

TOWN OF CORNWALL

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

7:30 p.m. - Town Hall

Minutes

Present: Gordon M. Ridgway, first selectman, Richard Bramley and Priscilla Pavel, selectmen. Roger Kane, consultant. Richard Griggs, videographer.

Selectman Pavel moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of October 1, 2019, and the special meeting of October 8, 2019 as presented. Selectman Bramley seconded and the VOTE to approve was unanimous.

Addition to the agenda: First Selectman Ridgway included a report on a recent meeting of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments as item 7 a.

Communication: Eversource will be installing 5G cable between Canaan, Falls Village and Torrington in order to serve surrounding towns. The work will be done partly using helicopters up and down the Route 7 and 63 corridors. The installation will be complete by the end of the year.

There was no public comment.

1 Civil War Veterans. There will be a special commemoration on Sunday, November 10 at the Sedgwick Monument to dedicate a memorial plaque for the Cornwall men who participated in the Civil War. This is the product of work by Spencer Markow and the Explorations program at CCS. Civil War re-enactors will be invited to participate.

2 Housatonic Railroad spraying. Rep. Maria Horn met with the Board of Selectmen and CT DOT representatives on October 8 to inspect the site of the railroad's summer spraying activities. Since the railroad representatives did not attend, the meeting will be repeated on October 24 at 9 or 9:30 a.m. It was noted that the railroad filed no management plan for its 2019 spraying as required by the DOT.

3 Bridges and Culverts. Roger Kane reported on progress with the Cream Hill Road culvert renovation which is nearly complete. Work will start on

October 21 on the Lake Road bridge. Lake Road itself will be closed to through traffic until Thanksgiving, Kane estimated. Plans for detours were discussed as well as ways to communicate about the closure to drivers. Roger reported that the bridge on Ford Hill Road near the Sedgwick Monument needs specialized repairs which will require engineering support to write specs and seek funding. Federal money is available for this work which may cost as much as \$100,000.

4 West Cornwall Firehouse. A reception is planned on October 20 between noon and 4 p.m. to show townspeople the renovations which have been made. Townspeople interested in volunteering for the fire and/or ambulance services are especially welcome.

5 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). Planning and Zoning (P&Z) will hold a hearing November 12 on the proposed POCD to go into effect in 2020. Gordon commented that one thing missing in the proposal is an evaluation program to track progress on the several issues raised by the plan. He said he would speak to Jocelyn Ayer at NWHCOG about designing a program to establish benchmarks in order to measure changes.

6 Generator Bids. Two bids were received to install a new generator and propane tank at the Cornwall Bridge Firehouse. There was discussion about whether to rent or to buy the tank. Bramley suggested talking with Building Official Paul Prindle about the lease or buy matter.

Pavel moved to accept the bid from Valley View Services for \$10,800. Bramley seconded and the VOTE to approve was unanimous.

7 The Board briefly discussed the **Hawaiian history tour** coming to Cornwall on October 21. The tour is private, but Ridgway will greet the visitors who will hear a talk by State Archeologist Nick Bellantoni about his 1993 exhumation of the body of Henry Opukaih'ia. The Cornwall Historical Society is hosting the visit.

7a. Ridgway reported on the **NWHCOG's** most recent meeting which addressed recycling issues, including developing user fee programs at local transfer stations.

8 Tax Refund. Ridgway moved to approved a tax refund. Pavel seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Bills were paid in the usual manner.

Lisa Lansing Simont, clerk pro tem