

# TOWN OF CORNWALL

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE

Board of Selectmen

Minutes for meeting held on:

Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 2023

### Present

Selectmen  
 Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman  
 Priscilla Pavel  
 Janet Carlson

### Others

Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant  
 Local Press  
 Citizens  
**13 - Total number of attendees**

<b>Call to Order</b>	7:32pm
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	Approval of minutes from 10/3/2023 meeting  <u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway - Made motion to approve the minutes Janet Carlson - Seconded the motion Discussion - none Motion passed unanimously
<b>Communications / Announcements</b>	First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following Communications/Announcements: 1. Thanks to the Garden Club, again, for doing bulb planting by Town Hall and working on the plantings at the Town Office. 2. Thanks to the Firehouse for having an open house last Sunday 3. Thanks to Little Guild for having the Run & Wag run on Saturday, well attended, and brought energy to town.
<b>Additions to the Agenda</b>	None
<b>1.</b>	<p><b><u>Five-Year capital plan adoption</u></b>                      First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the draft capital plan that was submitted and discussed the following proposed changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FY 2024 changes:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Road Improvements – increase \$20,000 – final \$320,000</li> <li>○ Bridges / Culverts – increase \$10,000 – final \$30,000</li> <li>○ Cornwall Consolidated School – increase \$20,000 – final \$60,000</li> <li>○ CVFD Truck Fund – no change – final \$100,000</li> <li>○ Town Buildings – decrease \$50,000 – final \$100,000</li> <li>○ Town Plan – no change – final \$10,000</li> <li>○ HWY Truck replacement fund – no change – final \$100,000</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Does not include some items such as emergency repairs or bond payments.</li> </ul> <p><u>Motion:</u>                      Gordon Ridgway - Made motion that we adopt this plan as presented and send it to the Board of Finance that is meeting later this week in preparation for a town meeting.                      Janet Carlson - Seconded the motion                      Discussion – Discussion ensued on Board of Finance feedback and changes that could be made to the draft capital plan.                      Motion passed unanimously</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b><u>Town Meeting Call 11/17</u></b>                      First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have a town meeting scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup> – need to postpone, do not expect to get the audit back from the auditor until approximately November 15<sup>th</sup>. Key item on agenda for Town Meeting is to receive reports and we need to incorporate the audit into the annual report.</li> </ul> <p><u>Motion:</u>                      Janet Carlson - Made motion to postpone annual town meeting until December 8<sup>th</sup>                      Priscilla Pavel – Seconded the motion                      Discussion – Tentative call drafted, will wait to sign until we have the town audit                      Motion passed unanimously</p>
<b>3.</b>	<b><u>Retaining Wall in West Cornwall</u></b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special BOS/BOF Meeting 10/24/2023</li> <li>• November 3<sup>rd</sup> Town Meeting</li> </ul> <p>First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prebid meeting with interested contractions on site – 3 contractors there – bids are due on Monday 10/23. Calling a special meeting with the Board of Finance to approve, and have town meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> to authorize this.</li> <li>• Contractors will have to store equipment and supplies close to site, offered the Gravel pit. Will need to store an excavator, proposed use of Chapel Street.</li> </ul> <p><u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway - Made motion to have a special meeting on Tuesday night, 10/24, bids will be back on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, so we will have a Special meeting jointly with the Board of Finance to authorize the town meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> Janet Carlson – Seconded the motion Discussion – Discussion ensued on urgency of repair, emergency service communication and access, process of wall repair, scenarios of delaying wall repair/wall collapses, ideas to negotiate with contactors Motion passed unanimously</p>
4.	<p><b><u>West Cornwall Wastewater Project Update</u></b> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still finalizing the environmental report, working with the consulting engineer, and now working directly with HUD to get the report finalized.</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b><u>Tax Sale 10/27/2023</u></b> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has been interest in the two properties that have delinquent taxes. Scheduled on 10/27 10:00am at Town Hall. Information is available on the town website.</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b><u>Little Guild Construction Update</u></b> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little Guild is going to be starting sitework at Foote Field in the next couple weeks. They are hoping to move to temporary location by January and get underway with building their new place soon afterwards. Approximately one year for construction time.</li> </ul>
7.	<p><b><u>Highway Budget – July Storm Impacts</u></b> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We did have impact on the highway expenditures due to the storm in July. We are looking approximately \$20,000 for contractor services to come and repair some of the roads, approximately \$20,000 in materials, approximately \$40,000 to repave West Road. Approximately \$80,000 from that storm.</li> <li>• Thought from Finance Department to see what transfers need to be done closer to spring. Will need to replenish some of those funds to keep our road resealing program on track next spring. That would have to be another town meeting in the spring to do these budget transfers.</li> </ul>
8.	<p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jen Markow, Park &amp; Recreation Director – Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup> – 5:00pm-8:00pm, still time to sign up for the chili cookoff, trunk or treat spots available, looking for candy donations – Rain or Shine</li> <li>• Michelle Shipp – Cornwall Association – tomorrow night (10/18/2023) is candidates forum 6:30pm at Cornwall library, candidates for First Selectmen, Gordon and KC, candidates for Selectmen, Jen, John, Rocco. Zoom and in person. Questions and participation is in person only, zoom will be watch only. Richard Schlesinger will moderate.</li> </ul>
	<p>Adjournment: 8:09pm</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted: Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant</p>