Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Approved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday June 3, 2025

Attending for the board: Chair Holly Groschner and Carl Demrow. Stephen Devoto absent. Anne Rosten Selectboard Clerk; Lee Porter, Road Commissioner: Kelly Ann Donahue, Head Lister and Interim Treasurer: Jon Ruggles, Mike Tagliavia, Jim Guyer, Jeff McLaughlin, Tree Warden Ginny Barlow; Pike Industries representative Norman Patenaude.; Dan Wing, and Dina DuBois. Attending via Zoom: Matt Nola, Anne Margolis, and SEAM representative Stephanie Magnan.

Board Chair Holly Groschner called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Welcome and Agenda Approval
Chair Groschner welcomed all attendees and asked if there were any agenda changes. Demrow made a motion to approve the agenda. Groschner seconded and the motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from 5/6/25 SB Meeting
Demrow made a motion to approve the SB minutes of May 6, 2025. Groschner seconded and the motion passed.

Public Concerns
Jeff McLaughlin asked if there were any plans to generate revenue for the town, i.e. attract business, to alleviate the tax burden on residents. Groschner answered that the town is a quiet, friendly, and scenic place that most residents appreciate. Demrow added that there is not the infrastructure to support a lot of business. McLaughlin then brought up his concern about access to his residence on a class 4 road. He said the Corinth Snowscramblers maintain and groom near his home that inhibits his access. He asked why snowmobiles are allowed on the class 4 roads but not ATVs. Jim Guyer explained that he's talked with the snowmobile club and they are willing to meet with the board as they have in the past. Porter said that when the town held a public meeting about banning the ATVs on back roads the ATV enthusiasts did not attend or participate in the approval process.

Road Commissioner's Report / Highway Dept
Road Commissioner Lee Porter reported that the new Western Star dump truck chassis arrived but discussion about the loan will take place at Monday night's SBF meeting.
Porter presented the board with two RFBs for town road paving: Pike Industries for $110,772.50 and Blacktop for $108,000. Porter explained that even though Pike's bid was $2000 over Blacktop's bid Pike includes more than $2000 of extra work. He also said they've always been happy with Pike's work. Pike rep Norman Patenaude also presented a certificate of insurance to the board. Groschner asked for a written RFP from Pike. Porter said that in all the years the town has worked with Pike they've not had a written RFP. Groschner requested the process follow the Town Procurement Policy and Pike rep Patenaude offered to provide a form for the RFP. Demrow made a motion to accept a more complete bid of $110,772 from Pike Industries. Groschner seconded and the motion passed.
Porter reported that the transfer station had been broken into and cash and other items were stolen. Cameras will be installed.

LHMP Draft Report

SEAM representative Stephanie Magnon was hired by the town to work on the LHMP plan and write up a draft for review. She explained that the major natural hazards particular to Corinth are floods and winds. Demrow explained that the benefit of working with SEAM will allow the town to receive a bigger match of grant money from FEMA. It would reduce the town's match from 25% to 12.5%. The plan must be submitted by 6/15/25 to VT Emergency Management for approval. If approved, the board will adopt the plan and send it on to FEMA for approval for 5 years.

Discussion took place about the two appointed shelters: the Town Hall and WRVS. Emergency Management director Kelly Ann Donahue said both shelters have been inspected by the Red Cross.and the Red Cross would provide all the provisions needed in an emergency. Donahue will draft a maintenance checklist for the shelters and send it to the board.

RFP for Ash Tree Removal

Tree Warden Ginny Barlow received 3 bids for ash tree removal on White Rd due to the Emerald Ash Borer: Longto Tree Service LLC for $17,000, Matt Foster Inc. for $26,000, and Limlaw Chipping and Land Clearing for $26,500. Barlow recommended going with Longto Tree Service LLC. All bidders visited the site. Demrow made a motion to accept the bid from Longto Tree Service LLC for $17,000. Groschner seconded and the motion passed. Groschner asked to provide a letter with the RFP for Longto and the board to sign.

Dan Wing brought up his concerns about the ash trees on the town property Academy site. There are large ash trees lining the lane behind the Academy building that are in danger of falling. Wing brought maps of the said property to review. He proposed that the town and historical society hire someone to cut the ash trees before they die. Groschner asked Barlow to take on another RFP for up to $3000 to hire out the cutting of ash trees on the town/academy property.

Town Hall Window Dresser Reservation

Demrow made a motion to approve the use of the town hall for the window dressers from 10/6/25 – 10/23/25 at no fee. Groschner seconded and the motion passed.

VSP Law Enforcement Contract

Groschner stated that she heard from Lieutenant Winn of the VSP who informed her that they now can provide an officer to patrol Corinth for 4 hours per week. Demrow made a motion to approve the VSP contract for an officer to patrol the town of Corinth 4 hours a week from 6/1/25 –5/31/25 not to exceed $21,300. Groschner seconded and the motion passed.

Planning Commission subdivision amendment

The Planning Commission will hold a meeting on the subdivision by-law changes on 6/12/25 at 7:00 PM for public discussion. Encourage all to come.

Correspondence and Other Business

LEMP director Kelly Ann Donahue needs signatures to send to VEMP. Demrow made a motion to accept the LEMP. Groschner seconded and the motion passed. Dina DuBois said when she was on the board to approve emergency shelters the town hall was rejected. Donahue assured her that the town hall is now designated as a warming shelter as the hall has a generator, bathrooms, electric and gas stoves, and heat.

Town Updates; Administrative Officer

Kelly Ann Donahue will give up her job as Administrative Officer. Stephen Devoto is willing to be appointed to this position as he is performing duties as AO already. Demrow made a motion to appoint Stephen Devoto as Town Administrative Officer. Groschner seconded and the motion passed.

Calendar

The board approved confirmation of the next SB meeting dates: 6/9/25 SBF meeting and 7/1/25 regular SB meeting.

Executive Session

Demrow made a motion for the board to go into executive session pursuant to 1 VSA 313(a)(3) as required. Groschner seconded and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.