

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 - 7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, Selectman Richard Bramley, Selectman Heidi Kearns, Land Use Administrator Karen Nelson, seven citizens, one reporter

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

MINUTES: Selectman Bramley made the motion to approve the minutes of March 7, 2017 as presented. Selectman Kearns seconded. Selectman Kearns had some corrections of the minutes: misspelling of Kerns: should be Kearns under communications, under THE BEND the reference to Mr. Stromolo's report as a Phase 1 report, should be noted as a "letter of opinion", under PUBLIC COMMENTS, the addition of Judy's last name to Judy Herkimer's. Minutes as corrected were passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway had some additions to add to the agenda: West Cornwall Firehouse Update, Conservation Commission Website, Beach Director Job, 8-24 Referral to Planning and Zoning for the Bridge Funding Town Meeting and Ben Gray Letter concerning snow plowing. Selectman Kearns made the motion to add these items to the agenda. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: Selectman Kearns read in a newspaper concerning state requirement to remove underground fuel tanks and inquired if the town had any. The Board discussed those the town had.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WEBSITE: First Selectman Ridgway welcomed Margie Purnell who came to speak to the Board and answer questions concerning the town Conservation Commission putting up a website. The Board and Ms. Purnell discussed the purpose of a website, link possibilities, costs and ideas.

8-24 REFERRAL: The Board discussed the need for an 8-24 referral to Planning and Zoning for the Town Meeting concerning the funding of the Bridge Rehabilitation plan. The Board discussed this. Selectman Kearns made the motion to authorize First Selectman Ridgway to attend the Planning and Zoning meeting and to request their approval of an 8-24 for the borrowing of the \$1.5 for the Bridge Improvement Program. Selectman Bramley seconded. There was discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

BLIZZARD REPORT: First Selectman Ridgway reported on the impact of the March 14 blizzard which was the biggest of the season with 20" of snow in many areas. First Selectman Ridgway reported the highway crew did a good job in keeping the roads open, the town Emergency Management Director activated the town emergency face book to keep citizens up to date, there were no reported power outages in town. The Board discussed the storm impact.

SYDNEY KAYE FUND REQUEST: The Sydney Kaye Fund Advisory Committee met to review a request received. Upon the decision of the committee, a recommendation was sent to the Board. The Board reviewed and discussed the recommendation and request. Selectman Bramley made the motion to support the recommendation of the Sydney Kaye Fund Advisory

Committee and authorize the transfer of \$500 from the Sydney Kaye Fund to the Cornwall Co-operative Farm Market. First Selectman Ridgway seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

THE BEND: First Selectman Ridgway reported on his meeting with Eversource representative concerning property in West Cornwall. Ideas were exchanged on the possible lease proposal for the Bend project. The Board will discuss town council updates later in the meeting.

BUDGET 2017/2018: First Selectman Ridgway reported on meeting with the Board of Finance concerning the 2017/2018 budget. The Board discussed the budget process, organization support and upcoming budget hearing April 21.

CORNWALL BRIDGE CROSSWALK/MAIN STREET MONEY GRANT: First Selectman Ridgway reported on his discussion with the State Office of Policy and Management concerning the Main Street funding availability and what the money may be used for. The Board discussed the Crosswalk project, costs, expenditures and the engineering needed, what other projects may be pursued with the grant funds as an alternate.

WEST CORNWALL FIREHOUSE: First Selectman Ridgway reported the fire department is looking at changes to the West Cornwall firehouse to accommodate the new ambulance which is larger than the previous one. The Board discussed possible alterations that may be done to the building foot plan, the age and condition of the furnace and possible heating changes, pricing. This will be a long term project. The Building Inspector, Fire Marshal and a mason have been consulted.

BEACH DIRECTOR JOB: The Board will review an updated Beach Director job description after which the position will be posted. The Beach Director has resigned. The Board discussed the process.

BEN GRAY LETTER CONCERNING SNOW PLOWING: The Board reviewed and discussed a letter received dated March 15 from a citizen concerning the destruction and removal of markers from snow plowing along his property frontage. The Board discussed the placement of markers in the town right-of-way.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board received public comments and answered questions from those present concerning Roberts Rules of Order, the Bend Project, need for the upcoming Town Meeting, a letter received from HEAL, GEER Dial-a-Ride in the upcoming budget, the Sydney Kaye Fund request, the Conservation Commission web site project.

BILLS and BANK RECONCILIATIONS were done in the usual manner.

THE BEND and DELINQUENT TAXES: First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to go into executive session to talk about the Bend and Delinquent Taxes. Selectman Kearns seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Board went into executive session at 8:52. p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 9:22 p.m.

Selectman Kearns made the motion to authorize First Selectman Ridgway to sign the Forbearance Agreement as drafted this month by Attorney Nolan for delinquent tax issue on Kent Road. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Hart, Administrative Assistant