

TOWN OF CORNWALL

REGULAR MEETING OF THE

Board of Selectmen

Minutes for meeting held on:

Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023

Present

Selectmen
 Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman
 Priscilla Pavel
 Janet Carlson

Others

Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant
 Local Press
 Citizens

15 - Total number of attendees

Call to Order	7:30pm
Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of minutes from 4/18/2023 meeting <u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway - Made motion to approve the minutes Priscilla Pavel - Seconded the motion Discussion - none Motion passed unanimously
Communications / Announcements	First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway shared the following 3 announcements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cornwall Housing Task Force meeting on Monday May 8th via zoom – link posted online with agenda Annual Kayak race in West Cornwall on Sunday May 21st in the afternoon, with a practice on Saturday May 20th We will have the usual Memorial Day observances in Cornwall, it was not listed in the Chronicle but it is still on – 4 different events starting at 9:30 North Cornwall Cemetery, 10:00 West Cornwall, 11:00 Main observance at Village Green and parade, 12:00 Carnival at UCC Selectwoman Janet Carlson shared the following communication: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Email from John Sanders about a memorial rock for Johan Winsser <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway will follow up on this and contact Trinity
Additions to the Agenda	None
1	<p><u>Annual town budget meeting – May 19th 7:30pm at CCS</u></p> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway discussed the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the call for the annual town budget meetings scheduled for May 19th at 7:30 at Cornwall Consolidated School, hearing was on April 21st, encourage people to come to the meeting, it will not be broadcasted live but may be recorded. <u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway - Made motion to authorize Town Meeting to take place to act on Town Budget for upcoming budget year Priscilla Pavel - Seconded the motion Discussion - none Motion passed unanimously
2	<p><u>Hammond Beach Update</u></p> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway discussed the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Saturday June 17th – followed by Park and Rec’s annual town picnic at the beach. Good response for staffing Park & Rec subcommittee is working on having more events down at the beach this summer Looking at having more robust swim lesson program and bringing back a swim team Reminder to get beach pass from the Selectmen’s office
3	<p><u>Fire department truck purchase procedure</u></p> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway welcomed Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department Chief Fred Scoville and other CVFD Truck Committee members to discuss the following:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FS stated: Committee has been meeting over the past 6-8 months to replace old Engine 3-0 in Cornwall Bridge (1999 International), received some proposals for pricing on trucks, many vendors have asked that instead of going to bid to look into outsourcing (Sourcewell). <p>Discussion ensued about the procedure for purchasing a new truck.</p>
4	<p><u>Compost Project update</u> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have submitted Solid Waste and Leaf Compost application, received confirmation from state that it was received check and applications. Waiting to hear back from them.
5	<p><u>Housatonic Railroad update</u> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waiting to hear back from the Railroad to see if they will meet with a group of Municipal Officials, hoping for a meeting in May.
6	<p><u>West Cornwall Wastewater Project update</u> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with Steve McDonnell, Bill Hulburt, and the environmental engineer, Project will take time to get the environmental report, will be getting a timeline schedule soon, will publicize that schedule. Until environmental study report is done, Wastewater study group will stop meetings but summaries will be sent to group when provided by study report.
7	<p><u>Hazardous Tree Survey</u> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gordon Ridgway and Jim Vanicky have been meeting with Bruce Bennett, assistant Tree Warden to look at some hazardous trees. Bruce has volunteered to come up with a hazardous tree survey and notify Eversource of the hazardous trees. <p>Bruce Bennett added the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important to get a policy in place as a result of the tremendous number of trees that are being effected by various insects. Idea to divide the town up into groups to analyze one or two groups each year to determine which trees need to come down. Discussed mirroring Kent's procedure of analyzing groups and contacting Eversource to remove what trees they can. Currently 2 bills in legislature promoting distribution of more funds to town due to the Ash Borer damage <p><u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway.- Made motion to take up Bruce's offer to do the Hazardous Tree Survey Priscilla Pavel - Seconded the motion Discussion - none Motion passed unanimously</p>
8	<p><u>Cornwall Association – Warm Winter Lights Project</u> First Selectmen Gordon Ridgway discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiative of the Cornwall Association to lighten up the dark days. <p>Anna Timell provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cornwall Association is looking to frame the facade of buildings with warm white LED lighting during the winter months. Cornwall Association would hang the lights on behalf of the businesses, needs to have a GFCI outlet for lights to plug in to. Association has funding for project <p><u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway.- Made motion to accept this project Priscilla Pavel - Seconded the motion Discussion - none Motion passed unanimously</p>
9	<p><u>Tax Refunds</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$127.44 tax refund request for overpayment on MV taxes to Financial Services Vehicle Trust \$6,197.36 tax refund request for overpayment of real estate taxes on 56 Whitcomb Hill Rd to 56 Whitcomb LLC <p><u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway - Made motion to approve tax refunds</p>

	<p>Priscilla Pavel - Seconded the motion Discussion - none Motion passed unanimously</p>
10	<p><u>Public Comment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle Shipp, Park and Recreation Chair – 5/17/2023 Field Trip must RSVP, Town Picnic at town beach with open mic and more details to come, update on Taste of Cornwall 8/11/2023 – park and rec will be taking over the business aspect of event. • Richard Griggs – Requested link for recording • Nancy Berry – Asked Bruce Bennett questions on tree locations and spotted lantern fly. • Anna Timell – Requested regular updates on Cornwall Housing Task Force in the Board of Selectmen meetings • Riley Klein, Lakeville Journal – Question on Railroad meeting
	<p><u>Adjournment</u> 8:09pm</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted: Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant</p>