

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CORNWALL BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Tuesday, November 2, 2021
7:30 p.m. – Town Hall

PRESENT: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway; Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey; Selectman Priscilla Pavel; Ted Larson and Will Berry from the Transfer Station; Land Use Administrator Karen Nelson; Finance Director Barbara Herbst; six members of the public.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM.

MINUTES: Selectman Priscilla Pavel moved to approve the minutes from the October 19, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

COMMUNICATIONS: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway announced his thanks to Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey for her service as Cornwall Selectwoman for the past two years. Selectwoman Kotchoubey remarked that the last two years has been interesting and challenging, and hopes to be involved in the future. Next, First Selectman Ridgway reminded everyone about the FOI informational meeting scheduled for November 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: First Selectman Ridgway moved to add Sharon Hospital Meetings to the agenda. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

SHARON HOSPITAL MEETINGS: First Selectman Gordon Ridgway reported on upcoming meetings regarding Nuvance Heath's recent announcement to phase out maternity services and some surgery options.

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: First Selectman Ridgway provided an update on the Coronavirus Pandemic. There are still some cases popping up in Cornwall, but over-all things are starting to move in a positive direction. First Selectman Ridgway urged people to get their Covid booster shots when eligible, and to get a flu shot. The First Selectman also reported that there was a significant Covid outbreak at Geer in North Canaan.

MIRA UPDATE: First, the, regional municipal waste incinerator is scheduled to close in June of 2022. First Selectman Ridgway reported that he has communicated to MIRA the Board of Selectmen's intention to stay with MIRA as they go through this transition.

OIL TANK REMEDIATION: First Selectman Ridgway reported steps taken to remediate and monitor the area near the town offices where an oil spill was discovered when the old oil tank was removed this summer. Soil samples were taken for testing, and steps implemented to vent the underground area where the spill occurred.

TRANSFER STATION: First Selectman Ridgway reported on renting a temporary container office space to use while the new transfer station office is being constructed. The container will cost \$2000 for four months. Next, First Selectman Ridgway discussed a potential composting endeavor.

HOUSING FORUM OCTOBER 20 & HEARING DECEMBER 8, 2021: First Selectman Ridgway reported that over 50 people attended the affordable housing forum on October 20. Also, the Housing Plan Steering Committee met the following week, and incorporated a lot of the comments into the draft. There is also a public hearing regarding the draft plan slated for December 8, 2021. The Housing Plan Steering Committee will meet again, and then finally the draft plan will be presented to the Board of Selectmen for approval later in December 2021. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey moved to schedule the public hearing on the draft plan for December 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM via zoom. Priscilla Pavel seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Richard Griggs stated support for hybrid zoom meeting with an in-person option.

Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Berry
Administrative Assistant
Town of Cornwall