

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes Of Selectboard Meeting
February 14, 2022

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten, selectboard clerk. Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman, Forbes Morrell, visitor. Via Zoom; Gary Apfel, and Chris Groschner.

Meeting conducted in person and on Zoom. Chair Rick Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:02.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of January 10, 2022, and financial meeting of February 1, 2022

Demrow requested that a change be made to the minutes of the 1/10/22 regular meeting to read that "Steve Long agreed to chair the ARPA committee", rather than "offered" to chair. Kramer then made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular selectboard meeting of 1/10/22 as amended and the selectboard financial meeting of 2/1/22. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns A

Forbes Morrell opened discussion about the impending cleanup of the Corinth Pike Hill Coppermine and requested that a small committee be appointed by the board to keep abreast of the project. The board stated that Ed Hathaway from the EPA and John Schmeltzer from the state of VT will attend the next regular selectboard meeting via Zoom. They are to oversee the project and will have more information about what to expect and will answer any questions. Forbes met with 2 state biologists and game warden Mike Scott who have been involved with a study of the small brown bat population at the mines and found a hibernating colony of over 100 bats. The concern is to not disturb the colony during the hibernation period. Other concerns are road conditions and necessary heavy traffic. Town historical significance is also associated with the site. Cawley suggested that Morrell attend the next meeting and along with the board air all concerns and ask questions. Demrow offered to send Morrell a presentation from Ed Hathaway.

Cawley deferred the rest of the public concerns agenda until after the Road Commissioner's report and highway concerns.

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. concerns

Porter reported that he had sent a letter to a town resident who repeatedly plows snow into the town right of way making it difficult for the town snowplows and traffic. There has been no reply so another letter will be sent

Blodgett informed the board that the Municipal Road General permit is due and requested the selectboard sign it to let the VT Dept of Environmental Conservation know the town is in compliance. They have until June to pay the dues. Demrow made a motion to sign the MRG permit from the VT Dept of Environmental Conservation. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Next Cawley reminded the commissioner and foreman that the Planning commission is working on the highway ordinance having to do with updating the regulations for driveways and highway access permits. There are two driveways off White Rd. that are in violation. No applications were filled out for the permits. They are out of compliance with the highway ordinance and they must comply. Cawley stated the board will send an official letter to the violators. Porter made known that the B71 and A76 standards must be in the highway ordinance. The board will look the standards over.

Public concerns: scheduling of March selectboard financial meeting; posting of agendas, and governor's Declaration of Inclusion

Demrow made a motion to move the next selectboard financial meeting to March 8, 2022 and the next regular selectboard meeting to March 14, 2022 contingent on checking with treasurer Kelley and town clerk Ertle. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Town resident Dina DuBois, who could not attend, requested that the selectboard agendas be posted more widely for greater access to the public. Gary Apfel offered to post them on the LRN.

DuBois also asked for the town to adopt the Governor's Declaration of Inclusion. The board agreed that the declaration is the governor's statement and not meant for town adoption

Compensation for town hall maintenance

Demrow stated he got an email from Norm Collette who is in charge of town hall maintenance about extra compensation for some of the added work he does with his own equipment such as plowing and cleaning up the snow the town plows leave behind around stairs and entryways. Kramer asked that there be a clear policy about the different level tasks. The board decided to defer any decision and include Norm in discussions at the next selectboard meeting. Norm also had a list of projects for the selectboard to consider. These will also be discussed with Norm at the next meeting.

ARPA proposals/committee

Steve Long, chair of the ARPA committee requested \$170 for a townwide mailing and asked if it should be on the town letterhead. The letters will go out to residents asking for input and ideas for the use of ARPA funds which consists of \$425,000. Demrow made a motion to approve the use of \$170 of the ARPA funds for the mailing. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Town meeting 2022 warning

The board discussed getting the warning adopted hopefully by the March meeting. Cawley will plug in the budget figures and get a draft to Demrow and Kramer. Moderator Apfel suggested having an open discussion about ARPA at town meeting. Cawley explained that it had already been planned and will be put on the warning as the ARPA committee should have some information by then.

Correspondence

The board received 2 renewals for liquor licenses from East Corinth General Store and Crossmolina Market. Demrow made a motion to approve both renewals. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

The board went into executive session to discuss a personal matter and came out at 8:30. No action taken.

Kramer made a motion to adjourn, Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.