



## Town of Cornish, Maine SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, October 30, 2024



- Selectboard Member – Chair - Jessica Larson called the meeting to order @ 5:05 P.M.
- Roll Call – Chair - Jessica Larson, Dan Sherman, David Pike, Monique Guptill, M. Angel Eastman per-diem Secretary, were present. Dee Hartford was absent.
- All Payroll and Accounts payable warrants were reviewed and approved by all Selectboard Members.
- Minutes from October 16, 2024, were approved by all Selectboard Members.

### TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- **Meetings:**

- Bob Sturgeon

- Backstreet certification is completed with MEMA

- Dirigo Engineering (Randy Butler) will be contacted to help with the Biding packages per FEMA requirements.
- There is a time frame the culvert can be constructed due to Little River (July 15 – August 15, 2025).
- The Town of Cornish would like to be advertised in the winter of 2024 - 2025 for bidding contracts.
- Road signs are disappearing again in South Cornish.
  - Jessica Larson will contact State Police so they are aware of the issue.
- Bob Sturgeon has concerns with a lot of low hanging trees from the April storm - 2024. It is going to make snow plowing and removal very difficult. Possibly there will be a lot more power outages
- Two projects that will be looked at for the next fiscal year are Pease Hill and Lowd Road.

- Steve and Mike Mellen

- Mellen has agreed to a two-year extension of \$180,000.00 per year as documented in the contract.
  - An Addendum shall be made for the two-year extension.
  - All Selectboard Members approved.
- The Recycle bin has been a problem again other trash being put in the bins which, contaminates the whole bin.
- Tire pick up went well.
- Continue the white goods, bulk goods and tires (October).

- Larry Palmer

- Ladies Guild (Bargain Barn)
  - Lease agreement due.
  - A five-year lease was signed and payment made.
  - All Selectboard Members approved.

- Library

- Larry Palmer and Sharon Beaver.
  - Sharon Beaver explained how many hours she puts in a week and would like to increase hours of operation at the library.
  - Sharon is looking to put in addition funds in the budget for the year 2025.
  - The Selectboard suggested filing out the budget papers and present them so this can be included in the annual budget.
- Steve Estes will be plowing the library for 2024-2025.
- Sacopee Rescue Board of Directors
  - Alan Bowles

- Alan presented a resume. The Selectboard was very impressive and highly recommended Alan.
    - Alan would like to attend the next meeting of the Sacopee Rescue Board of Director for a meet and greet before making a final decision on accepting the position.
    - Alan would like to be notified of the time and date of the next Sacopee Advisory Board Meeting.
  - Les MacMaster
    - Speaking about the Board of Appeals.
      - Les understands that being the Chair of the Planning Board he cannot help the Board of Appeals. Les would like to make suggestions for bylaws.
  - Per Selectboard review of State Statutes Board of Appeals
    - Have seven board members. (Five members and two associates).
    - Appointments to be staggered and are for a maximum of five years (ending in March).
    - Meet after every Annual Town Meeting and vote for Chair, Vice Chair and Sectary.
  - Selectboard Members appointed Board of Appeals.
    - Brad Perkins, Margaret (Peggi) Aspinall – five years.
    - Joyce Rodriguez, Gary Mason – four years.
    - Jeff Nason – three years.
    - John Blakney associates – four years.
    - Brad Perkins mentioned John Culloton as an associate.
    - There are classes that are recommended to take through the State of Maine (December 10, 2024).
    - All Selectboard Members approved.
- **ARFS:**
  - Old High and Anderson Drive.
    - Ann Nelligan and Beth Phelps
    - Bob Sturgeon project is all done and they are very happy with the results.
  - Lianne Hoxie
    - Pound Hill Road
      - Bob Sturgeon has finished this project.
  - Calista Cross -not present
    - Calista would like to put a Veteran kiosk in Thompson Park.
      - Selectboard discussed that a private citizen can ask money from the Town, but the Selectboard has the discretion to move the funding Article forward.
      - Jessca Larson – (Chair Selectboard) explained that Calista was referred to Parks and Flags back in 2023 concerning this matter.
        - The Thompson Kiosk that is in the park has been repaired and painted which was one of Calista ARF in 2023.
      - M. Angel Eastman (Chair - Parks and Flags) mentioned that Calista emailed asking to have a date for the next meeting. M. Angel Eastman emailed back and asked about her concerns. Never heard back from Calista.
        - M. Angel Eastman presented documents on why additional names cannot be added to the existing Veterans plaque at the Kiosk per CAB and Roger Berube (American Legion) emails.
        - The Parks and Flags have plans to have a Veterans Kiosk in the Riverside Cemetery for the Veterans Park which is owned by the Town of Cornish.
        - This all takes time to go through the Town process and be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting.
      - Calista Cross has again been referred to Parks and Flags by the Selectboard and all Selectboard Members approved.
  - **Use of Town Properties:**
    - Seija Sedita
      - Cheering practice – SVRC

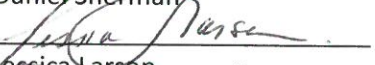
- Monday – Friday evening. (December 2, 2024 – March 22, 2025).
    - All Selectboard Members approved.
  - Brent Brown
    - Wedding
      - August 14 – 17, 2025.
      - Request to use a standing air conditioner on the day of the wedding only.
      - All Selectboard Members approved.
- **Unfinished Business:**
  - Tri-Town Disposal Contact – **Tabled**
  - Placement of Historical District Signs – **Tabled**
  - Permit fee schedules – **Tabled**
  - Sewer – **Tabled** (moving forward with the CEO).
  - Eagle Eye Display Station – **Tabled**
  - Painting Old Fellows Hall - **Tabled**
  - FEMA report - April 4-7 disaster storm - **Tabled**
  - Push notification notice – **Tabled**
  - Painting the Old Fellows Building – **Tabled**
  - Fairgrounds email letter to the Fire Marshall - **Tabled**
  - The Cornish Fire Truck
    - People from the company in Ohio came to Cornish Fire Station to demonstrate a fire truck identical to the one they are doing for Cornish.
    - This truck was amazing. The Fire Department is very pleased with the demo.
  - HECTOR Tower Project –
    - Verizon is up and running.
  - MDOT Pedestrian flashing signs
    - Adam Criag is checking into the pricing and placement requirements.
  - Late Mail
    - The mail carrier has been taking a different route, so he has been arriving before the closing of the Town office.
    - Selectboard suggest keeping a log to make sure this continues.
    - Selectboard also talked about having a meeting with the Postmaster.
  - Tax abatement denial appeal hearing
    - Benggio
    - November 6, 2024
    - Accessors are attending.
  - Back Street
    - FEMA funds were certified.
  - Speed limit signs on the Spur Road and High Road have been placed and are correct.
  - Casella Tipping
    - Meeting December 4, 2024 @ 6:00 pm.
    - David Pike will attend in North Berwick.
  - Sacopee Rescue Board of Directors
    - Need to reach out to Terri Charles to be sworn in.
  - Bangor Savings Annual Meeting
    - Meeting confirmed October 25, 2024 @ 10am.
  - Sofias
    - Contact Kosta in the Spring about mowing.
  - The public bathrooms by Thompson Park have been closed for the season.
- **New Business:**
  - Spirit of America awards
    - November 20, 2024 @ 3:30pm in Alfred.

- Saco River Corridor Commission
  - Need two representatives for the Town of Cornish
  - This position is a three-year term.
  - Advertisement in the Shoppers Guide
  - 30 days to take the Oath by the Town of Cornish.
- Foreclosures
  - Monique Guptill has contacted Bergen Parkinson Attorney.
  - So many new laws.
  - Monique asked Jessica Larson to go over them and then they could discuss them.
- Eagle Park
  - General contract Agreement
  - Joe Gammon and Sons Excavation, LLC.
  - All Selectboard Members approved and signed.
- Community Resilient Partnership Enrollment
  - Deadline has passed would require Legislative body approval.
- Snow removal
  - Downtown sidewalks
    - The Town is not responsible for snow removal of the sidewalks.
- Natalie Beittel and Kyle Peckham
  - Dry fire hydrant on Kimball Hill
    - **Tabled**
- Bob Sturgeon is going to continue plowing around Thomson Park.
- Merle Sanborn needs to be contacted also to see if he is still plowing for the town.
- Fairgrounds
  - Steve Estes wanted to be on the Board, but the bylaws say you must be a residence of Cornish.
  - It is alright to be on a subcommittee.
- **Public Comment:**
  - Monique Guptill and Dee Hartford have asked for Christmas Eve off.
    - All Selectboard Members approved.
  - EMA Mat Cama Email – YCEMA – G4O2 class for NIMS compliance via zoom.
  - Budget Committee for the Town Meetings
    - December 11, 2024 – December 18, 2024 - January 8, 2025 – January 15, 2025?
  - Selectboard for the Town budget meetings.
    - January 22, 2025 – February 5, 2025
  - Voting for the Town Officials
    - March 14, 2025 @2:00 pm – 8:00 pm
    - Annual Town Meeting
      - March 17, 2025 @ 7:00 - until ends pm

**ADJOURNED: 8:15 P.M.**

Approved by Selectboard:

  
Daniel Sherman

  
Jessica Larson

  
David Pike