

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

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

1. BOS reviewed mail, invoices, and checks.
2. Lois Fitts reported on traffic concerns near Creamery Road and Rte 120, including speeding concerns and lines of sight. Ms. Fitts reported that people were using Creamery Road as a u-turn. Selectman Gallagher asked if there was a "no right turn" restriction on the south-end of Creamery Road and Ms. Fitts confirmed there was. Ms. Fitts asked if the Select Board could apply pressure to the State regarding the posted speed. Selectman Hammond explained that the State uses their own guidelines and have been inflexible. Selectman Hammond asked if Ms. Fitts has spoken with a State Trooper. Ms. Fitts said she had not and that Officer Vivian was doing a fine job for the town. Ms. Fitts reported that the State had not been responsive to any additional signage in the area to mark "Blind Driveway" at a new driveway in the area. Selectman Bourne asked Ms. Fitts if she had spoken with Chief Hackett as he had expressed interest in traffic speed monitoring using portable hardware which could potentially provide the data to confirm speeding claims. Mr. Bourne explained that the Cornish Police Department did not possess that hardware, but it would be worth asking him about it. Selectman Gallagher suggested that Ms. Fitts ask the state for traffic counts to see if, overall, the amount of traffic there warranted a reconsideration of her requests.
3. Joana Sharf asked if the BOS would consider, again, appointing Susanne Haseman to the Energy Committee as it has been difficult for them to find interested people for the committee. Selectman Gallagher asked if Ms. Haseman had been attending meetings. Ms. Sharf said that she had. Selectman Bourne asked how many people they needed appointed. Ms. Sharf reminded the board that some alternates would like to step away from the Committee, so she thought the number would be three. Ms. Sharf said that Frank Parks was potentially interested. Selectman Hammond said that he felt Ms. Haseman would be a good choice for the committee.
4. Joana Sharf asked the board if language in the bylaws which states that the Board of Selectmen could appoint or remove committee members at will could be modified. Selectman Gallagher said that the Board of Selectmen is reasonable and acts reasonably. Ms. Sharf said that a different board could interpret that language differently and asked if the BOS would consider removing "at will" and adding "with consultation of the committee." Ms. Sharf described challenges on the committee where appointed members did not seem to be aligned with the mission of the committee. Richard Thompson stated that the group dynamics of the committee is important. Ms. Sharf said that there was a fair amount of reading outside of the meetings to stay informed of topics. Selectman Bourne thanked Ms. Sharf for her regular communication with the Board and referred to prior communication about candidates for the Energy Committee during which the Board explained an interest in getting new people involved in town committees and acknowledged that our appointment of a new member at that time had not been in consultation with the Committee.

5. Joana Sharf discussed bat removal contractors with the BOS, recommending a specific contractor who presented the best value to the town. Ms. Sharf asked if the BOS had enough information to make a decision. The BOS agreed that we did. Ms. Sharf asked the BOS could make a decision quickly in order to get the job booked.
6. Joana Sharf asked if the BOS would be interested in meeting with Andrew Hatch from CPCNH. Selectman Gallagher stated that the Board had other priorities, but that the board would entertain another visit in the future.
7. Richard Thompson delivered three quotes for storm windows for the Town Hall. Mr. Thompson said that he was concerned about one of the quotes which was for wood-framed storm windows, which he felt could rot. Selectman Bourne asked about the weight of the storm windows. Mr. Thompson said that these would be two-piece windows so the weight would not be too heavy. Selectman Bourne asked if there would be any thermal benefit to the storms. Mr. Thompson said there would be some. Selectman Gallagher asked if weatherstripping or foam could be applied between the storms and the window casings they were being mounted to. Mr. Thompson said that could be considered and said that the current storms need to come off first and mentioned that the windows behind the storms had not been painted recently.
8. The BOS returned a phone call to Caroline Storrs. Ms. Storrs said that Selectman Gallagher had an RFP for the BOS review. Selectman Gallagher said that Thursday would be the soonest the Board could review it as it has been a busy night in the office.
9. The BOS returned a phone call to Tim Schad. Mr. Schad said that he had an excavator at his house which could be used for ditching on East Road if Road Agent Wayne Gray would be interested. Selectman Hammond asked how much it would cost. Mr. Schad said \$140/hr and estimated two days. The BOS said that we would consider it, but that Wayne Gray would need to be consulted.
10. The BOS discussed that Voting Booths needed to be ordered. Selectman Bourne said he would get two more quotes and forward those to the Board.
11. The BOS discussed a candidate for a highway department position. The BOS called Road Agent Wayne Gray to discuss the candidate.
12. Selectman Bourne showed three quotes for voting booths to the BOS. The BOS discussed budgets and upcoming expenses. Selectman Gallagher favored the Franklin voting booths with curtains. Selectman Hammond made a motion to purchase the Franklin Voting Booth with curtains. Selectman Bourne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
13. Meeting adjourned 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne



**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 26, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed invoices and mail.
2. Road Agent Wayne Gray reported that Patten Driving School would be sending a written description of the course offering for local municipalities within a week. Mr. Gray reported that highway department was working on getting medical cards required for CDL.
3. Mr. Gray reported that erosion behind the Fire Station at Cornish Flat had been filled back in.
4. Selectman Gallagher asked Mr. Gray whether the Town should replace the boards at the spillway of the fire pond at the end of School St. Mr. Gray said he had one of the boards at the Highway Department and would be using that to source new boards.
5. Mr. Gray reported that the transmission on the Ford F550 had been repaired. Mr. Gray reported that the loader has been serviced. Selectman Gallagher asked if the performance issues had been addressed. Mr. Gray said it had not been used enough after the service to tell for certain, but that it appeared to be working well.
6. Mr. Gray discussed with the BOS the potential sale of the 2009 truck.
7. Mr. Gray asked if the Wetlands Wildlife Committee had a plan to address a beaver dam on Tandy Brook Road. The BOS confirmed that no communication from that committee had been received.
8. Mr. Gray reported that Scott Baker said he would be willing to work on the roadside mower at the Highway Department shop.
9. Selectman Bourne asked Mr. Gray if he was able to connect with the Temporary Road Advisory Committee regarding their meetings and if he would be attending. Mr. Gray said he would try to get in to a meeting this evening.
10. The BOS discussed a property on Center Road where vehicles, trailers and fences have likely been put in the road right of way and discussed a site visit and official letter to address violations.
11. Colleen Salinger followed up with the BOS regarding a prior request to post content on the Town of Cornish website under Community Organizations. Selectman Bourne said that the BOS had begun discussing it and had considered the future .gov website changes and had been considering whether or not community organizations which were not

government committees or bodies would be appropriate. Selectman Bourne said that he was not opposed to having Cornish Community Initiative on the website as it is, but that we had not collectively made a decision. Ms. Salinger said that it would be helpful to people considering moving to Cornish who look at the Town Website to see what the local community organizations are. Selectman Gallagher said that Google was the most effective way for people to find out about CCI. Ms. Salinger asked if there was anything objectionable in the requested content that would prevent adding such content to the website as it is. Mr. Gallagher said that the BOS would need to consider it further. Selectman Hammond asked if there would be restrictions if we moved to a .gov domain or whether we would be able to add community organizations. Selectman Gallagher said it was unknown. Ms. Salinger said that the CCI brought this in during the Spring and that they were hoping that it would be decided by now. Selectman Hammond said he felt if the Cornish Fair was on the Town website, then the CCI should be there. Selectman Bourne said that he agreed. Ms. Salinger thanked the board for considering.

12. Ms. Salinger said there would be a CCI Harvest Pot-luck at the Town Hall, with an update on the planning for a new library, on Sept. 29 from 5-7pm. Ms. Salinger said that CCI was not only working on the library project but also community events to bring the town together. Ms. Salinger asked about the water at the Town Hall. Selectman Gallagher said that the school had not updated the BOS about the plan for that, but that the water would need to be run through the school's filtration system. Ms. Salinger asked if the Town had decided what to do with LFRF funds. Selectman Bourne reported on cost estimates in the works for improvements to the Town Hall.
13. Selectman Bourne reported on his meeting with a heating contractor at the Town Hall to provide some estimates on an updated heating system, the electrical requirements that would go along with that to bring the service up to 200A service, and a recommendation from the contractor to insulate the slab.
14. The BOS called Corey Fitch and left a message regarding beaver dam activity on Tandy Brook Road.
15. Selectman Hammond made a motion to accept an overtime grant of \$8200 for the Cornish Police Department Highway Safety Grant. Selectman Gallagher seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
16. The BOS discussed well and septic proposals received for consideration at the Stowell Library.
17. The BOS called Justin Ranney and left a message asking him if he knew anything about the status of the Town Hall water relative to the filtration system from the school building.
18. Corey Fitch called the BOS regarding beaver activity on Tandy Brook Road. Selectman Hammond explained that the dam has backed water up close to the road near Jackson

Road and asked Mr. Fitch if there was a baffle in that location. Selectman Hammond said that the BOS wanted to call him before Road Agent Wayne Gray addressed the issue by removing some of the blockage.

19. Justin Ranney called the BOS regarding water at the town hall. Justin said that the filters are in place but that water tests had not been done. Selectman Hammond said that there was a test done, but results were not back yet. Selectman Bourne asked if Mr. Ranney could verify that the Town Hall water is filtered coming from the school. Mr. Ranney said that he thought it would be, but would verify.
20. Selectman Bourne reported that Mike Fuerst, Chair of the Broadband Committee, had responded to his inquiry regarding the duration of the Broadband Committee, stating that it was his opinion that the committee should work up until Hub66 installed their racks of equipment in Town buildings in the towns of Cornish and Plainfield, but that he felt the committee should meet to discuss it further.
21. Meeting adjourned 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 23, 2024 6:30-8:30pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed invoices, checks and mail.
2. Chief Doug Hackett presented highway safety grant paperwork to the BOS for signatures and informed the BOS of a grant which may be approved in the near future for the replacement of a laptop in the Police Department's Ford Explorer. Chief Hackett reported on several traffic incidents in town.
3. Rick Kendal and Rich McKenna from St. Gaudens National Historic Site reported on restoration work at the Blow Me Down Mill building. The Mill's foundation is being undercut by water and has eroded beneath the building. Grant funding has been applied for and Mr. McKenna is moving forward with engineering plans in a wetland and has been working with the appropriate agencies for permitting. Selectman Gallagher asked if there was any permission needed from the BOS. Mr. Kendal said that the meeting was to keep us informed but that the permits would be coming from the state. Mr. McKenna presented plans for the work to be done and described the engineering assessment and inspections done at the Blow Me Down Mill. Approximately 10 feet of foundation was undermined and missing and concrete and rocks in the foundation were deteriorating and falling out. Hydrostatic pressure behind the dam presents a problem for the repair due to water flow. Construction is estimated to begin in 2025. A substantial wetlands permit will be required to mitigate the water. A recommended 4 foot reduction in the pond level would be necessary. DES, Fish and Game, the Dam Bureau and Army Core of Engineers were consulted. Turtle and salamander species need to be protected. There are two endangered wetlands plant species are in the area, which would require waiting until after Sept. 15th so that the plants can seed properly. A change order in the grant applications to reflect the permit requirements has been submitted. Mr. McKenna described the planned work relative to photos provided in his handout. Mr. McKenna said that copies of the plans and permits would be delivered to the BOS in case any townspeople wanted to review them.
4. Road Agent Wayne Gray asked the BOS if we could post an RFP for plowing services since the Highway Department is short on CDLs for winter plowing. Mr. Gray reported that Patten's driving school is trying to organize CDL training for municipal employees from surrounding towns at a location in Lebanon in October, potentially presenting an opportunity for employees seeking CDL-B licenses. Mr. Gray said that the town's manual transmission truck could not be used for training as it would likely not pass the pre-test due to its age and condition. Mr. Gray reported that Townline Equipment is going to service the loader. Mr. Gray reported that salt has been delivered and more sand was on order.
5. Selectman Gallagher asked Mr. Gray if he could look at the erosion behind the firehouse in the Flat. Selectman Gallagher asked Mr. Gray about the condition of highway department equipment. Mr. Gray reported on preparation for fall and winter road work and inspection and maintenance of associated equipment. Selectman Hammond asked

about the status of the '09 truck which the town would like to sell. Selectman Gallagher suggested that the BOS use an auction site like Municibid.

6. Mr. Gray reported that the Highway Department was registered for a chainsaw safety course.
7. Selectman Bourne informed the BOS that he would be meeting with Justin Walker on Tuesday Sept. 24 to get a budgetary estimate for an updated heating system at the Town Hall. Selectman Gallagher suggested that the town might consider a generator as well for that location as another emergency shelter.
8. BOS discussed town roads, road widths, inventorying culverts and road work planning, referring to a working document Selectman Gallagher prepared earlier this year.
9. Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 19, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

Present: Dillon Gallagher, Chair, Jason Bourne

Absent: John Hammond

1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices.
2. Bill Wall reported that DES has not changed the classification of solar panels as waste.
3. Bill Wall reported that the filtration system at the Cornish School has been installed and wanted to know if the BOS knew any more about that. Selectman Bourne said that the BOS had not been contacted by the school about that.
4. Bill Wall reported on his granddaughter's experience running heavy equipment and how that experience prompted her employer to pay \$10000 dollars for her to get her CDL license.
5. Heidi Jaarsma reported that the freezer in the Town Hall needed to be replaced. Ms. Jaarsma said that there were some people willing to donate money for a new freezer and suggested a motion to accept those funds. Selectman Bourne made a motion to accept up to \$1500 of donations to the Town of Cornish under 31:95-b for the purchase of a freezer for the town hall. Selectman Gallagher seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Ms. Jaarsma reported on the .gov migration of the town website.
7. Ms. Jaarsma asked about the status of planned LFRF funded projects and specifically asked about the septic and well at the Stowell. Selectman Bourne said that multiple projects were being considered. Selectman Bourne described some acoustic insulation and heating work under consideration at the Town Hall. Ms. Jaarsma suggested that storm windows could be grant-funded. Ms. Jaarsma asked if the bat removal from the Town Offices was going to happen. Selectman Gallagher said there were several quotes being considered. Ms. Jaarsma asked the BOS to consider some climate control at the Town Office, potentially a heat pump system since the building is the most heavily used municipal building in the town. Ms. Jaarsma asked about the quoted prices for the septic and well at the Stowell. Selectman Gallagher said the total for a septic was \$18500 for septic and \$18000 for a well, assuming a 400ft depth.
8. Ms. Jaarsma reported that Chief Doug Hackett received an additional Police Department overtime grant of \$8200.
9. Selectman Gallagher asked Ms. Jaarsma for an updated schedule and balance of the Municipal Building Capital Reserve Fund. Ms. Jaarsma said that Caroline Storrs should have a current copy.
10. Steve Parks asked the BOS if his mowing services were needed going forward since the grass had stopped growing. Selectman Gallagher said that if the grass was not growing, there was no need for him to mow. Selectman Bourne agreed.
11. Mary Curtis told the BOS that Chief Mike Boutilier called to explain that the fire department in the flat is not always air conditioned, which was a requirement for the location of the HUB66 equipment for fiber internet.



12. BOS called Chief Mike Boutilier. Mr. Boutilier said that there was erosion behind the fire station and asked if the Road Agent could contact DES in order to get a permit to fill in the space. Mr. Boutilier said that he didn't understand the air conditioning requirement for the HUB66 equipment and informed the BOS that the only space in the fire station which would have air conditioning was the meeting room and that there would not be space in the meeting room for the equipment rack. Selectman Bourne said that he would follow up with HUB66 to understand the amount of climate control they would need for the equipment.
13. BOS conducted site visits.
14. Meeting adjourned 6:07pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish**  
**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, September 16, 2024 6:30-8:30pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed invoices, checks and mail.
2. Ginger Bulkeley provided some documentation from the Temporary Road Advisory Committee and requested more information from Road Agent Wayne Gray. Selectman Gallagher said that the BOS would ask Mr. Gray again to communicate road information, including "trouble spots" on his radar.
3. Selectman Gallagher shared ideas for potential Town Hall sound-deadening and lighting. The BOS reviewed photos of the interior of the Town Hall. Selectman Gallagher asked Selectman Bourne if he had received any ballpark pricing on heating equipment since the last meeting. Selectman Bourne said that he had not yet but would be reaching out to a heating contractor for budgetary pricing and anticipated that a visit by the contractor and his equipment supplier could be scheduled within a week, roughly. The BOS discussed a visit to the Town Hall to get a better estimate of square footage and to review building envelope considerations. Selectman Hammond said that there had been plans drawn up previously for work on the Town Hall entry doors.
4. Selectman Hammond asked about the Historic Building Committee and filling a vacancy. The BOS discussed potential candidates and qualifications.
5. Selectman Gallagher asked if the Broadband Committee was winding down since the HUB66 grant approval. Selectman Bourne said that the Committee appeared to be monitoring progress on both HUB66 and NHEC as the two grant recipients. Selectman Gallagher asked if the BOS serves that role now that the agreements are in place. Selectman Bourne said he would raise the issue with other members of the committee.
6. Selectman Hammond asked about the status of bat removal. Selectman Bourne said that Joana Sharf was checking references on the contractors. Selectman Gallagher asked the BOS to consider relocating the bat house to a sunnier location on an adjacent town-owned lot.
7. Selectman Hammond asked the BOS to move forward with the paperwork to sell a property the BOS received a sealed bid for some time ago. The BOS reviewed the paperwork for that sale.
8. Selectman Gallagher asked the BOS to consider using an auctioneer for a future sale of a tax-deeded property. Selectman Bourne said he thought it could shift some of the complications but could introduce others in logistics and asked to consider streamlining the current process.
9. Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne



**Town of Cornish**  
**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, September 12, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

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

1. Mary Curtis reported that Kurt Biron from Eckman Engineering called to confirm receipt of the signed contract for engineering services for the bridge project at the fire pond at School St and Leavitt Hill and that the engineering services project was on the schedule for late September or early October.
2. Road Agent Wayne Gray asked if the BOS had a record of all people with keys to the highway garage, stating that some paperwork had gone missing and stating that materials inside the building have been moved and relocated without the knowledge of any current employees. Mr. Gray said the keys were standard keys and they could be copied. Selectman Hammond asked if security cameras could show if anyone else has come in. Mr. Gray said that the back door does not have a camera. Selectman Gallagher said that a person could avoid the camera by getting close to the building. Selectman Hammond suggested that the interior office lock be changed. Selectman Bourne suggested the exterior locks be changed for all three doors. Selectman Gallagher said all should be changed and asked Mary Curtis if she could call our lock contractor.
3. Road Agent Wayne Gray informed the BOS that a highway department employee has provided a letter of resignation. The BOS reviewed the letter of resignation. Selectman Bourne asked if Mr. Gray would put the hiring sign out on Parsonage Rd. Mr. Gray said he was waiting until our conversation and he would in the morning. Selectman Gallagher asked Mr. Gray about CDL training for current non-CDL employees and how long such an employee would be out of work during the training. Mr. Gray said he was unsure. Mr. Gray explained staffing schedule for the remainder of the month.
4. Mr. Gray reported on repair needed for the roadside mower clutch. Selectman Hammond asked about mechanical details of the clutch assembly.
5. Mr. Gray reported that he intended to attend an upcoming Temporary Road Advisory Committee meeting.
6. Mr. Gray reported on a request for a convex mirror across from Jackson Road on Rte 120. Mr. Gray said that it was a State road and not in the purview of the Town.
7. Mr. Gray asked if the BOS had considered parking restrictions on School Street. Selectman Hammond asked if marking the road right of way might provide a better guide for parking off the traveled road. Mr. Gray asked if one side might be considered a no parking zone. Selectman Bourne asked for clarification on the parking issue, whether it was regular traffic or town highway department traffic that could not get through the congestion. Mr. Gray said it was winter plowing, generally, that was his concern. Selectman Bourne asked if one side of the road was a no parking zone during

winter months if the problem would be addressed. Mr. Gray said that it would. Selectman Gallagher asked if there were any records in the Highway Department regarding catch basins on School St., stating that the road right of way could be better delineated for off-street parking.

8. Mr. Gray reported on a maintenance evaluation appointment for the F550 truck.
9. Mr. Gray reported that he had contacted Lucas Tree and NH Electric Co-op regarding tree cuttings in the roadway and in the ditches on our roadways and that the NHEC supervisor of the project said they would send the tree contractors back to address the concerns.
10. Mr. Gray reported on two driveway permits on East Road which will require a meeting with Chair of the Planning Board, Bill Lipfert.
11. Mr. Gray reported that power for a temporary school building required power be run from a transformer near the rear parking lot through pvc conduit on the ground.
12. Selectman Bourne presented a proposal for improvements to the Town Hall, including a heat pump system, replacement of the existing "Modine" style heaters with quieter, more efficient units, building envelope improvements to save heating costs, and acoustic paneling to deaden sound in the space. Selectman Gallagher and Selectman Hammond agreed that the proposal was worth investigating further. Selectman Bourne offered to get budgetary quotes for the improvements.
13. Selectman Gallagher asked Joana Sharf if power to a temporary building at the school could be run through conduit on the ground. Ms. Sharf said it depends on how temporary the building is. Selectman Bourne asked if schedule 80 pvc is safe for such cabling. Ms. Sharf said it should be safe in schedule 80 pvc.
14. Joanna Sharf reported that the Energy Committee had a potential candidate as an alternate the Energy Committee, Susanne Haseman. Selectman Gallagher asked how many alternate members were needed. Ms. Sharf said that there are currently two, but one alternate would like to step down. Selectman Bourne asked if there could be a slate of candidates to choose from. Ms. Sharf said that another person had been suggested. Selectman Gallagher asked how many meetings Ms. Haseman had attended. Ms. Sharf confirmed she had attended two meetings.
15. Ms. Sharf reviewed bat exclusion proposals. First a proposal from Scott Borthwick from Estate Wildlife Control, who quoted a \$2000 exclusion and \$1000 for a lift rental, with a \$2000 clean-up option, with a 1 year warranty. Another from Burke Patterson from Life Free Wildlife solutions who could do the work for \$875 with a 2 year warranty, with a rough estimate of \$750 for any cleanup. Ms. Sharf said the work could be started in October and complete in the Spring. Another by Bennett Wildlife Removal, which was \$11,530.00 with a 1 year warranty, including cleanup. Selectman Bourne asked if Ms. Sharf could get references from the two lower bidders. Ms. Sharf said she would get

references. Ms. Sharf suggested that the bat house behind the building be moved to a sunny location, preferably south-facing.

16. Ms. Sharf reported on the electric aggregation plan work the Energy Committee has been doing to further the Community Power Coalition of NH consideration. Ms. Sharf suggested that the two public hearings should be scheduled soon so that an approved electric aggregation plan could be finalized prior to Town Meeting. Ms. Sharf said that the Energy committee felt that the Granite Basic level as the default service would be most appropriate for Cornish. Selectman Bourne agreed that the basic level should be the default to be considered and that if the town voted to move forward with CPCNH, subscribers could opt up to higher levels of renewables. Ms. Sharf expressed interest in being an alternate representative for CPCNH.

17. Meeting adjourned 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne

AS JB JSH.

**Town of Cornish  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 9, 2024 6:30-8:30pm**

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

1. BOS reviewed invoices, checks and mail.
2. Everett Cass asked the BOS if they had considered using the road at the end of Leavitt Hill Road to access Burr Rd during the bridge project. Selectman Gallagher said that the BOS considered it but that Road Agent Wayne Gray said it would not be feasible. Mr. Cass said that it should be considered. Mr. Cass mentioned that there is a wooden bridge further up the road which was improperly installed and which required an asphalt topcoat. Mr. Cass said that the current topcoat is gravel over fabric.
3. Charlie Woodman asked the BOS if his septic plans were in the office. Selectman Gallagher said the plan could be found in Mary Curtis's office. Selectman Gallagher asked about a septic system at Root Hill Road. Mr. Woodman said he had inspected it and replaced a pipe. Mr. Woodman asked if there would be a septic system installed at the Stowell Library. Selectman Gallagher said that the project is uncertain but that the BOS was seeking quotes.
4. Everett Cass said that the plans for the library septic would need to be redrawn to show where the pipe enters from the building and said that it should be considered where any addition might be in the future. Mr. Cass delivered a quote for a septic system at the Stowell library.
5. Everett Cass said that the Road Committee may be overstepping their purview as they were evaluating the capabilities of the town Highway Department and were suggesting contracting out road work. Selectman Hammond said that the committee is advisory.
6. Myron Kuhre was sworn in to serve on the Energy Committee.
7. Jim Strout asked if the BOS was involved in the dredging of the fire pond at Leavitt Hill Road. Selectman Hammond said that the BOS worked with Everett Cass on the project. Mr. Strout recommended that more material be taken from one side of the brook to allow the water to flow more directly so that material doesn't get moved by the water. Mr. Strout suggested that the boards in the dam should be replaced with new rather than continuing to use the existing boards. Selectman Gallagher said that the BOS did see them and thought the same. Selectman Bourne asked Mr. Strout if the level of water was rising. Mr. Strout said much of the water was flowing through the boards, but that it was slowly rising in the pond. Mr. Strout asked if a temporary road across abutting properties to provide access to Leavitt Hill from Rte. 120. Selectman Gallagher said that there did not appear to be an agreement with the property owners. Mr. Strout asked if there were alternate plans for the bridge project to allow traffic to pass for less money. Selectman Bourne said that the engineer was considering a draw-bridge style solution to allow traffic to pass when construction was not occurring and for emergency use. Selectman Hammond said that the BOS met with David Eckman to discuss the plans. Selectman Gallagher said the meeting was productive and we are able to potentially simplify the project. Mr. Strout asked if the project was going to be done this year. Selectman Bourne said that was what the BOS is aiming for. Mr. Strout asked about funding for gravel, discussed at the last town meeting. Selectman Gallagher

confirmed that the town received block grant funding and the town asked that funding be allocated to gravel. Mr. Strout asked about tax rates. Selectman Gallagher said the rates would be coming out in the near future, but weren't ready yet.

8. Selectman Hammond made a motion that the BOS approve a request for electrical assistance in the amount of \$326.48. Selectman Gallagher seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
9. Selectman Gallagher signed a proposal from Eckman Engineering, per the BOS RFP for engineering services related to the Leavitt Hill Bridge, previously voted on by the BOS.
10. The BOS went to the Town Hall to inspect the building and set up final details for voting day on Tuesday, Sept. 10.
11. Meeting adjourned 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne

**Town of Cornish**  
**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, September 5, 2024 4:00-6:00pm**

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

1. The BOS met with Keith Mullane, Adam Morse from Engineering Ventures and Peter Macleay to review a driveway plan at the former General Store site as part of the planning for a Library. Adam outlined the area within the road right of way for the selectboard to get a visual of the encroachment. Selectman Bourne asked if there would be a loss of parking if the driveway was narrower. Selectman Gallagher asked if the parking plan would not work with a narrower driveway. Adam said the plan as is would be better for parking flow. Resident Curt Wyman asked how the right of way was defined. Selectman Gallagher said that if the plan can work without encroaching on the right of way, he would prefer that. Selectman Hammond asked if it was just permission to pave the triangle of driveway on top of the right of way. Selectman Bourne said that the right of way would not change. Selectman Hammond made a motion to allow the paving over the triangle of driveway. Selectman Bourne seconded. The motion passed 2 yea one abstention.
2. The BOS relocated to the bridge at Leavitt Hill Rd for a meeting with David Eckman of Eckman Engineering to discuss the bridge repair project. Curt Wyman asked if the repair was just the deck or if the substructure needed repair. Selectman Hammond confirmed it was just the deck. Mr. Wyman said that he remembered when the town used Stone House Rd. during the prior bridge repair and said that he used to use it to commute to work even though it was a class 6 rd. Selectman Bourne asked if the road was currently passable by car. Mr. Wyman said it would require more tree work to clear the road. Mr. Wyman asked the BOS to consider changing the one way at the end of school street. David Eckman arrived and selectman Gallagher asked if the failure point was at a section of deteriorating pavement. Mr. Eckman stated that the deck was failing in multiple locations. Mr. Eckman described a possible solution which could provide a temporary bridge that could be put in place quickly during construction. Mr. Eckman asked what the timeline would be for the project. Selectman Bourne said it would be best to get it done as soon as possible. Selectman Bourne asked how to move the project along. Mr. Eckman said the BOS just needs to tell him to bid it to get it started. Selectman Gallagher asked if the work could be done during winter. Mr. Eckman said it was possible with the right mixtures and heaters to cure the concrete. Mr. Eckman explained construction methods and engineering specifications related to this bridge project. Selectman Bourne asked if the BOS just needed to sign the proposal. Mr. Eckman said he would review the proposal and would confirm. Selectman Bourne said the BOS could review it on the next meeting day. Selectman Gallagher asked if the new deck could be built on top of the existing deck. Mr. Eckman said that could save some money. Selectman Gallagher asked if a temporary bridge used in the winter could be treated for traction for safety. Mr. Eckman said that a membrane could be used for traction. The BOS and Mr. Eckman discussed the bidding process.



3. The BOS reviewed dredging work with Everett Cass at the fire pond near the Leavitt Hill bridge.
4. Everett Cass recommended that future septic plans include an inlet pipe on the plans.
5. Ginger Bulkeley met with the BOS regarding the Temporary Road Committee. Ginger explained that meetings have been productive and members of the public have attended including Jeff Baillargeon and Everett Cass. Ms. Bulkeley asked if the BOS has a list of all roads in town with dimensions and culverts. Selectman Hammond said there was data from most roads, but not a complete list of culverts. Ms. Bulkeley said the committee felt it would be important to have a good map of all of that information and asked if she could get any of the lists we did have from Mary Curtis. Selectman Gallagher said that some work had been done using GPS technology, referring to some work Cory Fitch had done and suggested similar work could be done to map out all of the roads and culverts, including material composition of the culverts. Ms. Bulkeley asked if contracting out the survey of all roads and culverts was considered. Selectman Gallagher said that the current highway department crew ought to be able to do that work internally. Selectman Gallagher said he personally had some documentation on roads and road sections he had been considering. Ms. Bulkeley asked if the Highway Department daily planning involved the select board. Selectman Bourne said it was Wayne's decision on a day to day basis. Ms. Bulkeley asked how best to engage the Road Agent in the Committee's work. Selectman Gallagher suggested that if the committee could help outline planning processes for the Highway Department, that could be helpful. Ms. Bulkeley asked if the BOS had road maintenance priorities. Selectman Bourne said that the BOS had discussed trouble spots around mud season, which we had discussed with the Road Agent. Selectman Gallagher explained some of the challenges with planning road works, as reported by the Road Agent, including weather and emergent needs. Ms. Bulkeley asked if the committee meetings should be warned on Connect Cornish as well as the website. Selectman Gallagher said the town website is the official location for such postings. Selectman Bourne said that different boards and committees sometimes use Connect Cornish and that it should be up to the committee if they are trying to get in front of more people. Selectman Gallagher said it would be important to include attribution for the posts from the committee. Ms. Bulkeley asked if the Highway Department had all of the skills to utilize all of the equipment. Selectman Bourne said we did have a manual truck and two CDL drivers with automatic transmission restrictions. Ms. Bulkeley asked if the Highway Department equipment was all functional. Selectman Hammond said that to his knowledge it was all operational. Ms. Bulkeley asked if email was the best means of communicating information from the committee.

6. The BOS took a phone call from Town Moderator Gwyn Gallagher. Mr. Gallagher said that the voting booths are in poor condition and that the threshold in the Town Hall needed repair. Mr. Gallagher said that some ballot clerks may not show up and that it was important that the BOS is there to assist with a variety of election tasks. Mr. Gallagher said that the BOS is responsible for setting up the booths and for counting ballots.
7. BOS reviewed invoices and mail.
8. Meeting adjourned at 6:25

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bourne