Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Financial Meeting
Monday July 8, 2024

Attending for the board: Holly Groschner, chair; Carl Demrow, and Stephen Devoto. Anne Rosten, Selectboard Clerk; Dick Kelley, Treasurer; Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman; and Amber Vecchiarelli, Casella Sales Representative.

Board Chair Groschner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Welcome and Approval of Agenda

Chair Groschner moved to amend the agenda to add Casella Presentation, approve the July 2, 2024 selectboard minutes and discussion of email from Ed Hathaway from the EPA regarding removal of trees on Richardson Rd. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Casella Sales Presentation

Amber Vecciarelli from Casella handed out a document showing changes to our current Transfer Station practices. The costs for bags of trash would remain the same: $5.00 for a 30 gallon bag and $8.00 for a contractor bag. There would be two compactors. Casella would pay for the compactors, cement pads that the compactors would sit on, and pay the monthly service cost of $3498. Zero sort recycle would now cost $2.50 per 30 gallon bag. Casella would provide a monthly tonnage report to the town. Fees would be paid by credit card or check as cash would no longer be accepted as payment. Porter asked if Casella would provide a small building for the transactions. It was suggested to have teams from Casella and the town walk through the site together. Porter and Devoto are working on an RFP to put out for Casella and other Trash Handler Companies as required by the town procurement policy. The board thanked Vecchiarelli for her time and offer. Porter asked if the town should continue using the dump stickers. Blodgett stated he didn't think it would be necessary as recycling would no longer be free. Porter will continue the discussion with Casella and other haulers.

Approval of SB minutes from 7/2/2024

Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes from the selectboard meeting of July 2, 2024. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Highway Dept/F600 Finance and Resolution

Blodgett reported that the town has been approved to receive a $25,250 grant for two of next year's projects; White Road and Page Hill Road. He presented the approval form to the board to sign. He stated that he's been trying to get a hold of the contractor of the Hedgehog Brook Bridge project for a copy of the contract to go over with East Corinth resident Gordon Kitteridge.

The board discussed the amended resolution for the purchase of the new F600 truck. Demrow made a motion to adopt the resolution and authorize Treasurer Kelley to close on the Lease-Purchase agreement and to authorize Kelley to make the immediate payment of $25,000 by 7/10/2024 which will reduce the Amortization Schedule to $118,889. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Warrant and Expense Review

The board questioned the requested payment to the Corinth Community Coalition as requested by the Corinth Conservation Commission, the payment intended for a $500 to pay Matt Denton for work done. The town budget does not manage funds for the Community Coalition. The board determined that payment should go directly to Matt Denton from the Conservation Commission. A payment of $208.06 is due to Simquest which is not shown on the warrant. Demrow made a motion to approve the warrant with two changes to be made; the payment of $500 to go directly to Matt Denton and the invoice from Simquest for $208.06. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll and Accounts Payable: Demrow made a motion to approve both the Payroll and the Accounts Payable as presented. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

a. IT RFP; Both Selectboard Financial Clerk Montagne and Treasurer Kelley are working on the RFP form.

b. Disbursement Calendar: Kelley is working on refining the spreadsheet, and will share with the Board.

c. Town Hall Maintenance vs Capital Planning: Treasurer Kelley and Town Hall Facilities Manager Norm Collette have been discussing how to properly divide the maintenance vs the capital expenditures for accounting purposes. The selectboard has requested a schedule of capital and maintenance expenses for FY2025.
d. EPA email request: Ed Hathaway from the EPA asked that certain trees on Richardson Rd be cut down. Tree Warden Ginny Barlow inspected the trees that the EPA asked to be removed. She reported that the trees are mature and in good condition but would not be tragic to take them down for safety reasons. The board will check with Blodgett about it. Devoto said the landowners may want to be alerted and have a say. Groschner said it will be on the agenda for the August 6th meeting.

Other Business

Devoto has taken custody of two stray dogs. He has successfully utilized town and social media contacts to find the owners and avoid kennel expenses for the town. He asked the board to consider having a local network for managing stray dogs utilizing social media. He thought Will Sandberg would be a good resource as he's familiar with many residents and their dogs. The board requested a release form for dog owners to sign releasing the town and the dog custodian of liability.

Financial Clerk Montagne, who was not present, has reported that the audit for FY22 is 75% complete and the audit from FY23 is 60% complete.

Kelley stated that he will have the tax rates ready for next month's meeting and is closing the FY 2024 books..

Cattle Crossing Sign: George Osgood has state-approved signs that need to be installed for driver and cow safety, to replace small signs that George Osgood put up on Chelsea Rd in the town right of way. Groschner will speak with Blodgett about it.

The town is expecting a $200,000 grant from FEMA. The town has spent $102,000 on FEMA projects so far which FEMA has so far not reimbursed.

Devoto made a motion to adjourn. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:45 PM.

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