

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday September 6, 2013 3:00pm

Present: Merilynn Bourne, Scott Baker

Absent: John Hammond

1. Selectmen reviewed mail and signed invoices.
2. Bill Fitts met with selectmen to discuss invasive plants such as Purple Loosestrife. Bill asked if the Selectmen would contact St. Gaudens to see about finding a source for the beetles that destroy Purple Loosestrife. Bill also pointed out that another way to control the plant is to remove the flowering portion as soon as it appears. Selectmen will see what they can do. Bill also asked about the removal of the street light in the Flat by the Fire Station. Selectmen know nothing about the issue.
3. Mike Duval met with Selectmen to submit a bid for digging out the ditch along the soccer field. He also asked about a location for the ditching. The cost will be between \$1,200 and \$1,500. Mike will do the work around the end of this month. Selectmen approve the bid.
4. Doug Hackett called to provide an update on the new cruiser. It will be ready Monday and the radios will be installed next Friday instead of today. Doug provided an update on two recent robberies as well as an assault. All perpetrators have been indicted after several months of investigation.
5. Selectmen called DRED, Land & Water Conservation Fund, to speak with Bill Gegas regarding the issue of posting the CREA land. Bill will research the issue and get back to the Selectmen with a definitive answer. He may contact the Park Service for additional input. Bill called back to report that the LWCF manual, Chapt. 8, section C, paragraph 4, covers reasonable use limitations: Under the "acquisition" grant, the deed language simply says "for public use". Nothing specific requiring that the land be open to hunting. Bill will email the link to the manual.
6. Paul Whalen met with Selectmen to discuss the purchase of equipment for Management of the Public Assistance Program. Selectmen approve the submission of the request to FEMA.
7. Scott discussed drafting a letter to the City of Lebanon requesting permission for Cornish trash haulers to use the Lebanon landfill. Merilynn will speak with the Lebanon City Manager to start the conversation.
8. Merilynn moved to approve the minutes of Aug 19, 23, 26, and 30, Scott Baker seconded. The vote was unanimous and in the affirmative.
9. Adjourned 4:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday September 9, 2013 6:30pm

Present: Merilynn Bourne, John Hammond, Scott Baker

1. Selectmen reviewed mail, signed invoices and checks.
2. Bill Sharf came in to ask about a building permit for land that is in Current Use. He was advised to review the NH Current Use Regulations and the Change Use Tax assessment. He was further advised to contact the town's assessors at AVITAR for their input on the process.
3. Linda Fuerst met with Selectmen to discuss further amendments to the CREA Management Draft Plan. Linda was given a copy of the comments from DRED regarding "use of CREA land".
4. Everett Cass met with Selectmen to ask if one of us would join him at the fire pond in the Flat for review of the work completed to date. John Hammond accompanied Mr. Cass to the Flat while Scott and Merilynn remained in the office to meet with the public. Upon his return, John stated that the work was progressing nicely.
5. Kyle Witty met with Selectmen to review road work. Selectmen discussed the Class VI road issue in Jonesville. Kyle states that the reported washout is beyond the area maintained by the town.
6. Jack Williams met with Selectmen to discuss his application for a building permit. The Selectmen reviewed the septic plans on file but it appears they are not the "as built plans" which Jack says he has. The plan on file is for a 2 bedroom home and Jack wishes to add a third bedroom in a garage apartment for his parents. Jack was asked to provide that design paper work and his \$50 permit fee was returned to him to hold until the Selectmen are able to approve his application.
7. Joan Littlefield met with Selectmen to further discuss her complaint regarding her driveway area "washout". The Selectmen have not had time to visit the site as a group. Joan reports that she has been told that any runoff going into the existing culvert would wash it out. Joan states that there is nothing in highway law that requires her to "accept" any road drainage onto her land. Joan contends that when the road was widened a few years ago it created the drainage issue. The road was widened from 13 to 18 feet on July 24, 2009. Kyle was asked his thoughts. Kyle states the water should run off the road into the driveway. The driveway should be crowned to run the water into the culvert. Joan will call the office at 8:00pm tonight to set a time to meet with the board on Friday. At 8:00pm Joan called to make an appointment for this Friday (September 13th) at 5:00pm. Selectmen and Road Agent will gather at her driveway to survey the site.
8. Selectmen discussed the issue of hunting on the CREA land. The Board discussed allowing hunting by written permission only. Selectmen will meet with the Cornish School Principal for her input.
9. Selectmen discussed the plans for the public hearing one week from this date.

Adjourned 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday September 13, 2013 3:00pm

Present: Merilynn Bourne, John Hammond

Absent: Scott Baker

1. Selectmen reviewed mail and signed invoices.
2. Kyle Witty met with Selectmen to discuss the roads. There has been no damage from the most recent storms. The fire pond in the Flat has been dredged out.
3. Stuart Hodgeman met with Selectmen to report that the Cornish Historical Society will be putting historical pictures of the Chase Family on display in the Town Offices for the month of October. Stuart also talked about the need for regular maintenance of the Town's covered bridges. There is concern about the Dingelton Hill Bridge and the Blacksmith Bridge. The Blacksmith Bridge needs work on the far abutment. There should be a line item in the Highway budget to blow the bridges out each year to remove leaves and sand.
4. Sylvia Sivret met with Selectmen to discuss the issue of hunting on the CREA land. John said he felt we needed to know what the state statutes are for a safety zone around the school. John thinks we need to post for that at a minimum. Merilynn reported on the board's discussion about allowing hunting in that area by written permission only. Kyle said perhaps we should limit it to archery. Sylvia is concerned about rifle fire causing a "lock down" at the school as it did several years ago. The group researched safety zones: 300 feet from a residence...300 feet from any educational institution or public gathering space. The playing fields, hiking trail and viewing stand need to be posted as Safety Zones. The posting would keep any hunting well over 600 feet from the school grounds.
5. Selectmen called Charlie Woodman to ask about the capacity of a 1250 gal. septic tank. Charlie stated that the tank is good for a 1-4 bedroom residence. Jack Williams was called and told his building permit application was approved.
6. Selectmen left the office at 4:30 to view the work on the Fire Pond in the Flat and to view Lang Rd. in front of the Littlefield residence. The Fire Pond in the Flat was drained and cleared of silt and gravel washed down by the July 2nd flood. New boards will be installed in the sluiceway in the coming week. Selectmen and Road Agent Witty met on Lang Road by the Littlefield residence to respond to Mrs. Littlefield's request to "correct the drainage from the roadway" which is creating a wash out in her parking area. The Selectmen and the Road Agent agree that the solution is to direct the flow of runoff into the downstream side of the town's culvert. Runoff currently bypasses that culvert and flows into the parking area. Mrs. Littlefield also asked the Road Agent to remove road gravel that has washed from the road onto the grass on the upstream side of the town's culvert.

Adjourned at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday September 16, 2013 6:30pm

Present: Merylynn Bourne, John Hammond, Scott Baker

1. Selectmen reviewed mail and signed invoices and checks.
2. At 7:00pm, pursuant to RSA 32:11, the Selectmen opened a public hearing to discuss the anticipated overexpenditure of the 2013 Town Budget. Members of the public present were: Charles Aiken, Robert Bladen, Robert Rice, Becky Flynn, Daniel Flynn, Stuart Hodgeman, William Wall, Anne Hier, Christine Hines, Treasurer Heidi Jaarsma, Bill Fitts, Heather Meeks and Road Agent Kyle Witty. The statute was read for the public.

RSA 32:11 Emergency Expenditures and Overexpenditures. – When an unusual circumstance arises during the year which makes it necessary to expend money in excess of an appropriation which may result in an overexpenditure of the total amount appropriated for all purposes at the meeting or when no appropriation has been made, the selectmen or village district commissioners, upon application to the commissioner of revenue administration or the school board upon application to the commissioner of education, may be given authority to make such expenditure, provided that: I. Such application shall be made prior to the making of such expenditure. No such authority shall be granted until a majority of the budget committee, if any, has approved the application in writing. If there is no budget committee, the governing body shall hold a public hearing on the request, with notice. Merylynn then explained the circumstances leading up to this evening's meeting. The flood event of July 2nd and 3rd caused significant damage to a number town roads and specifically to Paget and Hell Hollow Roads. Merylynn explained that fund balance would be used to cover the overexpenditure and that FEMA would reimburse the town for up to 75% of the expense. William Wall asked what the fund balance was at this time. Heidi Jaarsma reported that Fund Balance was \$631,898 at the end of 2012. Heidi reported that we would still have a 10% retainage of fund balance after an expenditure of \$150,000. Dan Flynn asked why the Highway budget was over? Merylynn explained that it was due to the flood damage. Becky Flynn asked why the road crew was working on weekends. Kyle Witty said they were not. Charlie Aiken asked if the roads will be fully repaired by winter. Kyle stated they would. Heather Meeks commented that the road agent should always have a good handle on overtime for future discussion. Heather asked for an explanation of the expenditure report being presented. Heidi provided the explanation. Mr. Wall asked for a breakdown of the expenses for the July 2nd event. Heidi pointed out that the 6th column on the Expenditure Report provided our best guess for costs attributable to the flood. Heather clarified that the minutes should reflect that Selectmen have stated that the funds recovered through FEMA are intended to be returned to Fund Balance. Stuart Hodgeman stated that we never know what we're going to run into so it's always good to have a fund balance. Christine Heins asked how Fund balance is created. Heidi provided the explanation. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:32pm

3. Heather Meeks met with Selectmen to ask about the truck that went into the ditch and needed a wrecker to be pulled out. Heather feels our insurance may cover that work

because insurance companies frequently see such an event as a collision. She advises that we call our carrier to see if we're covered.

4. Selectmen met with the Road Agent to review road work.

Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday September 20, 2013 3:00pm

Present: Merilynn Bourne, John Hammond, Scott Baker

1. Selectmen reviewed mail and signed invoices.
2. Selectmen signed the letter to the Commissioner of the DRA requesting permission to overspend the 2013 Town Budget by up to \$150,000. It was scanned and emailed to the DRA.
3. Selectmen called Plainfield Town Manager Steve Halloran to ask about his experience with Lebanon Landfill and the issue of "closing fees". Steve feels the language in the agreement with Lebanon is no different than language in the agreement Cornish has with Wheelabrator. Any expense would be charged to the town based upon total use.
4. Selectmen reviewed year to date expenses for all departments.
5. Selectmen drafted a letter to the City of Lebanon investigating the potential for an arrangement that would allow household trash from Cornish to be disposed of at the Lebanon Landfill. Travis Wright will hand deliver the letter this weekend.
6. Selectmen Hammond and Bourne reported they will not be available for the Selectmen's meeting on Sept. 27th. The office will be closed.
7. Paul Whalen met with Selectmen to discuss the need for an Assistant Emergency Management Director. Mary Curtis is Paul's recommendation because Mary is already well versed in Emergency Reporting. The Selectmen approve the appointment and Mary accepted the position.
8. Selectmen received a scanned, emailed letter from the DRA stating that their request for over expenditure of the 2013 Budget has been approved, with the funds to come from undesignated fund balance.
9. Doug Hackett met with Selectmen to present the new cruiser with its lettering and decals in place. Doug also discussed a Cornish owned Radar Trailer which he could procure for "no cost". He would use NH Highway Safety grant funds and NH Chiefs of Police sponsorship funds. It would need to be insured. The Selectmen approved Chief Hackett's request to pursue the funding. John asked about use. Doug said late April through October. Doug told the board that the life expectancy should be around 15 years. Selectmen informed Doug that LGC has told the Selectmen that any funds generated from the sale of confiscated items need to be tracked. The Selectmen recommend that the Chief call the LGC for firsthand information on the proper procedure for disposal of such items.

Adjourned at 5:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday September 23, 2013 6:30pm

Present: Merilynn Bourne, John Hammond, Scott Baker

1. Selectmen reviewed mail and signed invoices and checks.
2. Kyle Witty met with Selectmen to provide an update on road business. Kyle was asked to look at the road sign on S. Deming Road to ensure it is lined up with the road for proper visibility. The group discussed expansion/improvement work on the pull over area by the Cornish-Windsor Covered Bridge. The Board will contact Robert Kibbie to start the conversation with the state about assistance.
3. Linda Fuerst met with Selectmen to talk about trail building. She is meeting with a former student who is an expert on building piers for wetlands board walks. Linda was provided with an update on the Board's conversation with Sylvia Sivret regarding hunting on the CREA land. It appears that due to the public trails and the mandatory 300' Safety Zone around the public places, most of the land will not be open for hunting.
4. Bill Wall met with Selectmen to ask about the replacement boards for the fire pond in the flat. The board explained we are waiting for a supply of 3" plank. Bill is anxious to see the boards replaced to stop any erosion. Bill also asked about replacing the urns by the memorials in the Flat. Merilynn also mentioned it would be good to research the cost of repairing the cap on the soldier's memorial.
5. Ray Kendall met with Selectmen to ask about the widening of Sunset Strip. He lives at the East end of Sunset Strip. The Selectmen asked Kyle for his input. Kyle stated that "the road did look a little messy". He has not had a chance to speak with John about the grading but he will have that conversation tomorrow. Ray will call the office a week from tonight for a follow up conversation.
6. Merilynn moved to approve the minutes of Sept. 6, 9, 13, 16 and 20th, seconded by John Hammond. The vote was in the affirmative and unanimous.
7. Merilynn moved to approve the ownership of the town web site by the Town of Cornish and further, to expend \$500 for the town's lifetime ownership of the name and site; Scott Baker seconded. The vote was in the affirmative and unanimous.
8. Selectmen called Robert Kibbie to ask about any form of assistance that might be available from the DOT for the town's upgrade of the pull over by the covered bridge. Robert said we should talk with Doug King, the Asst. District Engineer. Also Jay Burpee, Robert's direct supervisor. The Board asked if Robert would make a few calls to get the "ball rolling" and perhaps arrange a meeting for October 4th. Robert will make some calls and get back to Mary.

Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman

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

Present: Merilynn Bourne, John Hammond, Scott Baker

1. Selectmen reviewed mail and signed invoices and checks.
2. Kyle Witty met with Selectmen to report on road business. Tomorrow he will be gathering the GPS coordinates for the replacement culverts. Kyle is still waiting for a call back from the engineer regarding the replacement of the culvert on Hell Hollow Road. Kyle also reports that the planks are in the dam in the Fire Pond in the Flat. He had Jim Fitch saw up some Hemlock for the job. Kyle also reports that the Vibratory Roller has broken and he is still trying to diagnose the problem. John asked Kyle about Sunset Road. Kyle said he would take the backhoe over there and slope and bevel the bank a little and put down some seed.
3. Selectmen called Michael Meeks to ask if he was still interested in membership on the Mt. Ascutney River Subcommittee. He stated he was and added that the Subcommittee would like one more member from Cornish.
4. Rob Heir met with Selectmen for approval of a building permit for a pole barn. Approved. Permit #403-13.
5. Rick Melloh called the Selectmen to ask about his application for current use. Rick was invited to meet with the Selectmen in the office to review the application. Rick will come in on Friday.

Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Merilynn Bourne, Selectwoman