Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Approved Minutes of Financial Meeting
Monday August 11,2025

Attending for the Board: Holly Groschner, Carl Demrow, and Stephen Devoto. Anne Rosten, Selectboard Clerk; Joe Blodgett, Road Foreman; Kelly Ann Donahue, Interim Assistant Treasurer; Shirley Montagne, Selectboard Financial Clerk, Mary White, Orange County Rep Mike Tagliavia, and Raymond Moulton.

Board chair Holly Groschner called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Agenda Approval
Demrow made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from 7/14/25 SBF Meeting
Demrow made a motion to approve the minutes from the 7/14/25 SBF meeting. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Road Foreman Joe Blodgett requested the town sell the tanker truck they purchased for $500 as it is too big for the town's purposes. Blodgett said he had an offer from a private party for $5000. Demrow made a motion to authorize Blodgett to sell town asset #50-023-0037-50-001 tanker truck to private party for the amount of $5000. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The $5000 will be deposited in the Equipment Fund.

Proposed Livestock Running At Large Ordinance
This item moved forward to accommodate guests. Groschner reported that she had multiple phone conversations with Mike Danforth, owner of the frequently at-large cattle, about the problem. Danforth acknowledged that his fence has been down and is aware of the complaints from property owners. He promised that the fence will be fixed. Groschner also noted that she had a meeting with the town counsel and was informed that impounding loose running livestock can be impounded by the town and the owner be fined as in the State Statute. Mary White, co-owner of Fort Wait Farm in Cookeville and also sits on the VT Farm Bureau, informed the board that impounding livestock is a liability for host farms and most would not participate. White is familiar with the state statute and thought a town ordinance is not needed. She stressed clear communication between the board and loose running livestock owners before enforcement of the statute. Demrow stated that only in extreme cases would the board go to enforcement. Raymond Moulton said that phone calls would work better than written notices. Devoto's concern was for the board to know about livestock at-large BEFORE it becomes extreme. Groschner said that ACO Matt Hayes has been diligent about answering all the livestock calls. The board decided that no new ordinance is needed.

Cemetery Commission (CC)
Over the years the town treasurer has been doing the payroll and accounting for the Cemetery Commission and now that NEMRC is helping with payroll and the fact that the last town treasurer abruptly resigned there is a lot to clean up. Selectboard Financial Clerk Shirley Montagne has been working on the CC books and is paid by the CC for that service. Groschner asked why the CC accounting is in NEMRC. Montagne said that it was easier to use the same system as she does for the town accounts.. Moulton said that the treasurer has always been the one to work on the CC's books and it worked well until Susan Fortunati retired as Treasurer 6 years ago but has gotten out of hand since then. There was discussion about customers having to write out two checks when purchasing a cemetery plot: one for the CC and a recording fee for the Town Clerk and how to streamline that. Norm Collette reported that the CC now has access to the Community Bank and the Fidelity Account. Payroll Clerk John Sutton said that a different process is used for the CC payroll than the town payroll. The CC submits two warrants annually to the town for payment. Colette said the cost for care and maintenance of the town's cemetery is between $10,000 and $12,000. Moulton said the annual cost for flags to place on veteran graves is approximately $1000.

Dashboard Review/Audit
The board and Montagne discussed the different funds and updates.
Montagne sent the last requested item for FY23 to the auditors. Demrow asked about FY24; Montagne is working on it.

Warrant, Payroll, and Paid Checks Warrant
Montagne handed out the two warrants: FY26 which totalled $277,074 and an FY25 one for less. Interim Assistant Treasurer Kelly Ann Donahue added some late invoices which brought up the FY26 warrant total to $277,660.44. Demrow made a motion to approve the warrant with the updated total of $277,660.44. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Demrow made a motion to approve the FY25 warrant. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll: Payroll Clerk Sutton will send the board payroll information by pay periods. And the board will vote to approve payroll by pay periods.

Warrant Timing Approval
Sutton showed the board a color coded payment schedule which indicated a lot of late payments with late fees due. Sutton said that having another financial meeting the third week of the month would clear that up. Groschner suggested not paying the late fees if payments are made 30 days after receiving the invoices. Donahue said that there is usually a late fee from Blue Cross and they threaten blocking service if not paid. The board

decided to double the payment for the next month which should clear that up. Demrow made a motion to authorize doubling the next payment to Blue Cross for $71,334.25 to avoid future late fees. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll Modification Confirmation

Donahue made the budget changes for payroll modification. ACO Matt Hayes will be paid as an Independent Contractor.

Other Business

Sutton reported that people are coming in to pay their taxes and some are paying by cash and need change. He thought maybe budgeting $500 for petty cash to make change. Groschner said "No the town will not make change" and the other board members agreed. If taxpayers want to pay with cash they will need to bring an exact amount with their bill.

Demrow made a motion to appoint Catherine Tudish as second representative to the LHMP Committee to attend regional meetings. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Demrow made a motion to adjourn and go into Executive Session 1 VSA 313 (a) for personnel matters. Devoto seconded and motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:30 PM.