

Town of Corinth Board of Selectmen
P. O. Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039
Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting January 14, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, John Haney
Virginia Barlow, Temporary Clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, Road Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM. Minutes of the select board meeting of December 12 and the financial meeting of January 2 were approved.

1. Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Lee Porter said there have been a couple of complaints about people leaving berms in the town road while plowing their driveways but he has dealt with them. The road crew is using more than the normal amount of sand and Joe Blodgett has been bringing in more sand. The grader has been winging back the banks.

Lee mentioned that Joe Blodgett has put in a bid for a building to be placed at the new transfer station and he thinks we've got it. It's 30 feet long and divided in such a way that part will be a warming hut and the conservation commission can have the other part of it for a free store. It is now in Portsmouth, NH, but is on wheels and the town has a vehicle that can tow it to Corinth if this works out.

FIRE STATION BOND PROCESS: Paul Giuliani from Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer sent two sets of papers for the select board to approve and sign.

The first set was required for participation in the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank and included:

- Certification of temporary bond anticipation borrowing
- the Town's EIN number
- an anticipated schedule of improvements financed by the bond
- the legislative body's declaration of official intent (reimbursement resolution).

The board voted to complete and sign all forms and return them to Giuliani.

The second set of paperwork is the original documentation needed to complete the 2019 Series 1 sale.

The board agreed to sign and execute the following documents:

- Resolution and Certificate
- Municipality Tax Certificate
- Loan Agreement
- Bond
- Certificate of Registration
- IRC Section 148 Certification

Steve will get the Clerk and Treasurer to sign the documents that need to be signed and returned to P, P, E, and C.

CONTRACT WITH RICKER EXCAVATING

John has developed a contract and the town attorney has provided his guidance on it.

One last item needed to be decided on, an assessment of liquidated damages. John says this only comes into play if we think we are going to incur costs because Ricker Excavating has failed to complete the work and Morton needs to delay its start. He recommended keeping it in the contract but said that the rest of the contract was more important in protecting the town. Steve suggests a fee of \$1.00 per day. The others concurred and approved the contract. It now goes to Bill Ricker.

CONTRACT WITH MORTON BUILDERS

Chris has a copy of an AIA agreement that includes samples of contracts for the select board to consider when developing contract and terms and conditions.

John says that Morton first suggested we provide only terms and conditions from the AIA (American Institute of Architects) contract, but then seemed to suggest in a recent email that we provide the whole AIA contract. Terms and Conditions are pretty much boiler plate, but the contract would be considerably more work.

Steve wants Morton to work with what we sent them, rather than start anew. He suggested that a conference call would be better and faster. John will set that up.

ANNUAL MEETING WARNING

Select board members have looked at the warning previously except for one change, which calls for a report on the town fire station. Steve is willing to make the presentation at town meeting, with help from John. Bond money should be in the bank by then.

The warning is ready to go, both Neysa Russo, the treasurer and Susan Fortunati, the former treasurer have reviewed the figures.

Chris moved that the board sign the Town Meeting Articles for Tuesday March 5th, 2019. Steve seconded. All voted in favor and signed the warning.

POSITION OF TREASURER

Steve has received some responses to his ads. Susan Fortunati provided a four-page summary of the job description. Steve summarized it and into a short job description. He has had two responses from Craig's list and one from the listserv. Steve will put ads out again. John suggested the VLTC website and Steve will do that. Steve may revise the Craig's list posting.

Lee mentioned a State of Vermont job listing service that at used to exist and maybe still does.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – none

CORRESPONDENCE

The annual certificate of highway mileage needs to be filled out and returned to the state. Lee Porter will take care of that.

NEKWMD sent their new tire policy. The town now needs to deliver tires to them. As of January 1, they will no longer pick them up. We have already been taking them there.

OTHER BUSINESS

At last year's town meeting, the select board was asked to discuss moving the date and time of town meeting and said they would consider it. Some towns meet on the Saturday before, although Australian ballots need to be voted on the 1st Tuesday of March even if floor votes occur on another day. Chris has explored the pros and cons of this and has found that Saturday or evening meetings do not result in more people coming.

The emergency lighting and fire extinguishers were checked by Steve and John

Chris moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:32 pm. All voted in favor.

Town of Corinth
Board of Selectmen
PO Box 461
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Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
February 11, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, John Haney
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes of select board meeting of January 14, 2019 and financial meeting of February 5 were approved.

Public Concerns

The board discussed a proposal by Scott Elledge to establish a Little Free Library (LFL) in Cookeville. Many towns in our area have such little libraries, which are essentially a cabinet that holds about two dozen books, located in a public place. The idea is to make books available for free on a "take one, give one" basis. (People are also welcome to take a book without leaving one.) Elledge and others in the community suggested finding a woodworker in Corinth who would be willing to construct our LFL as a replica of the Corinth Academy, either as a volunteer or for a reasonable cost. Elledge volunteered to apply to the LFL national organization to register our library, to pay the \$40 fee, and to be the appointed caretaker. The LFL would be placed on the covered porch of the Town Hall, in order to protect it from the weather and make it accessible to the community. Long moved that the select board support the project, Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter said they will be hauling sand later this week. The sand pile is going down, as the road crew is using more than usual for this time of year. A resident who lives on a class 4 road asked that the road crew not wing his road, because he was concerned about damage to plants along the roadside. Porter agreed to his request, since his is the only residence on that road. Groschner asked about the sand budget, and Porter said he thought the crew would stay within the budget. Porter presented the Municipal Roads General Permit Planning Report from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Watershed Management Division, for Groschner's signature. Groschner said he had a call concerning the amount of snow mounting up in certain areas that makes it hard to see oncoming traffic when pulling out on the roadway.

Porter said he understands the concern and that the road crew is taking measures to move snow as much as possible.

Fire Station Bond Process/Contract with Morton Builders

Groschner reported that he had invited the acting fire chief to attend the select board meeting by leaving a phone message, but had not heard back from him.

Long said he and Haney had a conversation with Morton to discuss the process going forward and came away with reservations that the fire station could be built with the money available.

Groschner said there was a problem with acquiring an updated set of plans from Morton and thus the town could not go ahead with a contract.

Long said he thought the town should not continue negotiations with Morton, given the various difficulties in negotiating a contract. Long made a motion to that effect, Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Groschner said that leaves the town with the problem of finding a new contractor. Haney pointed out that there are other companies in the area that manufacture steel buildings, or the town could go with a design/build company, or hire an architect to design a building and then put it out to bid.

For example, Haney said, a national company—Butler—works locally with Trumbull-Nelson of Hanover. The design would come from Butler, and the general contractor would be Trumbull-Nelson.

Haney said the manufactured steel building would probably be the most economical. Groschner emphasized the importance of moving ahead quickly in order not to lose more ground financially.

Long said ceasing the process with Morton gives the town more opportunity to be involved in the project.

Groschner said the town could use the plans we have already purchased, with modifications.

Long said we now have the option of getting some grant funding for energy efficiency measures.

Porter suggested looking into Efficiency Vermont as a source of funding.

Haney said this is an opportunity to get a better building than the one designed by Morton.

Long reported that he has spoken with the bond bank, and there is no problem with putting the application on hold. The town is also in a good position to get bridge funding if needed.

Long will send a letter to Morton stating that the Board is terminating its relationship with the company.

Groschner and Haney will contact the fire department to inform them of the decision.

Treasurer Position

Long said he is continuing to advertise the position.

No one has submitted a petition to run for town treasurer, and Long stressed the importance of getting authority at Town Meeting to make it a hired position.

Long has asked Neysa Russo to stay on as assistant treasurer after Town Meeting, for March and April, and she has agreed.

Correspondence

The Board has received a letter of resignation from Dina Dubois, effective at the end of April 2019, from the Conservation Commission. The Board moved to accept her resignation with thanks for several years of service and her many contributions to the Commission's work.

Other Business

NEMRC, the company that supplies the software used at the town offices, is no longer providing network security. The town will need to find someone to take on that role. Groschner suggested contacting an IT specialist from Bradford who has done work for Corinth's administrative officer.

Haney recommended using a business that will support the computer system when buying new equipment in the future.

The date of the March financial meeting has been moved to Friday, March 1, at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall, in order not to conflict with Town Meeting on March 5.

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

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
March 11, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, Select Board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Dina Dubois, John Haney

The meeting to called order at 7:00 PM.
Minutes of select board meeting of February 11, 2019 and financial meeting of
March 1, 2019 were approved.

Election of Select Board Chair

Long moved to re-appoint Chris Groschner as chair, Cawley seconded, and the
motion passed.

Public Concerns

Dubois noted that the flag outside Town Hall has come loose from one attachment
and is flapping in the wind in a way that could damage it. She added that it is hard to
get to the flag pole because of the current snow bank, but hopes the flag can be
lowered and re-attached soon.

Dubois also expressed a health concern about people picking up dropped apples in
the town orchard that might be contaminated by animals and insects. She asked if a
sign could be posted to warn people of the possibility. She wondered if the town's
insurance would cover it if someone sued after getting sick after eating dropped
apples.

Groschner said he would call the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, which
provides insurance for the town to find out about coverage.

Cawley suggested including a precaution about drops on a sign posted at the
orchard. He said "Pick at your own risk" should be sufficient.

Appointments

The Board made the following appointments for town officers:

Administrative Officer, one year: Karen Galayda

Animal Control Officer, contract annually: Michelle Boyer

Budget Committee Members at large, one year: Linda Weiss, Raymond Moulton, Lee
Porter, Amy Peberdy, Mike Pittman, Irene Mann

E-911 Coordinator, one year: Karen Galayda

Emergency Management Coordinator, one year: Joe Truss

Fence Viewers, one year: Gary Bicknell, Robert Fortunati, Catherine Tudish

Health Officer, one year: Chris Groschner

Revolving Loan Fund Committee, three years: Linda Weiss
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
Energy Coordinator, one year: Tim O'Dell
NEK Waste Management District Board, one year: Bob Sandberg; alternate Marian Cawley
Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits, one year: Gary Apfel
Town Agent to Deed Real Estate, one year: Gary Apfel

Road Commissioner Report

Porter said a building has been placed on the new transfer station site to be used as a warming hut and the Conservation Commission's free store. The building was purchased for \$500.

Groschner suggested that the Conservation Commission might pay for half the cost of the building, as they will be using it.

Porter asked if money from selling recycled metal at the transfer station could pay for the other half. The Board agreed to this suggestion.

Porter suggested putting a power line into the building.

Groschner asked if Porter would contact Washington Electric to ask about a discounted price for the town. Porter agreed to do this.

Porter said he was in favor of installing a motion sensor light on the building rather than installing a street light at the site. The Board agreed a motion sensor light would be preferable.

Cawley suggested putting a line item in the annual town budget for removal of Green-Up day trash.

Long moved that the Board give the road commissioner authority to post the roads when needed, per state regulations. Cawley seconded, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Position

Long noted that Neysa Russo was elected by the town to serve as treasurer.

Groschner said she has agreed to serve for 60 days, and expressed the Board's appreciation for her willingness to stay on while the search for an appointed treasurer proceeds.

Long has advertised the treasurer's position in the list serves, and has posted the job description in the on line listings of colleges in the region that have business programs.

Long reported that there have been some encouraging responses so far.

Cawley suggested talking to Joe MacPherson, a Vershire resident, who is now the town treasurer in West Fairlee to ask about possible candidates. Cawley offered to call him.

Long said he would provide Cawley with a job description and a list of the tasks.

Fire Station

Long thanked John Haney, who stepped down from the Select Board, for graciously offering to continue working with the Board as the point person on the new fire station.

Haney reported that he has reached out to two architects and three general contractors who work on a design/build basis. To date he has met with one architectural firm and one contractor. He stressed the importance of finding someone who is invested in the project as a town asset. Haney said it would be a benefit to have an architect involved as part of the team.

Haney has also been in touch with David Frank of SunWood Biomass about the heating system.

Cawley said he hopes the new building will be as green as possible.

Haney said he was optimistic that a building could be constructed within the budget.

Groschner said ideally the fire station could be used as a shelter in case of an emergency.

Long said he will be away for three weeks, beginning March 13, but did not want his absence to delay moving forward with plans for the fire station. Cawley said he would stand in to work with Haney if a representative from the Board was needed.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed a letter from Scott Welch, an IT consultant from Great Planning Tech of Bradford, regarding support of the town's computer system.

Groschner moved to hire Great Planning Tech to replace NMRC, Long seconded, and the motion passed.

The Local Emergency Operations Plan was sent to the town from the state for updating.

Long and Cawley tested emergency lighting and fire extinguishers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
April 8, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; John Haney

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Minutes of the select board meeting of March 11, 2019 and the financial meeting of April 2, 2019 were approved.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter said he and Joe Blodgett met with Washington Electric about power at the new transfer station. The company representative suggested 200-amp service. Bringing power in will require a new transformer.
Porter said they are getting estimates on wiring the trailer, which will be used as a warming shed and free store.
He added that the trailer will be power washed and painted.

Treasurer's Position

Long reported that they will be interviewing two candidates for town treasurer, tentatively on April 18.
Long will contact applicants to arrange times.

Fire Station

Haney reported on firms he and various members of the select board have been meeting with, regarding design and construction of the new fire station.
Backtilt Studio: an architectural team in Norwich, was interested in the project, but they would not be able to stay within the budget.
Lajeunesse Contractors: a design/build firm. They said they would prepare a cost estimate based on using plans from Morton Builders. They have done steel buildings of a similar size and scope before. As of April 8, Haney had not heard back with their estimate
Hazen Hill Construction: a smaller contractor in Norwich, with experience from residential to commercial, but not a building similar to the fire station. Provided an estimated budget based on the Morton plans, but for a stick built rather than a steel building. Also met with Christopher Smith, an architect Hazen Hill works with.
E.F. Wall: another design/build firm that will provide a cost estimate based on Morton plans. They constructed a stick built fire station in Greensboro, VT.
Select Board members and Haney are going to visit the fire station in Greensboro.

Haney suggested inviting at least two of the firms to make full presentations to the select board at a meeting open to the public.

Long said he thought they had a good cross-section of firms and did not need to look further. He recommended Hazen Hill and E.F. Wall.

Cawley made a motion to invite those two, Long seconded. Cawley and Long voted to do so; Groschner abstained, saying he didn't have enough information on the firms.

The select board will schedule a special meeting for the presentations, with 24-hour notification.

Haney will invite the company presenters.

Grant Proposal for NBRC (Northern Borders Regional Commission)

Long noted that Corinth is in the East Central Vermont Economic District. He suggested looking at what they are trying to accomplish with their grant money as they prepare a proposal.

The select board will submit a proposal to NBRC, requesting funding in the amount of \$175,000 for putting a solar array on the roof of the fire station and net metering for the town; a pellet boiler for the fire station and a radiant heating system for the station. The proposal is due May 10.

Cawley said he had attended an informational meeting and was encouraged to submit a proposal.

Broadband Future

The board has sent a letter to Topsham Telephone requesting information about their 8-year plan regarding broadband service.

Cawley said there has also been a conversation about broadband at Washington Electric.

Appointments

Ken Arkind was appointed to the Conservation Commission to serve the remainder of Dina Dubois' term, which will expire in 2020.

Joe Truss was appointed emergency management coordinator for one year.

Correspondence

The state form to renew the liquor license for the East Corinth Store was presented for select board signatures.

The board received a copy of the Energy Audit for Town Hall from May 2009.

Groschner said he would review to see what has been acted on so far.

Long and Cawley tested emergency lighting and fire extinguishers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Town of Corinth
Board of Selectmen
PO Box 461
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Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
May 13, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, Select Board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; John Haney, Rev. Kelly Ann Donahue, Nancy Kittridge, Gordon Kittridge, Norman Patenaude (Pike Industries)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
Minutes of the select board meeting of April 8, 2109 and the financial meeting of May 7, 2019 were approved.

Public Concerns

Rev. Donahue again raised concerns about the dilapidated building at 657 Village Road, adjacent to the Congregational Church in East Corinth. She stated that she has filed a formal complaint with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR). She mentioned that Tyvek on the exterior is loose and the snow fencing is loose. Besides the advanced state of disrepair, she noted different cars and people in and out, including a car recently blocking the church's handicapped access. Donahue said she is concerned about participant safety at upcoming events, such as fundraisers and parades. Regarding the unsightliness of the building, she mentioned a Beetlejuice Thirtieth Anniversary tour coming in July, adding that Smithsonian Magazine came to East Corinth to take pictures of the Beetlejuice site. The pictures are now on the magazine's web site, illustrating the marked contrast between the look of the village thirty years ago, when the building was an attractive store, and its current degraded state.

Groschner said he has tried to reach Dan Mason at ANR to look into the status of the septic complaint, but his calls have not been returned.

Cawley said ANR has authority only to look into wastewater systems.

Groschner noted that the system at that building is not septic, but a holding tank. Donahue clarified that the current, open complaint was for a salvage yard, because of the disabled vehicles parked there. Mason told Donahue they get several calls about the building and recommended process serving to gain access for inspection of the building.

Groschner said the town would have to contact the Orange County Sheriff in order to get a process served.

Cawley said the Dilapidated Building Ordinance is mis-named. The town does not have the authority to intervene because the building is an eyesore.

Donahue asked if the Select Board could act if there was a health violation, such as an infestation of vermin.

Groschner said that would be handled by the health officer, if required.

Cawley said one approach is to take the long view, trusting that ownership will eventually change hands.

Gordon Kittridge asked if anyone knew the requirements for frequency of pumping a holding tank.

Cawley said the permit for such a system would specify how many times a year the tank would have to be pumped.

Groschner noted that the system was installed there before the permitting system was enacted.

Cawley said if effluent were leaching out, the state would force them to install a new system that would have to comply with new regulations.

Groschner recommended that any citizen who has a concern should contact ANR and see if they can get the state to take more interest in the site.

Cawley said another approach could be a citizen bringing a lawsuit suing the owner for causing a nuisance.

Long said that unless there is a public safety hazard, the Select Board cannot get involved.

Groschner added that if there were illegal activity in the building, then the Orange County Sheriff could get involved.

Blodgett pointed out that other unsightly buildings exist around town, and asked where the Select Board would draw the line.

Groschner said that when zoning came up for a vote, it did not pass.

Donahue asked if East Corinth would be given Village designation by the state.

Long replied that once the town plan is in place, both East Corinth and Cookeville would apply for Village designation, which might or might not bring more pressure to bear on owners of individual buildings.

Road Commissioner's Report

Porter presented three quotes for installing the electric at the new transfer station and recommended going with the lowest bidder, who was also the most readily available.

Porter and Blodgett agreed that income from the sale of metal to Bolduc Salvage should be applied to expenses involved with the new transfer station.

Blodgett presented two quotes for the summer's paving, from Blak Top and Pike Industries. He said he would like to give Black Top another chance, as the recent paving they did has held up better than that done by Pike.

Representing Pike Industries, Patenaude said the quote from Blak Top may not include a guarantee of no AC price adjustment.

Blodgett said he would try to confirm a no AC price adjustment from Blak Top. Otherwise, he would go with Pike.

Cawley made a motion to go with Blak Top on the condition that Blodgett secures the guarantee of no price adjustment. Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Porter brought up the problem of an individual on Richardson Road who keeps removing material from the road after the road crew grades it and trying to build a berm on his side of the road.

Blodgett said this individual creates a road hazard by digging holes as he tries to regrade the road with his tractor. Blodgett has asked him to stop, but has been met with hostility.

Cawley said a good first step might be getting a deputy sheriff to go with Porter to talk to the resident.

Groschner recommended that Porter take that action.

Blodgett recommended putting some of the surplus money from state highway grants into a fund for new equipment.

The Select Board agreed to this suggestion.

Groschner moved to discuss the fire station as item #4, Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Fire Station

Haney reported that the architect on the project recently discovered that Vermont requires a sprinkler system in buildings such as fire stations, at a cost of approximately \$100,000.

Haney said that there is a possibility of getting an exemption from the state fire marshall's office to not install a sprinkler system in the new building. Two other fire stations recently built in the state have gotten the exemption. Haney will follow up with the state to apply for an exemption.

Cawley asked where the ladder truck, the largest piece of equipment, is currently being kept.

Haney said it is in Monty's Garage and will probably stay there.

Cawley said the new station can be configured to accommodate the ladder truck, given that Monty's Garage is private property and may not always be available.

Treasurer Concerns

The auditor was concerned that there was no obvious verification of hours reported on time sheets for the road crew.

Porter said he meets with Blodgett every Monday and will begin to review time sheets with him weekly.

Long brought up the need to find a source of income for the new transfer station. He suggested using income from the metal fund, as Porter and Blodgett had recommended.

Long then made a motion that the Select Board direct the treasurer to create a revenue account for the transfer station, using the metal fund for this current and future fiscal years. Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Porter said he could purchase a motion detector light on line to install at the station.

Other Business

The Select Board received the annual certificate from the Listers to confirm that there are no appeals or suits pending. Groschner moved to sign, Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Correspondence

The Select Board has received the 2018 Corinth town audit from Sullivan and Powers.

Emergency lighting and fire extinguishers were tested.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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 marshal 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.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
July 8, 2019

Present for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Also attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; John Haney

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.
Minutes of the regular meeting of June 10, 2019 and the financial meeting of July 2, 2019 were approved.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Porter said a resident on Bear Notch Road made a request to put in water bars, claiming water was running off the road and pooling on his lawn. Porter told him to go ahead, as it is a Class 4 road, but only if he didn't adversely affect other traffic on the road. Subsequently a state trooper called Porter because the water bars were about eight inches deep, essentially speed bumps. The resident then told Porter he was concerned about speeders and said there had been about 75 ATV's on the road over 4th of July weekend.

Porter advised him to call the sheriff when people are speeding on the road.

Blodgett said he would repair Bear Notch Road with the town grader.

Groschner asked if the town is chloriding the roads.

Blodgett said they have been to some extent and will be doing more.

Groschner said the road crew would be posting the roads to warn that ATV's are not allowed on the roads in Corinth.

Blodgett presented the new Municipal Road General Permit (MRGP) codes and standards from the state for the board to sign. There are no significant changes, Blodgett said, except a modification requiring six inches of gravel on top of the existing surface before paving.

Groschner moved to approve the standards presented, Long seconded, and the motion was approved.

Blodgett also presented Better Back Roads forms for signing by Groschner.

Blodgett reported that Limlaw has begun cutting trees along Hutchinson Road and will be moving to Taplin Hill Road.

Fire Station Update

Haney reported that the requested variance has come in from the state; the station will not need to install a sprinkler system.

Haney said other state requirements would involve minor modifications to the original building plan. The state requires that a 2-hour rated firewall separating the

trucks from the rest of the building must extend from the floor to the roof sheathing. A second requirement is an alarm connecting to dispatch in Norwich.

Haney has contacted two companies about geo-seismic classification, which needs to be done before construction begins. Haney wants to make sure that ground water is deep enough that it won't leak into the footings.

Long asked about the schedule

Haney said permit drawings should be put together to submit to the fire marshal's office by early September. Then there will be a waiting period while the state reviews and responds. Some things could go ahead before plans are approved by the state, Haney suggested, such as putting in the well.

Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)

The town has received updated guidelines to comply with FEMA regulations.

Groschner made a motion to adopt the LEMP, Long seconded, and the motion was approved.

Groschner and Cawley signed the document, which will be sent to the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Commission.

Use of Credit Cards for Payment

Long reported that town treasurer Kerry Claffey is in favor of allowing credit cards to be used for any payments to the town, including property taxes and dog licenses. The payer would be responsible for the card fee of 2.65%. The town would only be responsible for buying the card reader, at a cost of \$175.

Cawley moved to approve Claffey's suggestion, as long as the only cost to the town is for the card reader. Long seconded, and the motion was approved.

Correspondence

The select board received the signed agreement from the sheriff for services for the new fiscal year.

Cawley moved that the board approve Karen Galayda's request to apply for a Village Center designation for Cookeville. Groschner seconded, and the motion was approved. Board members signed the required form, which will be returned to Galayda.

After testing of emergency lighting and fire extinguishers, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
August 12, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk

Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; John Haney, Allegra Shumway, Rev. Kelly Ann Donahue, Lori Buik, Winnie Walker, Sarah Polli, Kendall Gendron, Julie Guenther, Lois Jackson, Melanie Del Frari

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

The minutes of select board meeting of July 8, 2019, special meeting of July 22, 2019, and financial meeting of August 6, 2019 were approved.

Public Concerns

Several citizens of East Corinth attended in order to discuss what might be done in the aftermath of the arrest of Mark Mattiace, resident of 657 Village Road, for possession of methamphetamine and a hand grenade.

Rev. Donahue brought in copies of a Valley News article about the arrest, which notes that Mattiace, a convicted felon, is currently being held without bail due to the serious nature of his offense. In addition, Donahue said she was visited by Dan Mason of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) on July 10 and that he took pictures of the dilapidated building where Mattiace has been living. She said Mason told her that since the unit is occupied by a family member (The building is owned by Mattiace's mother, who lives out of state.), it is not considered a rental property, according to the State of Vermont.

Sarah Polli, a close neighbor, said Mason stopped at her house also and told her it is extremely rare that the state ever permits holding tanks for a septic system, as is the case with 657 Village Road. Mason told Polli there would have to be changes made, given that holding tanks are not legal.

Lori Buik said she counted seven unregistered, defunct vehicles parked in front of the building. Buik expressed major concerns about the possibility of a fire and vehicles in the way of access for fire fighters. She noted that the school bus stop has finally been moved away from the building out of concern for the safety of students. Groschner said the select board has no authority to deal with parking on private property. He said there will be a legal process following the arrest, and that the town has to wait for it to play out.

Polli noted that the orange safety fence around the front of the building has mostly come down, adding to the safety hazard.

Cawley said that since 2007, the state has legal jurisdiction over septic systems on private property.

Groschner added that the select board had previously passed a dilapidated building ordinance that proved to be mostly unsuccessful.

Buik said she would like to see the town do something to mitigate the situation.

Del Frari asked if there had been an inspection of the building when the dilapidated building ordinance was in place.

Groschner said he looked at the building for a health violation, but did not find one. The state does not give the board the authority to go into a private building and tell people they can't live there, he said.

Groschner added that the fire department has developed a plan to deal with the protection of adjacent buildings.

Blodgett pointed out that the situation existed prior to the ordinance, so it was not legally actionable.

Groschner: "My hope would be in the process of dealing with the crime, there will be a situation where some of the town members will be able to buy the building." He wondered if there is money available in the community to purchase the building. Polli pointed out that a contaminated property could be expensive to own because of the cost of remediation.

Cawley: "It is a legitimate concern."

Buik said she has been told that the fire department cannot get into the space to work in case of a fire.

Polli said she has not had luck contacting the building owner.

Cawley said lack of a zoning ordinance means the town has no authority to intercede.

Groschner suggested going to the planning board and requesting a revote on the zoning ordinance.

Long: "We are all totally sympathetic to the situation, but we do not have the authority to do anything."

Cawley: "Nothing in the legal system will give the town the authority to act."

Groschner noted that if taxes are not paid, the building will go up for tax sale.

Cawley said the bank could seize the property if the mortgage isn't being paid.

Jackson said her understanding is that a property can be confiscated if it has been the site of drug dealing.

Kendall Gendron raised the issue of neighborhood dogs barking from 4 AM to 10 PM every day. When she contacted the town's animal control officer, she was referred to the select board. Gendron said the owner breeds and trains bear dogs, which are kept in a kennel on neighboring property. She has tried contacting the owner, but has not had any satisfaction after three years. Besides the incessant barking, the dogs get out and run onto her property. The owner lives in Bradford, she noted. Groschner said the town constable does not have the authority to ticket anyone. The Orange County sheriff or the state police have authority.

Gendron asked if anyone would follow up with her.

Long pointed out that Michelle Boyer, the animal control officer, does have the authority to issue tickets. Long said the select board would get in touch with her and find out why she hasn't issued a ticket.

Groschner asked Gendron to send the board a written summary of the problem and what she has done so far. She agreed to do so.

Road Report/Highway Concerns

Allegra Shumway raised a concern about the number of trees that were cut down on Hutchinson Road by Limlaw in agreement with the town. She said trees on her property were cut down, but she believes they were not affecting the road.

Blodgett said the land owner, Art Ruell, wanted some of the trees in question cut down. Limlaw was already cutting in the area and offered to take the trees down. Blodgett maintained that cutting the trees lining the road was necessary to mitigate the mud problem and the danger posed during snowstorms. The road has been dry since cutting the trees, he said. Blodgett noted that there is still work to be done by the road crew to ditch and replant. He assured Shumway that the affected areas would look much better once this work had been completed.

Groschner asked Blodgett if the landowners had been contacted prior to the tree cutting.

Blodgett said all landowners had been contacted and were aware of the plans for clearing.

Long said he had looked at the proposed project and agreed that it made sense to do Hutchinson Road, along with Taplin Hill Road.

Long added that the take-home message is to make sure the landowners are clear about what is going to happen.

Blodgett proposed getting written, rather than verbal, permission from each landowner in the future.

The select board agreed that would be a better procedure.

Groschner said he would like to have a form made up, in order to have a record of agreement before any trees are cut.

Long said he would work with Blodgett to make up a form.

Blodgett reported that the sand pile is about halfway done, paving on Brook Road has been completed, and ATV ordinance signs have been put up.

Long said the Hood Ice Cream sign at the entrance to East Corinth village needs to be taken down, as it is in violation of the state billboard ordinance.

Blodgett said the dealer the town is purchasing the new truck from would like to get the retiring truck in trade right away. The board agreed to this.

Blodgett said the road crew had a new John Deere grader in the yard to test out, in advance of purchasing a replacement. A benefit would be that the John Deere mechanic lives in town.

Fire Station Report

Haney has updated the construction budget. He said there should be as much in the contingency fund as possible and suggested 5%. Haney said that the town needs to work with the architect and the contractor to find reductions to the budget.

Long raised a few items, such as cabinets and countertops, that could be taken out of the budget. Also, painting at \$20,000 could be taken out. Haney asked who would do the painting, noting that it was not an insignificant job.

Cawley suggested contacting the fire department to see how much and what types of work they might be willing to do.

Haney said he will set up a meeting with Jason Yehle, owner of Hazen Hill Construction, and architect Christopher Smith to see what other items might be taken out of the budget.

Cemetery Commission/Green Burial

The select board tabled this discussion for a future meeting.

Other Business

Groschner presented preliminary drawings by architect Mike Curtis for a renovation of the Town Hall's south entrance.

The select board will proceed with obtaining construction estimates and will plan to add the item to the warning for next town meeting.

Following inspection of emergency lighting and fire extinguishers, the meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
September 9, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; Capt. Scott Cloutre, Orange County Sheriff's Office; Dan Wing, Dick Kelley, Allegra Shumway, Ginny Barlow

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
Minutes of the select board meeting of August 12, 2019 and the financial meeting of September 3, 2019 were approved.

ATVs/Sheriff Bohnyak

Groschner stated that the town has an ordinance against ATVs on town roads, but residents have complained about the numbers of them on the roads. There have also been complaints about trucks racing up and down the roads at night and driving over the town green in Cookeville.

Capt. Cloutre, representing the Orange County Sheriff's Office, asked which roads were being used by ATVs.

Groschner said they were particularly noted in East Corinth village and Tenney Road in Cookeville. Children had been seen riding without helmets.

Wing showed Cloutre photographs from the roadway where a truck had gone into a ditch at the end of Tenney Road and where skid marks had been left in the road. Wing said the trucks were more of a problem on weekend nights.

Porter said there were reports of a convoy of ATVs, numbering about two dozen, coming off Magoon Hill Road and going down Maplewood.

Blodgett said ATV riders also drive on private property that is designated for snowmobile trails, raising concerns that the property owners will close the trails.

Porter said, "This has been the worst summer I've ever seen."

Wing said he sees ATV's fueling up at the East Corinth store.

When Cloutre asked if Sheriff Schaeffer has been seen around town, several present said yes.

Cloutre said he would switch Schaeffer to more weekend and night patrols in Corinth.

Cloutre asked if the campground in East Corinth notifies people that there is an ATV ordinance. Select board members said they had no knowledge of whether visitors were advised of the ordinance.

Groschner asked if Cloutre had heard of the possibility of neighboring towns getting together and paying for more sheriff time. Cloutre said no, he hadn't, but he thought it was a good idea.

Groschner raised the possibility of installing gates on Tenney Road. They could not be locked, but they might be a deterrent.

Blodgett said they had tried gates in Newbury, but the gates had been torn down.

Public Concerns

None brought forward.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Porter said work on the new transfer station is coming along. He asked if the town treasurer had established a separate account for the transfer station.

Long said they will establish a revenue account for the transfer station.

When Porter asked what the select board wants for signage, Groschner said they had not yet discussed it yet.

Besides, entrance and exit signs, Blodgett suggested a sign identifying the station with hours of operation.

Long asked if they would put cones out on Saturday when the station is open.

Porter said they would.

Porter said the Conservation Commission has agreed to pay \$300 toward the trailer, which would leave \$200 to come out of the highway account.

Porter presented three quotes for installing electricity at the site. The select board will review.

Porter recommended installing 200-amp power so that it would be on site for any future use (e.g., trash compactors).

Blodgett said Casella has built the walkways for other towns. The preference would be for two roll-off collection bins with a walkway in between.

Porter said they will evaluate a 2008 Ford 250 with a plow, coming from the Hartford School District. Karen Galayda had told him there was \$2,500 toward the purchase in the listers' budget, which would leave \$2,500 from the highway budget. An expenditure of \$5,000 for purchase of a truck to be used by the listers and the highway crew was approved at the financial meeting of September 3, 2019.

Purchase of the new town dump truck is nearly complete. Blodgett said the board should choose one member to sign the loan. The amount of the loan is just over \$124,000.

Long moved that Groschner be authorized to sign the loan, Cawley seconded, and the motion passed.

Telecommunications grant

Kelley presented information on Act 79, which provides funding for feasibility study grants. Kelley informed the select board that he has submitted an email stating an intention to apply for a grant. The study would assess the capacity for bringing symmetrical broad band service of 25 megabits per second. Grants of \$60,000 are available for feasibility studies for underserved communities.

The goal would be fiber optic service for all residents at a reasonable rate.

Cawley pointed out that EC Fiber is operating nearby.

The broad band group is willing to write the grant application and will present it to the board for review.

Proposals are due October 25, preceded by a question and answer period. Cawley made a motion to approve the application, with the broad band group taking the lead, Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Other Business

The select board will hold a public hearing on October 14 to review the Town Plan and take a vote. Kelley will contact Victoria Littlefield of Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Commission to notify her of the date.

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation requested permission to use town-owned land off South Road as a site for a river study. Long signed the agreement granting permission.

The board approved use of a written form to clarify roadway tree clearing. Cawley pointed out that the town has the right to cut trees in the right of way. The form would notify landowners when trees will be cut and ask if the landowner wants the wood.

Fire Station update

Groschner signed the contract with the structural engineer, which had been approved at the financial meeting of September 3.

Facility Manager

Long suggested Will Sandberg as a candidate for the facility manager of the Town Offices. Other board members asked Long to speak with Sandberg about the position.

Long agreed to contact Greg Thurston to ask him for a job description.

Correspondence

The board received an email letter from Todd Mower, regarding tree cutting on Hutchinson Road and Taplin Hill Road. Groschner will send a reply addressing Mower's concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Long and Cawley tested emergency lighting and fire extinguishers in the building.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
October 14, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Others attending: Joe Blodgett, road foreman; Allegra Shumway, Dick Kelley, Chris Preston, Jeff Spiegel, Ken Arkind, Glynn Pellagrino, Todd Mower

The meeting was called to order at 7PM.
Minutes of the select board meeting of September 9, 2019 and the financial meeting of October 1, 2019 were approved.

Public Concerns

Shumway presented a letter expressing concern about trees cut down along the right of way on Hutchinson Road and Taplin Hill Road under the oversight of the town. In her opinion, many of these trees did not impact road conditions or safety. Groschner said the select board has begun the process of working on a policy regarding tree removal that will promote better communication with affected landowners.

Long said there was a lot of good information in Shumway's letter. He emphasized that there always has to be a balance between the needs of the road maintenance crew and the wishes of landowners.

Mower asked what concrete steps have been taken to address the issue so far. Groschner replied that there would from now on be a written agreement that landowners would have to sign, indicating their understanding of trees to be cut and their agreement.

Cawley clarified that there will probably be situations when there will not be agreement, but it will be necessary to remove trees from the right of way for safety and road access.

Preston asked what constitutes the right of way.

Blodgett replied that on some paved roads the right of way is 33 feet on either side of the center line; on other town roads it is 25 feet.

Spiegel asked what was done with the trees.

Blodgett said the trees were chipped and taken away by Limlaw, the contractor that cut the trees.

Mower asked if the landowners could keep the trees.

Blodgett said landowners could keep them; the trees would be cut and left on the ground for the owners to clear away.

Groschner confirmed that landowners would in the future be given the option of keeping trees.

Illegal Dumping

Spiegel said he had to call the game warden because someone had left a bear carcass in a plastic bag on Hayward Road. Subsequently, a pig carcass was dumped on the road, along with two bags of garbage. When Spiegel called state police about the pig and the trash, he was told to call the town health officer and the game warden.

Eventually, the pig and garbage were taken away by the game warden. Later on, four truck tires and two ATV tires were left on the road, along with beer cans hung on tree branches near the tires. Spiegel said there was a long history of dumping on that road. He asked if something could be done to deter the practice, such as posting a sign or putting up a game camera. Spiegel said he knows that such dumping is a statewide problem.

Groschner asked if Spiegel was requesting a town ordinance, which would be hard to enforce, given that Corinth doesn't have a constable with law enforcement authority.

Cawley pointed out that dumping along roadways is against the law statewide, so an ordinance would not be required, but enforcement would be the problem.

Blodgett said illegal dumping is a problem in other areas of town, noting that he found about 20 paint cans dumped over the side of Turkey Hill Road.

Long said he was in favor of setting up a game camera on Hayward Road.

Blodgett said legally there would have to be a sign to indicate that the spot is under surveillance.

Cawley suggested that the state commissioner of public safety could be approached to make illegal dumping more of an issue. Perhaps that would get more attention down the line in law enforcement.

Groschner said the Orange County sheriff should be contacted.

Spiegel suggested that the board present a procedure for residents to follow if they experience a problem with illegal dumping.

Groschner said the board would be happy to invite the sheriff's department in to discuss the issue. He offered to put a notice in the town quarterly and on the web site. Further, the town should be willing to put up a game camera and a surveillance sign.

Long asked Blodgett to get No Dumping signs placed on roadways.

Spiegel said he would also talk to Carl Demrow and will call the Orange County sheriff in the event of more dumping.

Groschner said he would loan Blodgett his game camera.

Highway Report

Blodgett said the new transfer station would open on Saturday, October 19.

Groschner asked Blodgett to call Casella to confirm that the recycling dumpsters will be in place by the 19th. He also asked Blodgett to move the town's notice boards.

Blodgett presented a salt contract with Cargill for the winter; signed by Groschner.

Public Hearing on Proposed Town Plan

Preston noted that there is only a quarter of a page devoted to the schools in the town plan and pointed out a number of errors in that short section.

Kelley said he is aware of the problems, but does not know how the errors got into the plan.

Preston said he found the maps section confusing, because there was not a legend with each map.

Preston added that Current Use should be addressed in the town plan.

Pellagrino asked what the hard deadline is for accepting a town plan.

Groschner said there is no deadline, but the plan needs to be adopted in order for the town to apply for grants.

Preston expressed concern about the definition of the river corridor, stating that it has unforeseen implications for landowners.

Groschner asked if the plan was ready to be accepted, given the errors and matters of confusion.

Long said he wasn't comfortable approving the plan as presented, given that it contains errors.

Kelley suggested postponing deliberation until the board receives a corrected copy of the plan.

Cawley moved to close the public hearing and table the vote on the document; Long seconded; the motion passed.

Arkind asked if the intention was to get the plan approved through the Regional Planning Commission.

Kelley said yes, and he would also ask the RPC to delay its review until the town plan has been approved by the select board.

Fire Station Update

Long reported that the structural engineer has requested more test holes to assess the extent of the bedrock.

Other Business

Broadband draft proposal:

Kelley presented a draft of the grant proposal and asked for a member of the select board to approve it. The proposal, which goes to the Department of Public Service, is due next week.

Cawley moved that Groschner sign the grant proposal next week if there are no substantial revisions to the draft presented; Long seconded; the motion passed.

EC Fiber has requested to bury 511 feet of fiber optic cable in a section ending on Hillside Drive. Groschner moved to approve the request; Long seconded; the motion passed.

Groschner presented a brochure from Strafford titled "Are you ready to serve your local government?" that describes options for town service. Groschner suggested making a similar brochure for Corinth to pass out at town meeting.

Additions to the October Warrant

Groschner moved to approve payment of three invoices presented by the town treasurer; Cawley seconded; the motion passed.

Facility Manager

Groschner said he has spoken with Will Sandberg about the position and is waiting to hear back from him.

Long has spoken with Greg Thurston about his responsibilities as former facility manager, in order to write up a job description.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Long and Cawley tested emergency lighting and fire extinguishers.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
November 11, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Allegra Shumway, John Haney

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
Minutes of select board meeting of October 14, 2019 and financial meeting of
November 5, 2019 were approved.

Public Concerns

Allegra Shumway followed up on concerns she had brought to the October 14, 2019 meeting. She stated that, in her opinion, the town should hold tree warden meetings prior to tree cutting along roadways and that affected trees should be marked to clearly identify them for the landowners involved.

Shumway asked what progress had been made on a written consent form for landowners.

Long said that there is no roadway tree cutting planned over the winter and thus no urgency about finalizing a written form.

Cawley said the town would notify landowners of tree cutting on their property.

Groschner clarified that the written form will allow landowners to confirm that they want to keep the cut trees.

Shumway stated that landowners have the right to a tree warden hearing and thus trees should be marked so that they will know which trees are coming down.

Cawley said landowners should be able to meet with the road foreman in order to understand what the cutting plan is.

Porter said communication would be open, with written notification.

Cawley said landowners will be notified, and if they have concerns they can request more information.

Cawley noted that safety and road access would be the primary considerations in making decisions about tree cutting along the town right of way.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Groschner said that reports on the new transfer station from users have been positive. He noted that there is still confusion about which direction to drive through.

Porter said that a local contractor would be bringing in 200-amp power from the road to a pedestal inside the transfer station. They will delay installing the underground lines until the trailers are ready.

Groschner brought in his game camera to use on a road where there has been illegal dumping.

Porter brought in a photograph of a vehicle that has been parked in the town right of way on the Chelsea Road for over a year. The owner told Porter he would move it, but so far he has not. Porter asked if the Select Board could do anything, such as sending the owner a certified letter.

Groschner said the Board could send him a letter, telling him the truck will be towed on a certain day unless it is moved.

Cawley said the person might not pick up a certified letter.

Long said the constable could deliver the letter instead; other Board members agreed this would be a better approach.

Porter also brought in photos of a property on Young Road where refuse has been creeping into the right of way. He has been trying to contact the resident, who is not the landowner.

Groschner mentioned a large green chair that was dumped at the end of Abe Jacobs Road several weeks ago.

Cawley said it might be worth establishing a policy of reimbursing people willing to pick up illegally dumped items and take them to the dump.

Fire Station Update

Haney said the design process is winding down, as structural drawings are nearly complete.

The one big item that is unresolved is the heating system, Haney noted. Once the heat loss analysis is complete, the Board can meet with the general contractor and the architect to discuss options.

Still to be determined: relocating the building, based on discovery of bedrock. The building footprint can be shifted, Haney said, but that may impact the boundary line. Haney said no physical features would be off the boundary, but earthwork could be impacted.

Cawley suggested getting an easement for slope rights.

Haney suggested a boundary line adjustment without an increase in total area.

Town Hall Capital Expenditures Budget

Long noted that the budget process would begin on Thursday, November 14, 2019.

Groschner said the Board has not received a plan for renovation of the Town Hall's south entrance from Mike Curtis, so the Board can't send it out for bids. He said he would contact Curtis to find out the status.

Cawley suggested getting an updated energy audit, noting that the last one was done in 2009.

Groschner said he would ask Tim O'Dell for advice on getting an audit.

Other Business

Groschner moved that the Board direct the Treasurer to pay the Fire Department the amount of \$27,500 for the second half of their 2018-2019 allocation. Cawley seconded, and the motion passed.

Groschner signed a form to change signing privileges at People's Bank to add Karen Gaylada and remove Neysa Russo.

Cawley noted that the corrections in the Town Plan requested by the Select Board and the Conservation Commission were not made in the final version.

Correspondence

The Board received a letter from a resident disputing a late fee on his property tax payment. Groschner said he would send the forms for signing up for the automatic payment plan.

Washington Electric sent a form requesting approval of work to be done adjacent to the Chelsea Road. Long made a motion to approve; Cawley seconded, and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Long and Cawley checked emergency lighting and fire extinguishers.

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

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
December 9, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Christopher Diaz, constable;
Kendall Gendron, John Haney

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 11, 2019 and the financial meeting of December 3, 2019 were approved.

Public Concerns

Kendall Gendron followed up on her earlier complaint about barking dogs kenneled near her home on Richardson Road. She presented a copy of the Town of Corinth's Dog Control Ordinance and a letter she wrote to the Select Board detailing the problems with the dogs and her efforts to alleviate the problem by following the guidelines in the Ordinance.

Gendron was advised by the Animal Control Officer to contact the town constable. Diaz said the Ordinance states that the dogs must bark continuously for 30 minutes before action can be taken. He added that he had not been present when the duration of barking lasted 30 minutes.

Gendron said the owner, who lives in Bradford, informed her that he would remove the dogs for the winter. It has been over week since he contacted her, but the dogs are still there.

Cawley made a motion to follow the procedure in the Dog Ordinance. The first step would be to send a letter from the Select Board to the owner. Groschner seconded, and the motion passed.

Cawley said if there is no response to the letter, the Board would issue a municipal ticket.

Road Report

Porter said a truck that had been parked in the right of way on Chelsea Road for several months has finally been moved.

Porter noted that a few roads have debris in the right of way. He will try to determine who is responsible.

Two residents at the top of Tullar Road complained about town trucks turning around near their property. They were concerned that there was not adequate space and that trucks might go over the bank and damage a pond.

Long reported that John Zimmer, one of the Tullar Road residents, called him to say that he watched a town truck make the turn-around with no problem and no longer has a concern.

Porter asked what the Select Board thinks about replacing the guardrails on the Center Road Bridge. Currently they are wood, but Porter thought steel would be stronger and last longer.

All select board members said that they preferred the wooden timbers.

Groschner asked if the No Dumping signs had been ordered.

Porter said the signs are now at the town garage and will be put up.

Groschner said he notified Joe Blodgett that a road sign indicating direction of a curve ahead and speed reduction had been knocked down near the entrance to South Road.

Porter said Washington Electric recently notified him that a state inspector had to inspect the electric connection put in at the transfer station prior to installing the line, but the town was not informed of this in advance. The state may fine the electrician for a violation, although there is no problem with the line.

Porter said Blodgett will pick up a small building to use for a warming hut at the transfer station.

Fire Station Update

Haney said the project architect told him a state inspector would review the building plans within 30 days.

Cawley asked if amendments could be made if needed. Haney said yes.

Haney said he asked the state if storm drain plans had to be inspected and permitted. He was told that he just needed to give the state office a copy of the plans. Cawley said the easement has been granted.

The Board thanked John for his continued oversight of the project.

Town Clerk: retention of records and welcome package

Nancy Ertle sent information on the Town's need to comply with state law on the retention of records.

The plan would allow the Clerk to destroy records considered obsolete, according to state guidelines.

The material included a Records Management Policy and Retention Plan to be filed with the state. Groschner moved to sign, Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Ertle requested that the Select Board compose a letter of welcome to be distributed to new residents as part of the welcome package. Groschner said he would draft a letter.

Town Hall capital expenditures budget

Long reported that the Board added \$10,000 to the existing pool of money, for a total of \$38,000.

Long suggested adding new siding to the renovation project for the entrance on the south side of the building.

Groschner said making it a bigger job might result in a better price from the contractor.

Porter said he was concerned about the steps extending too far into the parking area, which is already fairly narrow.

Long said the roof drain on the south side of the building is not working.

Long suggested planning for other projects on the Town Hall.

Groschner said another project was for an up-to-date energy audit, with the hope that it would lead to improvements.

Leave time policy, part-time employees

Leave time policy is mandated by the state.

The Town's current document does not specify "part-time employees."

Cawley suggested renaming the document to specify Leave Time Policy for Part-Time Employees.

Cawley made a motion to so rename; Long seconded; the motion passed.

Other business

The treasurer requested an addition to the December warrant, which was approved by the Board.

Groschner requested that the Board go into executive session at 8:17 PM to discuss a personnel matter; the request was approved by Long and Cawley.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:30 PM. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Long and Cawley tested emergency lighting and fire extinguishers.