

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 1, 2019 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. Beverly Duval came to ask where in the process of hiring a new Road Agent the town was.
2. Shirley Bladen came in to ask about hiring a company to clean the Town Hall on a monthly basis. The Selectboard took the request under advisement.
3. Charlie Woodman came in about a septic design for Jim Liggett.
4. Mike Duval, interim Road Agent, came in to discuss town roads and the to update the Board on road, sand, salt, and employee matters.
5. The Board reviewed invoices and signed checks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 8, 2019 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. Alex Scott of Buckley and Zopf met with the Selectmen.
2. Barbara Cieslicki came in with a concern about noise and traffic from events going on in her neighborhood.
3. Everett Cass came in about trees on Clark Camp Road. This is his fourth visit about the issue.  
The Board also discussed with Mr. Cass the need for an engineer for the Town Shed. Lyle Parry will make a phone call on Tuesday.
4. Alan Ennis was in about a building permit for an addition to his East Road property.
5. Marie DeRusha came in to discuss General Assistance concerns.
6. Sean Kelliher discussed an Eagle Scout project with the Board.
7. The Board spoke with Tammy Standridge about a Town Hall Security deposit.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Friday, July 12, 2019, 3:00pm-5:00pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. The Board discussed the need to follow up with Stringers Funeral Home about Chase and Edminster Cemeteries.
2. Chuck DeAngelis came in for a follow up to a discussion about trees. The Board approved the purchase of a chainsaw. The Board discussed prior lawn clean ups and weed whacking the fire pond in the Flat.
3. Jim Liggett came in for a building permit on Leavitt Hill Road.
4. Mike Duval discussed various Highway Department issues with the Selectboard:
  - a. Grader repairs, including the right rear chain drive and center pins;
  - b. Sand pricing, Carroll is still the best option
  - c. Loader windshield is broken;
  - d. Roadside mowing is carried out with single side arm mowing, no boom mowers; and
  - e. The Road Crew is clearing brush on Dingleton Hill Road.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 15, 2019, 3:00pm-5:00pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. The Board reviewed mail and invoices and signed checks.
2. Heidi Jaarsma discussed Town administrative affairs with the Selectboard. She will advertise job openings for the Road Agent and Town Hall cleaner. Postings will be on Connect Cornish, the Town website, and the New Hampshire Municipal Association classified website. Road Agent job will be advertised on WNTK radio.
3. The Board discussed Map 7, Lot 37.
4. Mike Duval, Road Agent, discussed Town roads and road crew activity.
5. The Board contacted Everett Cass about cleaning out the Fire Ponds. He said he is still a few weeks away.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Friday, July 19, 2019, 3:00pm-5:00pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. Mike Duval discussed the Highway Department with the Selectboard.
  - a. Mr. Duval will be absent next Thursday. He has left the crew instructions;
  - b. Grader Repairs: repair estimate totaled \$8,000;
  - c. Price on the loader windshield is \$1,300.
2. The Board discussed how and when the George Jones lot could be cleaned up.
3. The Board discussed trees on Clark Camp Road with Mike Duval.
4. Larry Dingee came in to file a complaint about the Planning Board Chair for his conduct at the Viridi Tower Hearing.
5. The Board called Lois Fitts about Bill Lambert, NH DOT, who is scheduled to meet with the Selectmen on July 29 at 6:30 pm. Ms. Fitts has also been in touch with State Representative, Lee Oxenham.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 22, 2019, 6:30pm-8:30pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. The Board discussed Road Agent applications.
2. Tom Spaulding discussed reimbursement for selling cemetery lots.
3. Bill Wall discussed the Planning Board ruling and conditions made at the Viridi Wireless hearing.
4. Everett Cass followed up on trees and an engineer for the Town shed building. He discussed the possibility of a winter-time Road Agent.
5. Reyer Jaarsma discussed trees to be removed in various cemeteries. He is interested in Platt Road and Root Hill jobs.
6. Mike Duval updated the Board on Highway business.
  - a. Roadside mowing to commence Friday 7/26.
  - b. The Board discussed the possibility of disposing of the big pine logs from the cemeteries at the Recycling Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Friday, July 26, 2019, 3:00pm-5:00pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. Wayne Gray discussed Fair Business including the Parsonage Road closing and the 10-year lease.
2. Bill Lipfert addressed two recent complaints about the Planning Board Chair.
3. Barbara Cieslicki discussed activities on Lang Road.
4. The Board called Colleen O'Neill to request a meeting to discuss activity at Langwood Barn.
5. The Selectboard left at 4pm to make site visits.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 29, 2019, 6:30 pm-8:30 pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry

1. The Board met with Bill Lambert of NH DOT, minutes attached.
2. Brent Edgerton discussed several concerns with the Board.
  - a. Due to the change in location of his driveway, Mr. Edgerton enquired about an address change.
  - b. He discussed visits from the Health Inspector about his chickens.
  - c. He asked for information about building setbacks from property lines and discussed a boundary line dispute with an abutter.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyle Parry

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Minutes  
Public Meeting with NH DOT to discuss NH Route 120 Speed Limit  
July 29, 2019, 6:30 pm**

The Board of Selectmen held a meeting with Bill Lambert, NH State Traffic Engineer, in the Cornish Town Offices at 6:30 pm to discuss the speed limit on NH Route 120 before and after Cornish Flat. John Hammond, Chair, Scott Baker, and Lyle Parry, Selectmen, attended the meeting. Also present were Lee Baronas, NH DOT; David Aguilar, Lee Baker, Brandi Chilton, Bill Gallagher, Stu Hodgeman, Joel Kinne, Susan Kinne, Evelyn Kramer, Bill Wall, and Deb Zamora; and Heidi Jaarsma, Recording Secretary.

Lois Fitts shared pictures of traffic on NH Route 120 with the Selectboard.

Bill Lambert circulated a letter to the Board and members of the public regarding a NH 120 Speed Limit Evaluation and Recommendations for the Claremont to Lebanon Corridor conducted by NH DOT. Mr. Lambert explained that speed limit changes can be complicated and that it is the goal of NH DOT that speed postings be consistent over homogenous sections of road. Eleven road segments on NH Route 120 between Claremont and Lebanon were studied. Each segment was chosen to be representative of various changes in character along the route. The speed study was done using tubes and thus incorporated a significant sample of vehicles. Additionally, Mr. Lambert and Mr. Baronas, also from NH DOT, drove the segments several times. Mr. Lambert noted that the speed limit changes to 35 mph going south on NH 120 into Cornish Flat before the character of the road changes. He added that the village setting should be apparent to the driver in order for the speed limit to be effective. He described the same scenario heading north into the Cornish Flat on NH Route 120: the change in character of the road is not apparent until after the 35-mph sign. He added that although a DOT warning sign was a possibility for Creamery Road, the low traffic volume coming from that road would impede compliance. The real issue, Mr. Lambert stated, was the design of the Creamery Road intersection, particularly on the south end. Turning Creamery Road into a one-way road could be effective. The speed limit sign south of Cornish Flat, Mr. Lambert continued, may be too far south and could be moved north by one-tenth of a mile.

Bill Gallagher if the issue before the Board was speeding on NH 120. Lois Fitts stated that she would like to see the speed limit cut. Many vehicles travel faster than 50 mph and do not slow down. Ms. Fitts went on to describe her observations of traffic and speed patterns on NH Route 120 near the intersection of Creamery Road.

Debra Zamora stated that the issue was one of enforcement. She would like to see an interactive speed limit sign near the Cornish Windsor Bridge.

Bill Fitts voiced concern for bicyclists near Creamery Road. There is no shoulder. The 50-mph speed limit sign should be south of the ledges.

Bill Lambert stated that he would move the 50-mph sign if he felt it would change the behavior of motorists. Because the road opens up and is uniform from that location to Claremont, motorist behavior will not change.

Lois Fitts stated that the 50-mph sign had been moved three years ago, and since that move, motorist speed has increased. Mr. Lambert reiterated that if he felt motorist behavior would change, he would move the sign.

Lee Oxenham, NH State Representative, stated that she drives on that stretch of road and speeds up as soon as she sees the 50-mph sign. She made reference to a blind corner and dangerous situations. She felt that moving the sign around the corner would at least stop motorists from speeding up in a dangerous place.

Bill Lambert described a similar DOT evaluation on NH Route 153. The speed limit was increased from 35-mph to 45-mph with additional horizontal alignment signage. The additional signage was very effective.

Susan Kinne stated that the 50-mph sign on NH 120 near Cornish Flat really causes motorists to speed up.

Brandi Chilton asked who would be responsible for signage. She was informed by the Board and by Mr. Lambert that the State would be responsible for any additional signage. Bill Lambert discussed the effectiveness of fixed feature signs and emphasized the importance of treating all conditions along a route equally. Ms. Chilton expressed concern for the number of elderly people living on Creamery Road and mentioned the need to accommodate for slower reaction time. Mr. Lambert said that he would explore the option of warning signs near Creamery Road.

Bill Wall thanked the Cornish Police Chief for the interactive speed signs installed north and south of Cornish Flat. Speeding has diminished since the installation of the signs. He stated that there was a need for increased enforcement. Mr. Wall added that anticipated cell service in Cornish Flat will enable calls to the police. Mr. Wall spoke of his experience checking speed by radar as a sheriff and made reference to four or five cars which were travelling well over 50 miles per hour going northbound on NH 120.

Bill Lambert responded that the entire Claremont to Lebanon corridor had been examined, and letters had gone out recommending that the speed limit on three segments be changed from 35 to 45 mph.

Debra Zamora asked if the character of a neighborhood, such as houses too close to the road, was used in recommending a speed limit. Bill Lambert replied that the number of houses, width of the road, street canopy, and density of development all factor into a speed limit recommendation. He added that he would look into the relocation of the 50-mph sign three years ago.

Bill Fitts asked if the speed study recorded the direction of vehicle travel. There followed a discussion of data collection and methods. Bill Lambert stated that he will check the data from the existing interactive signs. If the necessary data is not available, he will make a traffic study request of the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Council, Bill Fitts discussed observed traffic patterns at the intersection of Creamery Road and NH Route 120. Bill Lambert warned against leapfrogging sign relocations, i.e. moving a speed sign back several times.

Lyle Parry informed Mr. Lambert that the 35-mph northbound sign and the 50-mph southbound sign on 120 were in different places and were moved so that they were in alignment. Bill Fitts stated that the 35-mph sign always had been located north of Creamery Road. Lois Fitts stated

that the signs in alignment essentially created two speed limits and informed Mr. Lambert that engineers like data but not facts. Lee Oxenham said that the section of NH 120 under discussion was a very different road depending on the direction of travel. Bill Lambert replied that speed signs must be aligned for enforcement purposes and for consistency. Bill Gallagher asked who had moved the signs. Lyle Parry stated that the State had aligned the signs. Bill Gallagher asked what the Town could expect in improvements to the area. Bill Lambert stated that NH DOT will evaluate the location of the speed limit signs and will consider a curve warning sign. He reiterated that DOT will consider the corridor as a whole. He described the process of recommending that a speed limit be changed in a town. In general, if towns do not support the change, DOT will leave signage as is.

Debra Zamora asked about the responsibility of the State to enforce the speed limit on State roads. Bill Lambert responded that the question was for the police not DOT. Ms. Zamora asked if private citizens could raise money to donate to the Town for the purchase of an interactive sign. Bill Lambert stated that if the town agreed to install an interactive sign, donations may be accepted.

Scott Baker informed Mr. Lambert that he would make everyone in the room happy by moving the speed limit signs south of Cornish Flat 250 feet to the south. He reiterated that he was just asking for a few hundred feet. Lee Baker state that the issue was one of enforcement. Several members of the audience asked why there is not a full-time police force in Cornish. The Selectboard stated that the Town has not budgeted for a full-time force and discussed the balance between providing services and keeping the tax rate affordable. Bill Wall spoke again of excessive speeds on NH Route 120.

Bill Lambert committed to moving the signs, but added that he did not feel it would solve the speeding problem. Design of the Creamery Road intersection would need to be addressed. Lyle Parry stated that now vehicles would be accelerating at the intersection of NH Route 120 and Spaulding Hill Road. Lee Oxenham said that though the inhabitants of the next road down may have the same complaint, the character of NH Route 120 is very different at that intersection. Lois Fitts stated that only two people live on Spaulding Hill Road.

Brandi Chilton referenced the need for enforcement and pointed out that there is not place for a police officer to park and clock speed on NH 120 from Creamery Road and asked if the Town of the State could construct a pull-off. Bill Fitts noted that there was room on Spaulding Hill Road for a cruiser to park. Bill Lambert informed the Board that the Town would have to make a request to the District II Highway Garage. Debra Zamora asked about a full-time police force. John Hammond recommended that she look at the Cornish municipal budget compared to area towns. Larry Parry said that the budget is reflected in the tax rate. Bill Lambert asked the Town to give NH DOT an official position on the speed limit change.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heidi M. Jaarsma