Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Approved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Wednesday January 7, 2026

Attending for the board: Chair Holly Groschner, Carl Demrow. Stephen Devoto, Anne Rosten Selectboard Clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Kelly Ann Donahue, Head Lister and Interim Treasurer; Town Meeting Moderator Gary Apfel; Brian Kirkpatrick, Jennifer Locke, Jim Guyer, Katie Kramer, and Jeff and Andrea McLaughlin.
Attending via Zoom: State Rep Mike Tagliavia.

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

Welcome and Agenda Approval
Chair Groschner welcomed all attendees and asked for any changes to the agenda. Lister Donahue said she had the latest CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) report for the board to review. Demrow made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from 12/2/25 SB Meeting.
The minutes from the December selectboard meeting have been amended. Demrow made a motion to approve the amended SB minutes of December 2, 2025. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Meeting Warrant Discussion/Gary Apfel
Groschner stated that the board was working on the Town Meeting Warrant and will receive help from the auditors this year. She also noted that at last year's meeting a change of pay for the selectboard was voted in after the budget vote which can not be modified. Moderator Apfel said he is taking part in a training provided by VLTC. Apfel and the board will work on the warrant articles together. Groschner said the payroll will be reviewed before the Town Meeting and will be more structured this year. Demrow suggested having the Highway Fund discussion and vote come up earlier than the General Fund to allow the road foreman to leave if needed per the weather.

Public Concerns
Jim Guyer asked about the vote deadline for the amended subdivision by-laws. Devoto said that January 22nd is the deadline to get it on the warrant for the March 3rd Town Meeting. He said TRORC is helping with the sequencing. Andrea McLaughlin asked how, as a second home owner, she can have a say in the by-law process. Devoto encouraged her to send comments to the Planning Commission and the Selectboard or….have your say now. Groschner reiterated that the proposed amendments are up for discussion, not the by-laws in general. Town Meeting Moderator Apfel stated that she can request to speak at the Town Meeting. McLaughlin then asked about the variance vs. waiver.. Groschner said that, with the help of Peter Gregory, it has been cleared up. More discussion will take place later in the meeting on this subject.

Road Commissioner's Report / Highway Dept
Road Commissioner Porter said that all seems to be going well with some minor breakdowns. There are less right of way issues this year. Porter stated that there are always issues at the East Corinth Park and Ride. Jim Guyer asked about the 50 mph speed limit on unposted roads. Porter said the salt is going fast and the Town Garage is in need of waste fuel oil. Groschner suggested posting on the LRN to inform residents bringing waste oil to the Town Garage or the Transfer Station is encouraged.

State Grants/Documentation Approval
Groschner signed a grant agreement resolution authorizing Carl Demrow as official executor of grants and documents. Demrow said that all the grant funds from MERP will be coming in over the next 11 months which total $411,000 split between the Town Hall Renovation and Town Garage Addition.

Review of Budget Status and Format

Groschner noted that Anne McKinsey is working hard putting together the Town Report and doing a great job. McKinsey requested a January 10 deadline for all the reports due in. The budget committee has one more meeting on Friday at 4:00 PM to review the budget. Groschner will have the Revenue Report tomorrow (Thursday).

Selectboard Report

Groschner delegated to Demrow, Devoto, and herself different items for each to expound on for the report. She noted that Anne McKinsey wrote up a commentary on the virtue of volunteer work. Demrow will review it.

Openings for Town Committees/Appointments

There are quite a few openings on town committees. Demrow will contact members of the committees to gather more information.

Timeline for Public Vote on Subdivision Amendments

Peter Gregory from TRORC did a legal review and the anomalies have been cleared up on the proposed subdivision amendments. The board can approve or disapprove them before the public vote. Devoto said he will bring the final draft to the Planning Commission meeting tomorrow night (Thursday). Andrea McLaughlin asked about getting a copy of the proposed amendments. Devoto said he would post it on the website Thursday. Groschner said that the most updated version would not be up yet but McLaughlin could still go to the website and compare the existing by-laws with the proposed new amendments. Jim Guyer discussed with Porter right of way measurements.
The board will vote on the by-law amendments at the SBF meeting Monday night 1/12 to send to the Australian Ballot. The Public Hearing will be at 6:00 on February 3rd.during the regular selectboard meeting and then the public vote at the Town Meeting 30 days later on March 3rd. The agenda for that meeting will be posted by January 19th and in the Journal Opinion by January 14th.

Correspondence/Other Business

The EPA has refused Brenda Salomaa's request for payment for damage to her home's foundation. She will appeal.
FEMA sent the board an invitation to a meeting about flood hazard mapping.
Fire Chief Popisle sent the board a list of their calls over the past year which they will send to Anne McKinsey for the Town Report.
A new municipal calendar arrived from the VLCT.
The EPA sent the board a clean up agreement for the copper mines dated 6/2025.
Approval from the state about LEMP.

Other Business: Groschner suggested Sunday January 25 at 4:00 PM for a meeting for all interested parties to plan for a calendar of events celebrating the 250th birthday for the United States.

Devoto reported that the FEMA buyout on 82 South America Rd is cleared out and suggested having the Conservation Commission look at the property for possible public use.

Lister Donahue discussed with the board the CLA report that has the town's CLA for this year at 64.5% compared with last year's 70.96%.

Calendar Confirmations/Meetings

The SBF meeting is Monday January 12 at 6:30 PM; the combination public hearing with the regular SB meeting is Tuesday February 3rd at 6:00 PM; a Special Meeting for the Town Hall bid will be on February 16); the annual Town Meeting at 10:00 AM on March 3; and a combination SB and SBF meeting on Monday March 9 at 6:30 PM.

Demrow made a motion to adjourn. Devoto seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:23 PM.