

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday, Feb 1 2013 2:35pm

Present: John Hammond, Larry Dingee
Merilynn Bourne absent

1. Roger Gilbert and Paul Rheaume came in to express their concerns about the outcome of the election for Road Agent. They were encouraged to document their concerns and the Board would keep it on file. Paul Rheaume inquired whether the Town had ever looked into disability insurance for employees. They were told that this year may be a time to look into alternatives and they would be included.
2. Middleton McGoodwin called to discuss the public hearing for school budget. John Hammond suggested using the same night possibly at the Town Office with the Board of Selectmen going first. Board of Selectmen will repost the Town hearing for 6:30pm on February 11th at the Town Office
3. Heidi Jaarsma distributed updated Revenue and Fund Balance projections. Discussion followed. Heidi reported on what can be done to lower the accumulated dollars in overlay and the effect on Fund Balance. The proposal will be posted at \$100 instead of \$5000 as was done previously. Discussion centered around what could be done to either increase revenue or reduce proposed spending where possible.
4. Linda Fuerst sent an email about CREA. It is a write-up for the Natural Resource Inventory and the need to expedite the management plan for the CREA property. She would like to propose that the CREA be given the authority to update the plan over the next year. Motion by Larry Dingee to authorize the CREA committee to start the process to create an updated Management Plan for that property. Seconded by John Hammond and passed. John Hammond expressed his concerns about the Conservation Commission may try to have more influence in these discussions than is warranted. "Times change and needs change" Linda requested an Article to provide maintenance of the swales on the CREA property. Kyle Witty estimated \$550 for the catch basin, two days truck and backhoe time (64 hrs) by the entire crew at \$1280. The Article will request \$2000 total.
5. Terry Taney from Charlestown called to request the use of the Blacksmith Shop covered bridge for a wedding on May 11. She was encouraged to check with the next door neighbors in regards to parking, but the Selectboard approved.
6. Linda Fuerst came back in to continue the discussion in regards to the CREA Article proposal.
7. Selectmen spent the rest of the afternoon going over the proposed budget.

Adjourned at 5:35pm

Sincerely,
Larry Dingee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, Feb 4, 2013 6:30pm

Present: John Hammond, Larry Dingee, Merilynn Bourne

1. Motion by John Hammond to rotate the taking of minutes on a monthly basis. Seconded and passed. Larry Dingee will do it in February.
2. Merilynn moved to approve the minutes of January 18, 21, 25 and 28. Larry stated he had not read them yet.
3. Kyle Witty came in to report on ongoing business. John Hammond reported on a conversation with Roger Gilman on the possibility of buying gravel from Miller Construction. Kyle reported that one of his employees will be out for some time and he does have help to fill in.
4. Selectmen worked on finalizing budget proposals.

5. Merilynn Bourne stated that she sent a copy of budget recommendations for Friday's meeting with a suggestion for an increase in salaries for the Highway Department to adjust for compensation practices.
6. Selectmen spent the rest of the night going through the budget in preparation for the Tuesday night Finance Board meeting.
7. Merilynn asked Larry to review the minutes from January as "time was of the essence". Larry stated he would do it another time.

Adjourned at 8:55pm

Sincerely,
Larry Dingee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 5, 2013 6:30pm

Present: John Hammond, Merilynn Bourne, Larry Dingee

1. Selectmen met with the Finance Committee. Present for the meeting: Bill Caterino, Heidi Jaarsma, Kyle Witty, Doug Hackett and Heather Meeks. Discussion about adding an article for \$1650 for the sale of old Engine 1 to Fire Department Capital Reserve. It will be added.
2. Discussion about budget amount for validation. Validation is motor vehicle sticker on license plate.
3. Discussed Warrant. Historical Society has \$500 in their budget for the 250th commission if they write a letter requesting it. Heidi Jaarsma will take care of.
4. Heidi Jaarsma explained about the Animal Control line. The original amount was reduced by \$133 which was charged to the wrong account number. May need to increase Animal Control line for extra expenses. Revenue was \$1180 last year for dog fees.
5. Bill Caterino asked about \$200 fee for Town Website. Discussion followed about getting a school group to do the updates. An inquiry will be sent out to schools looking for someone to do the updates.
6. Bill Caterino inquired where the Board is on using the Trinity Church Special Revenue Fund for mowing (\$500). The Board of Selectmen has not made a decision on this. After discussion, the decision was to go along with his request. Building & Grounds to be increased \$500 on the Part-Time Salary line to include mowing at Trinity Church.
7. Police Department discussion: Doug is upset and frustrated about the salary line. Merilynn frustrated also. Concerned about losing Corey because he doesn't want to work for the wage. John Hammond recommended to add 3% to last years \$30,846. Beyond that it should go to Town Meeting. Bill Caterino suggested it be phased in over 2 years. The opinion of the three Finance Board members is that there may be the need to bring equity to the Police Department pay. Motion by John Hammond to propose to increase Police Department wage line based on \$18 part timers and \$19 for Chief. Salary line changed to \$33,311, FICA \$2,499 and Medicare \$605. Seconded and passed.
8. Highway - Gravel and cold patch will be two lines. Motion by Larry Dingee to fund all other. Motion by Merilynn Bourne to change the wage line to \$183,000. Kyle Witty-10%, John, Roger and Sean-2% and Paul-6% increases after recommendation by Heater Meeks and discussion by group. Motion by Merilynn Bourne to change the previous 3% to 2% for Cemetery, Recycling and Town Office. Seconded by John Hammond. 2-1 Larry Dingee opposed. Motion by John Hammond, the Board of Selectmen does not get a raise. Seconded and passed. Motion by John Hammond to leave the Recycling budget as \$12,570. Seconded by Larry Dingee. Merilynn opposed.
9. Bill Caterino suggested that we look at the capital reserve funds to determine whether they need to continue at the present funding.

Adjourned at 10:55pm
Larry Dingee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday February 8, 2013 2:00pm

Present: John Hammond, Merilynn Bourne
Absent: Larry Dingee

1. The Selectmen reviewed mail and invoices.
2. John reported on a phone conversation with Barbara Lewis, former owner of The Chase House. Barbara wanted to know how the house was being sold with just 31 acres and she stated she was also concerned about her cemetery and its fate. She spoke with the current owner but still had questions. John stated he didn't know anything more than she did. The property will be sold at "absolute auction" on February 16, 2013.
3. The Selectmen reviewed a letter from Dale Lawrence questioning the ability of the Assistant Fire Chief to speak with representatives from the Local Government Center back in April of 2012. John stated that he had suggested that Paul call the LGC because the question Paul had was not a frivolous question and Paul is an elected official, elected by the Fire Department. Also the LGC has a "free" legal service that comes with the town's membership. Merilynn added that when an individual contacts the LGC, the receptionist asks who you are, where you are from and what your position in the town is. Upon answering those questions, the LGC decides if they will take your call, or not. They took his call so it would appear it was appropriate for him, as the Asst. Fire Chief, to call them.
4. The Selectmen called Connie Kousman to discuss a request for general assistance. The town is waiting for a doctor's note regarding ability to work. The assistance must be provided while waiting for the note. John asked Connie if residents who are in need are taking advantage of free fire wood. Connie said, "yes" and she thinks we have two cords left.
5. Selectmen and Road agent discussed Article 18 of the 2013 Warrant and the actual cost for the work for the swales and the catch basin. Kyle feels it will cost more than the article is requesting. Merilynn commented that the article can always be amended on the floor. John Hammond moved to support Article 18, with "majority vote required", seconded by Merilynn Bourne. The vote was in the affirmative. The Selectmen then learned that the language was not necessary as the article is by petition so the Selectmen agreed to void the vote.
6. Mary asked the Selectmen which night they would like to meet after the Public Budget Hearings on Monday. The Selectmen stated that Tuesday, February 12th at 6:00pm would work for them.
7. The Selectmen reviewed the budget to be presented on Monday night and discussed reducing non-critical capital reserve accounts this year and selective cuttings on some of the town wood lots for revenues. The Selectmen also discussed the potential for selling lots that the town has acquired from tax sales over the years.
8. Selectmen asked Mary to send the proposed budget to the Town Treasurer and to send the proposed warrant to the Town Attorney and DRA for review on Monday.

Adjourned 5:00pm
Respectfully Submitted
Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 11, 2013 6:30pm

Present: John Hammond, Merilynn Bourne, Larry Dingee

1. Heidi Jaarsma advised the Board of Selectmen on the projected tax rate with the proposed budget. There was a discussion about use of Fund Balance this year and the overlay.
2. 6:35pm Public Budget Meeting started. Attendance was taken.

3. Glenn Thornton discussed about giving the Police Department the extra dollars saved resulting from Doug negotiating a lower rate for dispatch. Cory to \$19 and Doug to \$20. Lt. Maslan, NH State Police, spoke on Doug's behalf. Wage line would increase 3%. Heather Meeks supported the wage increase.
4. Heidi Jaarsma discussed the tax rate after figuring the revised Police Department wages.
5. Doug Hacket discussed the 2012 cruiser dollars. Currently we have 2 cruisers, 1 purchased and 1 donated. He discussed the idea of trading the Durango instead of the Crown Vic; whichever car is costing the most dollars would be replaced. Troy asked will it be the 4 wheel drive. Doug said we would buy the SUV version.
6. Fred Sullivan suggested we look at turning some roads back to gravel.
7. Troy Simino asked what the tax rate would be if all Articles passed. Heidi Jaarsma responded.
8. Fred Sullivan asked if there are any contested positions this year. Krista Merrihew asked how do we decide who is elected versus who is hired. Merilynn Bourne reported the voters decided whether a Road Agent is elected or not.

Adjourned 7:45pm
Larry Dingee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Feb 12, 2013 6:00pm

Present: John Hammond, Merilynn Bourne, Larry Dingee

1. John Hammond related a conversation with Bill Caterino and Heidi Jaarsma regarding Recycling. It will be left as is. Also, suggested to start a fund using unused money from the 2013 Highway Budget. Larry Dingee suggested using \$12,000 from fund balance to add to the Highway Budget to help create the seed money. John Hammond also spoke about the discussion regarding the Police Department extra wages. John Hammond says he does not think this year is the right year to do that. Merilynn Bourne stated she felt the Police Department should receive the additional \$2200 Chief Hackett requested because he had saved the Town \$20,000 in dispatch fees. John Hammond thinks the Chief is paid fairly for a part time position. Merilynn argued that the Town can vote to increase at Town Meeting. Larry Dingee stated that the authority to set wage is the job of the Board of Selectmen. No change to Police Department wages.
2. Discussion about Linda Fuerst's warrant article for the swales. John Hammond related his notes and memory with Kyle Witty the day Linda Fuerst was in the office. Larry Dingee related his notes of that day. Discussion about possible changes to the CREA article.
3. The Fire Chief came to request the Board of Selectmen to sign off on the Deputy Fire Warden appointment. He also requested advice on how to go about adding internet service to the Cornish Flat Fire Station. He will coordinate the installation. Motion by Larry Dingee to amend the Fire Department budget up 200\$ to the telephone line for the service. Seconded by Merilynn and passed.
4. Scott had a question about SCBA bottle replacement schedule. He will remind the Board of Selectmen next year. John Hammond mentioned the idea of using unspent Fire Department budget money next year to start building the fund. There are still at least 5 years before they need to be replaced.

Adjourned 7:10pm
Larry Dingee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday, Feb 15, 2013 2:00pm

Present: John Hammond, Merilynn Bourne, Larry Dingee

1. Finalized and signed 2013 Warrant.
2. Jeff Reardon – Davis and Towle Ins. Offering insurance quotes for the Town. The carrier is Trident who has a program specific to cities and towns. He was encouraged to call back around April 1 to schedule a meeting.
3. Motion by Merilynn Bourne, seconded by John Hammond to authorize the group that does geocaching to allow for a box to be placed at the Comings Cemetery. Vote was affirmative and unanimous.
4. Selectmen reviewed a lot off of Center road with an eye towards a sale this year.
5. Heidi Jaarsma and Bill Caterino suggested opening a paving capital reserve account using unspent 2012 highway dollars.
6. Linda Fuerst suggested showing a list of Town properties in the Town Report. Maybe next year.
7. 250th committee requesting money to have t-shirts and hats made for sale at Town Meeting. The money needs to come out of Town Office miscellaneous account. Board of Selectmen approved purchase order.
8. After reworking, the tax rate still comes out to \$2.77 for 2013.
9. Ed Mitchell came in to request that the Board recommend to the Police Department to call him for use of his wrecker because he is a resident in Town and his vehicles are registered here. Selectmen will talk to Doug Hackett about it.
10. John Hammond took time to compose the Selectmen's Report for 2012 after comments by the other 2 Selectmen. Approved.
11. Merilynn moved to approve corrected minutes of Jan 18, 21, 25, 28, 29, Feb 1, and 8. Seconded by John Hammond. The vote was in the affirmative and unanimous.
12. Merilynn Bourne reported a discussion regarding changing the name of Saint Gaudens National Historic Site to Saint Gaudens National Park for the Arts. They are going to stay with Augustus Saint Gaudens National Park.

Adjourned 4:20pm
Larry Dingee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday February 18, 2013 6:30pm

Present: John Hammond, Merilynn Bourne
Absent: Larry Dingee

1. Steve Peters met with the Selectmen to ask about the dig John Hammond had overseen for his septic design. The designer has since passed away and Steve wanted to know if the dig would need to be repeated for a new designer.
2. Selectmen reviewed the mail and signed checks.
3. Lisa Conell, a reporter from the Eagle Times, met with Selectmen to review the Town Warrant and to ask about budget items for her paper. Lisa asked if there were sample ballots she could see. At this time, there are no absentee or sample ballots available.
4. The Selectmen discussed a letter from Selectman Dingee requesting a meeting with Town Counsel to discuss a liability concern. John stated that the board overspent the legal line in 2012 and has already spent a quarter of the 2013 budget. He is more interested in speaking to LGC for answers to legal concerns. Merilynn agrees.
5. Selectmen called Jeff Katchen to ask if he would continue on in his role as Town Health Officer. Jeff stated he will continue in that role but feels it might be good to start looking for an individual with more energy as well as some medical experience. Merilynn asked Jeff to let the

office know of potential candidates. Selectmen also called Ginny Prince to see if she would continue on as Deputy Health Officer. Ginny was not in so a phone message was left.

6. Selectmen discussed the MS5 with Mary Curtis. Mary reported that the form should be ready for signatures on Friday. She also informed the Board that she had delivered the town report to the printers, ahead of schedule.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday February 22 2013 2:00pm

Present: John Hammond, Merilynn Bourne

Absent: Larry Dingee

1. Selectmen signed the MS6 for the Town Budget to allow Mary to post the warrant and the budget at the School this afternoon.
2. Selectmen reviewed mail and signed invoices.
3. Kyle Witty, Road Agent, met with Selectmen for a review of department work. Kyle reported that the trucks are all ready in the event of snow Saturday afternoon into Sunday morning. Selectmen reviewed the NHDOT Town Bridges Report with Kyle.
4. Wayne & Tammy Gray met with Selectmen to discuss the mowing for the CREA land. Wayne reported that he never sent a bill in for last year's mowing. He was waiting for checks from the town because that is how it was handled the previous year. He presented the bill to the Selectmen and the Selectmen reported they will speak with the Treasurer to see how to go about paying this bill as it has come in past the end of the year. Wayne asked about this year and Selectmen stated they are willing to sign a contract for 2013 if he will bring it in. We will work out a payment plan to avoid the problem in 2012. Perhaps Wayne can put a payment plan into the contract. It can be a flat rate for the season and payment can occur monthly or half at the start of the season and half at the end of the season. The Selectmen stated that the relationship between the Fair and the Town has always been congenial and we are happy to keep it that way. Wayne also asked about using the CREA land for the helicopter rides during the Fair. The Selectmen are supportive of the concept.
5. There were no further visitors.

Meeting adjourned 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday February 25, 2013 6:30pm

Present: John Hammond, Larry Dingee, Merilynn Bourne

1. Discussion about how to handle the mowing funds that had not been requested by the Fair Association last year for mowing. At Town Meeting, the Selectmen will recommend an increase to the line for mowing the CREA fields and take the increase from fund balance.

2. The Board approved the request from the Cornish Rescue Squad and the Cornish Fire Department for use of the Highway Garage property for an auto extrication class on April 6th.
3. Discussion about the status of where the Fire Department stands on the subject of young people under 18 participating in fire fighting activities in response to the letter given to the Selectboard by Larry last week. John and Merilynn stated that we did not need to incur the expense of a lawyer. Our questions can be answered by the Fire Chief, LGC and Primex. It is John and Merilynn's understanding that the issue has been resolved through membership in the state sanctioned Explorer program.
4. In regards to the note on Connect Cornish on February 25th, Merilynn Bourne stated that the minutes that had been posted were the approved version. Larry Dingee stated that the minutes that had been put on the website were in fact unapproved at the time they were posted and that changes had been made when the Board approved 5 or 6 all at once 2 weeks ago. Merilynn stated that the minutes were required to be made public within 72 hours of a meeting and that Larry had repeatedly put off reading the January minutes so they could be approved. She published those that were required by law to be published and there is no state statute requiring approval prior to publishing. Merilynn further stated that Larry Dingee was not able to be involved in the discussion about the notice placed on Connect Cornish because of a conflict of interest, as it was his wife, the Cemetery Sexton, who posted the notice. Larry reminded Merilynn of the time that she had been requested to correct the minutes, re spelling of Sexton, by the Cemetery Sexton, who was told by the Board that it would be taken care of and hasn't been. Merilynn stated that the more recent minutes have been corrected and that the board is under no obligation to go back one or two years for spelling errors. Merilynn also pointed out that the minutes of February 21, 2013 had been edited, unbeknownst to her. Larry stated that those minutes were already approved so no new editing could take place. Merilynn responded that if that was the case, then the same was true of the minutes Dale Lawrence was complaining about.
5. Reyer Jaarsma came in with a supplemental intent to cut to be signed. This is the first time with a new state electronic application. Approved and signed.
6. Laura Zell came in to request an abatement application for her property. She brought a copy of a recent bank appraisal that had been done. She was given an application and told that it has to be submitted by March 1st.
7. Heather Meeks came in. She commented on the statement made in Connect Cornish regarding the Selectmen's Minutes. It is her opinion that it is not the place of the Cemetery Sexton to be commenting or reporting on the Selectmen's Minutes. That would be the privilege of the Selectmen. Her opinion is that a follow-up comment on Connect Cornish by the Selectmen, to that effect, would be warranted. She also had questions about the oversight of the Road Agent. On Feb 9, her mail box had been hit by a plow, breaking the post in half and destroying the box. She left a message for Kyle but he did not call her back. On 2/11 she saw him at the budget hearing. She had to ask him again about her message and his failure to call her back. His response to her was a mail box needs to be 42 inches to clear the plow and that he had gotten the measurement from the Post Office. Heather responded that the Post Office had actually told her to lower her mail box. The mail box did not sit on the very edge of the road. It was back as far as it could go without ending up in the ditch. At this point, Kyle has not offered to do anything about it. She is asking for the Road Agent to reimburse her \$60 for the cost of a new mailbox and post. The Board will speak with the Road Agent about it. It is Merilynn's opinion that the town should reimburse her for the cost because we have done it in the past.
8. The Selectmen read a letter from Arthur Bailey about the sale of property he used to own. It will be forwarded to the Tax Collector for review. Mr. Bailey wants to make certain he does not owe any back taxes on the property. Selectwoman Bourne commented that the property could not have transferred without back taxes being

cleared and since it has clearly transferred, taxes must have been paid from the proceeds of the sale.

9. Signed checks and reviewed mail.
10. A discussion was held in preparation for Town Meeting. The Board is in favor of recording the Town Meeting. Doug Thayer was called to inquire how to go about it. He is willing and able to do it. He will run the microphone system through his computer and provide digital copies on discs for a small fee. Motion by Merylynn Bourne to pay Doug Thayer \$60, plus the cost of discs, to record the Town Meeting. John Hammond seconded the motion. The vote was in the affirmative and unanimous.
11. John Hammond suggested the board contact the Plainfield Board of Selectmen regarding perambulating this spring.

Adjourned 8:30pm

Larry Dingee

Merylynn Bourne