

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
January 8, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long
Catherine Tudish, selectboard clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.
Minutes of select board meeting of December 11, 2017 were approved.

Public Concerns

None.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter said that due to extremely icy conditions all three town trucks slid off the road on Christmas day, and a wrecker had to be called in from Barre to pull the trucks free. Porter added that damage to the trucks was minimal, costing about \$100 total for repairs. Porter noted that the \$175,000 paving grant had been received from the state.

Fire Station

Porter asked who was reviewing plans for the fire station to confirm it would best serve the town.

Groschner replied that the firefighters would be reviewing the plans. Hal Drury is the Select Board's representative on the project.

Groschner clarified that Morton Builders will present a final plan to the Select Board that will determine the cost for the proposed bond vote.

Two related public information meetings are planned: one on the facility and one on the bond. Dates of these meetings will be announced.

Warning for Town Meeting

Long presented a draft of the warning for Town Meeting.

Groschner suggested asking if the town would approve the town treasurer becoming a non-elected position and having the position appointed by the Select Board.

Long asked if the board wants to take on the responsibility of supervising the treasurer.

Groschner said he would poll Drury and Long via email about whether this article should be included in the warning.

Groschner and Long agreed to this proposed wording of Article 9: Will the town vote to change the position of treasurer from elected to appointed by the board?

Committee Reports

None.

Other Business

Citing the extreme cold at the transfer station, the Select Board approved the purchase of a "guard house" style shelter, not to exceed a cost of \$500.

Groschner moved to adjourn, Long seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
February 12, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Hal Drury
Catherine Tudish, selectboard clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of select board meeting of January 8, 2018 and financial meetings of January 2 and February 6, 2018 (as amended) were approved.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter said that two mailboxes had been knocked down by town plow trucks after the snow storm of February 4 and that they had been repaired by the road crew.

Porter noted that the sand pile is getting low, but he expects it to hold out for the remainder of winter. One of the town trucks is being repaired, under warranty, in Williston. Porter stated that this is due to a design flaw in the truck's Viking body.

Relocation of Transfer Station

Groschner asked Porter for an estimate of the cost of moving the transfer station from its current location to its proposed new location on Brook Road.

Porter said the estimate is between \$12,000 and \$15,000 for the move, and that there may be lesser costs after the move.

Porter said he has spoken to immediate neighbors of the proposed site and reported that they have no objections to the relocation.

Fire Station

Drury said Morton Builders will have estimated construction costs to him in time for presentation at Town Meeting.

Appointments

Current town treasurer, Susan Fortunati, will be stepping down the day after Town Meeting. Given that current assistant treasurer, Neysa Russo, will be away for several days in March, Groschner suggested appointing Fortunati as assistant treasurer on a temporary basis (March 8, 9, and 12) until the new treasurer can take office.

Groschner reported that Jon Spanier has volunteered to join the Conservation Commission, and the board appointed him for three years.

Correspondence

The Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District has sent their proposed 2018 budget of \$760,519. This document will be posted with other public notices.

Other Business

Groschner moved to sign the Certificate of Highway Mileage for the year ending February 10, 2018. Drury seconded, and the document was signed.

The liquor license renewal form for the East Corinth General Store was signed by Groschner and Drury.

Groschner moved to adjourn, Drury seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
March 12, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Hal Drury
Catherine Tudish, selectboard clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Kevin Eaton, Chair, Corinth Zoning Board of Adjustment

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Minutes of select board meeting of February 12, 2018 were approved.

Public Concerns

Eaton expressed concerns about potential flooding in the river corridor. He stated that the flood plain is determined by the state using remote devices, a process that results in “broad brush strokes” that don’t make fine distinctions. Eaton would like to get training to be able to better judge the accuracy of the state assessments, training that includes certification.

Groschner replied that there would be money for such training, if the right training can be identified. He said the Select Board supports whatever educational needs Eaton may have and emphasized that floodplain regulations are fairly new. He said Karen Galayda is the contact for funding.

Eaton then asked how property owners would be compensated if they lose use of property because of floodplain regulations.

Groschner said the Select Board does not yet know how that could work.

Eaton noted that there may be more corridor conflicts in the future, because even small streams are involved.

Groschner pointed out that the Select Board has taken several steps to inform town residents about the regulations, including a letter sent out that details the regulations and related restrictions on property owners.

Road Commissioner’s Report

Porter said he had received a complaint about a town plow truck damaging the border of a lawn in West Corinth. He met with the complainant and worked out an agreement to repair the damage.

Porter presented a document requiring Groschner’s signature for the town to receive state funding for signage of roads. Groschner signed and returned to Porter.

Porter said the sand pile is holding up, and there is an adequate supply of salt.

Groschner pointed out that a 35 MPH speed limit sign is needed near the electronic speed monitor on Cookeville Road, and Porter agreed.

Groschner reported that he has talked to Paul Tomasi of the Northeast Kingdom Solid Waste District to confirm that Corinth has voted to move the transfer station to the location on Brook Road. Tomasi will help with the state certification permit for the new transfer station.

Porter said trees and shrubs will be planted at the roadside of the new station.

Groschner moved to post town roads from March 12 to May 15. Drury seconded and the motion passed.

Appointed Town Officers for 2018

Drury moved to accept the following slate of officers appointed by the Select Board, Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Administrative Officer, one year: Karen Galayda

Budget Committee, one year: Irene Mann, Raymond Moulton, Amy Peberdy, Michael Pittman, Lee Porter, Linda Weiss

Conservation Commission, four years: Glynn Pellagrino, Linda Tobin

E-911 Coordinator, one year: Karen Galayda

Fence Viewers, one year: Gary Bicknell, Hal Drury, Robert Fortunati

Health Officer, one year: Chris Groschner
Planning Commission, three years: Kerry DeWolfe, Nick Kramer, Kenya Lazuli, one position tabled to next meeting
Revolving Loan Fund Committee, three years: Virginia Barlow
Surveyor of Wood and Timber, one year: Virginia Barlow
Tree Warden, one year: Virginia Barlow
Two Rivers Ottaquechee Commission, one year: Tim O'Dell
Upper Valley Ambulance Service Representative, one year: Joe Truss
Zoning Board of Adjustment, one year: Kevin Eaton, Russ Pazdro, one position tabled to next meeting
Blake Memorial Library Representative, three years: Jen Spanier
Energy Coordinator, one year: Tim O'Dell
NEK Waste Management District Board of Supervisors, one year: Bob Sandberg, alternate Marian Cawley
Constable, one year: position to remain vacant.

Payment for Treasurer

Tabled to financial meeting of April 3.

Places for Posting Town Notices

Dick Kelley requested approval for an additional posting area. He had already received permission to use the library bulletin board.
Groschner moved to accept the library bulletin board as an official posting site, Drury seconded, and the motion passed.

Fire Station

Drury reported that he had talked with Pete Bania of Morton Builders about heating for the building and was told they have a contract with Irving for propane.
Groschner asked Drury to contact Anne Margolis, who raised the possibility at Town Meeting of using heat pumps, to get more information about the feasibility of heat pumps for the station.
Drury said he would get back to Morton Builders for further discussion about heating.
Drury proposed two informational public meetings, to be scheduled for April 10 and April 24.

Correspondence

The minutes from Town Meeting prepared by Nancy Ertle were presented to be reviewed and signed by Groschner. Groschner signed with changes.

Responding to the letter of resignation from Maxine Slack, the Select Board accepted with regret her resignation from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Other Business

A request was submitted from Susan Fortunati, setting her effective hourly rate at \$20/hour as Assistant Treasurer. Approval of the rate was moved by Groschner and seconded by Drury. This is provisional, until Fortunati is appointed by the new Treasurer.
Drury made a motion to extend Eyemed coverage for 18 months for the Assistant Treasurer, all premiums to be paid by Fortunati. Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Groschner moved to adjourn, Drury seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
April 9, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Hal Drury
Catherine Tudish, selectboard clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; Karen Galayda, lister and administrative officer; Rev. Kelly Ann Donahue, pastor, East Corinth Congregational Church; Chris Preston; Kenneth Schaffer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Minutes of select board meeting of March 12, 2018 and financial meeting of April 3, 2018 were approved.

Election of Select Board Chairman

Long nominated Chris Groschner, Drury seconded, and it was moved that Groschner would continue as Chairman.

Public Concerns

Rev. Donahue raised a concern about the state of disrepair of the building at 657 Village Road, the former store adjacent to the Congregational Church. She asked if there was a plan to bring the building into compliance with safety standards.

Groschner replied that the selectboard was well aware of the condition of the store, which was why the board created a building ordinance. He added that the board has dealt with the state "quite unsuccessfully" about septic arrangements. Groschner mentioned that the road crew has expressed concern about vehicles associated with the building being parked in the roadway. The board has also talked to the building owners, but has little leverage in changing the situation, he said.

Long noted that the building ordinance was for public safety, not an eyesore ordinance.

Groschner said the owners have installed plastic fencing to put a barrier around the foundation, but whether the building is more secure is questionable. The board would be happy to do anything citizens suggest that would be within the board's ability, he said.

Donahue asked if the condition of the building would cause a problem for abutters getting insurance.

Groschner replied that it might, as the current state of the building also made it a fire hazard.

Drury asked Donahue to check on the number of vehicles on the property, noting that abandoned or discarded vehicles can be removed.

Galayda said the state Department of Transportation would have to be involved in any vehicle removal.

Road Report

In response to a concern that the posted speed limit sign of 35 mph in Cookeville was too far away from the electronic speed warning sign, Blodgett said he was going to move the electronic sign so that both signs could be viewed at the same time.

Porter said he attended the conservation commission meeting the previous week to discuss ideas for beautifying the roadside at the new transfer station site.

Blodgett reported that the road crew had added stone to Abe Jacobs Road to mitigate the swampy mud situation.

Blodgett presented forms for board signatures confirming state compliance. He also had the board sign forms for authorizing purchase of a new tractor with roadside mower, thereby avoiding a 6% price increase scheduled to take effect in May.

Blodgett recommended using remaining funds from the paving budget to put gravel on the unpaved section of Cookeville Road and to seal cracks in paved roads. These recommendations were approved by the board.

School Board Appointment

Groschner noted that two people, Chris Preston and Kenneth Schaffer, had volunteered to complete the term of retiring member Jessica Osgood, whose term would end in March 2019.

After hearing from Preston and Schaffer, the board decided to consider both candidates in executive session at the end of the meeting and notify them of its decision.

Fire Station

Drury presented the warning for a vote on the \$850,000 bond for construction of the new fire station.

Voting is scheduled for May 15, 2018, at the Corinth Town Hall, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., open to all legal voters of Corinth.

Drury said that an informational meeting will be held on May 10, 2018, at 7 p.m. at the Corinth Town Hall to explain the proposed fire station and its financing.

The warning and information on registering to vote will be posted on the town website and other authorized posting sites.

Administrative Officer's Concerns

Galayda asked the board to give lister Linda Weiss a raise to \$14/hour. The board approved the raise.

Galayda said the listers had met with attorney Dan Richardson regarding the town reappraisal. Richardson said that Vermont Appraisal Company did not adjust in terms of the fair market value of real estate in the town of Corinth. Correcting the errors to the appraisal would cost about \$5,500 Galayda said.

Maxine Slack was reappointed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment by the select board for a period of one year.

The letter to property owners drafted by the select board concerning regulations affecting new construction and development will be mailed out soon.

Emerald Ash Borer Plan

A public information meeting was scheduled for April 10 with information from the state forest service. Long is establishing a Corinth task force to inventory ash trees and look for signs of infestation by the insect.

Porter and Blodgett both agreed to be on the task force. Additionally, Long recommended members Virginia Barlow, Bradley Wheeler, Dan Wing, Glynn Pellagrino, and Russ Pazdro. The select board approved the task force with these members.

Town Website

Anne McKinsey, who maintains and designs the town website, requested approval for the purchase of a new Word Press theme and other upgrades. Approval was granted by the select board.

Other Business

The select board appointed Joe Truss as emergency management coordinator for a one-year term.

Correspondence

Drury noted that the select board had received an animal report from the state, containing a record of vaccinations and dog licenses. A copy will be sent to the Corinth dog officer.

The select board went into executive session at 8:25 p.m., and came out of executive session at 8:35 p.m.; no decisions had been made. Long then moved to appoint Kenneth Schaffer to the open school board position, Groschner seconded, and Schaffer was unanimously appointed for the term ending in March 2019.

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

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

Approved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
May 8, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Hal Drury
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk

Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road crew foreman; Dick Kelley, chair, planning commission; Dean Gregoropoulos, Irene Mann

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of select board meeting of April 9, 2018 and financial meeting of May 1, 2018 were approved.

Public Concerns

Dean Gregoropoulos brought up the issue of building restrictions in the river corridor, stating that he had been required to remove a shed, at considerable expense, he built on his parents' property, following a state inspection of the site. He believes the decision was unfair, because the shed did not violate the restriction regarding an "auxiliary structure" greater than 500 square feet within 50 feet of the stream bank. The shed, Gregoropoulos said, was less than 500 square feet and over 60 feet from the stream bank. He has moved the shed, but he strongly recommends modifying the flood plain restrictions. He said the select board voted in the restrictions in 2015 without notifying the public and wants to know if the select board can now modify or retract them.

Groschner and Long pointed out that there were two public hearings on the issue prior to the select board voting to put the bylaws in place, and that those attending the hearings had expressed support for the restrictions.

Long said he thinks it is a good policy not to build within 50 feet of the river corridor.

Gregoropoulos said he agrees with the 50-foot rule, but that the new restrictions had not been made clear to the public prior to taking effect.

Groschner suggested appointing someone to the planning commission to specialize in flood plain concerns, and Kelley agreed.

Drury and Long asked to see the paperwork involved in order to understand the reason for the order to remove the shed.

Groschner said the select board was willing to review the process.

Long added that the board wants the process to work for everyone. "We would love to understand how this failed," Long said. If the bylaws need to be changed, he said, they can be.

Kelley told Gregoropoulos that he could petition for changes in the bylaws by gathering signatures.

Gregoropoulos left the meeting and returned later with a folder of relevant paperwork for the select board to review.

Irene Mann raised an issue regarding the pricing of trash removal. Casella's per-bag pricing does not cover every bag size, especially the size she uses, and she wanted to know if there could be other price options. Mann also asked why the town was using Bob Sandberg to pick up food scraps for composting, rather than taking the food scraps to the Washington Electric facility and making use of the methane. Long said the state mandate is that food scraps can no longer be included in household trash, effective July 2020.

Groschner added that the town benefits from having Sandberg pick up and haul food scraps without charge.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Blodgett raised the issue of loggers leaving a narrow band of trees standing along roadways when they complete a job. These trees are more likely to be blown down in a windstorm, blocking roadways and knocking down power lines. This should be a subject of further discussion, he said.

Groschner commended the road crew for its work clearing away fallen trees following the May 4 thunderstorms and asked whether all members of the road crew had up to date safety gear. Blodgett assured him that they did.

Blodgett presented the annual financial plan form from the state for board signatures. The document was signed and returned to Blodgett.

Porter said Carole Freeman had called about two cracked chimneys, claiming the contractor who put in the Chicken Farm Bridge had damaged her chimneys because of the impact of construction work. Porter added that the bridge was built approximately three years ago.

Groschner said the time frame makes it difficult to determine a cause-effect relationship.

Groschner thanked Porter for informing the board about the situation.

Porter asked to purchase a rusted steel beam of about 40 feet that came from the Bear Notch Bridge that is now at the new transfer station site.

Long moved to sell it to Porter for \$100, Drury seconded, and the motion passed.

Blodgett informed the board that he is using funds from the current budget to buy sand for next year.

Fire Station

Drury reported that he had elevation drawings from Morton Builders and would make multiple copies for the public meeting on May 10.

He said the fire department is working with Billy Ricker to get another estimate for site preparation.

Drury is still waiting to get septic costs.

Drury said he has a computer program that will let individuals calculate their tax liability for the bond based on their property tax assessment.

Drury confirmed that he has checked with Wells River Savings Bank about securing a construction line of credit to draw on until we can secure a bond from the bank next spring.

When the question of heating for the new fire station was brought up, Drury said the fire crew had expressed a preference for heating the building from the top down. Porter recommended heating from the bottom up as the most effective and efficient.

Correspondence

The select board received a letter from the state Agency of Agriculture confirming that the re-testing of water at the Town Hall found no coliform or e. coli present in the sample.

Other Business

Groschner moved that the select board appoint Anne Little to the planning commission. Drury seconded the move, and the motion was approved. Another member may be appointed to specialize in flood plain concerns.

Long moved to adjourn, Drury seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
June 11, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Hal Drury
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk

Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road crew foreman; Norm Patenaude, representing Pike Industries; Carl Demrow; Andrea Wilkins

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of select board meeting of May 8, 2018 were amended prior to approval. Minutes of financial meeting of June 5, 2018 were approved.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Porter said the road crew restored a section of the Christman property adjacent to the road in West Corinth affected by storm damage. Mr. Christman sent a letter to the select board and the road crew, thanking them for the excellent job.

Porter said a resident on Hazlett Road complained of piled up items blocking right of way to her property and interfering with sale of the property. Porter spoke to the person responsible for the blockage and reported that most has been cleared away and the right of way is open again.

Blodgett presented quotes for paving a section of Goose Green Road from Pike Industries and Blacktop. Blodgett recommended using Pike Industries, as their bid came in lower. If accepted right away, the price would be locked in.

Long moved that the select board accept Pike Industries, Drury seconded. The motion passed, and the board signed the contract.

Blodgett presented a permit form from the state Watershed Management Division for the Corinth town road crew to continue doing road maintenance. The cost of the permit is \$640 for the year. The form was signed by the select board and returned to Blodgett.

Blodgett reported that the town will get a grant of \$19,500 as part of a state pilot project to fund critical areas of road maintenance, primarily areas potentially affecting the watershed.

Groschner raised the issue of tick prevention and asked if the road crew was using tick repellent.

Long recommended work pants treated with permethrin as effective.

Blodgett said he would be sure the crew was using an effective repellent.

Porter said he met with Jerry Andrew and Michael Ray on Wilson Road. They are providing money for grading materials for road improvement. Porter stressed that the materials were not being used on their private driveways, but on the road.

Blodgett reported that the state is sending a consultant to East Corinth later in the summer to inspect culverts to determine what is going into the river. He asked that the select board post notification to alert citizens when this will occur. Groschner suggested putting a notice in the town newsletter and the Journal Opinion.

Blodgett brought up the issue of a resident of East Corinth throwing debris in the road. Groschner asked Porter to visit the person responsible and ask him to stop.

Fire Station

Groschner reported that the select board has received a petition calling for a re-vote on the bond for the new fire station. The vote must take place within 60 days, with an information session to be held 5-10 days in advance. Accordingly, the date for the vote was set for Tuesday, July 24, with an information session to be held on July 17 at 7PM at the Town Hall.

Long noted that the bond vote notice would have to come out July 4, 11, and 18 in the Journal Opinion and posted in 5 public locations around town.

Drury said he would put the site plan in the Town Hall vault, where the other construction plans are stored.

Changes to Zoning Board of Adjustment

Karen Galayda had asked to have all Planning Commission members on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Long moved to increase the size of that board from 3 to 9 members. Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Long moved to add the following Planning Commission members to the Zoning Board of Adjustment: Dick Kelley, Kerry DeWolfe, Nick Kramer, Kenya Lazuli, Patricia Rizzo, and Anne Little. Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Correspondence

The select board received a letter from Vermont Appraisal Company answering Dan Richardson's letter regarding the listers' concern that the town had not gotten a complete appraisal. Vermont Appraisal Company expressed a willingness to meet with the select board and the board of listers to discuss. A meeting will be scheduled.

Efficiency Vermont sent a letter notifying local businesses of energy efficient opportunities. Groschner will ask Nancy Ertle to put a notice in the town newsletter.

Maxine Slack submitted a letter of resignation from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The select board accepted her resignation with regret and appreciation for her service.

Drury moved to adjourn, Long seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
July 9, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long
Catherine Tudish, Select Board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Minutes of Select Board meeting of June 11 and financial meeting of July 3 were approved as presented.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter said putting material on Wilson Road is delayed approximately two weeks, because the quarry's crusher is broken and waiting for repair.
Porter has attempted to meet with residents on Short Street to discuss yard debris disposed of on town property, but has not found them at home. He will keep trying. He reported that the road crew is building up the sand pile for winter.
Regarding the new transfer station site, Porter said the road crew is waiting for the state permit/approval for moving the site.
Groschner said the Conservation Commission is considering adding a "free store" for donated items, to be open when the new transfer station is open. The commission would be responsible for overseeing the operations.
Porter said he was looking for a used military building to serve as a warming hut at the new site and that perhaps a larger such building could be used to house a free store. The advantage of a military building, Porter said, is that it would already be wired and insulated.
Porter noted that the generator at the town garage needs to be replaced soon.

Fire Station

The Select Board is preparing for the July 17 informational meeting in advance of the July 24 re-vote.

Law Enforcement

Groschner said he was contacted by a Newbury town official to determine interest in hiring an Orange County sheriff who would be shared among several towns. Corinth would be open to talking about it, depending on cost and number of towns involved, Groschner and Long agreed.
The current arrangement is with Orange County Sheriff Bill Bohnyak, at a rate of \$43/hour. Bohnyak has requested an increase to \$46/hour for this fiscal year. In the new town budget, \$10,000 is designated for sheriff services.

Groschner moved that the Board accept Bohnyak's contract at the new rate, Long seconded, and the contract was signed.

By state law, the town is required to have its own constable. Groschner said he would try to find someone for the constable position in order to comply.

Correspondence

From the Vermont Department of Taxes: The homestead tax rate is now 1.3024. The nonresidential rate is 1.4394.

Also from the Vermont Department of Taxes: Our "hold harmless" estimate is \$100,348 (for land held in current use).

Groschner moved to accept and sign the contract from Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C., the town auditor, for the year ending June 30, 2018. Long seconded, and the contract was signed.

Other Business

The Board addressed the issue of non-residents using the facilities of the Corinth transfer station, resulting in excessive amounts of material, such as multiple refrigerators, brought in by unauthorized users. Various methods of verifying residency were discussed. The Board decided to require resident stickers on vehicles for use of the transfer station.

Porter will identify a local business that can produce the stickers, and town residents will be notified of how and when to obtain them.

Groschner moved to adjourn, Long seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
August 13, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long
Catherine Tudish, Select Board Clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joseph Blodgett, Road Foreman;
Shirley Montagne, representing Blake Memorial Library; Christopher Diaz,
Christopher Diaz, Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Minutes of the Select Board meeting of July 9, 2018 and financial meeting of July 3,
2018 were approved. Long amended financial minutes of August 7, 2018 to include
the Treasurer's request to purchase an air conditioner for the Town Office, which
was authorized by the Board.

Blake Memorial Library Renovations

Shirley Montagne, head of the library board committee for renovations and
expansion of the parking lot, gave a report on the library's construction and
expansion plans.

The library board has decided to hire contractor Bill Ricker for the parking lot
expansion, which will add 10-15 parking spaces. The bank at the end of the current
lot will be leveled, and the stone wall will be moved and reconstructed. The front
door of the library will be closed off, so there should be no more parking on the
street. These changes will also improve driveway access.

Montagne said the commercial building donated by the Holland family to the library
board has been sold, and the proceeds will go toward funding of library building
renovations. These will include handicapped access, notably installation of an
elevator; installation of heat pumps and back-up heating; improvement of stairs;
and the addition of a second bathroom to the downstairs. The board has hired an
architect, Jay White of Burlington, to design interior improvements.

The library board wants to apply for a Vermont Community Development block
grant in the amount of \$75,000 for accessibility construction. On behalf of the
library board, Montagne requested that the Town of Corinth act as sponsor and
fiscal agent for disbursement of grant funds. The submission date for the grant
proposal is February 14, 2019, and there will be a public hearing for community
input prior to that date.

Long moved to participate in the block grant process, with the town acting as fiscal
agent; Groschner seconded, and the motion was approved.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter said he met with residents of Short Street who had been throwing yard debris onto town property. Residents had not realized this was a violation, and agreed to comply with Porter's request to stop.

After a road sign on Richardson Road had been knocked over, a license plate was found that appeared to be from the vehicle that ran into the sign.. The issue is being handled by Sheriff Ken Schaffer.

Porter brought up residents asking about funding available from the state for improving Class 4 roads.

Blodgett said few Class 4 roads meet the criteria for this funding.

Porter clarified that the funding is intended for the area around Lake Champlain and Lake Memphremagog, in order to mitigate phosphorous run-off from the roads.

Blodgett brought up the delay in getting FEMA funds, an amount of \$35,000.

Groschner said the Select Board has been working on the purchasing policy document with Rick Cawley, which needs to be completed to release FEMA funds.

Blodgett reported that the town has received a Municipal Pilot Grant of \$20,500 for upgrading culverts.

Blodgett presented pictures of available "guard house" trailers for sale for use at the transfer station. The Select Board authorized the purchase of a trailer available in Maine for \$100.

Blodgett is acquiring four generators: one for the town garage, one for the transfer station, one for the new fire station, and one to sell. Price for the four is \$1,000.

Porter offered to buy the available generator for a price that would cover all four generators, so there would be no cost to the town.

Blodgett commended the paving by Pike Industries on Goose Green Road, saying it was especially well done.

Blodgett has been getting estimates for the painting of the town's army truck and has found someone to do it for \$1,800.

Porter noted that the stickers for transfer station use have arrived, but too late to send out with tax bills. They will be mailed out to taxpayers. Renters and anyone needing a second sticker should bring proof of residency (such as a driver's license or current utility bill) to the Town Office to pick one up.

Stickers will be required on vehicles entering the transfer station beginning September 1.

Fire Station

Long said he had received an email from Rick at Morton Builders. He said that Morton would present any changes in the original estimate and a construction schedule, by the end of August.

Correspondence

Long reported receiving a letter of resignation from Zoning Board of Adjustment member Kevin Eaton. The Board accepts the resignation with thanks for Eaton's long service.

Testing of Fire Alarms and Extinguishers

Long tested all alarms and fire extinguishers.

Groschner moved to adjourn, Long seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
September 10, 2018

Attending for the Board: Steve Long, John Haney
Catherine Tudish, Select Board clerk
Others attending: Karen Gaylada for the Board of Listers; Lee Porter, Road
Commissioner; Joe Blodgett, Road Crew Foreman; Carl Demrow

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.
Minutes of the financial meeting of September 4, 2018 were approved. Approval of
minutes of the Select Board meeting of August 13, 2018 was postponed, as Haney
had not been present at that meeting.

Listers Report on Appraisal

Galayda said she talked with attorney Dan Richardson, who specializes in municipal
law. Richardson met with Vermont Appraisal Company three weeks ago to discuss
the Listers' opinion that the appraisal was incomplete because it did not include an
adjustment of statistics, such as the comparison of assessed values versus market
values. Normally the town's statistics would change following a reappraisal, but
those for Corinth did not. In the company's opinion, they were not responsible for
adjusting statistics to meet state requirements.

Galayda subsequently discussed the matter with Chris Groschner, Select Board
chair, and Richardson. Together they decided it would not be feasible to take the
issue further.

Long asked if the town was finished with reappraisal issues.

Galayda said yes. She added that reappraisals should be done more often than every
10 years.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter said there is an ongoing problem with Peter and Donna MacMurray's
property on Magoon Hill Road, regarding the town culvert that crosses the road
parallel to their barn. They keep plugging the culvert with gravel, attempting to
prevent water from running over their property. Porter said he and Blodgett would
try to meet with them to discuss the importance of keeping the culvert open.

Blodgett said it is a crucial pipe and needs to be in place.

Porter and Blodgett reported on the status of the transfer station move. Porter said
he has received a letter from the state declaring the project is at a halt. Because the
town also wants to put in a stump dump, Porter said that could be the reason for the
halt. He said that if adding the stump dump is holding up the procedure, the town
would drop that and just move the transfer station.

Blodgett presented a form authorizing the listing of a used town mower on the online site AuctionsInternational.com. The form was signed by Long. Blodgett said that the town's military truck has been painted for a cost of \$2,200.

Fire Station

Long said he has been trying to contact Dan Carter, the civil engineer working on septic and other permits for the state, regarding the site survey done by Byron Kidder.

Long reported that once the wastewater permit is in place, Karen Galayda can do the subdivision permit.

Attorney Daryl Hotchkiss, representing the property donor, Joe Holland, is asking the town to pay his fee of \$450 to handle the property transfer.

Long moved to pay Holland's legal fee of \$450, Haney seconded, and the motion was approved.

Morton Builders sent the contract for review, stating that they needed documents back by September 21; otherwise, they can't guarantee the agreed-on price.

Haney drafted a letter in response, noting that both sides have been responsible for delays and that the town will not be rushed into signing off on the contract. The Select Board will wait for approval by Groschner to send the letter.

The contract also has to be approved by the town attorney.

Committees

The Conservation Committee asked for the appointment of Lindle Sutton for a 3-year term, to March 2021. The Select Board approved the appointment.

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

Long moved to adjourn, Haney seconded, and meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
October 8, 2018

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, John Haney
Catherine Tudish, Select Board Clerk
Others attending: Joe Blodgett, road foreman; Joanna Bligh

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM.
Minutes of the select board meetings of August 13 and September 10 and the financial meeting of October 2 were approved.

Public Concerns

Joanna Bligh introduced herself as a resident of Corinth Corners who drives a horse and carriage on the roads near her house. She has been concerned in recent weeks by the dangerous behavior of large groups driving four-wheelers. They have not respected her right-of-way and have driven so close that they have startled her horse into rearing up and nearly overturning the carriage. She said that she called the state police and reported them, because it is her understanding that four-wheelers are not allowed on the roads in Corinth.

Groschner confirmed that four-wheelers are not allowed on the roads in Corinth, since an ordinance of 2006. But he said we no longer have a constable with the authority to issue tickets.

Groschner recommended alerting the Orange County sheriff.

Blodgett said part of the problem is that the neighboring towns of Washington and Topsham do allow four-wheelers. He added that metal signs banning four-wheelers in Corinth have been stolen.

Bligh suggested posting paper signs, such as those used during mud season to close roads to heavy vehicles, that would show the Corinth boundary and give notice that four-wheelers are not allowed. She said paper signs could easily be replaced if they were taken down.

Haney agreed that the best idea was to call the Orange County Sheriff.

Groschner said he would also look into making up paper signs.

Road Foreman's Report

Blodgett said the town tractor has sold for \$15,800.

Steve Slack has requested to buy the old tractor pull weights that belonged to his father. Blodgett said they would be worth \$500, which would go back into the equipment fund. The Select Board approved the sale to Slack.

Blodgett reported that the dump site off Brook Road has been approved by the state, but the town is still waiting for a state permit. The site is not likely to be moved until spring, Blodgett said.

Blodgett reported that the price of salt has increased again, to about \$80 per ton. The town buys from 650 to 800 tons per year. Groschner signed the contract with Barrett to provide salt for the winter season. Blodgett said beavers have been plugging the culvert on Cookeville Road and that adjacent property owners have been opposed to trapping. Long asked if the road crew had tried beaver baffles. Blodgett said they had tried a baffle that lasted about three days before the beavers chewed through it. Haney said there might be a type of culvert fencing that has been developed more recently. Blodgett said there are already so many beaver dams in the area that a severe storm could wash them out and flood both the Cookeville Road and Joe Lord Road.

Fire Station

The Board discussed the draft contract with Morton Builders that Haney had reviewed and his suggested changes. The next step will be to send Morton a cover letter with the proposed revisions to the contract. Groschner said he would ask Rick Cawley if the town has a boiler-plate contract that could be used for a contract with Bill Ricker on specifications for the site work. Long said he expects to get the signed wastewater permit from Joe Holland in the mail by October 9.

Transfer Station

Addressing recent questions of access, the Board agreed that all Corinth taxpayers, whether year-round home owners, land owners, or seasonal home owners have the right to use the transfer station and should receive stickers.

Other Business

Groschner said he will attend the Newbury Select Board meeting on Wednesday, October 10, to get more information on jointly hiring an Orange County deputy sheriff to patrol the towns. Blake Memorial Library has asked that Anne McKinsey be appointed the town representative to the library, retroactive to April 24, 2018. Long moved to approve the appointment, Groschner seconded, and the motion passed. The Board approved adding information to the town web site for college students wishing to register to vote.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

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 21st 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.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
December 10, 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; Rick Cawley; David Frank of SunWood Biomass

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

Minutes of the select board meeting of November 12 and the financial meeting of December 4 were approved.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Porter said he had received a complaint from a resident on Bear Notch Road regarding the plowing of the road. Porter informed the resident that this is a Class 4 road not plowed by the town. A neighbor has been paying a private contractor to plow, and Porter suggested any further issues should be discussed with the neighbor.

Blodgett reported that Vershire resident Mr. Zimmer continues to be concerned about the town trucks safely turning around in the space at the top of Tullar Road that abuts his property. Mr. Zimmer said he will go to the Vershire select board and ask for the turn-around to be expanded and would like Porter and Blodgett to be involved.

Blodgett also reported that the town's bale mulcher has been sold for \$4,500.

Blodgett presented figures for the new town truck, saying he expects to get \$70,000 in trade.

Fire Station: Presentation by SunWood Biomass/Contract with Ricker Excavating/Contract with Morton Builders

David Frank of SunWood Biomass made a presentation on the efficacy of installing a wood heating system in the new fire station in addition to the currently proposed propane system. He pointed out that Efficiency Vermont gives larger rebates if a wood system is installed in an existing building, and thus he recommended waiting to install after construction. He estimated that the rebate would be \$8,000 for a 6,000 square foot building.

Frank said he would be glad to consult with Morton Builders about making space for a wood boiler. Additionally, a wood boiler would require a flue that would go through the roof and an outside silo for wood pellet storage.

Frank suggested putting in the connections for piping systems to be used in the future, to prepare for the eventual installation of a wood system that would provide radiant floor heat.

Compared with the gas forced hot air system currently planned for the building, the wood system would offer a 30% saving on fuel, he said.

Frank concluded that the cost of installing a wood heating system would be \$45,000 before the Efficiency Vermont rebate.

Groschner explained that the Select Board favors a wood heating system, but that the decision to go with a propane hot air system was based on the necessity of staying within the approved budget. Frank said it would be relatively easy to install a wood system later if piping connections were put in place at the time of construction and if space for a wood boiler was made available.

Discussion of the contract with Ricker Excavating was tabled until the next meeting.

Regarding the contract with Morton Builders, Long reported that Morton wants the town to get back to them with a statement of terms and conditions from a standard AIA (American Institute of Architects) contract.

Groschner said he believed he would be able to access an AIA contract.

Haney said it would be foolish to construct a new building without putting radiant tubing in the floor, even if it isn't hooked up at first.

The board agreed that it would be best to have Morton install the radiant tubing.

The bond application is being prepared by Long and Haney, with a submission deadline of Friday, December 14.

Annual Report: Warning/Renew Exemptions

Long said the warning needs to be out by January 24. Items on the warning include renewing exemptions, financials, and redefining the town treasurer position.

Groschner reported that photographs of Corinth's historical buildings have been given to the art teacher at Waits River School. Student drawings will be submitted to Anne McKinsey by January 15.

Long said he has been proofreading reports and will draft the Select Board report.

He asked other Board members to add items to the warning.

Position of Treasurer

The Board discussed the possibility of changing the position of Town Treasurer from an elected to an appointed office.

Haney suggested that the board define the position and advertise for a treasurer, with the expectation of getting approval at Town Meeting for the change.

Groschner and Long agreed to this approach, and Long volunteered to write up an ad.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.