated the Board on his observations.

**WEST CORNWALL FIREHOUSE:** First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on the progress of work being done at the West Cornwall firehouse. The committee has met with an architect, progress is going forward for bids for the insulating of the roofs, electrical and carpentry work. The Board reviewed the floor plan and discussed the project.

**BUDGET:** The Board reviewed an updated draft of the 2018-2019 Budget, discussing the operating budget, capital, bonds and bond interest and salaries. Selectman Bramley made the motion the Board send this draft budget to the Board of Finance so they can start to finalize the budget. First Selectman Ridgway seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**APPOINTMENTS:** The Board acknowledged there are vacancies on various town boards and commissions. There are not many volunteers to serve. The Board will try to solicit letters for consideration.

**SPRING OILING QUOTE:** The Board discussed a quote for spring sealing on roads in East Cornwall area to be done before May 1. No action taken.

**BEAVERS IN CREAM HILL POND:** First Selectman Ridgway presented a letter received from Bianka Griggs requesting the Town to participate in the costs of trapping beavers on Cream Hill Lake. The Board discussed the letter and the beaver situation on the lake. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to contribute \$250 to the trapping of beavers on Cream Hill Lake. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**TAX REFUNDS:** The Board reviewed requests for tax refunds. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to grant four requests totaling \$11,640.43: \$30.00 to Stephen and Jane Garmey for overpayment of Real Estate tax, \$11.28 to Rod Macneil/JRM Mechanical for duplicate payment of personal property tax, \$6,055.48 to Chase for duplicate payment of real estate tax, \$5,543.67 to CitiMortgage for duplicate payment of real estate tax. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to grant tax refund requests for \$1,561.22 to Salisbury Bank & Trust for duplicate payment of real estate tax and \$44.33 to Hyundai Lease Titling Trust for overpayment of motor vehicle tax. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Board answered questions from the press and received a comment about the West Cornwall Firehouse energy. Roger Kane arrived and updated the Board on the progress of bridge work on Smith Place and the Gravel Bank. Projects are moving along.

**BILLS** were paid in the usual manner.

TRANSFER STATION PERSONNEL: First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to go into executive session to discuss transfer station personnel. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Board went into executive session at 8:40 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:50 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joyce Hart, Administrative Assistant