

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

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Bill Wall came in to ask about the fire pond.
3. Wayne Gray, Road Agent, was in. Highway pulled boards on the fire pond and moved material from dumping area. He reminded BOS that the Fire Chief needs to call for dredging permit. Wayne needs to order winter tires for the 6 wheeler trucks. He checked that we are using the same voting booths. He reported that the crew got yelled at by a resident when they were working to maintain the big culvert on Tandy Brook. Wayne received a call from the Attorney General's office regarding political signs placed by the welcome signs on NH Route 12A. The signs are on private property. He has received an employment application. The applicant has not returned calls. He explained that people going to Willing Hands are parking by the well and the school exit. Willing Hands needs to direct parking. Trucks are cycling through Reed's for inspection. Smaller vehicles are going to East Plainfield Auto for undercoating. He will check with Mike Duval for hot oil undercoating. He asked about winter plowing.
4. Chief Boutilier returned call to BOS. BOS asked about locating a rack for Broadband. He will be able to provide space for the rack and will apply for a dredging permit.
5. Dillon asked about the damage to Leavitt Hill Road from line clearance. Wayne will follow-up. Jason asked about the windrow on East Road. Highway will address next week. Dillon asked about permission for an additional culvert on East Road. Jason asked about Whitten Cemetery Road. Got 4 loads today. Cold patch has been applied to Center, Jackson, and East Roads.
6. Laura Cousineau came in. She requested a non-public meeting pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II c & e.
7. BOS discussed Leavitt Hill Bridge and called David Eckman.
8. BOS left for site visits at 5:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Dillon Gallagher

**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 26, 2024 6:30-8:30pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Seldon Lord and Mike Ochman came in to discuss a building permit application.
3. Everett Cass came in. He inspected the fire pond. The spillway boards have not been pulled. Need to be pulled. He said that the dumping area needs to be cleaned up. He quoted \$6,500 to dredge the pond.
4. Mike Fuerst came in to update BOS on the Broadband Committee's work. HUB 66 requests a small area for a racked network switching arrangement. BOS will talk to the Fire Chief about possible using an area at the Flat Fire Station.
5. BOS discussed items from the mail folder regarding the Meyette Conservation Easement.
6. BOS called Fire Chief, Mike Boutilier. He was not available.
7. Adjourned 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Dillon Gallagher



**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 22, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Barbara Cieslicki came in and said she had been to the joint meeting on 8/21. She said that the mezzanine should be accessible as a public building. She overheard an individual at the meeting say that it is a shame that some children may not have access to the mezzanine. She is concerned that in the future the Town could be liable for lack of access. Jason pointed out that information would have been important at the 2023 Town Meeting. Barbara explained that information is always good. Jason agreed. There was concern voiced by several at the 8/21 joint meeting about access to the mezzanine. She is concerned as a taxpayer. Barbara asked if the BOS had been involved or rejected CPCNH. Jason explained that the BOS had signed the JPA and the Town will have a chance to vote at Town Meeting.
3. Troy Simino came in. He expressed disappointment in how the Town has been running meetings. He is not happy that the BOS do not publish agendas. He is concerned about "work meetings". He is concerned that he and another resident were not allowed to complete statements as judged to be off topic and not germane to the purpose of the meeting. He pointed out that he was advised he could ask questions after, but pointed out they would not have been recorded in the minutes. He suggested the BOS have an established Standard Operating Procedure. He recommends the Board have a simple agenda and block out times for paperwork, public input, new business, old business, etc. Jason explained that the BOS has recently been discussing concerns about having an agenda.
4. Everett Cass came in to see if the Town plans to dredge the fire pond on Leavitt Hill Road. He recommends the Highway department pull the remaining planks from the spillway and level off the area that is usually used for storing the dredgings. He said it may take 3 – 4 days. He will review his last invoice for the project, but now it will cost more. Jason asked if Everett was going to put together a proposal. Everett will bring in a price.
5. Jason asked if there were records of previous land sales by the Town. Mary Curtis will look into some previous sales.
6. BOS will forward an email regarding the Meyette Easement to Mr. Meyette and to the Conservation Commission.
7. Sean Stender came in to pick up a building permit application.
8. BOS did follow up work on a sale of tax deeded property.
9. BOS left for a building permit site visit at 5:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dillon Gallagher

JSH. ~~93~~ 93

**TOWN OF CORNISH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

August 21, 2024

Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Library Trustees
Selectman Dillon Gallagher, Selectman John Hammond, Selectman Jason Bourne
Trustee Laura Cousineau, Trustee Kathi Patterson, Trustee Marie De Rusha

Members of the public: Ingrid Nichols (Banwell Architects), Keith Mullane, Colleen O'Neill, John Dryfout, Susan and Wells Chandler, Peter and Caroline Storrs, Linda B. Coolidge, Hudson Fitch, Hayden Fitch, Corey Fitch, Cindy Griffin, Barbara Cieslicki, Sylvia Platt, Heidi Jaarsma, Troy Simino, Alicia Simino, Richard Thompson, Mariann Thompson, Judith Kaufman, Brian Meyette

Meeting was called to order by Selectman Gallagher at 6:30 PM. He explained to the members of the public the purpose of the meeting was for the Board of Selectmen to see and consider the similarity of the plans presented at the 2023 Town Meeting and the Final plans to be presented by Ingrid Nichols of Banwell Architects. There would be time for public comment after the presentation by Ms. Nichols. The Selectmen pointed out that the scope of the meeting was limited to the comparison of plans.

Ingrid Nichols showed a PowerPoint presentation comparing the two plans. Some interior changes were noted. Ingrid then offered to answer some questions from the public.

Barbara Cieslicki asked about the exterior colors. It will be white with white trim and black windows.

Heidi Jaarsma asked about the number of parking spaces. 14 were presented at Town Meeting and there are now 17 on site.

John Dryfout asked if there was tech space. He was shown the tech area.

Selectman Bourne asked if the office was also a workspace. Is there a counter? Yes, and room for a table.

It was asked if there was a sink in the workspace. No.

Heidi Jaarsma asked if the mezzanine was ADA accessible? Accessibility would be a 6 figure endeavor.

John Dryfout asked about access to the mezzanine. There will be stairs.

John Dryfout suggested a new air powered elevator that could access all three levels.

John asked why there was no workspace in the basement. Ceilings are too low for code. Will be used for electrical, mechanical, etc.

Alicia Simino asked if the cost was still the same. Selectman Gallagher reminded her that the scope of the meeting was to consider the similarity of the 2 plans.

Troy Simino asked if there would be an answer to the question about the cost. Ingrid began to explain that the first estimates were based on early drawings with preliminary costs. The current plans would go out to bid so the costs might change but could not be quantified. Selectmen Gallagher reminded Troy that the topic of the meeting was limited to the comparison of the plans. Troy said that his First Amendment rights were being abridged.

Judith Kaufman suggested that this project had no construction costs to the Town of Cornish. Selectman Gallagher reminded her 3 times that the scope of the meeting was limited.

Trustee Cousineau asked the Board of Selectmen if they were going to vote. Selectman Gallagher polled the Board on their opinion if the plans were substantially consistent with those presented at the 2023 Town Meeting.

Selectman Hammond considered the plans pretty similar.

Selectman Bourne found the plans substantially similar to what was presented.

Selectman Gallagher said that the exterior shape has not changed and that the small changes do not seem significantly different.

Alicia Simino asked how many parking spots were for patrons. 14

Heidi Jaarsma asked if there were areas that stacks could not go due to floor strength. No floor has been reinforced. She also reiterated her concern that the mezzanine was not accessible as some children may feel left out.

Brian Meyette asked how many more books could be stored. The estimated was about three times the amount.

Jason moved, Laura and John seconded to adjourn. The vote was 6-0 in the affirmative.

Adjourned 6:56

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher



**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 19, 2024 6:30-8:30pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Brian Meyette was in and asked if we had received his email. He asked what the draft minutes were we had sent him. Jason explained that the BOS had called Charlotte Harding and left a message seeking clarification as to whether the matter was closed. BOS has not yet heard back. Mr. Meyette thanked the Board.
3. Tim Schad came in and presented draft minutes from the first Road Committee meeting. He also presented a list of questions about the Town roads for the BOS. BOS will get a copy to the Road Agent.
4. Laura Cousineau came in to discuss the agenda for the joint meeting with the Board of Library Trustees. BOS reviewed a draft notice provided by Dillon. BOS discussed the format. Laura said that the Architect would be available for questions from the public.
5. Seldon Lord came in to apply for a building permit. He presented a sketch and BOS gave him a building permit application.
6. Richard Thompson came in to thank the BOS for signing the JPA with CPCNH. He also asked about LFRF. He suggested that the Town Hall needs storm windows. He asked if Dillon was on the Building Committee when the committee was getting quotes for the Town Hall painting. Dillon replied he was not on the committee, but remembered that there was supposed to be a quote for storms. Richard presented a rough quote. Jason asked about the brevity of quote. Richard said he could get 3 more quotes if BOS wanted. Jason asked if this was an Energy Committee weatherization project. Richard said that could be a fringe benefit. He considered it more as a preservation project. The quote was emailed to another member of the Historical Building Committee, Caroline Storrs. John asked if the Preservation Alliance would possibly have money for such a project. He asked for clarification on his assessment and his solar panel tax credit.
7. BOS discussed the upcoming joint meeting. BOS assumes the Trustees will have a copy of the floorplan presented at the 2023 Town Meeting.
8. BOS discussed an invoice from Jeff's Rubish Removal. BOS called Mike Monette regarding the invoice. He explained that the usual hauler's truck broke down and Jeff's filled in and trucked the cardboard dumpster.
9. Jason mentioned that it has been brought to his attention the stump grinding signs in many locations in Town. As a business sign these signs do not conform with the Zoning Ordinance. BOS doesn't know if these signs may be a criminal violation.
10. BOS discussed any follow-up necessary regarding the Meyette Easement. BOS will try to follow-up with Ms. Harding and contact the Chair of the Conservation Commission regarding the matter.
11. BOS will contact David Eckman.
12. Adjourned 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Dillon Gallagher

DSB JSH

**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 15, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Kieth Mullane, Peter Storrs, Adam Morse, and Peter McCleay, came in to discuss the driveway at the CGS building. Adam Morse presented a plan showing existing and proposed conditions. Dillon asked why did they need an extra 7 feet? Facilitates entry to the proposed parking area. Jason asked if the Board would consider splitting the difference. John said what was being asked was not unreasonable. Dillon said he thought it should be weighed in on by the Planning Board. Jason asked what the square footage is. Adam replied approximately 5 square feet. He said NH DOT would need a letter from the Selectmen. John said he would like to see it in person and asked if the area could be marked. Adam will mark it. BOS will meet September 5th on site with Adam and any others interested.
3. BOS called Charlotte Harding, at the NH Charitable Trust Unit, Conservation Land Stewardship Program, and left a message. The call was a follow up regarding draft minutes from the August 8th meeting.
4. Joanna Sharf came in to talk about CPCNH. She is glad the BOS signed the Joint Powers Agreement. She is interested in what needs to happen before Town Meeting. An aggregation plan template is available. Jason also said an Aggregation Committee would be necessary. Joanna believes that the Energy Committee is the Aggregation Committee. She also reminded BOS that 2 public hearings are required. She is concerned about when and where to hold them. She wants to have the Energy Committee distribute information and answer questions at the Recycle Center. She would like to be an alternate member to the CPCNH. She told us that if this passes at Town Meeting that the Town will need to appoint an authorized officer. She asked about bats and insulation in the Town Office. Insulation is approximately \$10,633. Bat removal and guano clean up could be as high as \$5,000. She says that if bats are to be removed it must be done by September. Dillon proposed she ask CCC for help with paying for bat inspections. She also brought up an energy audit at the Town Hall. Margaret Dillon would charge \$2,100 for an audit. NHEC would pay \$750 towards the audit. NHEC would contribute up to 35% of project costs. She said there could be grant money available.
5. Alicia Simino came in. She asked if the BOS had selected a member for the Historical Building Committee. BOS has not. Jason suggested the BOS have a slate of candidates. She asked if there was a preservationist on the committee. She pointed out that the Selectmen don't have agendas. She would prefer it if the BOS did. Jason pointed out that BOS runs meetings in a first come, first served method. This ensures easy access for residents. She presented her qualifications to be on the Historical Building Committee.

6. BOS reviewed budgets.
7. Adjourned at 6:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dillon Gallagher

**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 12, 2024 6:30-8:30pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Mary Ann McGrath was in to request speed tables installed on Center Road. Primarily from Jonesville toward Town House Roads. BOS suggested she call the Police. She has called companies whose trucks she had witnessed speeding. Jason suggested she call Justin with the times she has seen the speeders. John asked if the road had a speed limit posted. She replied that it was not.
3. Brian and Carla Meyette were in to discuss the Conservation Easement on his property. He is concerned that 3 members of the Conservation Committee came in to discuss the easement with the BOS. He doesn't understand how they came in and claimed they were representing the CCC but other members were not aware of it. He asked that those three be removed. Carla said she doesn't understand how the lawyers and now the State are involved. Jason explained that he had not been aware that the Meyette's received compensation for the easement. He noted that Town counsel agreed with the Charitable Trust Unit. Troy Simino asked if 3 members had come in representing the CCC. He pointed out that 3 individuals do not represent the Board of the Commission. Troy said that the 3 that came in should be, at the minimum, talked to about their actions, if not removed. Lyle Parry spoke and mentioned that he has land in Town and after this incident he has no interest in any Conservation Easements as they are unpredictable. Brian pointed out that the CTU is not always cooperative. He pointed out the CTU will accept his input but only deal with Town Officials. He noted that the point of the easement would not change if lots were sold separately. Lyle pointed out that it is the BOS purview to handle these matters. Jason explained that according to counsel it was possible that CTU could file an injunction forbidding the Meyette's to sell. Troy asked if the BOS would consider a tax abatement if the Meyette's could not sell the property for a year.
4. Lyle re-iterated the CCC must be educated about legal meetings. Troy pointed out the ex-parte meetings do not comply with 91:A. Troy asked if the BOS would vote to take action on the mis-behavior of the 3 members. Brian re-iterated that the members should be removed to make clear that there are consequences. He also stated that the second action item would be to contact CTU for clarification. Jason referred to the text of the Easement citing that the language suggests "The property" cannot be sold as individual lots. Lyle asked how the correspondence with counsel happened? It was email. Troy noted BOS doesn't have to share attorney client documents per 91:A, but the BOS can decide to share what is pertinent. Troy said an easement can be amended; he has done so with SPNHF. He said that if both parties to the easement agree. Brian pointed out that he wanted to be kept abreast of the 2 action items.
5. Troy said he disagreed with the BOS for signing the JPA with CPCNH. He felt it should go to the Town Meeting. It was explained that it would go to a vote at Town Meeting.
6. Rob Moore came in to ask about improving his garage as a possible mother-in-law apartment. BOS explained ADU and septic requirements.

7. Chief Hackett stopped in to discuss cooperation with the Plainfield Police Department. Cornish and Plainfield PD's have a mutual aid agreement and Doug is technically on the Plainfield PD roster. Chief wants to help our neighbors as long as it doesn't cost the taxpayers of Cornish. John pointed out to Doug the complaint about speeding on Center Road.
8. Corey Fitch came in to talk about beavers behind a property on Center Road. Corey feels that he can help with small baffles but some of the larger dams may be beyond him. Jason explained that he is concerned about costs, both the costs of using baffles and the costs to the Town if baffles are not used.
9. BOS discussed the Meyette situation. BOS will forward information on publicly available CORN minutes to both Mr. Meyette and the CCC.
10. BOS will communicate with Trustees about the 8/21/2024 meeting.
11. Adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

JGL. * 93

**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 8, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Dillon brought in a set of 24"x36" plans that he downloaded from the link provided by the Trustees of the G.H. Stowell Library.
3. Mike Belanger came in to have a septic design stamped. He discussed his follow-up discussion with Avitar. Avitar agreed to change his assessment to 1.1% from 1.25%. The Avitar representative told him that the commercial rate is not indicated on the tax card. The decision to assess at a commercial rate is handled at the "back end".
4. Wayne Gray was in. He just returned from Culvert Installer class. The DES will send his certification to the Town. He reported that paving has been completed. He pointed out that some people have already complained. He will get a list of driveways with problem drainage.
5. The grader does not start. He will work on diagnosing it tomorrow. The school had the storage trailers delivered and installed but not in the location shown to BOS and Road Agent during our site visit. As it sits now, the hitch is blocking the storm drain. It will be difficult to maintain. The school may have to keep it cleared by hand during the winter.
6. The Highway Department will work on shoulders on the newly paved areas when the paving has cured.
7. UNH T2 does not have grader schools right now. There may be a listing in the future. Wayne will ask NH DOT about grader training.
8. BOS left for site visits.

Respectfully submitted,
Dillon Gallagher

**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 5, 2024 6:30-8:30pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.
2. Corey Fitch came in to discuss the Natural Resources Inventory draft created by the Cornish Conservation Commission. Corey mentioned that the CCC was considering getting public input on the draft. Jason agreed, pointing out how much information is in the NRI and that people may have additional valuable information. He asked about listing outdoor recreation trails on private properties and how the CCC came up with the list. Corey said that if the trails on private property were listed on internet based trail apps the parcels were included. Dillon asked about the Conservation Plan. Cory said that would be a next step for the CCC.
3. BOS discussed a property that is behind in taxes. BOS called Reigh Sweetser, Tax Collector, to discuss. BOS called Heidi Jaarsma, Treasurer, and left a message.
4. Mike Belanger came in to discuss the tax assessment on his property. He is currently paying a commercial rate of 1.25 times the residential rate on the entire 4.3 acre lot, which includes a strictly residential ADU. He will follow up with Avitar.
5. Heidi returned BOS call. Tax rate is usually set in October. Form MS-1 has the total evaluation of Town. This is a precursor to setting the tax rate. Tax rate will be set in October.
6. Adjourned at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Dillon Gallagher

**Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 1, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Officer Vivian came in.
3. Wayne Gray, Road Agent, came in. Sand is being delivered. He brought quotes on winter salt in. Paving will start Tuesday on Jackson Road. A tack coat will be applied. Wednesday the patches on Center and East Roads will be paved. Nick Belanger, new employee, will start Monday. Slade Hill has been graded and has received some new hardpack. The road was watered and rolled. Child's cemetery was mowed today. Wayne asked if he should proceed with posting road closures for the Cornish Fair. Highway garage area has been cleared out in preparation for the fair.
4. Kevin Noble came in to be sworn in to be a member of the temporary Road Advisory Committee. The committee consists of Scott Sweet, Tim Schad, Jim Fitch, Ginger Bulkeley and Kevin Noble. The committee will organize and schedule their first meeting. The committee meetings are open to the public.
5. Mike Duval was in. He will do CREA mowing. He discussed grading. He mentioned some driveways that have poor drainage systems that are damaging Town roads. BOS will do site visits when a list is compiled.
6. John moves, Jason seconds, to approve June and July minutes. Vote was unanimously affirmative.
7. BOS agreed to hold the Primary voting at the Town Hall.
8. Moderator, Gwyn Gallagher, came in for a quick preliminary meeting about the primary.
9. BOS called Brian Meyette regarding the Conservation Easement on the Meyette estate.
10. BOS received a call from Liam Madden, HB Energy in Springfield, VT, asking about the cost of a building permit for ground mounted residential solar installations.
11. Adjourned 6:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Dillon Gallagher