

# BOARD OF FINANCE

Minutes of the Regular and Special Meetings held on Thursday, March 21, 2024  
Held via ZOOM - meeting ID 833 9930 6110

- | Regular Members    | Others  |
|--------------------|---|
| ✓ Joe Pryor (CHM)  | Gordon M Ridgway, 1st Selectman                   |
| ✓ Kate Ward        | Richard Bramley, Treasurer                        |
| ✓ Gary Steinkohl   | Jen Markow and Rocco Botto, Selectmen             |
| ✓ Zejke Hermann    | Leanne McGuire, Annie Kosciusko                   |
| ✓ Simon Hewett     | Richard Wolkowitz                                 |
| ✓ Jessica Brackman | Michelle Shipp, Jane Hall, Riley Klein, Ben Lesch |

Alternate members

- Vacancy  
✓ Cody Gillotti

Call to Order

7:00 p.m.

# 1 - Additions

Town Meeting agenda items

**Motion**

- Gary Steinkohl** Made a motion to add Town Meeting agenda items to the agenda.  
**Zejke Hermann** Seconded the motion.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

BoF Chairman read the Town Meeting Call and First Selectman Ridgway explained items one through four. Said Meeting call is appended to these minutes.

**Motion**

- Gary Steinkohl** Made a motion to approve items one through four on the Town Meeting call and recommend approval of those items to the electors and citizens of Cornwall  
**Kate Ward** Seconded the motion.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

# 2 - Minutes

Minutes for the 2.8.24 and 2.15.24 meetings were emailed to all members prior to the meeting. Copies of the minutes were also available at the meeting.

**Motion**

- Kate Ward** Made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.  
**Gary Steinkohl** Seconded the motion.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

#3 - Reports

Board of Selectmen

First Selectman Ridgway reported on the following items.

- a) Winter road maintenance costs and DPW staffing costs.
- b) Spring road sealing vs paving.
- c) Early voting as mandated by state statute is now underway.

# 4 - Budget

FY '25 Proposed Budget

The Board of Finance discussed the two FY '25 budget proposals. Discussion items included but were not limited to the following topics;

- a) Inflationary pressure on the cost of goods and services.
- b) Capital expenditures
- c) Second consecutive year for a large increase to the Region One share of the budget.
- d) Use of the Undesignated Fund balance to help offset a mil rate increase.
- e) Reserve levels and the appropriate number of months of funding to be held in reserve.
- f) Asking both the BoS and BoE to trim their budgets by 1%
- g) BoF chairman crafting a letter requesting Region One to reduce their budget as well.

**Motion**

- Gary Steinkohl** Made a motion to request that both the BoS and BoE reduce their budgets by 1%.  
**Cody Gillotti** Seconded the motion.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

# BOARD OF FINANCE

# 5 - Public Comment Riley Klein requested that a copy of the proposed budgets be emailed to him

#6 - Adjourn

**Motion**

**Gary Steinkohl**

Made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06

**Cody Gillotti**

Seconded the motion.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## Hybrid Special Meeting

# 1 - Vacancy

Appoint an *Alternate Member* to fill the vacancy

**Motion**

**Kate Ward**

Made a motion to nominate Richard Wolkowitz to fill the *Alternate* vacancy

**Simon Hewett**

Seconded the motion.

Mr. Wolkowitz spoke briefly

**Motion passed unanimously.**

# 2 - Adjourn

**Motion**

**Gary Steinkohl**

Made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08

**Simon Hewett**

Seconded the motion.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

*Barbara E. Kerbot, Board Clerk*

Minutes remain "Draft" until accepted at the next regular scheduled meeting, please see subsequent meeting minutes for any corrections to these minutes.

# TOWN OF CORNWALL

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Electors and citizens qualified to vote at Town Meetings of the Town of Cornwall are hereby notified and warned that a Special Town Meeting will be held on **Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. at Cornwall Consolidated School, 5 Cream Hill Rd, West Cornwall, CT 06796** for the following purpose: **Location to be changed to the Library**

Upon recommendation of the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen to:

- 1) Transfer capital projects account interest \$50,000 to capital projects road improvements for spring resurfacing of roads.
- 2) To transfer \$50,000 from Town general fund balance to capital road improvements to complete summer storm damage repairs.
- 3) Authorize repairs to Essex Hill Road of \$147,000 be paid out of capital projects road improvement.
- 4) To increase capital projects fund road improvement by \$17,000 to be reimbursed by state grant for hazardous tree removal.
- 5) Public hearing on municipal budget 24/25.

Signed:

  
Gordon M. Ridgway, First Selectman

  
Rocco Botto, Selectman

  
Jennifer Markow, Selectman

Dated and signed at Cornwall, Connecticut this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024 by a majority of the Board of Selectmen.

# TOWN OF CORNWALL

## RETURN OF NOTICE

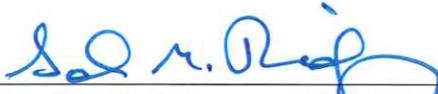
We hereby certify that we will leave a duplicate of the foregoing and attached Warning and Notice for a Town Meeting with Vera Dinneen, Town Clerk,

and further certify that we will set upon the signpost nearest the Office of the Town Clerk and all other places designated by the Town, a copy of said Warning and Notice signed by us as Selectmen,

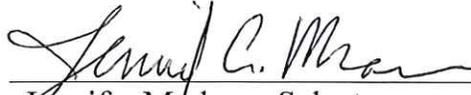
and further that we will request a copy of said Warning and Notice to be published in the Waterbury Republican,

and further that all of the above acts will be done by us at least five days prior to the holding of said Town Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

Signed:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gordon M. Ridgway, First Selectman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rocco Botto, Selectman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Markow, Selectman

Dated and signed at Cornwall, Connecticut this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024 by a majority of the Board of Selectmen.