

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 - 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 September 3, 2019 as presented. First Selectman Ridgway seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to add to the agenda Invasive Plants at the Town Gravel Bank. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: First Selectman Ridgway reported to the Board the work at the West Cornwall Firehouse is going along very well. The fire department will host an open house on Sunday, October 20 from noon to 4:00 for citizens to come see the renovated firehouse.

First Selectman Ridgway reported plantings have been put in at the substation on route 4 and 128.

First Selectman Ridgway reported there will be several events this fall in New England and in Cornwall commemorating the Hawaiian Mission Bicentennial in New England, including a bus load of Hawaiians who are coming to town to see the area where the Hawaiian missionaries, including Opukahaia went to school.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: The Board discussed and reviewed the call for the Annual Town Meeting of October 25, 2019. There are only two items: to receive reports and adopt the Five Year Capital Plan. The Board signed the call and the return of notice.

FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN: The Board reviewed and discussed a draft of the Five Year Capital Plan. Selectman Bramley made the motion to approve the Capital project funds and move it forward to the Board of Finance. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT: The Board discussed the POCD which is required under state statute to be reviewed every 10 years. First Selectman Ridgway reported on the Planning and Zoning meeting he attended and the time line of public meeting after the POCD draft is presented to the Board of Selectmen. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to have a special Board of Selectmen meeting on September 24 to discuss the drafting of comments from the Board to the Planning and Zoning Commission, here at 7:30 pm. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

RAILROAD SPRAYING: The Board discussed the recent spraying of herbicide along the railroad tracks through West Cornwall, Falls Village and Canaan. First Selectman Ridgway has contacted Representative Maria Horn and the need for a meeting with DOT and the railroad company.

FUEL OIL BIDS: The Board reviewed and discussed two bids received for fuel oil for the town buildings. The firehouse will remain with Goshen Oil. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to stay with Goshen Oil for the fixed price for the firehouse and go with Quinoco for the other three town buildings, Town Hall, Town Offices and Highway Garage. Selectman Bramley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY WORK: First Selectman Ridgway reported on the work of reclaiming and resurfacing of College Street and work to begin on the culvert on Cream Hill Road and the October work on the Lake Road culvert. There will be road closures and detours marked.

CIVIL WAR MONUMENT: First Selectman Ridgway updated the Board on the progress of the Civil War plaque to be mounted by Sedgwick's Monument. November 11, Veteran's Day was considered for a dedication ceremony of the plaque on site to honor the Civil War Vets.

MOHAWK FIVE YEAR PLAN: The Board received and reviewed the Five Year Plan for Mohawk Mountain Ski area.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT: The Board discussed a letter of resignation from the highway department received from Buddy Hurlburt. His last day of work will be this Friday. The Board discussed this and time frame for replacement.

TAX INCENTIVE ORDINANCE: The Board reviewed and discussed a Falls Village ordinance for tax incentives for businesses. The Board discussed whether a similar ordinance would be appropriate for Cornwall, would it fulfill the purpose of attracting new businesses to the village areas, would it be applicable beyond village areas, what would be the requirements and restrictions and what the impact would be on the rest of the town's taxpayers. Further investigation is needed and further inquiries made.

INVASIVE PLANTS AT THE TOWN GRAVEL BANK: The Board discussed the incursion of Japanese Knot Weed at the gravel bank on route 128 and a request that it be sprayed before the weed is spread further around town through gravel use. First Selectman Ridgway made the motion to accept the proposal from Bob Gambino to spray the knotweed in areas of the gravel bank for approximately \$1080 and see how that works out. Selectman Pavel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

BILL PAYMENT and BANK RECONCILIATIONS were done in the usual manner.
Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Hart, Administrative Assistant