

Corinth Town Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2018

Moderator Gary Apfel called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Susan Fortunati led the pledge of allegiance and Marian Cawley led the song America the Beautiful.

Chris Groschner Selectboard Chair made a presentation to Susan Fortunati retiring Treasurer thanking her for her 20 years of service. She received a standing ovation. Susan said she enjoyed her time here and thanked everyone.

Gary Apfel spoke on Robert's Rules of order and procedure at Town Meeting.

Article 1. To elect the following by Australian ballot. For the purpose of this article the polls will be open from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm: Moderator for 1 year, Selectman for 3 years, Lister for 3 years, Lister for 1 year, Collector of Delinquent Taxes for 1 year, Treasurer for 1 year, Constable for 1 year, Grand Juror for 1 year, Town Agent to Deed Real Estate for 1 year, Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits for 1 year, Cemetery Commissioner for 3 years and School Director for 3 years.

Gary read this article no action needs to be taken.

Article 2. To see if the voters will accept the various Officers' Reports as presented in the Town Report.

Joyce McKeeman moved the article, Jane Conner seconded. No conversation the aye's have it.

After Article 2. Katie Kramer moved to discuss town meeting and the day to have it on. Earl Kooperkamp seconded. Chris Groschner said if we change the meeting we still will have to vote on the first Tuesday for Australian ballot purposes. The meeting itself can be on another day, but has to be in town. There were questions about how other towns have changed their date and what kind of turn out there was. It was mentioned by a few people that some towns had favorable turn outs and some were the same. It was suggested to send out a survey. There was a lot of discussion about time and day. Joe Truss moved the question, Dean Gregoropoulos seconded, and the ayes have it. Gary called for a show of hands to ask how many people wanted the Selectboard to look into pursuing this question of meeting change. It was affirmative.

TR Jackson moved to suspend the use of Roberts Rules of order for the purpose of letting people speak for longer and more than once, Joyce McKeeman seconded. Moderator Gary Apfel allowed this motion. Burton Cooper raised a point of order that TR Jackson's motion was out of order. Gary ruled that TR's motion was in order. Burton appealed this decision to the town and TR Jackson seconded. There was discussion. Gary called for hands to be raised to see if all were in agreement of Gary's decision to allow TR's motion, the ayes have it. Glynn Pellagrino called the question, Jane Conner seconded 54 were in favor of calling the question 22 were against. Back to main motion to suspend Roberts Rules of order, Gary asked for a show of hands 45 in favor of it 29 not in favor. Motion failed 2/3 majority not met.

Article 3. To see if the voters wish to have the transfer station moved to the parcel on Brook Road owned by the town which was formerly used as the site of the town dump.

Chris Groschner moved the article, Jon Conner seconded. Lee Porter spoke on the article. He stated that the Highway Dept. requested the move. Joe Blodgett highway Forman spoke about the safety of getting sand and salt on Saturday's when the transfer station was open. He said there were close calls and that they can't see that well when they are loading trucks. He said the cars and people are in the way for them to work. Fritz Gross asked what the cost would be. Lee Porter said with grading and gates etc. the total cost is expected to be \$13,000.00. There was discussion about moving everything, beautification, and abutters. There were questions about disturbing the old dump site. Lee said there wouldn't be any disturbance and Chris Groschner said he checked with the state and there is no regulations against it. Lee showed a drawing showing the proposed entrance and exit and the way they would set it up. Chris Groschner moved to call the question Jon Conner seconded, the ayes have it on the vote to call the question. Gary called for a vote on Article 3, the ayes have it.

Article 4. To hear a report on the proposed new Fire Station.

Chris Groschner moved the article Jane Conner seconded. Hal Drury spoke about the proposed fire station to be built on the land donated by the Hollands near the ball field. He said there was no bottom line right now but had a figure on the building only not including the slab or site work. For the building only Morton gave us a figure of \$762,930.00 which is a revised quote. We have already paid \$36,430.00 so the balance is \$726,500.00. The drawings are in the meeting room for anyone to look at. Some of the changes are a smaller overhang, deletion of the Cupolas, deletion of the roof over the generator, deletions of the cabinets, counters etc. for the kitchen and deletion of the floor coverings. The idea is to add these items later. Changed the truck bay floor drain to a pitched floor to trench drain instead. Removal of air conditioning. The board is looking for a May 1' 2018 vote.

There were questions on the impact on fairground and the entrance and road. It was stated the entrance is not near the one for the fairground and that there shouldn't be any issue's with that. There was other discussion about extra costs, washer and dryers, heating and showers. Chris Groschner called the question Jeff Spiegel seconded, the ayes have it. Gary stated this was just for a matter of discussion so no action is necessary.

Article 5. To see if the voters will vote \$758,825.00 of which \$581,425.00 to be raised by taxes, to support the Highway Fund.

Joyce McKeeman moved the article Jeff Spiegel seconded. Joe Blodgett stated that the budget pretty much stayed the same but we had to add \$2,600.00 for permits to work on the back roads. No more discussion Gary called for a vote the ayes have it.

Article 6. To see if the voters will vote \$123,800.00 of which \$113,800.00 to be raised by taxes, to support the Highway Capital Equipment Fund.

Chris Groschner moved the article Sue Parmenter seconded. Lee Porter spoke about the fund and what it is for. No more discussion, Gary called for a vote, the ayes have it.

Article 7. To see if the voters will vote \$15,000.00 which \$15,000.00 to be raised by taxes, to retire a portion of the remaining deficit in the Bridge Reserve Fund.

Joyce McKeeman moved the article Jane Conner seconded. Rich Cawley asked what it was from Susan Fortunati said it was remaining expenses from the Chicken Farm Bridge project. Gary called for the vote, the ayes have it.

Article 8. To see if the voters will authorize the town to use funds received from the Better Back Roads grant Program.

Lynn Murphy moved the question, Kerry DeWolfe seconded. Joe spoke about the 80/20 match. He said we usually come out with a surplus. He said there would be \$70,000.00 for four roads this year and next. No more discussion, the ayes have it.

Article 9. To see if the voters will authorize the establishment of a reserve fund for the replacement of office computer equipment and fund it using \$7,500.00 of General Fund surplus money.

Raymond Moulton moved the article, Susan Fortunati seconded. Raymond spoke about the budget committee meetings and we were going this way to lessen the sticker shock of paying for it all at once. Joyce McKeeman asked why we are doing this and what the costs are. Susan Fortunati talked about Nemrc and some of the computers issue's. Things being outdated and advised to replace every 5 years. The price quote we got from Nemrc is \$14,159.00 for hardware and software. That we would put in \$7,500.00 a year for two years. There were questions on cloud based systems and servers. The fund was discussed and why it wasn't in the general fund. Susan said to keep it separate so it can only be used for that and to put some by each year for the future. Susan suggested \$3,000.00 a year. Tania Aebi called the

question, Joyce McKeeman seconded. Gary called for a vote on calling the question, the ayes have it. Gary called for a vote on Article 9, the ayes have it.

Article 10. To see if the voters will vote \$1,500.00 of which \$1,500.00 to be raised by taxes, to support the Planning Commission.

Jane Conner moved the question and Jeff Spiegel seconded. Dick Kelly spoke about the survey and expenses for next year. There was talk about the town plan. Gary called for a vote, the ayes have it.

Susan Fortunati moved to adjourn for lunch for 1 hour at 12:00 pm Nancy seconded. The ayes have it. The meeting reconvened at 1:00 pm

Article 11. To see if the voters will vote \$600.00, of which \$200.00 to be raised by taxes, to support the Conservation Commission.

Lynn Murphy moved the article and Mary Hays seconded. Glynn Pellagrino spoke about Green Up Day and paying for the trash and support for grants. He spoke about the work in the Apple Orchard and on the trails. Gary called for the vote, the ayes have it.

Article 12. To see if the voters will vote \$13,000.00, of which \$13,000.00 to be raised by taxes, to support the Town Hall Capital Improvement fund.

Chris Groschner moved the article and Linda Weiss seconded. Chris spoke about what needs to be done to the hall and that we would need to get estimates. Laurie Sheridan asked how much was in fund, Susan said there was \$5,615.00 surplus and \$13,000.00 was added last year so there is a balance of \$18,625.00. Gary called for a vote, the ayes have it.

Article 13. To see if the voters will fix the compensation for the Selectmen for the coming year at \$1,000.00 each.

Susan Fortunati moved the article and Raymond Moulton seconded. No discussion. The ayes have it.

Article 14. To see if the voters will vote \$405,653.00, of which \$231,187.00 to be raised by taxes, to support the General Fund

Linda Weiss moved the article, Lynn Murphy seconded. Susan Fortunati said that the fund was pretty much level funded except insurance and things we can't control. The ayes have it.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to have the taxes collected by the Treasurer and to fix the dates for payment of the same.

Nancy Ertle moved to have the taxes collected by the Treasurer and fix the due dates for payment as- on or before the close of business Tuesday, September 11, 2018 and Tuesday, February 12, 2019 and postmarks are not accepted. No discussion. The ayes have it.

Article 16. To recommend four members-at-large for the Budget Committee for 1 year.

Nancy moved to recommend Raymond Moulton, Mike Pittman, Linda Weiss and Amy Peberdy. Steve Long recommended Lee Porter and Irene Mann. The ayes have it.

Article 17. In case of unanticipated State Aid Funds (funds not included in the budget) for specific highway and bridge projects applied for and received during the fiscal year, shall the Town allow expenditure of such funds for those projects?

Linda Weiss moved the article, Raymond Moulton seconded. No discussion. The ayes have it.

Article 18. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Linda Weiss asked if anyone knew why Legislators did not come to the meeting? No one knew. Dan Wing asked about the Constable vs. Sheriffs? Chris Groschner explained that the Constables had no authority anymore so we just put more money in the budget for the Sheriff's instead.

TR asked what the hold harmless money is from. Susan Fortunati explained that it is reimbursement for parcels in current use.

Chris Groschner spoke about the Health Officer position and what it entailed and asked if anyone was interested to please let him know before appointments were made.

Susan Fortunati encouraged people to get involved with the Town business that it is very rewarding.

Dan Wing moved to adjourn, Susan Fortunati seconded the ayes have it, meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm

Respectively Submitted by:


Nancy J. Ertle
Ninth Town Clerk

Approved by:  Approved by: 
Office Held: Chair - Board of Selectmen Office Held: Moderator