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**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 30, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Site visit from 4:00-4:40 at 140 Clark Camp Road to see the condition of the buildings.
3. Marie DeRusha came in to present an invoice for heating assistance.
4. BOS discussed people that plow snow across or into town roads. This is illegal per RSA 236:20.
5. BOS called Road Agent, Wayne Gray. '09 truck has a bad sensor, multiple codes, and a coolant leak. Reed's estimates service and diagnosis will be \$1,500-\$2,000. This does not include repairs.
6. BOS called Scott Baker regarding the '09 truck.
7. BOS called Wayne Gray and recommended that the '09 be diagnosed by S.G. Reed.
8. Mike Monette came in at the request of the BOS. A job description for recycle workers was discussed. Mike is working on marking up a draft document.
9. BOS asked about the trucking of the glass. The arrangement was to remove the glass. Number of loads was not agreed upon. BOS told Mike that the Ascutney Redemption Center was open again.
10. Grant applications for signs about plastic waste, or any grant, in the future shall go through the BOS.
11. BOS and Mike discussed cardboard from Willing Hands. Mike doesn't know if the dumpster is zero-sort. He takes the cardboard, plastic and food waste. Mike mentioned the roll-off for plastic.
12. Jason moves, John seconds, to enter into Executive Session at 6:12pm. Motion carries unanimously. Return to regular session at 6:30.
13. Mike asked about fencing at the cemeteries. He asked about using picket fence. He reported that 2 people insist cemeteries have picket fence. He will get prices for chain and picket.
14. Mike asked about payroll at Recycle. BOS will follow up with Mary.
15. Adjourned at 6:37.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

*DG B JSH.*

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 27, 2023 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Bill Wall brought in a newspaper clipping about liability assistance from the state to communities.
3. Larry Duval came in. BOS signed a permit.
4. Marie DeRusha came in to discuss town welfare. The giving tree has been set up and some of the tags have been hung.
5. BOS entered Executive Session at 7:30pm. Motion by Jason, seconded by John. Vote in the affirmative.
6. BOS discussed employee performance reviews and timing of this annual duty.
7. BOS discussed Energy Committee nominees.
8. Adjourned 8:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

*AB JSH*

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 20, 2023 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Wayne Gray was in. The Highway Department is going to lose an employee. The loader and grader need cutting edges. The loader is critical as we have no spares. Grader can wait until the first of the year. Wayne brought in the paving quotes that were requested by BOS. The '09 will be coming back from inspection tomorrow. Wayne has talked with a concerned property owner on Center Road.
3. Merilynn Bourne came in to discuss property taxes.
4. Larry Dingee came in to ask if he needed to re-work the RFP for the Meetinghouse project. BOS feels that it is not necessary as the committee will meet tomorrow.
5. John asked Wayne about the glass from recycling. BOS has questions for the recycle head.
6. Jason brought up the Highway Department and employment.
7. Joanna Sharf and Richard Thompson came in. They provided two additional nominees for the Energy Committee. There will be another opening in March. She also requested an additional alternate. At least one alternate is ready to step down as well. Their next meeting will be either December 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>. Selectmen and Energy committee tentatively schedule a work meeting at recycle to view the solar array Saturday, December 2 at 3:00pm.
8. Joanna brought up the energy audit of the town office building. List of steps from energy audit:
  - a. Programmable thermostats 4x \$70.00 each
  - b. Air sealing around doors and windows \$1,000.00
  - c. Custom made interior window inserts \$7,000.00
  - d. Cellulose in attic; additional 10 inches \$5,600.00
  - e. Insulate exterior with airspace and siding \$87,000.00Jason asked if this list was in order recommended by the auditor. Richard pointed out that the building needs to be monitored for structural stability. He doesn't consider it an emergency. John suggested finding out how much Eversource would be willing to help. Richard pointed out that there are also solar proposals. There is a list of heating options. Jason asked if they know about Norwich Solar. He described the arrangement that KUA has with the company. Joanna described a chart in the report.
9. Jason moved BOS go into Executive Session. John seconded. Vote in the affirmative and unanimous.
10. Adjourned 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

*J. Gillett 9B*

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 16, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Aileen Gillett, who purchased Shatney's property, came in to talk about the property. She still needs to clean up outside junk. She had an inspector who declared the barn unsafe, and the plan is to tear down all the buildings. No septic system was found. She says there are errors on the tax card. She and her sister consider the property just land. She is asking for abatement. She wants the buildings removed from the card. They will save anything usable from the houses. She says they will convert the small building into a workshop. She plans to build a new house in the field with a detached ADU. They plan to have 2 shipping containers for storage. She claims people were entering and damaging the houses. They have since locked the houses. She plans to request a new culvert to drain water that currently runs through the property. She is convinced that the buildings are grandfathered but she says that will be lost. She asked what the setbacks are. Jason explained that they are 30 feet from road right of way and property lines. She requested a waiver. Jason explained that variances are very rarely granted by the ZBA. She doesn't know her property lines and will get a survey. John explained that from tear-down an owner has one year to rebuild on the same footprint for the same use. Jason reminded her that setback from water is 100 feet. John recommended a site visit on Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. She asked if there were any other questions. Jason asked about a timetable. Two years to clean up the outside and clean out the houses. Jason if during that time anyone would be living there. She said absolutely not. Jason asked the status of the pool. It has new covers and the gate is locked.
3. Heidi Jaarsma came in to talk about the \$28,000 +/- block grant from the state. It is considered unanticipated revenue. There will need to be a public hearing to accept the money. She recommended the BOS have plans for expenditure. BOS has several rough estimates, and Wayne will try to get some more accurate numbers. Heidi reminded BOS that by the end of 2024 the town must obligate the remainder of the LFRF funds.
4. Faye from NH DOE called and asked for Jason and requested him to answer a survey. He declined as BOS is very busy.
5. Wayne Gray was in. The '09 is back from Osgood's. Brakes are also repaired. Seat is repaired. Will go to Reed's for inspection. He asked if we had heard from a property owner on Center Road regarding beaver dam flooding. The property owner has not contacted BOS. The owner emailed Jason. BOS recommend Wayne manage the dams on town property and respond to property owners. Wayne has contacted Eckman Engineering to assess the Leavitt Hill Bridge. Wayne asked about the hauling of glass from recycle. Pike's aggregate pricing is going up 7% the first of the year. Wayne will bring the BOS copies of older estimates on the Leavitt Hill Bridge, pavement repair on Center, East and Jackson Roads and the latest quote on paving Jackson Road. John asked Wayne about cleaning leaves from the ditches. Highway Department has removed the blower from the tractor and installed the blade to be ready for snow. Dillon asked how long it takes to switch the blower and blade. About an hour.

6. BOS reviewed slides that the Energy Committee asked to be posted on the town website. The slides were very heavily branded. Dillon pointed out that in the past such items could be noticed on a list-serv and interested parties could request a copy or a link.
7. John asked about contract plowing.
8. BOS unsealed KIA bids at 5:07pm. One bid was \$500 and one was \$825.00. Jason moves that the town accepts the bid from Yvette Gray for \$825.00 for the town KIA. John seconds. Vote in the affirmative and unanimous. BOS called Yvette Gray and left a message informing her of the news.
9. Everett Cass came in to ask if BOS had received a list from the Energy Committee.
10. BOS discussed the report from Dillon about the Historic Building Committee meeting Tuesday, 11/14/2023.
11. Jason read the NHMA response to his request to legal requests.
12. Adjourned at 6:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher



**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 13, 2023 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Eric Brann, Plainfield NH Selectman, came in to discuss the CPCNH. He pointed out that it is not a party issue. He talked about a conversation with Michael Voss. The community power model is an experiment. Eric pointed out that co-op members do not benefit cost wise. One can opt-out or opt-up. The CPCNH uses some of the savings in their purchases to build renewable. Some of the failed community power groups failed because they were too focused on power production projects. Eric felt that a better model would be an opt-in. Plainfield made a simple opt-out option. Co-op has approximately 252 customers in Plainfield. Eric said it shouldn't be a divisive issue. He feels there will always be combustion engines as well as electric. There is no one answer. Jason pointed out that the default energy option is similar to that of the utilities. One can opt-up for more renewable at a higher cost. The Co-op buys their power and therefore rates are lower. Co-op customers pay the least, then CPCNH, then the other 2 utilities. Some customers have announced that they have not seen savings, some did. CPCNH will bank some of their purchase savings. Evan Oxenham is the numbers guy, but is also completely pro-green energy. Eric said that is not the case for all. If the town joins, write the agreement so you can get out. Jason pointed out Plainfield has not entered any financial obligation. Dillon asked what about projects, and how does that work? Eric said Plainfield has not entered into any project agreements and doesn't anticipate to anytime soon. Some Plainfield residents complained about the op-out set-up. Dillon asked if it had to be opt-out. Eric was not sure. Jason thought it was set that way so the coalition could negotiate on behalf of the town. Eric said that some of the management of CPCNH is located in southern California. Mary said she knew someone who buys third party power and might discuss with the Selectmen. Jason said he wanted to hear about the process from another Selectman, thus Eric was invited.
3. Steve Wilkie came in representing Sullivan County ATV Club, Sugar Valley Snow Riders, and Blow-Me-Down Snow Riders. He is in to talk about trails and has a concern about the bridge on Whitewater Brook Road. He has been concerned about this bridge for years. He proposes to place 6 telephone poles to covers the 20' span and deck over the poles to be able to access the trails. John asked if the clubs would cover the costs. Dillon asked what is the current construction. Steel beams with multi-layers of rotten decking. The club's plan is to go over the current steel with the telephone poles, then 2 layers of 2-inch decking. The BOS sees no harm in improving the safety of the bridge. John moves that the clubs repair the bridge. Jason seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.
4. Mary asked if CPCNH keeps some of the savings to use for renewable. Jason said that is what it sounded like but he would like to hear it from CPCNH. There was uncertainty about whether NH Electric Co-op was actually included as competition in the CPCNH.
5. Jason sent an inquiry to NHMA legal inquires about the parking issue on School Street. Can the town enforce the SPR parking restrictions and can the town enforce the violation against the business.

6. Everett Cass came in from the Energy Committee to re-invite the BOS to visit the solar system installed at the Recycle Center this Saturday at 3:00pm.
7. Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

~~JK~~ JSH JB

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 9, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Wayne Gray, Road Agent, came in.
3. Mary Curtis, Administrative Assistant, reported that the new hire for the Highway Department decided to stay at his current job and will not be joining the Cornish Highway Department.
4. BOS discussed with Wayne if there was room in the CREA barn for lumber for the CREA bridge repair project. He said there is. Volunteers will move the lumber. Wayne reported that the '09 truck is in the shop at Osgood's. As soon as it is repaired it will be inspected. Reed's will send an invoice for the new truck. Viking will get the invoice to us by December 15. BOS discussed the fact that the invoice will come before the truck is finished. Monies will be committed in 2023 but delivered when the truck is completed. Wayne mentioned that the tire chains for the loader are old. Side chains cost \$500.00 and will extend the life until the first of the year. Wayne reported that they repaired the undermining on Jackson Road. North Deming and East Road repaired. Beaver dams pulled on Tandy Brook Road. The grader is chained and plows are on. Loader is chained up. Snow was removed from the school. Wayne reported that a resident on West Pass Road had installed a fence in the right-of-way. John asked if Wayne had contacted the bridge engineer. He reported that Peter Blakeman had sent his report to the state. John asked if we had totals for the summer storm damage. Mary has some records and Wayne will provide the rest.
5. Larry Dingee came in to follow-up on his question about RFPs for the Meetinghouse repairs and painting.
6. Wayne reported that the school is installing the new cooler unit and is digging now. The well installation is likely scheduled for February.
7. Mike Monette hired Everett Cass to move the glass from recycle.
8. BOS called Mary Daun, PE, at NH DES regarding the Recycle Center permit by notification application.
9. A resident came in to ask what the BOS intends to do about parking on School Street. Jason asked what she was referring to. She described that the dance studio is using on street parking. This violates the Site Plan Review conditions from 2006. There is currently no signage. John asked if there could be signs for library parking only. Currently there are no restrictions on parking other than the 2006 Site Plan Review. The resident stated that she came in because she is sick of hearing complaints. Jason pointed out that this was the second time he has heard about this since being in office. John reviewed the site plan restrictions. She provided BOS with documents referencing the situation. Jason said he struggles that there is not other prohibited parking on the street. Jason asked for clarity as to what is the concern. She said the concern is lack of enforcement. She shared the Planning Board's site place review approval with the list of restrictions. The Site Plan Review approval dated 2/16/2016:



- a. All parking off-street
  - b. 8 parking spots on premises
  - c. Planning Board to receive a copy of letter to parents re: parking.
- She showed a letter dated 2/14/2016 where the Newtons will expand parking to 12 in the spring. Jason suggested Valerie should be invited to explain her business operations.
10. BOS discussed enforcement and penalties. Signage was also discussed. Article XI penalty section of the ordinance states “Any violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall subject the violator to a fine of not more than one hundred (\$100.00) for each day...”.
  11. Adjourned at 6:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

**Town of Cornish**  
**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, November 6, 2023 6:30-8:30pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Mike Monette came in to drop off flags from the cemeteries. He asked about trees near the Parsonage Road cemetery on a neighbor's property. He also inquired about some declining ash trees at the entrance to Recycle. The trees are on an abutter's property. It may be on Liberty Utilities ROW. Mike told the BOS that the town has to provide footwear, gloves, goggles, and if near equipment, hearing protection according to Primex. He asked about hauling glass to New London. He will arrange a hired truck and coordinate loading with the Highway Department. BOS asked Mike about a Permit by Notification for the Recycle Center to the DES. BOS reviewed the application with Mike. A question was raised about the term Transfer Station. John explained that the state mandated towns offer a waste disposal method. BOS decided to call DES on Thursday to follow-up.
3. BOS reviewed several personnel policies.
4. BOS discussed the Highway Department building roof.
5. BOS discussed the Energy Committee and the need to appoint a replacement member.
6. Mike Monette called about repairs needed at the Recycle Center.
7. Dillon moved, John seconded, to approve the October minutes. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.
8. Adjourned 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

JB JB JSH.

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 2, 2023 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), John Hammond, Jason Bourne

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Bill Wall came in to deliver two newspaper clippings. He is concerned about future electric supply. He says NH will not receive power from the Northern Pass project. The DOE is financially supporting Northern Pass. He wants BOS to communicate their concerns to our legislative representatives. Jason asked the route of the lines.
3. Wayne Gray, Road Agent, was in. The sanders are in the F550 and the '17 trucks. The '02 truck is back at Reeds. The Highway Department plans to repair the undermining on Jackson Road. The beaver baffles on Tandy Brook need to be lowered to be effective. The road is being undermined. He asked for details on the town owned lot, Map 7, Lot 86. A copy of the abutters survey map shows some of the information. The new truck is at Viking to be equipped. A resident called to complain about the F550 driving around with a snowplow mounted. Wayne explained the plow was mounted so the new driver could learn his route with the truck set up as it will be. Wayne brought up people that are placing stakes, fences, iron posts, etc. in the town right of way. Wayne mentioned a potential hire with a CDL. He currently is a long-haul truck driver. The potential hire gave Wayne a ball-park pay scale. He is willing to plow and work plow hours. Has not run a grader. Has plowed with pickups, but not a 6-wheeler with a wing. Jason asked how Wayne would utilize him if he came on board in 2 weeks. Wayne explained it would allow him to keep an employee in the loader. Jason asked about turnover. In the last year 1 employee quit, and 2 were terminated. Jason was trying to get a feel for rate of turnover. He asked about the stability of the team now. Wayne doesn't see any change coming as of now. John asked Wayne about references. He recommended Wayne follow-up on calling references.
4. Gwyn Gallagher came in. Wayne explained he had advertised contract plowing on a local list-serve. He contacted two other potential contractors. Gallagher Tree Service was the only potential contractor that submitted a proposal. Jason asked if the crew went to 5 men how a contractor would fit in. Wayne explained that the potential hire may not be up to speed for plowing immediately. John wondered if there would be cost savings by having a contractor. It would be faster and more efficient. Gwyn said he viewed plowing as a team effort. If there are breakdowns, etc. it gives the town flexibility. Jason asked how having a full crew and a contractor would be explained to taxpayers. Service would be better and faster for the taxpayer. John asked if the arrangement would allow for better equipment maintenance. Wayne said yes. John pointed out that we are down 2 trucks. It is November and snow is just around the corner. John moves to accept Gallagher Tree Services rate for contract plowing. Jason seconded. The vote was affirmative 2-0. Dillon abstained.
5. Gwyn pointed out that the only constant in plowing is uncertainty so routes may be adjusted due to circumstance. Jason explained he realizes the crew is currently understaffed and it is November. John provided Wayne with the name of a NH DOT Bridge Engineer who may be able to help the town with the Leavitt Hill Bridge. Wayne has

communicated with property owners about brush in turnarounds. Most have been cooperative.

6. Joanna Sharf came in to ask about the new member for the Energy Committee. The committee currently has four members. Jason asked if the committee had voted to recommend a single person. She confirmed. Joanna pointed out that their candidate has skills as a grant writer. Jason pointed out that traditionally committees give a list of candidates. She asked about the by-laws. Dillon said he will locate the BOS edited version and get it to Joanna. She also asked about if the BOS were interested in meeting with a CPCNH rep. Dillon pointed out that Jason had made arrangements to meet with a member of the Plainfield Selectboard to get the perspective of the Selectmen.
7. BOS called Chief Hackett. He mentioned the need for tires for the truck. He asked if the needed 3 quotes. It will be under the \$1,500 threshold. He needs 2 tires for the Explorer. He is going to a NH Chiefs training December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chief is back to full duty. He is doing well. Call volume has been good. He expects it to increase with winter snow.
8. BOS called Mike Belanger regarding his interest in serving on the Energy Committee. BOS will contact him at the next meeting.
9. BOS discussed upcoming preparation for the 2024 Town Meeting.
10. BOS discussed the 2014 Road Plan.
11. Adjourned at 6:02pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher