



**Town of Cornish, Maine**  
**SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, August 8, 2024 @5:00**



- Selectboard Member – Chair - Jessica Larson called the meeting to order @ 5:01 P.M.
- Roll Call – Chair - Jessica Larson, Dan Sherman, David Pike, Monique Guptill, Dee Hartford, M. Angel Eastman per-diem Secretary, were present.
- All Payroll and Accounts payable warrants were reviewed and approved by all Selectboard Members.
- Minutes from July 24, 2024, were approved by all Selectboard Members.

**TOPICS DISCUSSED:**

• **ARFS:**

- Old High and Anderson Drive.
  - Ann Nelligan and Beth Phelps
    - Bob Sturgeon (Road Commissioner) will follow up moving forward.
- Nancy Perkins – Ungrateful dead.
  - Cornish participation emergency preparedness meeting.
    - Tabled to 8/21/24 @600 PM.
- Cliff Whitney
  - Tree removal from the Mill Pond.
    - The Selectboard would like a written plan on the procedure.
    - The Selectboard and the Fire Chief (Chris Calnan) would like notification on starting and ending dates to drain the Mill Pond.
    - The Selectboard would like a discussion with Cliff, Fire Chief (Chris Calnan) over the procedure that will be in the plan of use.
    - This will all be acknowledged on August 21, 2024, at the Selectboard Business Meeting.
    - Land erosion was also discussed going into the Mill Pond from King Street. Jessica Larson (Chair -Selectboard) will discuss this matter with Bob Sturgeon (Road Commissioner) about this matter.
- Highland Farms Sugar Works/Highland Farms Inc.
  - John Bleakney
    - The culvert has rusted and collapsed at the Sugar Works Driveway.
    - The pavement is washed out and undermined below the Sugar Works Driveway.
    - Has been repaired with dirt fill several times.
    - Bob Sturgeon has addressed this situation and will be looked at again in the Fall.
    - Looks like the road will have to be reconstructed and a culvert replaced.

• **Use of Town Properties:**

- Michele Denison
  - Baby Shower – Cornish Pike Town Hall
    - 09/14/2024
    - Approved by All Selectboard Members.

• **Unfinished Business:**

- Back street
  - Received word on funding from the Elliott Storm of 2022 (Ref. DR4696).
  - Approximately \$113,000.00 for engineering and construction.
  - Now waiting on the State of Maine on how to proceed.
- Late Mail –
  - Monique Guptill
    - Talked to a Washington DC postal department.

- Will not make left hand turns for safety reasons.
  - Will not change route.
- Results
  - Not acceptable for a municipality.
  - Taxes, leans, voting ballots need to be received every day.
  - Jessica Larson (Chair- Selectboard) will approaches the Cornish Postmaster on the subject.
  - The Selectboard suggested doing research on other towns to see how their mail is being delivered
  - Jessica Larson will reach out to Pam Buck from Susan Collins office.
- Tri -town disposal – **Tabled.**
- Casella – Tipping contract expiring – **Tabled.**
- Permit fees – **Tabled.**
- Cornish Emergency Disaster plan. **Tabled.**
  - Push notification.
- Cornish Sewer Contract was signed August 25, 2024
- Electronic Waste
  - September 14, 2024 at 9am – 12pm at the old Walkers Chevrolet parking lot(Sanborn's).
- Maine Bond Bank
  - Monique Guptill (Town Clerk).
    - Sent loan application to Toni Reed.
    - Lee Briggs from Bernsteinshur Lawyers office has drafted a potential article for the spending of the loan at a Special Town Meeting to be held in the future.
    - The Selectboard has disagreed with Lee's proposed article as the town had an article at the annual March meeting (2024) that was voted in favor to have (Article 48). Jess will be in contact with him to discuss further after Monique verifies with Toni that article 48 would be sufficient.
- FEMA Report – April 04/07/24 storm
  - A reimbursement pending for approx. 40,000.00 for debris and emergency cost measurements.
- Eagle Eye Display Station.
  - Still waiting on Chris Sandborn.
- Speed limit study on the Spur Road.
  - MDOT
    - Spur Road should be 40 MPH.
    - Emailed Bob Sturgeon the results to place a sign.
    - All Selectboard Members approved.
- Cornish emergency disaster plan.
- Mowing – Dana Batchelder
  - All the mowing and weed whacking will be done at the same time on all Town properties.
  - Next year the contract shall be gone over more thoroughly with Dana, including the winter sand removal.
- HECTOR Tower Project – Hessian Hill.
  - Is still moving forward.
- MDOT
  - Pedestrian flashing signs.
  - Will be addressing in the Spring due to construction
  - Will revisit further instructions at that point in time.
- Jeff Hartford
  - Selling a PA system and wanted the town to have first offer at a discounted price of \$ 500.00.
  - The Demo was presented upstairs in Pike Hall.
  - One microphone including stands and two speakers.

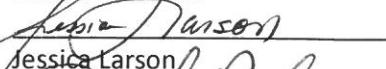
- Microphones can be wireless, if needed, and longer cords also.
  - All Selectboard Members approved.
- **New Business:**
  - Sacopee Rescue
    - Mark Bolton (Chair Board of Directors)
    - To clear up rumors of shortage of funds.
    - Results:
      - The Chief needs to go through the change of command.
        - Board of Directors
        - Treasurer
      - The Chief might need to take management courses.
      - Next year Article to the Towns might have to be worded different to receive monies in the beginning of their pay cycle.
      - Paying employees might have to go on a two week pay schedule.
      - The Selectboard also suggests meeting with the Board three or four times a year for communication contact.
    - Chris Vitalone has given his written resignation.
      - New appointment should be between the Selectboard and the Board of Directors.
  - Appointment for The Fairgrounds Cornish Advisory Borad
    - Glen Rankins appointment has run out.
    - All Selectboard Members approved.
- **Public Comments:**
  - Monique Guptill suggested on behalf of the Cornish Fire Station to have the mowing contract paid by the Town.
    - Reasoning
      - Maintenance on trucks has been going up. Instead of having an article to raise more money for maintenance.
    - All Selectboard Members approved.
  - Change on some of the Selectboard Business Meeting dates because of the Holidays.
    - Selectboard would like to see the planned dates.
  - Taxes
    - Some people have had question, but most are just paying
      - Reasoning
        - Town has been re- assessed.

**ADJOURNED: 8:09 P.M.**

Approved by Selectboard:



Daniel Sherman



Jessica Larson



David Pike

