

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, March 5, 2019 - 7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, Selectman Richard Bramley, Selectman Priscilla Pavel, 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 February 4, 5, and 26, 2019 as presented. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to add to the agenda - Legislation. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: Citizen inquired if there were any budget handouts. First Selectman Ridgway explained the process and the final draft budget will be on the website before the Town Meeting.

Another citizen inquired about the yield sign on route 45. First Selectman Ridgway replied that would be covered under agenda item #3.

SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR SELECTION: The Board had interviewed three qualified candidates last week. Selectman Bramley made the motion to hire Heather Dinneen as Social Services Administrator, upgrading her from the temporary position to permanent position. Selectman Pavel seconded. There was discussion on the quality of candidates and the good job Ms. Dinneen has done as interim. Motion passed unanimously.

CIRMA RATE PROPOSAL: First Selectman Ridgway reported he and Finance Director Herbst had a visit from Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency, the town insurance carrier, concerning the town's insurance history and claims. CIRMA had good years and there will be a slight rate decrease.

YIELD SIGN OF ROUTE 45: First Selectman Ridgway reported he had heard from Connecticut Department of Transportation concerning the request made to change the yield sign to a stop sign at apex of route 7 and route 45 triangle. The Board reviewed and discussed the history of the request for change originating in 2001 and this unexpected response. Selectman Pavel presented a missive she had received concerning the stop sign option. The Board reviewed and discussed this and received comments concerning requesting a different configuration. The consensus of the Board is to accept the actions DOT presented to do rather than change the request.

FALLS VILLAGE POSTAL REVOLT: First Selectman Ridgway reported to the Board he had received an email requesting the Board revisit the issue of changing the postal address for residents in Cornwall Hollow from Falls Village to West Cornwall due to the confusion of the mailing address differing from GPS address. First Selectman Ridgway had met with the Falls

Village postmaster years ago when this issue was first raised. The Board discussed the issue, who is affected, the mail routes and the decision being up to the postal service. First Selectman Ridgway will speak to the postmaster again.

NWCOG ECONOMIC SUMMIT: The Selectmen spoke to their attendance of the Northwest Council of Governments Economic Summit meeting recently. Fiber optic was a topic discussed and First Selectman Ridgway reported he had received concerns from citizen over the health impact of 5G technology.

CORNWALL CHILD CENTER BUDGET: The Board of Selectmen had presented their budget to the Board of Finance. Requests for budget increases was discussed. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to increase the Selectmen's budget request to the Board of Finance by \$5000 for the Cornwall Child Center for the coming budget year. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

WEST CORNWALL SEPTIC LETTER: First Selectman Ridgway had reworked the previous draft of a letter to West Cornwall residents and presented it to the Board. The Board reviewed and discussed the purpose of the letter – to survey citizens in the area that may be served by a septic system to determine who is possibly interested. The Board discussed which addresses this may be sent to. The consensus of the Board was to present the letter to the West Cornwall Water Septic Study Group before their next meeting.

LEGISLATION: First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on state legislation that has been introduced since the Governor's proposed budget and expressed his thoughts and actions taken. The Board discussed the various proposals and their impact on the town.

The Board reviewed and discussed an email received requesting the Board to oppose HR 5273 that would require as of right multi-family zones. First Selectman Ridgway expressed his thoughts and reading of the bill which addresses zones along fixed transit routes which Cornwall has none. The Board discussed this.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Connecticut Economic Resource Center Town Profile 2018 pages for Cornwall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS were received and addressed.

BILLS were paid in the usual manner.

Motion was passed to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Hart, Administrative Assistant