

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Approved Minutes Of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten, selectboard clerk. Others attending: Nancy Ertle, town clerk; Ed Childs, town representative for EC Fiber; Jeff and Sandy Spiegel, Steve Long, Mary Hays, Lindle Sutton, and Chris Davis.. Via Zoom; Gary Apfel, Lois Jackson, and Steve Devoto.

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

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of March 14, 2022, and special meeting of March 26, 2022

Carl Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular selectboard meeting of March 14, 2022 and the special meeting of March 26, 2022. Nick Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns

None

Anticipated town clerk vacancy

Nancy Ertle informed the board that she had five individuals interested in the town clerk position; two have sent resumes and she anticipates receiving the other three. Cawley asked Ertle if she would stay on through town meeting to which she agreed. There was discussion about hiring a non-resident if needed. Cawley stated that the appointment vs. election process would have to be put in the warning for town meeting. The warning will be finalized at next Monday's meeting and a copy will be sent to Ertle. It was decided to discuss the applicants more in executive session at next Monday's financial meeting.

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. concerns

Road commissioner Porter and foreman Blodgett were not in attendance due to health issues. Cawley spoke with the commissioner by phone and Porter reported that the roads are drying up after this particularly rough mud season.

As for the vehicles in the town right of way in front of the Old Village Store in East Corinth, it was decided to write a letter to the landowner informing them that the town will take action if the vehicles are not moved. Demrow made a motion to send a letter to the owner of the vehicles stating that if the owner does not move them the town will have them moved. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ARPA resolution and proposals

Demrow reported that he and Steve Long, chair of the ARPA committee attended a webinar with VLTC regarding the ARPA final rule. .. Demrow then made a motion that the town of Corinth make the one-time irrevocable decision to elect the "Standard Allowance" approach for the town's ARPA award in the amount of \$425,969.58 to spend on the provision of government services throughout the period of performance of the grant. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The town must report to the federal government on April 30th of each year until the ARPA funds are depleted.

ARPA committee chair Steve Long reported that the committee has received over 100 responses to the survey they sent out to town residents with a lot of different ideas for the use of funds. The committee consists of four members who each are working on different categories of proposals after which they will come together to evaluate and summarize for the selectboard to review. Lois Jackson, Chris Davis, and Lindle Sutton asked how residents can be involved in the process.

Cawley advised that there will be two more ARPA committee meetings before town meeting on the 12th and 26th. The meeting on the 26th will be a public forum for those interested in attending. Cawley reminded all that a summation of the proposals will be presented at town meeting for discussion. Town moderator Gary Apfel said he would like to explore ways to best facilitate the discussion to engage all possible interests.

Town meeting 2022 warning

Cawley reminded all that the warrant was adopted at the last selectboard meeting as far as the budget numbers with one minor change. The approval of the warrant was deferred due to the town clerk discussion which will be on the next meeting's warrant. Demrow stated that after the ARPA meeting on the 26th they will have a better idea how to formulate the issue for discussion at town meeting..

E.C. Fiber resolution

The EC Fiber resolution was read by Chair Cawley for town delegates to be appointed. Ed Childs, who is the current town representative, updated the current information regarding the EC Fiber plan for Corinth. Currently there is no firm date to "break ground" in Corinth. Chris Davis expressed his concerns for residents who are beyond main roads and how quickly they will get internet service. Childs explained that EC Fiber's policy is to provide service to those areas. He also stated that he will get updates in a month or two. Nick Kramer made a motion to appoint Ed Childs as town representative to EC Fiber, Dick Kelley as first alternative, and Tim O'Dell as second alternative. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

"Through the Eyes of our Elders" book distribution

Mary Hays, author of "Through the Eyes of our Elders" gave a short summary of the history of writing this book about interviewing the elders of Corinth back in the early '90s and having 500 copies published. Apparently there are 120 copies which have been in the town hall attic for many years collecting dust. She expressed her concern to get them into the hands of townspeople who would benefit from having a copy. She suggested having them at town meeting for anyone who would like a copy. Lois Jackson asked if she may have a dozen or so in her bookshop; she would attempt to sell them and donate the proceeds to the town. Kramer suggested donating some to the historical society. It was decided to have Ms. Jackson try and sell some and reevaluate next year if there are any left to distribute at town meeting. Ms. Hays was happy to get them out of the attic and into the hands of readers.

Correspondence

TRORC sent a letter informing the board about bridge projects; nothing in Corinth so no action needed. Washington Electric Coop sent a letter requesting the board to approve permits to rehabilitate some electric lines and poles on Cookeville Road and Center Road in Corinth. Apparently it will involve changing a few poles and electric lines. The board took much time reviewing the letter and the maps and decided to approve the project. It will only involve town rights of way. Kramer made a motion to approve and sign the permits from Washington Electric. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Other business that comes before the board

Cawley received requests from both Travis Gendron and Glynn Pelegrino to have Gendron appointed to the Conservation commission. Demrow made a motion to have Travis Gendron appointed to the conservation commission. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Cawley received an email from town clerk Ertle about trash dumped at the East Corinth Park and Ride. Apparently there is a mattress, a broken up jacuzzi, and a couple of full "green up" bags over the bank. Because this is state property the board will contact road foreman Joe Blodgett to have him contact the state to see if the state will take responsibility to clean it up.

Executive session/personnel matter

The board went into executive session briefly to discuss a personnel matter. The board exited the executive session, no action taken.

Kramer moved to adjourn, Demrow seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

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