

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

Unapproved Minutes Of Selectboard Meeting
Meeting
Monday July 12, 2021

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten, select board clerk.

Others attending: Dick Kelley, Treasurer; Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Jeff Spiegel, Chris Groschner. and Gary Apfel attended via Zoom.

Meeting conducted in person and on Zoom. Rick Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:05.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of June 14, 2021, and financial meeting of July 6, 2021

Before the vote to approve the minutes for both meetings Cawley asked to address the incorrect appointments to town committees and for the board to make the corrections. Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes to both the regular and financial selectboard meetings with the addition of the board to make the committee corrections. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Treasurer Kelley had a grievance about a statement that was made at the financial meeting of July 6. The board agreed to address it at the appropriate time.

Public concerns

None

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. concerns

Lee Porter was asked about an ongoing problem of a vehicle in or too close to the town right of way. Porter stated that there is another vehicle that is also a problem. Cawley requested that Porter stay on it and suggested a letter to the landowner may be necessary.

Porter relayed the news that Nelson LaFrancis had a successful operation.

Porter stated that Blodgett reminded him that the lease contract for the grader needed to be signed by the select board. The lease agreement was then discussed and reviewed by the board. Porter informed them that the grader is good for 15 years. There are six payments over six years with the first at \$31,800. Cawley noticed the wrong address on the lease and a few other questions arose which a call to Caterpillar should clear up. Demrow then made a motion to authorize signing the lease with Caterpillar Financial Services. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Cawley then asked to adopt a resolution suggested by Caterpillar to authorize the signing of the lease. Kramer made a motion to adopt the resolution. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Porter reported a concern from a landowner on Bear Notch Rd about a culvert. He agreed to inspect it.

Porter also informed the board that a potential new road crew employee fell through and Blodgett requested to place an ad on municipal websites and in local papers for the position. There was discussion as to pay, feasibility of sign on bonuses, etc. as there is a sizable shortage of qualified people and high demand across the state. Kramer motioned to approve the request for Blodgett to place an ad for the position. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chris Groschner asked about the trash situation at the former East Corinth Village Store. Porter reported that the dumpster is gone and there is less refuse around and the occupant is continually working on it.

Service officer job description

The Corinth Community Coalition has been working hard at coming up with a job description for the Service Officer. They also produced a graphic detailing available resources which was printed in the latest Corinth Quarterly Newsletter. Spiegel's concern is that people aren't aware of what help is out there and how to go about finding it. Kramer clarified that the job description was an attempt to clarify the duties and responsibilities of the position, and separate it from a conversation about recruiting a candidate to fill it. It was agreed by all that most important were supportive and interpersonal skills and to be able to communicate and collaborate with the many different agencies. According to statute, the Selectboard will oversee the position. Spiegel offered to produce a contact list. Demrow requested the coalition send a copy of the job description to the board in a format that can be edited. The Selectboard will make edits and then solicit more input from the Coalition.

ARPA funds update

The funds have not arrived in the town account yet. Kelley informed the board that many towns have not seen the deposits yet. The town is registered with the state and is just waiting for the funds to be disbursed. Conversation about public engagement surrounding the use of the funds is postponed until the town receives the first deposit.

Town South Road property

Abutter to the property has been mowing and temporarily pasturing a horse there. The board will draft a letter granting him permissive use of the town land for the board to sign and record in the town land records. Cawley offered to draft the letter. Demrow made a motion to request Cawley to draft and send the letter for abutter to sign granting permission to continue maintenance of the town property. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of town officers and commission members

The board moved to appoint Brad Wheeler as the town Health Officer for three years. Agreement was unanimous. Cawley will fill out the state information form. Wheeler will be required to come to the town hall to sign an oath with the town clerk. Shirley Montagne has been appointed the Blake Memorial Library representative for three years. The board agreed the list is now updated. Kramer made a motion to adopt the new list of appointments. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

Treasurer Kelley handed out copies of the FY 2019 audit to members of the board for perusal. Kelley then informed the board that the representative from Sullivan and Powers will be in Corinth the week of October 13 to work on FY 2020 and FY 2021 audits. If the audits are completed as planned, the town will be caught up for the coming year. It was reported that the Orange County Sheriff's office sent a bill for \$500 for patrolling roads not in Corinth. Kelley will call the sheriff's office to ask for corrections.

Other business that comes before the board

Kelley added expenses to the warrant totalling \$282.04 payable to the East Corinth Store. Kramer made a motion to approve the revised warrant. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Kelley also requested approval for the amount of \$113 for the assistant town clerk's pay; retroactive a year back after the board had approved the assistant town clerk's pay go from \$13 to \$14 hourly. Cawley made a motion to approve the payment of \$113 to the assistant town clerk for retroactive pay. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Kelley informed the board that he has started working on the tax rate which will be ready by the next financial meeting. He stated that the tax rate provisionally appears lower than last year, but that there is still incoming information and it's possible that it will still change.

Demrow then made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.