

Town of Corinth  
Board of Selectmen  
PO Box 461  
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting  
November 12, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, John Haney  
Catherine Tudish, Select Board Clerk

Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; Shirley Montagne and Lisa Locke, for Blake Memorial Library; Rick Cawley, town attorney

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

Minutes of the select board meeting of October 8 and the financial meeting of November 7 were approved.

Public Concerns

Shirley Montagne said Blake Memorial Library will hold a public meeting to provide information and answer questions on handicap access and changes that will take place inside and outside the building. The meeting is scheduled for December 6 from 7-8 PM at the library. The library board will take care of posting meeting notices.

Montagne said that the deed for the library building must be verified by the town attorney as part of the process for applying for federal grant funds. Cawley agreed to do that.

The deadline for the grant application is the first of February. Groschner and Montagne agreed that the library board of directors would be responsible for completing and submitting the application.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Porter said the town has received final approval from the state for the new transfer station, including the stump dump. Site work will begin in the spring.

Regarding a vehicle parked in the roadway on the Chelsea Road, Porter said he has asked the Orange County Sheriff to ask the owner to move it.

Porter received a written complaint from a resident on South America Road that another resident has been dumping ashes and trash in the roadway and has dug trenches across the road. Porter has notified the person responsible to cease.

Blodgett said the fire department has requested permission to use the dump site on the Brook Road for training involving two cars; one would be an extraction practice and the other would be extinguishing a car fire. Blodgett said he has instructed the fire department to drain all fluids and remove the batteries from the cars, but that he needed to get final approval from the Select Board. The request was approved by the Board.

A vehicle that went off Brook Road has since been pulled out, but is still parked along the side of the road. Porter said he would notify the sheriff if the car is not moved soon.

Blodgett reported a potential problem with a resident regarding the town truck's turn-around on Tullar Road. The resident is concerned that a large truck might slide over the edge of the bank and damage his pond. Blodgett said he would take a town truck up to the site to show the resident how much space is needed and demonstrate the safety of using the site. Long said he would email both the resident and Blodgett to arrange for the demonstration.

Blodgett said he would build a new turn-around at the point where the Corinth town line meets the Vershire line, but he hopes that won't be necessary because it would mean reworking the agreement he

has with the Vershire road foreman. Corinth plows Tullar Road and Cross Road in return for Vershire plowing Corinth's end of Eagle Hollow Road.

Blodgett presented a form for Groschner's signature to get state financing for repair of a culvert on Fair Ground Road.

#### Fire Station

Cawley suggested that Groschner go on line to find a boiler-plate contract that the town could use for site work by Ricker Excavating. Cawley said the main factors would be specifications, time line, and money. Haney offered to find an appropriate contract on line.

Cawley made a presentation on behalf of SunWood Biomass of Waitsfield, VT, because the scheduled presenter—principal of the company, Dave Frank—was sick. Cawley said he thinks it is important to look into more energy efficient means of heating. SunWood Biomass could install a parallel system in the fire station, along with the currently proposed propane system. This would require a silo to store the chips and a minor alteration in the building design to accommodate another boiler. The estimated cost is between 25 and 35K, with a rebate of 10K available from Efficiency Vermont.

Groschner expressed concern about coming in on budget.

Haney asked if a system could be installed later, after the building was completed. He said Morton Builders has not provided the town with a final mechanical design, and that should be finalized first.

Long said he is in favor of using a local renewable resource.

Groschner agreed in theory, but would not want to go back to the town to ask for another 20K.

Porter said he thought a biomass system was a good idea, especially with the financial support of Efficiency Vermont.

Cawley pointed out that SunWood has already installed heating systems in other fire stations in the area, such as the station in East Montpelier.

Groschner said he would be glad to have Dave Frank come to the next Select Board meeting to make a presentation.

#### Annual Report Theme

Responding to Anne McKinsey's request for ideas for a theme for the next annual report, Groschner suggested having students from the Waits River School draw their impressions of historical buildings in Corinth. The students could work from historical and current photographs of the buildings. Other Board members supported Groschner's proposal.

#### Potential sale of town-owned land on Brook Road

This involves approximately one acre of land that may be of interest to an adjacent landowner. The Select Board agreed that the town is willing to sell the property. Groschner will get in touch with the realtor who inquired about a possible sale.

#### Town Offices

The Select Board moved to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter at 8:15 PM. They came out of executive session at 8:48 PM and stated that no decisions had been made.

#### Correspondence

The Board received a proposal from administrative officer Karen Galayda to establish a Village Revitalization Committee. According to her proposal, Governor Phil Scott "has activated government resources to help find solutions to the challenges of keeping village centers viable in the 21<sup>st</sup> century." Working with East Corinth residents, Galayda wants to address issues of wastewater systems and walkability. She requested the Select Board's approval to use some of the resources of her office to

further the project, with the goal of achieving a Village Center designation from the state, which would enable access to state support in the targeted areas.

Groschner moved to support the proposal, Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Long and Haney tested the emergency lighting and fire extinguishers in Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.