

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
June 10, 2019

Present for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, Select Board Clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman; Jeff Spiegel, Paula LaValley

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM
Minutes of the Select Board meeting of May 13, 2019 and the financial meeting of June 4, 2019 were approved.

Public Concerns

Jeff Spiegel proposed a warning for the next Town Meeting: "Will the voters of Corinth vote to eliminate the public posting of delinquent taxpayers in the annual town report?" Spiegel said the current practice amounts to public shaming. Groschner said he had no objection to eliminating the public posting and asked if the Board should vote on it.

Long suggested bringing the question up with Kerry Claffey, the new treasurer. Cawley suggested it should go before the voters at town meeting.

Blodgett asked if the list is generated by the treasurer or the delinquent tax collector.

Groschner said he believes it is the delinquent tax collector.

Cawley added that the list originally comes from the treasurer and said he prefers the idea of putting it on the warning, for the sake of transparency.

Long said that would mean the list would be in the town report for next year.

Groschner said he would check with the state to ensure that there would be no statute violation.

Spiegel said he would appreciate feedback once the idea has been cleared with the state.

Before leaving the meeting, Spiegel also praised the road crew for their good work in maintaining the roads through the winter and spring.

Paula LaValley brought up a concern with speeding vehicles on Village Road and ATV's using roads they aren't supposed to be on. She mentioned a recent accident on Thompson Road between an ATV and a car, as well as a driver who regularly speeds down her road. She said she would appreciate some enforcement of speed limits.

Long said the town constable does not have the authority to enforce speed limits.

Groschner said he believes there is a way to give the constable police authority, and said he has talked with Carl Demrow about changing statutes to give constables greater authority. He added that we could request help from the Orange County sheriff's office.

LaValley said she has no problem when the ATV driver is respectful and obeying the limit.

Groschner said he would go back to the sheriff and ask for help in East Corinth. He also asked Paula to call the sheriff's office every time an ATV speeds down the road. Groschner asked if we could get another speed designation sign for Cookeville.

Blodgett said he would move the sign from East Corinth to Cookeville.

Road Report

Porter said he had received a few complaints of muddy roads and plugged culverts—all of which have been taken care of.

Porter said he and the sheriff met with the resident on Richardson Road who had been re-grading the road with his own tractor. Porter said the resident was very cooperative and agreed not to do it again.

Blodgett reported that the transfer station has received \$3,000 in sale of metal so far this year.

Cawley asked if the transfer station has its own line item in the town budget.

Long said no, but they should have.

Porter said he has talked with Glynn Pellegrino about costs associated with the trailer at the transfer station. Pellegrino said the Conservation Commission would pay for half of cleaning and painting the trailer.

Blodgett said he could locate a metal storage container for the Conservation Commission to use for storing recycled bottles and cans.

Blodgett stated that the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission grants (Pilot Grants) are coming out again, and Corinth is slated to get \$22,000 this year.

Blodgett showed the Board a map of the work area on Threshold Way, a Class 3 road, where repairs have been funded by a Pilot Grant.

Cawley made a motion to sign the invitation to participate in the Pilot Grants for the next fiscal year; Groschner seconded. The motion passed, and Board members signed the form.

Groschner pointed out that the timber guardrail on Hutton Hill Road near the bridge is deteriorating and needs to be replaced.

Blodgett said he was looking for the right size beam to repair it.

Blodgett reported that the town charge for taking resident tires is too low, according to Northeast Kingdom Solid Waste District (NEKSWD).

Groschner said he would call Paul Tomasi from NEKSWD to discuss.

Blodgett said the town has been trucking the tires up to Lyndonville. He favors using BDS to truck the tires, in order to save time and money.

Blodgett said the town will purchase a new truck in July and that he would break down the numbers before the next Board meeting. The International truck is being sold, and the first payment on the new truck will come out of the sale of equipment fund.

Long asked if it matters which fiscal year the money comes in.

Blodgett said he would delay the sale until the first of July.

Groschner made a motion to sign the proposal sent by Washington Electric to construct a 7200-volt electric distribution line on Pike Hill Road, if the Select Board gets confirmation that the inclusion of Sugar House Road on the proposal was made in error. Cawley seconded, and the motion passed.

Fire Station

Long reported that they are waiting to get approval from the state fire marshall on the requested variance. He said it should be coming very soon.

Groschner asked, If the approval comes through, could the town start work on the site this year?

Long said yes; the town is still planning to use Ricker Excavation.

Groschner said the town needs to get a contract signed with Ricker.

Cawley added that we should confirm that building changes would not cause changes in the site plan.

Long confirmed that all necessary paperwork has been submitted for the bond.

Correspondence

The town has received the new contract with the Orange County sheriff; hours for service not to exceed \$10,000 for the fiscal year.

Long moved to sign the contract, Groschner seconded, motion passed.

The town received a letter from Casella, regarding pricing for the next fiscal year.

Bag prices will be increasing as of July 1, because of lack of markets for recycling.

Other business

Groschner said he has gotten no response to his letter regarding property in West Corinth that he hoped might be used for a green cemetery. He said he has in mind another piece of property in East Corinth. Long and Cawley approved Groschner exploring the possibility of that property as a green burial site.

The town is contracting with Peter Amber of Chelsea to trim the large maple in front of the Town Hall. The cost comes out of the Town Hall maintenance budget.

The Select Board thanked Ginny Barlow for donating and planting a swamp white oak on Town Hall property.

Groschner moved to adjourn, Long seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.