Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2022

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten, select board clerk.
Others attending: Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Mike Wolff. Others attending via Zoom; Gary Apfel, town moderator; Glynn Pellagrino from the conservation commission, Kerry DeWolfe from the Planning commission, and Linda Buermeyer from the Journal Opinion.

Meeting conducted in person and on Zoom. Rick Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of December 13, 2021 and financial meeting of January 4, 2022.
Nick Kramer motioned to approve the minutes for the regular select board meeting of December 13, 2021 and financial meeting of January 4, 2022. Carl Demrow seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns
Forbes Morrell contacted chair Cawley with concerns about EPA action for the Corinth copper mine after reading about progress at the Vershire and Ely mines. Demrow will contact the select board in Vershire and the EPA about approximate dates for dealing with Corinth's copper mine.

Appointments; Administrative Officer; Regional Emergency Management Committee
Mike Wolff, a new resident to town from South Dakota and a member of the Corinth Fire Department, after a request by chair Cawley, agreed to be appointed to the Regional Emergency Management Committee. He comes with years of experience in fire fighting and official emergency management. Kramer made a motion to appoint Mike Wolff as the new Regional Emergency Management Committee member. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Kerry DeWolfe suggested Martha Brough be appointed the Administrative Officer at the town starting rate of $15 an hour. The board agreed that she will need training and suggested Karen Galayda help with that. Kramer made a motion to appoint Martha Brough as Administrative Officer. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Contract for town forest parking lot
Glynn Pellegrino reported that the Conservation Commission has accepted the bid of Bill Ricker for the parking lot construction. Cawley asked that Pellegrino come up with a detailed description of the bid and send it first to the board to review and sign and then to Ricker to sign. Road commissioner Porter stated that the new approach to the parking lot should match the existing road which is 15 feet wide and the new culvert to be 30 inches diameter. Demrow then made a motion to authorize Cawley to approve and sign the bid after it's been reviewed. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ARPA proposals/committee
Steve Long has offered to head up the committee. He and the board suggested 3 other residents who would work with Long; John Haney, Mike Pittman, and Anne Margolis. All have varied experience in town and state positions. The board then discussed drawing up some guidelines to help the committee focus on the most long range and beneficial project recommendations for Corinth infrastructure to thrive as a community. The board decided to have the committee check back with them by the end of April with a preliminary report to present at town meeting for discussion. Kramer suggested putting a notice in the LRN and JO to apprise the town. Demrow made a motion to appoint Steve Long, Mike Pittman, John Haney, and Anne Margolis to a committee to make recommendations on possible use of ARPA funds. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Road Commissioner's reports / Hwy. Concerns

Commissioner Porter reported that the truck in the right of way over by Corinth Corner has been removed but a trailer is still in the town right of way. He is still trying to contact the owner. He also stated that one crew member tested positive for Covid, went into quarantine and is now back to work. The road crew are all being tested once a week

a. Approve highway mileage summary;
After perusing the state report of highway mileage the board and Porter noted the .02 loss of mileage in town. Porter indicated that the particular change took place many years ago but the state just acknowledged it on this year's report. Kramer made a motion to approve, sign, and certify this year's mileage report. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Proposed revisions to highway ordinance (30 minutes allotted); Planning Commission chair DeWolfe stated that the commission decided to revise the ordinance after what the planning commission perceived to be an incident of abuse occurred. After reading the existing ordinance it was the opinion of the planning commission that the language was somewhat confusing and unclear. She said the goal is to update and clarify the language so that new residents have a clear understanding of what is and isn't allowed. She also stated the planning commission's opinion that there needs to be a change in procedure to require a final inspection. Porter, the board, and DeWolfe went over each change together. It was decided to have the "select board or their approved designee" have the final decision rather than the recommended change that it be the road commissioner. The approved designee would be commissioner Porter and for tree removal, the tree warden. Discussion ended after 30 minutes, to continue at next month's selectboard meeting.

Town meeting 2022/virtual selectboard meetings
Demrow stated that a bill allowing date changes for town meeting has passed in both the VT House and Senate and is waiting for the governor's signature. Assuming he will sign, the board decided to change the date of town meeting to Tuesday, May 17th contingent on that; to convene outside under a tent. Kramer made a motion to move the date of town meeting to May 17th, 2022 contingent on the governor signing the bill. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Cawley will rent the tent from Undercover Tents once the governor signs the bill.

Then discussion turned to whether to hold virtual, in person, or to continue with hybrid meetings. Gary Apfel weighed in with his concerns about not appearing biased one way or another as he represents many opinions as town moderator. He is happy with the hybrid format that he quietly attends via Zoom. Cawley stated that the next financial meeting will convene with a small group so the board will review this matter at the February financial meeting.

Redistricting
As redistricting happens every ten years, each town has the opportunity to let the state legislature know what their preference is for new boundaries for the representative district. The board consensus is for a single member district. Cawley made a motion to pass a resolution in favor of a single member district. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Review/approve budget, FY 2023
The board has spent many hours going over all the proposed budget numbers and decided to leave it as the budget committee presented it. Kramer made a motion to accept the budget as it came out of the budget committee. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence; other business that comes before the board
Cawley read a report from the VT Dept of Taxes about the equalization study results. The board received a bill from TRORC for local match for town wide REI and culverts. Cawley also noted an email from lister Galayda about a campground in town not properly permitted.

Demrow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes Of Selectboard Meeting
February 14, 2022

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

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

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of January 10, 2022, and financial meeting of February 1, 2022
Demrow requested that a change be made to the minutes of the 1/10/22 regular meeting to read that " Steve Long agreed to chair the ARPA committee", rather than "offered" to chair. Kramer then made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular selectboard meeting of 1/10/22 as amended and the selectboard financial meeting of 2/1/22. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Compensation for town hall maintenance

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

ARPA proposals/committee

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

Town meeting 2022 warning

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

Correspondence

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

Executive Session

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

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

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes Of Selectboard Meeting
Monday March 14,, 2022

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten, select board clerk.
Others attending: Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman. Others attending: Glynn Pellagrino, Amy Peberdy, Travis and Kendall Gendron, Anne McKinsey, Olivia Harding-Tillman, Meg Burmeister, Richard Hutchins, Sarah Polli, Lillian Olsen, Rachel Olsen, Norm Collette, Forbes Morrell, Brad Caswell, Carrie Kessler, KellyAnn Donahue, Chris Groschner, Steven Devoto, and Sue Parmenter. Others attending via Zoom: Dick Kelley, town treasurer, Gary Apfel, town moderator; Alex Nuti-de Biasi from the Journal Opinion, Ed Hathaway representing the EPA; Lisa Locke, Babette[last name unknown] , Brian and Christiane Carroll, Carol Freeman, Deborah Kingsbury, Dina DuBois, Dan Wing, Mitzi Motley and Lori Buik.

Meeting conducted in person and on Zoom. Rick Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of February 14, 2022, and financial meeting of March 8, 2022
Carl Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular selectboard meeting of February 14, 2022 and the financial meeting of March 8, 2022. Nick Kramer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of plans for the Pike Hill Mine with the EPA
Ed Hathaway from the EPA addressed the meeting with a timeline for the cleanup which will not start until either July 2024 or 2025. In the interim the EPA will conduct studies, develop plans, and hold as many community meetings as needed and keep the public informed. There were many questions from the audience. Brad Caswell asked pertinent questions about the Ely site as for errors and modifications made in the plan. Hathaway responded how they've implemented the cleanup. He also noted that the Pike Hill project is much smaller than the completed Elizabeth Mine project in Strafford which was huge, much more complicated and presented a few problems. Norm Collette asked about plans for the underground shafts. Hathaway acknowledged the residing bat population and thought that since the underground shafts were mainly horizontal they presented no major issues. Kendall Gendron asked about the Pike Hill Stream which flows through her property and who would be responsible for costs and treatment. Hathaway stated that no land owners would be responsible for cleanup or costs. Collette, who represents the Corinth Historical Society shared that the society has the blueprints for the mines and would make them available. Forbes Morrell asked about the cost of the project. Hathaway relayed that it would be between 15 and 20 million. Dan Wing asked if local contractors could be hired for much of the project. Hathaway said the EPA would welcome as much local contracting as possible. Dina DuBois asked if the trucks used could be electric. Hathaway is not aware that any electric fueled dump trucks are known to exist. However he did not rule out hybrid trucks. Morrell asked how much material will be removed and is it hazardous. Hathaway stated that more material will be brought in rather than out and no, there is no hazardous material found as smelting did not take place there.

Hathaway summarized by focusing on working with the town road crew to improve the two roads accessing the mines for large trucks mainly hauling material in such as stone and topsoil and cleanup of Pike Hill Stream.He did state that town traffic will have preferential status over the trucks. And also he reiterated the priority of having meetings with the public starting this summer.

The selectboard thanked Mr. Hathaway for attending the meeting and answering many questions. Mr. Hathaway's email is hathaway.ed@epa.gov For more detailed information on the timeline and plan please go to the EPA website:

The Pike Hill Copper Mine website can be found at: www.epa.gov/superfund/pikehill
Mr. Hathaway's informational presentation can be found at: https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/01/100020034

Public concerns: correspondence re Old Village Store

The selectboard received a letter from Richard Hutchins about vehicles in the right of way in front of the old Village store; a pickup truck and a Volvo; both alleged to be unregistered. Many village residents expressed concerns over the safety of the sight in general. Pedestrians must walk into the street to travel past and the street is limited in right of way width as there is a prominent bank directly across the road. Even vehicles have difficulties safely traveling by the site. Board chair Rick Cawley stated that the town is limited in what action it can take. There was a lot of discussion about the narrowness of the right of way as most of the residences along the street are extremely close to the frontage. The road and residences were laid out and built more than a hundred years ago before automobiles were in use. There was back and forth about registered vs unregistered vehicles in the right of way. Cawley stated that if a more stringent ordinance is adopted it has to apply to all vehicles in or too close to the town right of way. Relative to vehicles in the right of way creating an obstacle for the town snow plows, it makes little difference whether they are registered or not. Different possible options were discussed. Cawley explained how he had sent a certified letter to the landowner to get the Unimog moved and had it served by the constable to have it removed or the town would take action which it did.

The discussion turned to the building itself which is dilapidated and dangerous. Residents asked about the health and safety issue. Cawley stated that would have to be taken up with the health officer. Glynn Pellagrino from the Conservation commission stated that the building could possibly be condemned. Sue Parmenter asked about using the ARPA funds to improve the site. The landowner would have to agree to sell first. Road commissioner Porter also mentioned that the building is designated historical which restricts options. The frustration of the audience was acknowledged as it has been an ongoing issue for over 12 years. It was suggested that any discussion of zoning would need to start with the Planning Commission. It was also noted that the selectboard and Planning Commission are working on updating the town road ordinance.

Demrow made a motion to verify the status of the pickup truck and Volvo's registration and if not registered, that the selectboard send a certified letter to have the vehicles removed within 60 days or the town will have them towed. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. Concerns

Commissioner Porter relayed that on Chelsea Rd. by Corinth Corner that a trailer is in the town right of way as well as a pickup truck. It has been an ongoing problem at this address. Porter has tried to contact the resident numerous times to no avail. The selectboard agreed that something needed to be done. Demrow made a motion to send a letter to the landowner that the vehicles in the right of way will be towed if not moved. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Road foreman Blodgett asked that the board vote to approve the posting of dirt roads from March 15th through May 15th, 2022; with 15,000, 18,000, and 20,000 weight limits for different classes of vehicles. Demrow made a motion to authorize the road commissioner and road foreman to post the roads for 15,000, 18,000, and 20,000 weight limits from March 15 through May 15, 2022. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Kramer heard from the Turkey Hill resident who has been pushing snow into the road this winter making a hazard for the town trucks to plow. He will not comply with the road foreman's request to cease pushing the snow into the road. Foreman Blodgett stated that he will remove the snow.

Appointment of Conservation Commission member

Kramer made a motion to appoint Katharine Lea as a new conservation commission member. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Compensation for the town hall maintenance/projects

Norm Collette brought up a list of projects that need attention at the town hall building and premises. He also stated that he would welcome help with the bigger projects. Kramer mentioned he knew someone who may be interested. After discussing all the different issues concerning the building the board and Collette agreed to consider having a new position created; a facilities manager. Cawley made a motion for the board and Collette to hold a special selectboard meeting at the town hall and review all the needed projects and decide on compensation for the jobs on Saturday March 26, 2022 at 10:00 AM. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ARPA proposals

Kendall Gendron opened with a request to consider using some ARPA funds to restore the old school house in East Corinth. Steven Devoto said he'd like to put in a proposal to have electric vehicle charging stations around town. Amy Peberdy asked how detailed the proposals have to be to submit. Cawley informed them that the ARPA committee will be meeting on March 22, 2022 at 7:00 PM and suggested that they attend and/or get their proposals to the committee. It was stated that the committee's deadline is March 18, 2022 to send in proposals for the March 22nd meeting. However, the selectboard will continue to entertain suggestions at least through Town Meeting on May 17.

Selectboard meeting schedule

Demrow made a motion to change the regular selectboard meeting to the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM and the financial meeting to the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. Kramer second and the motion passed unanimously. [Post meeting it was discovered that the new meeting dates conflicted with other meetings at the town hall. It was agreed to leave the schedule as is except for switching the financial and regular meetings].

Town meeting 2022 warning

Cawley wrote up the town meeting warning for the board to review and will send it to town moderator Apfel and town clerk Ertle to review. Demrow made a motion to approve the town meeting warrant provided town clerk Ertle and town moderator Apfel approve it. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

Cawley presented the "No Suits Pending" form prepared by the listers for the board to sign

Other business that comes before the board

None

Executive session/ personnel matter

Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

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Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes Of Special Selectboard Meeting
Saturday, March 26, 2022

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, Nick Kramer. Also attending: Norm Collette, Town Hall Facility Manager.

Cawley called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM. The meeting began and most of it was taken up with with Norm Collette giving a full tour of the building's rooms, the basement, attic, roof, and exterior with a lengthy discussion of a project list that Collette had developed and shared with the board..

The board then discussed compensation to the manager for use of his on tools on projects. Kramer moved to authorize the manager to charge $7.50 per hour on projects that require use of his own tools, and to also provide for mileage reimbursement when procuring materials or job related travel. Demrow seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The board also discussed WRVS students request to raise funds for their 8th grade trip at the transfer station. Kramer moved to allow WRVS students to set up a donation table at the transfer station for two weekends to raise money for the 8th grade class trip. Cawley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The board went into executive session at 12:35 PM to discuss a personnel matter. The board came out of executive session at 12:47 PM, and with out further action adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Demrow

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Approved Minutes Of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, April 5, 2022

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

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

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

Public concerns
None

Anticipated town clerk vacancy
Nancy Ertle informed the board that she had five individuals interested in the town clerk position; two have sent resumes and she anticipates receiving the other three. Cawley asked Ertle if she would stay on through town meeting to which she agreed. There was discussion about hiring a non-resident if needed. Cawley stated that the appointment vs. election process would have to be put in the warning for town meeting. The warning will be finalized at next Monday's meeting and a copy will be sent to Ertle. It was decided to discuss the applicants more in executive session at next Monday's financial meeting.
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Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. concerns
Road commissioner Porter and foreman Blodgett were not in attendance due to health issues. Cawley spoke with the commissioner by phone and Porter reported that the roads are drying up after this particularly rough mud season.

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

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

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

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

Town meeting 2022 warning

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

E.C. Fiber resolution

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

"Through the Eyes of our Elders" book distribution

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

Correspondence

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

Other business that comes before the board

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

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

Executive session/personnel matter

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

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

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Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes Of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday May 3, 2022

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten, select board clerk.
Others attending: Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman. Others attending: Travis Gendron.
Others attending via Zoom: Dick Kelley, town treasurer, Gary Apfel, town moderator; and Alex Nuti-de Biasi from the Journal Opinion,

Meeting conducted in person and on Zoom. Rick Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of April 5,2022, and financial meeting of April 11, 2022
Carl Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular selectboard meeting of April 5, 2022 and the financial meeting of April 11, 2022. Nick Kramer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns
None

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. Concerns
Commissioner Porter and foreman Blodgett relayed the news concerning the rising fuel prices.

a. EPA proposal regarding Richardson Road: Blodgett stated that he has been in contact with Ed Hathaway who is the EPA contact person for the Pike Hill Mines cleanup. Hathaway and Blodgett want to have a meeting to discuss the upgrading of Richardson Road for heavy truck travel bringing in material to cap the mines. Blodgett is opposed to having the road paved as it would be extremely costly (paid by EPA) and unnecessary for the amount of traffic. He and commissioner Porter agreed that beefing up the amount of gravel for stabilization and the use of calcium chloride and water for keeping down dust would be more effective and cost efficient. Blodgett will contact Hathaway to set up a meeting and let the selectboard know the date.

b. Proposed "Gravel Ride": Chair Cawley has been contacted by Steve Maas who has scheduled a mountain bike trek from Barre which will come through West Corinth via Cookeville Road and loop back to Barre via Maplewood Rd. It is to take place on October 9, 2022 from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Kramer said he would respond to Steve Maas with the board's approval.

c. Omnia purchasing program; Blodgett requested that the selectboard approve that the town highway dept join the Omnia Purchasing cooperative which sells products at a discount and there is no cost to join. Cawley researched the company and did not find any "catch" for joining and no minimum requirement. Blodgett told of buying parts such as hydraulic fittings and hoses at quite a savings. Demrow made a motion to approve Blodgett to join Omnia for needed highway purchases. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Blodgett brought up the issue of informing the East Corinth village residents that the town will be paving Village Road in June. As homes along that road are near the right of way he anticipates possible frustration with the necessary upheavals. Maybe a letter to warn the residents of the upcoming project would be prudent. Kramer will work on a first draft of the letter.

Revisions to dumping ordinance

Carl Demrow will draw up a draft of revisions to the existing ordinance to include tougher consequences for violations.

ARPA proposals

There was discussion between Blodgett and the selectboard about building a needed shelter for the new grader, the loader, and the pickup truck. He has been meeting with different contractors getting quotes for the proposed project. Demrow asked that Blodgett bring the estimated numbers to the selectboard to review.
There was more discussion as to the ARPA proposal process and how open the ARPA committee is to new proposals. Cawley noted that the committee has worked hard to pare the list down and will have the list for people to peruse at the town meeting. Kramer explained that no decision will be made at the town meeting and probably not until the 1st or 2nd selectboard meeting after the town meeting.

Anticipated town clerk/lister vacancies

The town clerk vacancy will be discussed in executive session later in the meeting. Head lister Karen Galayda has given her notice so the town is actively looking for a replacement as the Listers' office will be vacant once she's done. Kramer agreed to put a listing on the LRN for the position.

Town meeting 2022, final preparations

Cawley will talk with Luke Knapp who is providing the tent for the town meeting to confirm arrangements. It is anticipated that the tent will be set up on Sunday the 15th. Town clerk Nancy Ertle will set up for the meeting on Monday. Cawley, Demrow, and Apfel will set up the sound system early Tuesday morning. Apfel reported that he sent emails out to our state representatives. Rep LeFebvre has responded that she has it on her calendar and no reply yet from Rep Graham. Apfel expressed concern about handling the ARPA article at town meeting. Cawley assured him that the ARPA committee has been quite thorough and the article should go smoothly.

Correspondence

The selectboard received return receipts from the certified letters sent to residents who are in violation of the town right of way. A letter came from TRORC inquiring for any changes in the transportation advisory appointments which there are none.

Other business that comes before the board

None

Executive session/personnel matter

The board came out of executive session at 8:31 PM. No action taken.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday June 7, 2022

Attending for the board; Carl Demrow and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joe Blodgett , Road foreman; Linda Buermeyer for the Journal Opinion; Norman Patenaude representing Pike Industries; Ed Pospisil, fire chief; and Brad Wheeler, Health officer; Others attending: Mike Wolff, Jeremy Goodrich, Kelly Ann Donahue, Anne McKinsey, Bob Fortunati, and Jeff and Sandy Spiegel. Attending via Zoom: Norm Collette, town hall maintenance and member of the cemetery commission; and Gary Apfel, town moderator

Board member Carl Demrow called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of May 3, 2022, and financial meeting of May 9, 2022
No discussion or changes. Nick Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 3, 2022 and the financial meeting of May 9, 2022. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously..

Public concerns, grievance procedure
Jeremy Goodrich of 137 Turkey Hill Rd. presented complaints against the town road crew regarding snow plowing, grading, and chloride application by his residence and provided photographs of his driveway and the surrounding area showing changes done by the town equipment . He shared that he felt the town had been unresponsive to his complaints and also stated that he observed town workers using the town garage and town tools for personal vehicles. Blodgett and Porter were given the opportunity to respond, claiming that over the years they have tried to accommodate Goodrich's requests, and that it is a difficult section of road to maintain. The board thanked Mr. Goodrich for presenting his case and will revisit the issue at a future meeting with all board members present.

Other concerns; Bob Fortunati presented a proposal for the use of the ARPA funds and provided a printed handout. He proposed using the funds to upgrade class 4 roads whose only access out in emergencies is a one lane bridge over the Waits River to Rt 25. There are 41 families affected by the limited access and Fortunati felt that upgrading the class 4 sections of Claflin Rd, and Richardson Rd would improve the situation.. Fire Chief Pospisil mentioned that without significant tree cutting as part of the road improvements, his equipment could not access those road sections. Blodgett stated that even though the town right of way is 49.5 feet, trees in the right of way can not be cut without the landowner's permission. He said that residents have been angry over past tree cuttings along road right of ways and can now bring a lawsuit against the town.

Anne Rosten asked if a swingset, slide, sandbox, a picnic table or two, and a few benches might be a good addition to the town orchard behind the town hall, and perhaps an eligible use of ARPA funds.

The board informed the assembled residents that the ARPA committee has considered many proposals and has narrowed down the list. New proposals will also be considered.

Road Commissioner's report/Hwy. Concerns

a. Foreman Blodgett brought up the upcoming East Corinth Village paving project. He stated that letters have been sent out to landowners whose property abuts the project. He has answered questions from concerned residents and the crew is ready to go. Blodgett requested for the board to approve contracting with Pike Industries over Blacktop for the job. Demrow deferred to have board chair Cawley sign the contract with Pike. Cawley was not able to attend this meeting. Blodgett also asked to have the board sign the letter of intent for the pilot grant 2023 which can be applied for at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Porter stated that the vehicles in the right of way on Chelsea Rd. up by Corinth Corners are gone. He received calls over Memorial Day weekend about ATVs on Maplewood Rd. Fire Chief Pospisil explained that calls made directly to Constable Chris Diaz instead of to the sheriff would be more timely. The constable's number is listed on the town website.He also asserted that emergency calls made to 439-5155 would be more direct than dialing 911. Porter recommended putting a sign up at the entrance to the town forest prohibiting ATVs. He also reported that the culvert and new parking lot look great at the town forest
. Next was the issue of an old town trailer that Norm Collette made a bid for in the amount of $1200 for use hauling his tractor for cemetery work and town hall mowing. Kramer made a motion to approve selling the town trailer to Norm Collette for $1200 to use for town jobs. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Health Officer report/concern

Health officer Brad Wheeler reported on a septage problem emanating from the beginning of Short St, in the East Corinth village. It is seeping down into the ditch and on into the Tabor Branch. Wheeler said it appears to be coming from an old discontinued septic tank on 1 Short St. He's not sure it is disconnected. Norm Collette informed him that there is also a dry well there. The property was sold 3 years ago with the stipulation that the old tank be removed. The board asked that Wheeler contact Regional engineer Carl Fuller from the state regarding his visit to the site, which was supposed to happen earlier in the day, and keep them informed of the results of that contact.

Town hall maintenance/projects/renovations

Demrow asked Collette what was on the docket for June. Collette reported that he has purchased LED lights to replace the brighter existing lights by the town hall porch, replaced and retagged the numerous keys, and bought a new flag for the flagpole. He is planning to mow the town orchard, cut trees leaning towards the Cookeville Fire Station and waxing floors.

He also brought up the issue of long-term energy upgrades to the town hall, which the board indicated they would be discussing at a later date when all board members were present.

Appointments

Kelly Ann Donahue volunteered to fill the vacant Lister position. Kramer made a motion to appoint Kelly Ann Donahue as Lister. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Kramer made a motion to appoint Mike Wolff Forest Fire Warden for 5 years. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Kramer then made a motion to approve this slate of appointments: Budget committee for 1 year; Amy Peberday, Ray Moulton, Irene Mann, Mike Pittman, and Lee Porter; reappoint Linda Tobin to the Conservation Commission for 4 years; Tim O'Dell for Emergency Coordinator for 1 year; Catherine Tudish, Gary Bicknell, and Bob Fortunati as Fence Viewers for 1 year; Brad Wheeler as Health Officer for 3 years, Russ Pazdro to the Planning Commission for 3 years and also to Zoning Board of Adjustment for 1 year; Linda Wiess to the Revolving Loan Committee for 3 years; Virginia Barlow as Surveyor of Wood and Timber and also as Tree Warden; Tim O'Dell as TRORC Commissioner; Bob Sandberg to the NEKWMD board of supervisors and Marian Cawley as Alternate. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Later to be appointed: E911 Coordinator, Emergency Management Committee, and Upper Valley Ambulance rep.
Kramer then made a motion to appoint Christianne Carroll as the Town Clerk. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ARPA proposals

Fire Chief Pospisil has requested that the board authorize $36,000 for the purchase of a new Jaws of Life tool for automobile extraction, and additional rescue equipment for the town's UTV for ferrying out injured persons from remote locations. These items were previously proposed as part of the ARPA committee process and include a $12,000 time sensitive discount. Kramer made a motion to authorize $36,000 from the ARPA funds awarded to the town fire department for the purchase of the Hurst tool and insert for the Mule. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Jeff Spiegel asked if a more detailed breakdown of ARPA proposal considerations would be included in future agendas.. The board affirmed that more discussion would be included and that they have 2 years to allocate the funds.

Revisions to dumping ordinance
The board decided to postpone official action on this item until all board members are present. They hope to officially adopt the revised ordinance at the next selectboard meeting. Gary Apfel offered to post the new ordinance on the LRN.

Correspondence
None

Other business that comes before the board
None

Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

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Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, July 5, 2022

Attending for the board: Rick Cawley and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Norm Collette, town hall maintenance. Others attending, Jeremy Goodrich. Attending via Zoom: Dutton Vought, Matt Nola, Jeremiah Goyette, and Gary Apfel, town moderator.

Board chair RIck Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting ofJune 7, 2022, and financial meeting of June 13, 2022
No discussion or changes. Nick Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 7th, 2022 and the financial meeting of June 13th, 2022. Cawley noted that while he was not in attendance at the June 7, 2022 meeting, selectboard member Demrow had already made his corrections to the minutes, given that, Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns, grievance procedure
Jeremy Goodrich of 137 Turkey Hill Rd.wanted to follow up with the board after receiving a letter in response to his complaints raised at the last selectboard meeting. He reiterated the driveway damage and the non application of calcium chloride on the road in front of his property. The board and Norm Collette again informed him of the difficulty of his property's location for maintenance given that it sits below the road.

Other concerns: Dutton Vought reported that BlackTop Paving just blacktopped 200 ft in front of his property and there appears to be a chemical spill from the project that is seeping onto his property. Rain is washing it into the staypak driveway and the grass. Road commissioner Porter will look at it, confer with foreman Blodgett, and follow up with Blacktop as necessary.

Road Commissioner's report/Hwy. Concerns
Porter stated that the East Corinth village paving project is ready to go.

Appointments
Jeremiah Goyette volunteered to take on one of the school board vacancies. Cawley welcomed his interest but noted that Joe and Sarah Nolin are still on the board as they have not tendered their resignations. He advised the need to wait until the Nolins resign before making an appointment to replace them. Nick Kramer made a motion to appoint Jeremiah Goyette to the school board contingent on one or both Nolins tendering their resignations. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Cawley made a motion to reappoint Mike Wolff, Joe Blodgett and the selectboard to the Emergency Management Committee for one year. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Norm Collette stated that he would like to be kept in the loop for emergencies as he takes care of the town hall.

Next was the Upper Valley Ambulance service rep; currently Joe Truss. Cawley will email Joe and see if he wants to be reappointed. The E911 Coordinator was Karen Galayda until she resigned,as it coincided with the lister's job. Cawley will contact new listers Kelly Ann Donahue and Bill Tobin to see if either is interested in taking on that position.

Town hall maintenance/projects/renovations
Norm reported on all the accomplishments made around the town hall, i.e. mowing the orchard, lightbulbs, tree work, etc. The board discussed and agreed that Norm should get mowing bids from Dean Gregoropoulos and Chris Bruce. There was discussion about mapping the town orchard meadow, dying trees that need attention, and the back entrance to the building. More to be discussed during the ARPA agenda item.

ARPA proposals/sewer study

There was quite a bit of discussion about the different projects around the town hall building and the different state and federal funds aside from ARPA that could be applied for; Historic Preservation and Preservation Trust for windows, grants for energy audits and upgrades through Efficiency Vermont and VLCT. Collette listed a few requests about the back entrance but the board advised to wait and see what funding is available before scheduling any design and contract work.

Redstart Forestry has put in a bid for $6500 to conduct a study to locate all the septic systems and wells in East Corinth village. Kramer made a motion to accept the $6500 bid from Redstart for the original proposal to inventory all the septic and wells in the village. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Cawley will contact Ben Machin from Restart to inquire whether it would be feasible to include locating stormwater drains and outlets as part of that project.

Then some discussion about welcome signs for Rt 25 and other roads entering Corinth from Bradford, Vershire, Washington, and Topsham. Cawley will explore the requirements of VTRANS at an upcoming meeting relative to the placing of signs on VT RT 25.

LEMP approval

Kramer made a motion to adopt the Local Emergency Management (LEMP) plan and send it to TRORC. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Pay for temporary workers

The board revisited an earlier conversation from last fall concerning the minimum wage for all town employees, clarifying their intention to set a minimum wage of $15/hr for all employees. Kramer made a motion to set the minimum wage for all hourly town workers at $15. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Revisions to dumping ordinance

Cawley stressed the need for notice of the revised ordinance to be published in the Journal Opinion and posted in 5 places around town. Kramer volunteered to put together a notice and send a draft to Cawley and Demrow for review prior to their next meeting in August.

Correspondence

The board acknowledged receiving a letter from NEKWMD informing them of a proposed revision of their by-laws removing the member towns requirement to pass NEKWMD's budget by australian ballot and instead passing the budget by vote of the member towns' representatives.

The Orange County Sheriff's Dept. contract was reviewed. Kramer made a motion to approve and authorize Cawley to sign the contract. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Other business that comes before the board

None

Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461, Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday August 2, 2022

Attending for the board ;Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman; Norm Collette, town hall maintenance. Others attending, Jeremy Goodrich, Cayleigh O'Connell and Darcy O'Connell. Attending via Zoom: Dan Wing, Dina DuBois, Dawn Celeste Loftus, and Gary Apfel, town moderator

Board chair RIck Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of July 5, 2022, and financial meeting of July 11, 2022
Jeremy Goodrich asked about July 5th's minutes not reflecting the addition of town election poll workers receiving the set wage of $15 per hour starting pay. Rick Cawley pointed out that last month's discussion was revisiting a decision made last year raising all town starting pay to $15 per hour. Adding the temporary poll workers was duly noted for the minutes.

Nick Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 5, 2022 and the financial meeting of July 11, 2022. Carl Demrow noted that while he was not in attendance at the July 5, 2022 meeting he would abstain from voting. Cawley seconded and the motion passed with 2 "Ayes" and 1 abstention.

Public concerns
Cayleigh O'Connell had concerns about the sharp rocks in Cookeville Rd from grading as she has experienced at least two flat tires. Road Foreman Blodgett explained that the staypak they use comes from the Bradford quarry and after this Spring's rough mud season it was necessary to grade more than usual. He suggested when buying tires that adding the "Road Hazard Warranty" for a modest amount would be beneficial. The O'Connell girls thanked the selectboard and road foreman Blodgett for their response.

Jeremy Goodrich brought up the letter he received from the selectboard dated June 22nd which informed him that the issues concerning plowing and chloride application by his property have to do with road maintenance. He asked how plowing the snowbank into his driveway and not applying calcium chloride by his property is considered road maintenance. Foreman Blodgett informed him that the town could not acquire the calcium chloride needed last year so used water instead and saved the calcium chloride to control potholes. As for the snowbanks, the town crew must wing back the banks now and then to make room for coming storms.

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. Concerns
Commissioner Porter reported that the "No ATVs" sign has been stolen from Wilson Rd. and the one on Tenney Road has been smashed. Dan Wing said he tried fixing the one from Tenney Rd. Blodgett met with Dutton Voight about the concerns he brought up at last month's meeting about the chemical spill that was seeping onto his property. It has been taken care of except for needing some new staypak in his driveway which Blodgett will provide and spread.

Dan Wing reported that Tenney Rd. by his house to the town hall has been washed out. Blodgett said he would bring a bucket of staypak to stabilize the area. Lee Porter has heard from residents along Richardson Rd about the plans to either pave or widen the roadway for the upcoming EPA coppermine capping project. As there is an EPA meeting on August 23rd Cawley recommended urging the residents to attend to air their concerns. As they did for past meetings the EPA sends out notices beforehand to residents.

Blodgett requested to raise the hourly pay for Andy Martin one dollar as he is doing necessary part time work for the town. It would not affect the budget as the project he is working on is funded by grant money. Demrow made a motion to approve Blodgett's request to raise Andy Martin's pay rate another dollar. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Blodgett asked the selectboard to sign off on a grant for culvert work on Taplin Hill.

He informed the board that he talked with Terry Murphy about drawing up a sketch for the addition to the town garage which he agreed to do. He also talked with a builder from Corinth about the project. He will provide a quote for the next selectboard meeting. Blodgett asked the board to consider approving a purchase of an enclosed trailer for $100. He also got an offer of $500 for the old one. Kramer asked if the town had a policy for selling equipment. Porter stated that large items go to auction. Kramer made a motion to give Blodgett permission to sell the old trailer. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Blodgett made a proposal for the town to use ARPA funds to buy a head cutter which attaches to an excavator and will cut low lying limbs and other trees up to 12" in diameter for $11,000. He believes it will pay for itself in 3 years and be much safer to use for the crew. More to be discussed under ARPA.
Blodgett met with state stream engineer Pat Ross about widening the bridge near the hammock shop in East Corinth. His plan would cost under $200,000 and shut down the Village Rd for 3 weeks. It would be paid for by grant money and the town would be responsible for 10%. The bridge deck would be expanded from underneath. The alternative is a complete new bridge which would shut down Village Rd. for months and be more costly. Blodgett will continue to get more details.

Set tax rate
Cawley relayed that Treasurer Kelley needs to go over more numbers and will be ready to set the tax rate at Monday night's meeting.

ARPA proposals/town hall renovations
The board reviewed that so far the ARPA funds have been allocated for the fire dept.'s Jaws of Life and the East Corinth sewer mapping. They have decided to focus first on projects that will take a long time to implement and input is still welcome from residents. Demrow stated that the town has up until December 2024 to commit funds and December 2026 to spend it.

Next was discussion about the town hall back entry project which could include handicap access, new upstairs windows, weatherization update, foundation work, roofing,and various related details. There are other funds available other than ARPA that need to be explored. Rick Cawley spoke with Efficiency Vermont and conducted an energy walkthrough of the building to come up with ideas. He also had a meeting with the Preservation Trust. Rick will contact three architects: Terry Murphy, Mark Neilsen, and Tim Utt and ask their thoughts on the possibilities of sketches and numbers to have by the next selectboard meeting or before.

The board discussed Joe Blodgett's proposal for the head cutter which was discussed earlier. It was decided to inquire as to whether the cutter could be purchased within the existing highway budget given that the ARPA funds are limited and the board's preference is to use them for long term investments.

Revisions to solid waste ordinance
Carl Demrow's revisions to the solid waste ordinance have been reviewed by the board. Demrow made a motion to adopt the proposed revisions to the original solid waste ordinance with increased penalties for violations and to amend the word "Selectmen" to read "Selectboard" on the ordinance. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Notice of the revised ordinance will be posted around town in 5 places and sent to the Journal Opinion by Anne Rosten. Nick Kramer will send it to Anne McKinsey to post on the town website and to Gary Apfel to post on the LRN.

Cawley presented a piece of trash that was dumped illegally after hours at the transfer station. The name and address of the violator is known and Demrow will send him a letter informing him of the penalties.

Correspondence
The board received a letter from TRORC thanking the town for its support. A signed copy of the agreement with the Orange County Sheriff's Dept was read and filed and VLTC sent the new municipal calendar. As expected two new credit cards for the town were received.

Other business that comes before the board

TRORC let the board know that they received the LEMP form and requested more information on spending authorizations and all municipal contracts. Cawley requested clarification from TRORC and is waiting for a response.. The contact information and the equipment list was updated.

Norm informed the board that he replaced the batteries in the emergency lighting around the town hall.
Treasurer Kelley had requested approval from the board to write a check to People's United for payment on the John Deere tractor for $25,499.17 which is due August 10th. Kramer made a motion to approve Kelley's request to write a check to Peoples United for the John Deere for $25,499.17. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Norm got 3 bids from the 3 different tree services to deal with the trees around the Cookeville Fire Station and the dying maple by the flagpole. The 3 quotes were from Longto Tree Service for $6400, Woodsman Tree Service for $4750, and Matt Foster's Logging for $3095. All are insured. The board concurred to go with Matt Foster. Demrow made a motion to accept the quote from Matt Foster Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Norm let the board know that Fire Chief Pospisil will provide smoke alarms for the town hall.

Carl Demrow raised concerns about part of the old Village Store in East Corinth that is close to the East Corinth Church and is about to fall in the Tabor Branch which runs just behind. The whole building appears to be a hazard for fire and/or falling in and an inspection should be scheduled pursuant to the dilapidated building ordinance. To start the process requires a building safety officer; currently an unfilled position in Corinth. IIdeally the position requires experience in structural engineering. Members of the board will ask Fire Chief Ed Pospisil if he knows anyone who might qualify.

Norm then showed the board a survey map of the town hall grounds from a Tom Otterman survey. Norm will ask Tom what it would take to add the orchard and other physical features as well as the location of the septic leach field.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Attending for the board ;Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman; Norm Collette, town hall maintenance; Chris Diaz, Constable. Others attending, Jeremy Goodrich, Attending via Zoom: Gary Apfel, town moderator

Board chair RIck Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of August 2, 2022, and financial meeting of August 8, 2022
No discussion. Carl Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 2, 2022 and the financial meeting of August 8, 2022. Nick Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns
None

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. Concerns: Dirt bike rally
Joe Blodgett requested the board to approve the design for the Hedgehog Bridge project in East Corinth with Ruggles Engineering. Joe met with Tim Ruggles to go over the plan which should not cost more than $10,000 and the construction should take 3 to 4 weeks. Kramer made a motion to approve the Ruggles design phase of the project. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Norm Collette noted that during the project stones from the old Hunter Bobbin Mill may be uncovered which would be of historical significance.

Blodgett stated that the 2016 dump truck is due to be replaced next year. He would like to put in an order now for a new one as there could be shortages and there would not be any financial obligation to do so. Demrow made a motion to authorize Joe to place an order for the new truck now on the condition that the town is under no financial obligation at this time. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Blodgett noted that there is an extra $11,000 left in this year's highway fund. After discussing whether to use it for needed equipment or fuel. The board decided to leave it as surplus in the highway fund for now as future fuel prices are uncertain.

Blodgett reported that he's received an email from a Taplin Hill resident asking for "Slow Children Playing" signs by his residence to slow traffic down. Blodgett and constable Chris Diaz explained that the official speed limit is 50 mph and to change it would be complicated and costly. However, the homeowner can put his own sign out as long as it is not in the town right of way.

The Norumbega and Montshire Trail Riders are holding a dirt bike rally on Sunday, September 11th from 11:00 - 4:00. Constable Diaz is concerned as there could be upwards of 300 motorcycles entered and there are areas on the route that may need a "police" presence to alert other drivers and cyclists to be careful. He presented the rally route map to the board. He requested to be paid to cover the intersection of Coppermine and Richardson Rds. He will also alert the Fast Squad about the rally. The board agreed to his request.

Transfer station: phone, illegal dumping, solid waste ordinance
There was a question as to whether the new revisions to the dumping ordinance was actually published in the print version of the Journal Opinion. It was later verified by Cawley and Demrow to be in the August 10th print edition.

The board and road foreman Blodgett discussed using a camera to photograph violators. Kramer made a motion to authorize Joe to set up a camera at the transfer station. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. He also requested the installation of a telephone for use in case of emergencies. The board looked over the different options from

Topsham Telephone and the Basic package looked adequate. Kramer made a motion to authorize Joe to have Topsham Telephone install the basic phone service at the transfer station. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

School Director vacancy

Sarah Nolin sent her resignation as School Director to the board. Nancy Ertle expressed interest in serving on the school board. Kramer made a motion to have Nancy Ertle appointed as School Director for Corinth. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Chair Cawley will send Ertle an email to inform her.

ARPA proposals / town hall renovations

Joe Blodgett presented the drawings of the proposed town garage addition and the quote from the builder to members of the board. The builder came in with a quote of between $230,000 and $250,000 for the finished project. There was quite a bit of discussion and questions about different details. They are not ready to make a decision and asked Joe to keep them updated.

Norm Collette also presented his written plans for the town hall renovation project which encompasses many numerous projects; new windows, weatherization, new siding, frost wall, steps, gutters, roof, possible expansion, etc. As the town hall has needed updating for many years, these projects have added up. The board and Norm discussed how to prioritize and possibly categorize each need and deal with each separately. There are also other funds available from the state and nonprofits that could be utilized other than ARPA.

Kramer suggested having a special selectboard meeting for discussion on the town hall renovations. It was decided to hold a special meeting on Thursday, Sept. 29th at 7:00 PM to discuss all items on the list to identify the priorities. Cawley talked with Mark Nielsen who is interested in working on the project. He will ask Mark if he would care to attend the special meeting to help with suggestions.

Carl Demrow offered to post an ad on the LRN looking for a volunteer to do research on grant monies available. Carl and Nick will draft the ad and run it past Rick before posting.

Correspondence

The board read a letter from Brad Caswell and Carrie Kessler on Richardson Rd. which included a copy of the public comment to Ed Hathaway of the EPA asking the selectboard to encourage the EPA to revise their plans for the Corinth coppermines and significantly reduce the volume of truck traffic.

The board also received an email from an East Corinth resident looking to address the debris around the old store in the village.

Other business that comes before the board

None

Nick Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Meeting ended at 9:13 PM.

Town of Corinth Selectboard PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes Of Special Meeting Thursday, September 29, 2022

Attending for the Board: Rick Cawley, Nick Kramer, and Carl Demrow. Anne Rosten, select board clerk. Others attending: Shirley Montagne and Norm Collette. Attending via Zoom: Dick Kelley, treasurer, Dina DuBois, and Dan Wing.
The meeting was conducted in person and on Zoom. Chair Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Financial clerk appointment

Suzanne Hansen was working as the selectboard financial clerk up until four months ago. The board realized that she was preoccupied with a number of significant personal issues and are uncertain where she is living at present. The board has been unable to contact her.. The board decided that it was necessary to appoint a new selectboard financial clerk to help with reconciling the town's accounts and getting them ready for the audit. The job also requires having the warrant prepared for the board to review with the treasurer at monthly financial meetings.
Shirley Montagne has offered to take on the financial clerk's job. Her credentials include a Master's degree in business administration, accounting for a hospital, a nonprofit, and has worked as an adjunct instructor for CCV. She also currently works for an accounting firm in WRJ which becomes busy after January 1st gearing up for tax season. She can be flexible with hours around tax time to make it work for both the town and the accounting firm. Treasurer Kelley proposed that NEMRC would work with her and get her up to speed with the software.
The board and Kelley will continue to try and contact Hansen for the material that she has possession of. The board agreed to pay $20 an hour for the position. Nick Kramer made a motion to appoint Shirley Montagne for the position of financial clerk for the board. Carl Demrow seconded and motion passed unanimously.

ARPA proposals/town hall renovations

Norm Collette and the selectboard went over the numerous issues concerning the attic, ceiling, windows, basement, entrance, possible building expansion, and exterior of the town hall. There was discussion whether to concentrate on patch up jobs or focus on more extensive renovations. As well as identifying each need and the various solutions, the board and Norm talked about the different possible funding sources from the state such as Preservation Trust, VT Historical Society, and Building General Services. (BGS). Nick Kramer mentioned a Municipal Energy Resilience grant available from BGS that may be applied for presently. Rick Cawley suggested finding out exactly what the grant would cover. Demrow said he would follow up with the state historical society about grants for some of the various building needs. They deliberated about adapting existing hall space for office work as opposed to expanding the building. Dina DuBois advocated using Mark Nielsen to help. The board had already contacted Mark to work with them on navigating all the possibilities before making any decisions. Cawley noted that Mark had offered to donate 20 hours of his time which is very appreciated.

Other business that comes before the board

None

Nick Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Carl Demrow seconded and motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:50 PM.

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Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Attending for the board ;Rick Cawley and Nick Kramer; Carl Demrow attended via Zoom. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman; Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Norm Collette, town hall maintenance; Connie Longo. Others attending: Representative Samantha Lefebvre via Zoom.

Board chair RIck Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of September 6, 2022, and financial meeting of September 12, 2022
No discussion. Nick Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 6, 2022 and the financial meeting of September 12, 2022. Carl Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns
None

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. Concerns:Commissioner Porter reported that there are no obstacles in the town right of ways. Rick Cawley asked about some debris that is being left on the side of the road across from the Meadow Meeting House. Foreman Blodgett noticed it also and believes he knows who is who is leaving it; a resident from South America Rd. Joe then asked for the board to approve allocation of the Better Back Roads grant funds to be applied to the road crew's labor and equipment budgets in the amounts they were billed at. Kramer then made a motion to allocate the grant funds to whatever expenses the town used for the project. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Blodgett shared a letter with the board from the dealer from whom the town will order a new Western Star dump truck for next year's equipment rotation. The letter stated that the town is not obligated to buy the truck if the town votes it down at town meeting. Kramer made a motion to order the new truck, pending voter approval at town meeting. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Joe has heard from another Cookeville Rd. resident who is concerned about the material used by the road crew to grade the road. He assured the resident that Cookeville Rd. gets the same treatment as all other class 3 roads in town. Joe also reported that he purchased a roller for $500 to better pack the gravel.
There was discussion about a washout problem behind the Corinth Academy and needed grading at the East Corinth ballfield which the town road crew will attend to.

Transfer station update
Blodgett said he ordered the phone for the transfer station building and has not set up the camera yet.

Lister vacancy
Nick Kramer received an email from an interested party for the lister's position. He gave him a rundown of the duties and suggested he get in touch with Kelly Ann Donahue for more information. Kramer will run the post again in the LRN. Joe heard from another woman who may be interested in the lister position.
Carl Demrow heard from someone interested in the building inspector position. He advised that she read the dilapidated building ordinance and get in touch with Rick, which she has done. Rick will call her back and discuss the position..
Norm Collette informed the board that the current town hall cleaning woman was getting done in January but has decided to terminate her employment immediately. Rick Cawley noted that Connie Longo is willing to take on the job which she has performed before. Carl Demrow made a motion to appoint Connie Longo to be the town hall cleaning person at the hourly rate of $20. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ARPA proposals
Joe again went over the plans for the proposed expansion of the town garage. He and the board went over the probable costs for the foundation and shell as opposed to a new building. Joe proposed bringing in someone local with a portable sawmill and mill rough cut lumber to save money on the project. Joe stressed the need for the town equipment to be kept undercover and a dry, clean area for the town crew to eat their lunch and take breaks. Cawley stated that they need to

figure out the projected needs of the town hall renovation and the different funding options before they could commit a sum to the garage proposal.

Correspondence

The board read a proposal from NEWMD to amend their charter which will eliminate the Australian ballot voted on by member towns. Instead the final budget will be acted on by the board of supervisors.

Next was a solicitation from a nonprofit from Burlington called Big Heavy World requesting $250 from the town. It will be put by Treasurer Kelley to be considered for appropriation at budget committee meetings.

Rick Cawley received a survey from TRORC to fill out asking for opinions of town needs which he had already completed online. He suggested the other board members fill out their own surveys if desired.

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Other business that comes before the board

Shirley Montagne informed the board that she contacted an attorney who volunteered to do pro bono work and petition the court to release the $2000 endowment for the library discussed at last month's selectboard meeting.

Norm urged the board to review and update the town hall use policy for the town clerk. He will scan the existing policy and send it to the board members. Rick said he would put it on a future agenda.

Nick Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Meeting ended at 8:13 PM.

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Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday November 1, 2022

Attending for the board ;Rick Cawley, Carl Demrow, and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Norm Collette, town hall maintenance; KellyAnn Donahue, lister; Mark Nielsen, retired architect; Glyn Pellegrino, chair of the Conservation Commission. Others attending: Liz Davis and Suzanne Opton. Gary Apfel, treasurer Dick Kelley, Alex Nuti-de Biasi, editor from the Journal Opinion, and Carol Freeman via Zoom.

Board chair RIck Cawley called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of September 6, 2022, and financial meeting of September 12, 2022
No discussion. Nick Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 4, 2022 and the financial meeting of October 10, 2022. Carl Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public concerns
None

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. Concerns:
Commissioner Lee Porter met with an engineer who reported that they have started improving the road to the copper mines and will be continuing to take soil samples for testing. He received a complaint about a resident driving too fast. He had a conversation with the speeder who agreed to slow down.
Lister Donahue informed the board that a new road name must be issued for camps who share a new access road off of Maplewood Rd. Donahue will send a letter out to the residents informing them of their 911 addresses and requesting a name for the road.

Transfer station update/recycling trailer
Porter said the telephone company did install a new line to the transfer station but the actual telephone has not been placed there yet. Cawley raised a question as to who owns the recycle trailer for the redeemables. The Conservation Commission owns it and is responsible for the cost of the upkeep.

Complaint re: East Corinth property
The board of the East Corinth Congregational Church submitted a complaint letter to the selectboard detailing a number of issues regarding the former East Corinth store property, which abuts the church. The issues included tree damage, the condition of the back barn closest to the church, and concerns over fire. The barn attached to the back of the old store is crumbling and very near the river. Cawley noted the board has no authority to deal with the tree issue. Cawley suggested they try and work with the property owner for a resolution. Demrow made a motion to forward the complaint to the building safety inspector with a directive to focus on the condition of the barn structure. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Hall repairs and renovations (ARPA)
Mark Nielsen handed out hard copies of the town hall plan he worked up with a ballpark estimate on the costs from Rinehimer Custom Carpentry. He also reviewed with the board each point of the plan on his computer. The plan includes repairs to the roof, a new covered porch with stairs and a ramp, drainage pipes, etc. The board agreed it is a good plan and a serious investment as it is. Cawley suggested moving forward through 3 stages:

First, there needs to be one board member authorized to work with Nielsen and Collette through the project.
Second, to authorize Collette to get fixes on the roof repairs.
Third, To look at further projects such as new windows, weatherization, and the attic.
Kramer made a motion to authorize Rick Cawley to work directly with Nielsen in consulting with Collette to advance the design as presented tonight. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Demrow then made a motion to authorize Norm to accept the proposal from Burrell Roofing Co. for $2200 to fix the roof and use money from the building

reserve fund. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The board will continue discussing other needed town hall projects in future meetings.

Knotweed on Cookeville Road

The board discussed the growing problem of knotweed growing on roadsides and river banks in town. One proposed solution is to use herbicides to stop the invasive growth. Conservation commission chair Glyn Pellegrino said that it is impossible to eliminate and would not condone the use of herbicides. Cawley felt the consensus was to decline to go forward with it and so it was tabled.

Town hall use policy/wage policy

The board members discussed how to conclude which town positions should be paid or volunteer. Kramer agreed to compose a master list with 2 columns for the board to look at.

Collette and Connie Longo will inspect the town hall for cleanliness and cleanup after use and decide whether a deposit refund is appropriate.

Town Report authorization

The board and Donahue discussed what the town report theme could be this year for photos. Collette suggested the Pike Hill copper mines as the historical society has a lot of old photos from its heyday.

Demrow made a motion to authorize Anne McKinsey to continue to work on the town report. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Budget meeting schedule/interim warrant

The board went over the tentative budget meeting schedule from last month's meeting with all agreed on the dates and time. Kramer made a motion to approve the budget meeting schedule for November 15th, 22nd, and 29th, December 8th, and December 13th if needed. All meetings will be at 6:00 PM. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

After a few questions for treasurer Kelley, Kramer made a motion to approve the interim warrant. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Appointment to revolving loan fund committee (selectboard member)

Demrow made a motion to appoint Nick Kramer as the selectboard member to the revolving loan fund committee. Rick seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence (TRORC dues)

The board got letters from FEMA about flood risk studies being conducted in the White River watershed and also the Connecticut River watershed which includes the Waits River.

They also read a letter from TRORC for the town's annual dues to be warned for town meeting unless they were built into the town budget for appropriation.

Other business that comes before the board

Donahue asked how the search was going to recruit new listers. Kramer explained that there had been a couple of interested people but hadn't heard anything after the initial calls. Donahue then handed out a paper with options for fulfilling the tasks of the listers' office in the event the town couldn't find the needed three listers. The board will continue to seek people for the listers' job.

Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Demrow seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

DRAFT-unapproved

Corinth Selectboard
Special Meeting minutes
November 28, 2022, 6:15 PM at Town Hall

Attending for the board: Nick Kramer (chairing), Carl Demrow.

Nick Kramer brought the meeting to order at 6:17.

The board convened to discuss a municipal planning grant for the Planning Commission from TRORC. The grant requires the selectboard to approve the Planning Commission's applying for the grant. Matching funds needed will come from the planning commission's budget. No members of the public or the planning commission attended or commented.

Demrow made a motion to approve the planning commission's applying for the grant. Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Demrow made a motion to adjourn and Kramer seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Demrow

Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday December 6, 2022

Attending for the board ; Carl Demrow, and Nick Kramer. Rick Cawley via Zoom. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; Norm Collette, town hall maintenance; Others attending: Dan Carter, Brad Wheeler, and Chris and Holly Grocshner. Via Zoom: Treasurer Dick Kelley, Gary Apfel, Dina DuBois, and Dan Wing.

Board member Nick Kramer called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of November 1, 2022, and financial meeting of November 14, 2022; and a special meeting of November 28, 2022.
No discussion.Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 1, 2022 and the financial meeting of November 14, 2022. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Demrow then made a motion to approve the special selectboard meeting of November 28, 2022. Kramer seconded and the motion passed with Cawley abstaining since he was not in attendance at that meeting.

Public concerns
None

Road Commissioner's report / Hwy. Concerns:
Foreman Blodgett presented two grant applications for the board to sign; both from the Better Back Roads. The first was for the East Orange Road to build up bank support and put in new culverts. Cawley made a motion to authorize Kramer to sign the grant for East Orange Rd. grant. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Second was a grant to stop erosion on Hoots Road with ditching. Cawley made a motion for Kramer to sign the grant. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Blodgett explained the plan to improve Magoon Hill from LaMontagne's to Tenney Road and also improvements for Carpenter Place.
Chris Groshner commended the road foreman for obtaining all the grants for the roads.

Junkyard permit on Route 25/Dan Carter
Dan Carter had informed Cawley that the state had pressed him to apply for a junkyard permit and asked what his intentions for the vehicles were. Carter told the state that he will sell or scrap the vehicles that have collected there over the years and he has disposed of quite a few already. To get the permit the town has to sign off on it. Carter gave the board the state paperwork as well as maps and a couple of aerial views. Demrow asked how many vehicles are still on the property. Carter estimated around 50 down below and 10 up by the road. Kramer asked about a time frame and Carter requested a 2 year permit. Cawley asked for time to review it and take it up again at Monday's financial meeting to which all agreed.

Painting project/redeemable container at transfer station
Jeff Spiegel of the community coalition made a proposal for a student-led mural painting of the redeemables container at the transfer station and requested the use of ARPA funds for the project; possibly $2000-2500. Holly Groshner suggested contacting the VT Arts Council for the funding. Cawley stated that the board wouldn't know whether there were excess funds until after they had better numbers on the projects that have already been committed to and that Spiegel needs to make a more detailed proposal at a future date. The board decided to table it for now.

Fiber optic at town hall
Topsham Telephone asked if the town wanted to hook fiber up the town hall which will allow downloading at 25mbps and uploading at 3mbps. Cawley asked Kelley for his input as Kelley had a discussion with Heidi from Tops-Tele. She stated that the service would be $69 per month plus $5.99 monthly router rental which is less than what the town currently pays for DSL. People who work in the office are strongly in favor. Holly Groshner asked Kelley about any installment fee which he didn't know. She said the fee could be as high as $400. She also explained that Tops-Tele received a $1,000,000 grant

and only hooked fiber up to 55 residences so installment fees should be nonapplicable. Groshner also has access to the maps that show where fiber is hooked up and they are inaccurate which affects the amount of grant money available. She requested that she be allowed to correct the record which the board agreed to. The board agreed to move forward and pursue the plan to hook up to fiber. Demrow made a motion to engage Topsham Telephone to get the 25 mbps download and the 3 mbps upload for the approximate total monthly cost of $76 providing there are no installment fees. Cawley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Village sewer study

Ben Machin from Redstart Forestry sent a draft of the letter to send to village residents about the sewer survey for the board to review and approve. Demrow made a suggestion to have the wording “”East Corinth Sewer Survey” at the top of the letter so residents will immediately know what the content is. The board agreed and Cawley will contact Machin tomorrow.

Status report/town hall repairs and renovations (ARPA)

There was quite a bit of discussion about the many details involved in starting the town hall project; siding removal , possible lead paint on the old wooden clapboards under the aluminum, asbestos, etc. Norm Collette and Brad Wheeler made test hole studies for the porch renovation and reported good soils for support. Weatherization was also discussed about replacing windows, insulating the upstairs, the walls, and the roof. Demrow stated that there was up to $500,000 for municipal weatherization projects available through a state grant program that will start accepting applications next year. There were questions about permits from the fire marshall and running the plans by the Historic Preservation Trust and how much of the ARPA funds to utilize. Wheeler answered the questions about hazardous material such as lead paint and asbestos.

Treasurer Kelley asked if the town hall office workers will have a say in the design and how disruptive the project will be to their jobs. Cawley said the project design has been discussed at numerous selectboard meetings and the planning stage is far along and money has already been spent, but agreed to share current draft designs.. And since the project mostly involves the exterior office work shouldn’t be disrupted.

Collette then brought up the floor which needs to be replaced. He illustrated how uneven the floor and supports holding the walls up are and how they can be remedied. He spoke with Valley Floors who will put down a new floor unless asbestos is found underneath. There are layers of flooring material that are underneath the tiles; Luan, linoleum, and the original maple. Asbestos could be in the linoleum. Wheeler has samples from the linoleum and the tiles he can have tested for asbestos. If asbestos is present then a certified professional is the only option to remove it at the cost of $5000 - $10,000.

Demrow made a motion to have Wheeler send out samples of linoleum and tile to test for asbestos and base the flooring decision on the result. Kramer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Next was discussion about putting solar panels on the Cookeville fire house. Collette stated that solar panels on the fire house roof could generate 10 - 12 kw of electricity. The board and Collette will talk with the fire dept about it and find out what kind of funding is out there and pursue it at a later date.

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Wage policy

Kramer made revisions on his draft policy from last month and shared it with the other board members for review and further revisions. This second draft will change the language of “officers” to “positions” and include mileage reimbursement policy and invoice to time sheet. They will take it up for final approval at next week's financial meeting and add election and poll workers in paid town positions.

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Other business that comes before the board

As more people are joining in the meetings via Zoom it has been noticed that the sound quality has not been adequate for involved engagement. The OWL system that the library uses was discussed as an option as well as Bluetooth speakers. Kramer stated that OWL has superior sound quality compared to the current system. Demrow suggested borrowing the OWL system from the library for the January selectboard meeting and depending on the result making a decision for the town hall to purchase. The OWL system’s cost is approximately $1000. Demrow will request borrowing it from the library for the January meeting.

Holly Groshner urged the board to pursue getting technology in to the town hall as the ARPA and other funding will not always be available and the benefits will last over time.
Lee Porter brought up a letter from Tom Otterman about the Tillotson subdivision. He asked the board if they had any concerns about it. The board stated that they had no direct involvement and if the planning commission and road foreman are satisfied the board is also.

Demrow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cawley seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.