Town of Corinth Selectboard
PO Box 461 Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Attending for the board: Carl Demrow, and Stephen Devoto. Anne Rosten Selectboard Clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Kelly Ann Donahue, Head Lister and Interim Treasurer; John Benson, Orange County Senator, Mike Tagliavia, Orange County 1 Representative, Dale Benson, Jon Ruggles, Jeremy Goodrich, and Gary Magoon. Via Zoom: Journal Opinion Editor Alex Nuti-de Biasi and Michael Miller. Board Chair Holly Groschner absent.

Acting Chair Carl Demrow called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Welcome and Agenda Approval
Demrow welcomed all attendees and asked for any changes to the agenda. None. Devoto made a motion to approve the agenda. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from 5/5/26
Devoto made a motion to approve the minutes of SB meeting 5/5/26. Demrow seconded and the motion passed. unanimously.

Highway Dept Report
Road Foreman Joe Blodgett is on vacation. Road Commissioner Porter reported that culverts on Ryder Rd are being replaced. Porter also stated that he has a verbal agreement for a paving grant of $55,000 but needs a written agreement before signing. The grant will cover approximately three miles of road paving. Donahue asked which roads would receive the paving. Porter replied Chelsea Rd and Cookeville Rd.

Public Comments
Orange County Senator John Benson introduced himself as the governor-appointed senator after Larry Hart resigned. He said he has visited most of the towns he represents. He talked about his background as an engineer, a business owner, fire dept member and chief for many years. He and his wife Dale live in Brookfield VT and he also has served on that town's selectboard for the past 17 years.
Benson brought up the pressing problem with the Transportation Dept as there is very little money as it goes to Education. He stated that the state is supposed to pave 270 miles per year and this year it is down to 65 miles. With the trend toward EVs the gas tax is not taking in enough. He stressed that it is a big problem that needs to be solved.

Jeremy Goodrich of Turkey Hill Rd brought up a problem of dogs running loose on Turkey Hill, Dearborn Hill, and Chelsea Rd. The dogs have growled at him and others. He asked how the town deals with dog issues. Devoto told him that the town does have a Dog Ordinance. Demrow informed him about Matt Hayes, the town ACO (Animal Control Officer) who strives to help animal owners fix their problems; sometimes with his own money. Devoto reiterated that complaints need to be filed and dated to start a record of the issue.
Goodrich then talked about the runoff problem onto his property as a result of the removal of material for the Turkey Hill Bridge project that was completed last year. Material (gravel and soil) was removed but not replaced. Lee Porter said he and Joe Blodgett will look at it.

Jon Ruggles wanted the board to address the Sidewalk Improvement Plan, the burnt house mess, and the status of the East Corinth Village Store. Devoto said he is still collecting documents regarding the ECVS to provide to the lawyer to establish a lien on the property. Devoto also stated that he's made numerous phone calls to the owner of the burnt down house with no response. Demrow will ask Dilapidated Building Officer Catherine Lea to make a determination on the property.

Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)
Head Lister Donahue, who is also the Emergency Management chief officer, told the board that the plan is the same as last year's with the addition of new phone numbers. Donahue said they could use more volunteers. Devoto made a motion to adopt the updated LEMP. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VLTC Voting Representative

Devoto made a motion to appoint Selectboard Chair Holly Groschner as the town voting representative for VLCT. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Drought Planning

Donahue said that most towns are out of the drought area except for Bradford. Porter cautioned to not be too confident as we were in the same position last year at this time.

FY 27 Planning

Lister Donahue reported that $22,000 has been collected from delinquent tax payers so now the total due is down to $486,000. Notices to delinquent tax payers are going out regularly and there will be a tax sale this coming Fall.
Demrow said he would be contacting the M&T Bank this week as FY26 is coming to an end and then decide what is needed from them. FY25's audit is due to be completed by the end of the month.

All Access

Donahue said she has met with ALL ACCESS by phone but they need to come in and help to consolidate files from over ten years old. Demrow explained that the Town Office is getting new computers along with protection which is needed. Town Clerk Martha Brough noted that files she is responsible for are accessible by other computers and needs them to be strictly accessed by her. Demrow stated that the files could be "Read Only" on the other computers.

Contracts: Burrell and Aiken

Demrow explained that seven bids came in for the new roof. Burrell was the lowest at $33,200 and met the town hall's needs. Devoto made a motion to accept the bid of $33,200 from Burrell. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Demrow then said there were only two bids for the HVAC (heat, insulation, etc). One from Aiken for $81,500 and the second one from ARC for $111,150. The grant from MERP will cover the cost. Devoto made a motion for the board to accept the bid from Aiken for $81,000. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business/Correspondence

Demrow opened a letter from Brenda Salomaa to Conti Federal concerning her dealings with the EPA about foundation damage to her house, including the EPA's denial and Salomaa's appeal.
Another was a document from the state concerning Act 181 and the repeal of Tier 2 and 3 and the road rule. State Rep Tagliavia said it was a great first step but property owners need to keep vigilant as things change constantly in Montpelier.
NEK letter about fee changes. Demrow will give the letter to Joan Hayward.
Donahue said the change of appraisal letters have gone out and will be hearing grievances soon.

Meeting Schedule

June's financial meeting will be held on Thursday June 11th. The next regular selectboard meeting will take place on Tuesday July 7th. Both meetings are at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment

Devoto made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:38 PM.