Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Approved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday September 2, 2025

Attending for the Board: Carl Demrow and Stephen Devoto, Board Chair Holly Groschner absent. Anne Rosten, Selectboard Clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Kelly Ann Donahue, Interim Assistant Treasurer and Head Lister; Jon Ruggles, Andrew Alexander, and State Representative Mike Tagliavia. . Via Zoom:.Gary Apfel, Town Meeting Moderator; and Alex Nuti-de-Biasi, Journal Opinion Editor

Acting Board Chair Carl Demrow called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

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

Approval of Selectboard Minutes from August 8, 2025
Devoto made a motion to approve the SB minutes of August 8, 2025. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Concerns
Mike Tagliavia asked if the Treasurer's hours are posted for tax collection. Interim Assistant Treasurer Kelly Ann Donahue said she will be in until 5:00 PM for the rest of the week and also Monday. On Tuesday she will be open until 6:00 PM and will check the drop box before closing.

Andrew Alexander showed the board a map of Corinth made by TRORC with sections of land identified as conservation, rural, village, etc. He was concerned that his land is identified as Conservation which could lead to restrictions on his property. Alexander said that both board member Demrow and Tree Warden Ginny Barlow have visited him and assured him that his property is not considered Conservation. Demrow replied that the map from TRORC is aspirational but not enforceable. Mike Tagliavia, who sits on the State Environmental Committee, said that the maps are based on the conservation design plan and along with the state government have resulted in Act 181. Tagliavia said that Alexander is correct to be concerned as should all landowners. Alexander asked about the appointment of members to the Planning Commission and why the process is not publicized. He attends the Planning Commission meetings and has noted the bias against diverse opinions. Devoto, who is the Administrative Officer for the Planning Commission, said that the leadership has changed and there is a new slate of officers there who are open to hearing from the public. Devoto has suggested having public meetings at the Library and other public areas. He encouraged Alexander and others to come to Thursday night's Planning Commission meeting as one item on the agenda is how to best conduct public outreach.

Road Commissioner's Report / Highway Dept.
Road Commissioner Lee Porter informed the board that the Maplewood Rd is in great shape and thanked the landowners for their contributions. The bridge on the Johnson Rd is about finished and concrete work on the Joe Lord Bridge is complete. To answer a resident's concern about a chain across the entrance to Johnson Rd, Porter said Crossmolina Farm has livestock grazing and crops growing up there. Porter reported that the Turkey Hill Bridge could be done by the end of September. He is happy with the work that Alliance is doing. Porter then asked the board to sign two documents for grant reimbursements:; one for Hedgehog Brook Project for $64,000 and another for Claflin Rd for $44,000. The Alburg Tanker truck has been sold.

Town Updates/Grants/Projects
Devoto reported on the new slate of officers the Planning Commission voted in: Chair Russ Pazdro; Vice Chair Patrick Martin; and Secretary Liane Allen. The Commission will apply for a Municipal Planning Grant to assist in the updating of the town plan which will expire in 2027. A representative from TRORC will be at Thursday night's meeting to talk on the subject.

Demrow said there are two MERP (Municipal Energy Resilience Program) projects for the Town Hall. An engineer is needed to design the new heating system for the Town Hall and the board is meeting with a contractor tomorrow for weatherizing the Town Hall attic and basement.Demrow will submit paperwork to the state to accept the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) of $150,000 for the new accessible ramp/porch.. Board Chair Groschner has been working on the Treasurer search and has met with a couple of candidates.

Interim Assistant Treasurer Donahue said people are busy paying their taxes and Payroll Clerk Sutton is keeping it all updated with receipts issued. The Delinquent Tax Collector Moulton will be at Monday's financial meeting with updates.

Correspondence
The board received a document from Second Day Manufacturer Settlement which they will direct the town clerk to sign.

Jeff Saunders is now the liaison from the EPA who reported that there is work going on at the Pike Hill mine site; primarily to get ready for next season by stockpiling materials. There will be an EPA meeting on the Pike Hill project at the Town Hall on September 25th at 7:00 PM.

Devoto has been trying to find a way to repurpose the dwelling on South America Rd that FEMA bought out from Martha Travis before it is demolished and removed. There are a couple of options that will be discussed at Monday night's financial meeting. Devoto has gotten reports of alleged illegal drug activity at the house site. He will ask the State Police to patrol the area.

Calendar Confirmation

The September Financial meeting will take place on Monday 9/8/25 at 6:30 and the next regular SB meeting on 10/7/25 at 6:30 PM.

Executive Session and Adjournment

Devoto made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 VSA 313(a)(3) and to adjourn. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The board went into executive session at 7:35 and adjourned at 7:50 having taken no action.