

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 1, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS met with Chris Turgeon from NH DOT, Road Agent Wayne Gray, and Mike West at recycling center to review driveway and proposed modification to accommodate new guardrails North of the driveway.
2. BOS visited Tandy Brook Rd with Road Agent Wayne Gray and Mike West to inspect road damage due to beaver dams next to road.
3. Chief Hackett called to ask if the town is interested in selling the old cruiser. Chief said Chicago Motors was offering \$11,500. BOS discussed options for selling the vehicle. Chief offered to get quotes for surplus .40 caliber ammunition sale in order to purchase new holsters for new 9mm guns with the revenue.
4. Gwyn Gallagher stopped in to ask about a subdivision on North Parsonage with restrictions including improvement for access from roadway now being offered for sale without any access improvements. Dillon Gallagher offered to raise it at Planning Board.
5. Road Agent Wayne Gray provided an application for truck driver from a former employee and reported on another candidate for the same position.
6. BOS, Wayne and Mike West discussed in-house development of CDL candidates. Wayne provided an update on maintenance needs of some highway equipment. Wayne reported on feedback from a resident on Root Hill Rd who questioned town maintenance within the road right of way.
7. BOS reviewed request for use of Town Hall for an amateur sporting event.
8. Kelly Patterson-Parry and Wayne Gray proposed a walking trail along Parsonage on CREA property and asked who is in charge now that Dale Lawrence stepped down. Selectman Hammond suggested getting the Conservation Commission involved in the conversation.
9. BOS made phone calls to inform Conservation Commission members involved with beaver dam baffle project of work needed to address water undermining Tandy Brook Rd. and proposed walking trail on Parsonage Rd.
10. Adjourned 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 5, 2023 6:40-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and checks
2. Shawn Stender requested a review of his tax bill due to discrepancy between survey and tax bill.

3. Dale Lawrence, Mike Boutilier, and Bill Harthan stopped in to deliver proposals for a generator for the Cornish Flat Fire Station and a heat pump heating/cooling system. Dale reports that FEMA will provide 50/50 match for funds and would provide funding for training. A request was made for ARPA funds to make up any difference. Dale also requested a town-supplied laptop computer for emergency management use. BOS agreed the grant funding should be applied for.
4. Jo Evarts, 18 Butternut Drive, reported her road sign was removed by someone around November of 2022. The Road Agent was contacted by her and had suggested that a sign could be replaced with approval of BOS. BOS will connect with the Road Agent for further action.
5. Jim Liggett delivered a building permit for his property and described the project.
6. Mary delivered a message from Scott Baker thanking the town for grading.
7. BOS called Suzanne Lenz about a request to assemble a boxing ring in the Town Hall in order to make sure they can assemble the ring in future event scenarios.
8. Everett Cass asked about the bridge work at Leavitt Hill and asked if the bridge was to be replaced. BOS confirmed there is a deck project needed at that location.
9. Bill Lipfert reported on unfulfilled subdivision requirements on parcels for sale on North Parsonage Rd. He reported that the Planning Board is losing a member and needs new members as soon as possible. Bill asked about unregistered vehicles and if the town would follow up with Chief of Police to see if there's a list of properties in violation for further follow-up. BOS discussed a pending site plan review with Bill.
10. BOS left a voicemail for Robert Chartier on Town House road, per his request for a callback.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 8, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices, and checks.
2. Road Agent Wayne Gray met with BOS to discuss a plan for addressing water damage due to beaver dams on Tandy Brook Rd. and provided samples of sanding materials for consideration for winter maintenance, and provided some proposals for tree removal on several roads. Wayne reported on potential work at Trinity Church which requires BOS contact with abutting landowner.
3. BOS went to executive session to discuss personnel at 4:19pm.
4. BOS resumed public hearing at 4:26pm.

5. Larry Duval stopped by to discuss the beaver dams on Tandy Brook Rd. and plans to relocate baffles away from the road to get beavers to move.
6. BOS contacted Joe Simino's voicemail to request electrical service estimate for work at town building on School St.
7. BOS went to site visits for building permits and town's School St. property, Historical Society building, at 5pm.
8. Meeting adjourned, 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 12, 2023 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices, and checks.
2. Richard Thompson reported that the Energy Committee is making progress on their solar project at the recycling center. A grant of \$3,275 from James Tasker Bridge fund was successfully acquired to fund an off-grid solar power system to provide power to the recycling center for use by employees. Selectman Gallagher requested information about the battery technology being used. Mr. Thompson reported that the system would be designed to operate under 80v. John Hammond moves that the board accept \$3275 from the James Tasker Bridge fund for the purpose of installing an off-grid solar system that includes solar panels, inverter and batteries at the Recycling Center, Jason Bourne seconds, no further discussions, motion passes in the affirmative, unanimously.
3. Chief Doug Hackett reported that one vehicle has been decommissioned to use parts in the new truck, leaving them down one vehicle for now. Radar and radio have been taken from the donor vehicle for now. A grant has been applied for to replace the radar later in the year. Chief reported on activity in town the police department has been working on recently. Chief reported on his attempts to trade/sell ammunition to fund new holsters which was not progressing as quickly as he hoped, still waiting on a 3rd bidder for the ammunition. He feels confident the budget as it supports the holsters, but expects he will cover the cost of the holsters when the ammunition is sold. Chief requested approval for lights on the new handguns and reported that the holsters and guns with lights needing to be done at the same time in order to ensure proper fitting.
4. Public hearing was called to order at 7pm by chair Dillon Gallagher to accept and expend a grant from the NH Department of Justice in the amount of in the amount of \$11,243.00 for the purchase of police equipment and training, and to accept and expend a grant from the Byrne Foundation in the amount of \$5,500.00 for the purchase of a police department mobile data terminal. John

Hammond moves to accept; Dillon Gallagher seconds the motion. No further discussion. Vote is in the affirmative to accept, unanimously.

5. Treasurer Heidi Jaarsma reported on artwork in our library which are insured and deserve to be re-appraised in order to remain covered by Primex. Artwork valued at greater than \$10K must be evaluated every 10 years. Heidi contacted Patsy Root from William Smith Auctions who has offered to appraise the artwork for \$300. Heidi recommended that the town spend the money. Heidi recommended that town buildings be put on a state historical register in order to apply for funding from the State of NH to defray the cost of maintenance. BOS would need to apply for this designation. Heidi offered to write up the application. Dillon Gallagher moves that the BOS apply for the state historical registry with Heidi's assistance in preparing the application. Jason Bourne seconds. No further discussion. Vote was in the affirmative, unanimously.
6. BOS discussed state work to address guardrail line of sight issues at Center Road and 120 and at the recycling center. BOS and Chief Hackett discussed speed of traffic related to these intersections and further discussed portable radar units to address areas of concern and grants which can support funding.
7. Mike Monette asked if there would be any work done on the driveway to the recycling center. BOS discussed concerns regarding the abutting driveway and possible solutions to delineate the driveways better to manage traffic and improve safety. Mike Monette reported that Mike Stringer could add a name to the veteran's memorial at the meeting house, but needs a request from the BOS to do so. Mike asked BOS to consider renting a small tractor to assist with resetting headstones in cemeteries. Mike is requesting a quote from Josh Neely to repair structural damage done at recycling center.
8. Michael Santaw called to inquire about land on Parsonage Road which cannot be developed or built upon. Selectman Hammond reported that the parcels in question had conditions to improve road access as part of the subdivision and those conditions have not yet been met. Mr. Santaw asked if we can make the BOS administrative assistant that he would be asking for paperwork related to the subdivision.

Adjourned at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 15, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices, and checks.
2. Road Agent Wayne Gray and Mary Curtis met with BOS to ask about employee policies and benefits, including a question about unused vacation time and whether or not that would be compensated if not used. The BOS discussed having reviewed prior minutes where a vote of the BOS changed the policy from unused vacation time going to a sick

bank to paying out for unused vacation time. BOS discussed the sick bank with regard to lack of short-term disability benefits. Wayne asked about timing of post relocation at Trinity Church cemetery as the town did not have access to a post hole digger at this time. BOS did not feel there was any urgency and recommended waiting until later to relocate them. Wayne provided an update on product, supply, and deliveries of winter sand and salt, timing for delivery of the new truck, and supply and lead time for road sign posts. Selectman Gallagher recommended that the stop sign at Harrington and Parsonage roads be changed to a yield sign. BOS discussed and will review further. Wayne reported on use of a town truck in support of recycling services and made some suggestions on how to manage schedules and storage of the vehicle. Wayne raised concern about the KIA SUV provided to the Road Agent and asked if the town might consider purchasing the retired Police Department SUV as a replacement.

3. BOS discussed options and considered budgetary impacts of replacing the KIA in the current fiscal year.
4. Merilynn Bourne asked about the Dana Brooks property in Mill Village with regard to the town owning it by tax deed. Selectman Bourne informed that NH Municipal Association recommended that the Town confer with town counsel due to Mr. Brooks's recent passing and potential claims by relatives. Ms. Bourne asked about timing of a sale.
5. Selectman Gallagher suggested the Town would continue to work to determine the time frame.
6. Selectman Hammond inquired about a request submitted to the BOS to weigh in on a request to use the Cornish Flat Fire Station meeting room.
7. Selectman Bourne suggested that the Fire Department consider and manage public meeting requests as a rule of thumb and did not feel BOS should be managing such requests.
8. Nick Tampasis reported that he could not enroll his daughter in the school's pre-K program. BOS suggested he speak with the school administration and the school board if necessary to express his concerns regarding school policies.
9. BOS reviewed the Town Employee Policies and Procedures and suggested modifications to language to reflect prior BOS votes to modify policies including harassment, medical leave (sick bank) and payment for unused leave time.
10. Heather Meeks requested a key to access a Trustee of the Trust Funds filing cabinet currently stored in the conference room at the town offices. BOS discussed options for keys to provide access and will follow up on a process for key assignments. Heather also asked about the current status of the Road Agent position and BOS reported back that the position was filled.
11. Adjourned 6:40pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 19, 2023 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices, and checks.
2. Chief Hackett called to report the new truck is done and will be picked up on 6/20/2023. He raised some concern about comments in the Master Plan Community Survey as the public sharing of the document will expose some questionable comments. BOS discussed possible purchase of the Ford Explorer retiring from the Police Department by the Highway Department and financial implications for doing so.
3. BOS discussed options for replacing the Highway Department KIA SUV and financial options related to the purchase of the Police Ford Explorer being retired from service.
4. Richard Thompson and Joanna Sharf came in to discuss with the BOS regarding a statement to be put in Connect Cornish regarding the Community Power Coalition and further discussed the options available to the town residents should we consider the Community Power Coalition.
5. Richard reported on progress on off-grid power at the recycling center.
6. Selectman Gallagher requested additional information regarding the battery technology at the site and expressed concerns regarding fire hazards. Joanna asked about cell phones and wifi connectivity at the recycling center.
7. BOS discussed community survey results and selectman Gallagher inquired about the appropriateness of some of the comments should they be posted on the Town website. Selectman Bourne suggested that the Town website not be a repository for public comments, in general, and the survey "free response" section appeared to be a posting of public comment on our site. Selectman Bourne suggested that all public records should remain available, but not necessarily shared via the website.
8. Mike Monette asked the BOS to clarify a policy and procedure for the recycling of deposit bottles and cans. He also asked about keys for the highway department garage as recycling uses the town truck. BOS will talk to Wayne Gray about the key and process for sharing and storage of that vehicle.
9. BOS discussed changing a key core for the conference room so that trustees can access records. Selectman Gallagher confirmed that a core swap can be made while maintaining security in the records room and the BOS were in agreement that the core for the conference room be swapped out.
10. Adjourned 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 26, 2023 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices, checks, and Town budget data.
2. Mary informed the BOS that she had received several requests regarding the comments having been removed from the Master Planning survey posted on the Town website. Selectman Bourne reported that he asked Heidi Jaarsma, who manages the Town website, whose decision it was to post the comments along with the rest of the data, which resulted in a couple of complaints, and that Heidi subsequently removed the comments from the site. Mary then reported that a locksmith provided a proposal for rekeying the conference room in order to provide trustees with access to the space.
3. Road Agent Wayne Gray reported on the state of roads after today's rain storm and a new hire who has started working on the highway department. Wayne reported that he is attending an online conference to understand the program to develop CDL drivers from within the Town Highway Department. Wayne reported on a road sign order and provided an update on the status of a sander order for a new truck.
4. Frank Parks asked BOS about Dig Safe data and whether or not it is being required for solar arrays. Selectman Gallagher confirmed they are being updated as part of the permitting process. Frank asked about staffing levels in the Highway Department. The BOS and Road Agent Wayne Gray reported the current staffing level and plans for developing CDL drivers from within. Frank asked about the beaver dams on Tandy Brook Rd.
5. Troy Simino asked about the decision to remove the comments from the Master Planning survey results on the Town Website. Selectman Bourne explained that Heidi Jaarsma, the website administrator, removed them after an inquiry from Mr. Bourne regarding the process by which the posting of the comments was approved. Troy asked if the question for Heidi was done during BOS office hours. Selectman Bourne reported that the inquiry was sent outside of office hours.
6. The BOS discussed the appropriateness of the Town website as a location for public comments. Dillon Gallagher suggested that public comments ought to be posted with redactions of names of public citizens (not a town employee). Selectman Bourne read through the Town Website Policy to clarify that the policy includes language as follows: "The Town is not establishing a forum for others to provide information through the Website." Selectman Gallagher suggested that the BOS should define what "others" means and clarify that the Town website is for town business primarily. Selectman Bourne asked if there were other surveys posted with public comment. Selectman Gallagher confirmed that the Library Exploratory Committee survey with comments had been posted recently.
7. Selectman Bourne asked what the BOS should reply to Heidi, as she was waiting to receive feedback from the Select Board. Selectman Hammond suggested he was comfortable posting the comments. Selectman Gallagher agreed that he felt the comments should be posted. Selectman Bourne asked that the BOS review the policy if we are allowing public comments to be distributed on the website to clarify what "a forum for others to provide information through the Website," means regarding public comment on the website. Selectman Gallagher agreed. All

three selectmen agreed to inform Heidi that we were not standing in the way of the Planning Board's decision. Selectman Bourne crafted an email to Heidi Jaarsma informing her that the BOS felt she should return the full survey to the website, as originally intended.

8. Road agent Wayne Gray reported that fences in cemeteries needed repair. The BOS reviewed the budget and discussed ways to potentially reduce maintenance of fences in cemeteries. Wayne reported an accident at the fairground where communication wires were disconnected.
9. Selectman Bourne relayed a request from Mike Fuerst of the Broadband Committee for additional members. Selectman Gallagher agreed to reach out to a couple of potential committee members.
10. The BOS reviewed a Policies and Procedure document and suggested edits.
11. Meeting adjourned 8:51pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 29, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Mary Curtis reported on funds received as part of a block grant from the State of NH and reported on a tree falling on a church on Center Road.
3. Selectman Bourne reported that a member of the Broadband Committee has stepped down and shared a request from Mike Fuerst to add another person to the committee.
4. Road Agent Wayne Gray reported on a driveway culvert which is clogged and sending water across a residential driveway and sought guidance regarding the requests from the homeowner for the Town's assistance. Mr. Gray also reported on work needed on a highway department truck, and the status of parts and build of the new town truck. Wayne reminded the BOS about a key request for the recycling return of the town truck on Friday afternoons. Wayne reported on status of the Leavitt Hill bridge decking repair project. Selectman Hammond suggested funds from a block grant may be used for that repair. Wayne suggested the town might consider CDL training for the Fire Department in addition to the Highway Department in order to maximize our training opportunities. Road Agent Gray informed the BOS of town water testing which will occur as part of the Fair Association periodic testing, and provided updates on Tandy Brook Road and beaver activity threatening the roadway.
5. Selectman Gallagher cited the ordinance requiring abutters to town roads to maintain their own culverts and driveways.



6. Mike Fuerst stopped in to express concern about comments posted in the Master Planning Survey and felt personal comments should not be included in the posted survey results on the website. Linda Fuerst suggested an example that a school survey posted with comments about teachers would be similarly inappropriate. Selectman Bourne recounted the timeline surrounding the results being posted on the website, what had been reported to the BOS by the secretary of the Planning Board regarding their decision to post the comments, and our prior meeting discussions and suggested that the BOS would be reviewing policy and revising as necessary. Mike Fuerst suggested a follow-up call with NH Municipal Association for guidance and Selectman Bourne offered to do so and BOS members agreed to that.
7. BOS discussed policy considerations for public comment on the town website in order to better control what might be considered public discourse on the Town's website and agreed to take up the topic in a future meeting, maintaining focus on the town Policies and Procedures document under revision currently. BOS reviewed a draft of the Policies and Procedures document for Town employees. Selectman Gallagher moved to adopt the revised policy, Selectman Bourne seconded. BOS voted to approve the updated policy.
8. Tom Dombrowski delivered a septic plan design for a property on Rte. 12-A.
9. Leo Maslan stopped in to ask about a subdivided 3.0 acre lot on East Rd, abutting his property, inquiring about whether or not it is buildable. BOS considered that the subdivision predated zoning, did not fall within a wetland overlay or have any bodies of water nearby, the dimensions appeared to be adequate to build a house and considered it a buildable lot, provided a driveway, well and septic plan and permit could be acquired.
10. Chief Doug Hackett reported on equipment needs and future acquisition of equipment, asking if the BOS would be agreeable to a barter of old equipment in exchange for new equipment needed with a local business. Selectman Hammond moved that the exchange be approved, Selectman Gallagher seconded. Vote was in the affirmative to approve the exchange.
11. Meeting adjourned at 6:18pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne