

# TOWN OF CORNWALL

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE

### Board of Selectmen

Minutes for meeting held on:  
Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025  
Hybrid – In Person at Cornwall Library  
& Remotely Via Zoom

#### Present

#### Selectmen

- ☒ Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman
- ☐ Rocco Botto
- ☒ Jennifer Markow

#### Others

Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant  
Press  
Citizens

<b>Call to Order</b>	19:30
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	<u>Motion:</u> Jennifer Markow – Made motion to approve the minutes from 3/18/2025 Gordon Ridgway – Seconded the motion Discussion – none Motion passed unanimously
<b>Communications / Announcements</b>	First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rocco Botto is in NY on business</li> <li>Recap of Route 7 car fire – community member trapped in car, neighbors did amazing job rescuing her from the car – CVFD and mutual aid</li> </ul> Jennifer Markow shared the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spring celebration April 6<sup>th</sup> 1-2pm at Foot Field</li> </ul>
<b>Additions to the Agenda</b>	<u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway – Made motion to 250 <sup>th</sup> potential budget and Town Meeting ordinance request Jennifer Markow – Seconded the motion Discussion – none Motion passed unanimously
<b>1.</b>	<u><b>Naomi Freeman Rd</b></u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcomes CCS 7<sup>th</sup> grade – presented class with Naomi Freeman Historic Road Sign</li> </ul> Discussion ensued on the CCS 7 <sup>th</sup> grade project and plans for a ceremony.
<b>2.</b>	<u><b>Budget</b></u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget hearing on April 11, hybrid – Town meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> at CCS</li> <li>Received letter from Board of Finance asking to trim budget</li> <li>Reduction suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$40,000 reduction from Town Building line</li> <li>\$10,000 reduction from Bridges &amp; Culverts</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway – Made motion to make two cuts (listed above) Jennifer Markow – Seconded the motion Discussion – none Motion passed unanimously

	<p>Discission ensued on additional cuts, which included: \$737 from Temporary BoS Clerk, \$5,000 from Cornwall Child Center request, \$2,000 from Little Guild request, \$1,000 from Racket Sports in Park &amp; Rec budget, \$3,000 in CVFD Physical Exams, \$1,000 in Registrars' salaries, \$1,000 in Election Workers' salaries</p> <p><u>Motion:</u>  Gordon Ridgway – Made motion to make additional cuts to try and comply with the Board of finance goal (listed above)  Jennifer Markow – Seconded the motion  Discussion – none  Motion passed unanimously</p>
3.	<p><b><u>Bear Legislation</u></b>  First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended virtual hearing last week with State Legislatures Environment Committee about potential legislation on bear population. Testified after 5 hours of waiting – proposal did not pass. Will continue to monitor this situation</li> </ul>
4.	<p><b><u>Municipal Solid Waste</u></b>  First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City of Torrington is looking at a 2 year agreement to manage the Torrington Transfer Station – expressed support to the city for doing that – idea of some sort of regional group</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b><u>Compost</u></b>  First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sat in on a meeting with DEEP, Maria Horn, and Ted Larson – our composting grant was denied – will need to scale back on engineering cost covered by grant when we reapply for the next round</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b><u>Doors at WCFH</u></b>  First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will need to replace doors – funds in the capital to do this – approximately \$10,000 estimate</li> </ul>
7.	<p><b><u>Liter Fund</u></b>  First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately \$2,600 in bottle litter fund – can be used for recycling or roadside cleanup efforts</li> </ul>
Addition #1	<p><b><u>250<sup>th</sup> Potential Budget</u></b>  First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gates Bequest – we could use \$10,000 in funds to use for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration, will need to go to town meeting</li> </ul>
Addition #2	<p><b><u>Town Meeting ordinance request</u></b>  First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received request for the town to adopt an ordinance for people that have a granted easement on their property – will do more research on this – will need to go before a town meeting</li> </ul>
8.	<p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b>  1 public comment received</p>
9.	<p><b><u>Executive Session: Personnel – Social Services</u></b></p> <p><u>Motion:</u>  Gordon Ridgway – Made motion to go into executive session with Becky Hurlburt at 20:27  Jennifer Markow – Seconded the motion  Discussion – none  Motion passed unanimously</p> <p>Executive session ended at 20:41</p> <p><u>Motion:</u>  Gordon Ridgway – Made motion to go grant health insurance to Social Service Agent, Rebecca Hurlburt  Jennifer Markow – Seconded the motion</p>

	Discussion – none Motion passed unanimously
	<u>Adjournment:</u> 20:42  Respectfully Submitted: Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant