Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 3, 2026 4:00-6:00pm

Present: Dillon Gallagher (chair), Jason Bourne, Keith Beardslee

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4 pm.

Board members reviewed invoices and the mail folder.

The Board asked Administrative Assistant Mary Curtis to email a request for pricing proposals for heating oil for Town Buildings for the upcoming heating season to heating oil vendors.

Erich Weeks reported on his email exchange with ITG representatives regarding the fiber optic cable that was recently buried in a trench across Beechwood. ITG is the subcontractor installing fiber optic cable for Fidium. ITG had earlier been in contact with Erich and received the permitting forms required for burying cables in the Town right of way. It had presented a plan indicating an intent to bore beneath the road. However, the company did the work without receiving a permit and the cable appears to be too close to the road surface. Erich asked the Board how he should proceed.

Keith said he should let it go. If Town equipment ruins the cable, it will be Fidium's problem. As it is fiber optic cable and doesn't have electricity running through it the risk to the public is minimal at best. An expensive repair for Fidium would be appropriate. Jason and Dillon disagreed saying it would set a precedent if the Town allows its permitting process to be ignored. All three agreed Erich had set the corrective process in motion by contacting ITG.

Erich reported the road crew had stone lined ditches on sections of Old Turnpike Rd and East Rd. The loader has had a complete service in house and the issue with steering has improved dramatically. He expects to have minor repairs to the grader completed on Friday.

Mary asked if the Board wants to require the Fair Assn to submit a security deposit when it wants to use the Town Hall for meetings. The Board responded in the affirmative as it wants policies to be applied uniformly. It suggested the Fair Assn might submit a security deposit that was held for a year since it uses the building multiple times a year.

Town Moderator Gwyn Gallagher reviewed details and responsibilities for Election Day next Tuesday. He asked Board members to serve as the Greeter throughout the day on a rotating basis as he has not yet appointed a new one. Board members agreed to do so. Dillon contacted Erich during the meeting and asked him to have the road crew set up the voting booths in the Town Hall on Friday. Erich agreed to do so.

Board members reviewed and edited the draft of a response to a letter from Cathy Parks regarding the NFI that accompanies the grant from NRBC providing partial funding for the Cornish Library and Community Center.

Dillon reviewed some changes to the driveway permit forms and process he will be presenting to the Planning Board.

Board members reviewed the building permit site visits that need to be done.

The Board continued its ongoing discussion around the best way to collect and store highway department activity data.

Board members discussed the general responsibilities of the Administrative Asistant with the understanding that Mary Curtis has indicated she intends to resign in the near future.

Dillon made a motion to approve the August 2026 minutes. Jason seconded. Motion approved.

Keith made a motion to adjourn. Dillon seconded. Motion approved at 6:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Beardslee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 10, 2026 4:00–6:00 pm

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), Jason Bourne, Keith Beardslee

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Board members reviewed mail and invoices.

Road Agent Erich Weeks updated the Board on his interactions with Fidium regarding the non-permitted installation by a Fidium subcontractor of fiber optic cable in a trench across Beechwood Drive.

He also reviewed options to address the water flow from a ditch that is affecting a resident's driveway access to the Town road.

He plans to begin the gravel road improvement project on East Road on Monday.

TDS has presented plans to the Town that include burying fiber optic cable in the Town right of way along School St. Dillon reported he had taken GPS readings of significant locations such as catch basins on School St that will limit the available area TDS can access to bury the cable. Board members agreed the information should be sent to TDS. A representative from TDS will meet with the Board and Road Agent prior to beginning the project.

Board members signed a letter responding to a request from Cathy Parks.

Board members left the office at approximately 5 pm and conducted 3 site visits for building permit applications.

At the conclusion of the final site visit Jason moved to adjourn. Keith seconded. Motion approved at 6:15.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Beardslee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 14, 2026 6:30-8:30 pm

Present: Dillon Gallagher, Chair, Jason Bourne, Keith Beardslee

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30. Board members reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.

The Energy Committee had earlier requested the Board approve its nominee for an alternate Energy Committee member. Richard Thompson and Mike Belanger reminded the Board of the Energy Committee's request. Jason moved to appoint Tony Newton as alternate member of the Energy Committee. Keith seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Representative Margaret Drye alerted the Board to the passage of amended HB1577 which became effective August 31,2026. The Act permits utilities to share individuals' data with a municipality's authorized public safety officials. The Act includes a provision that makes such disclosure exempt from public records requests under RSA 91-A:5,IV. The Act will facilitate public safety officials' ability to be prepared to respond appropriately in a crisis to individuals whose access to utilities is critical to their health and safety.

Road Agent Erich Weeks updated the Board on the work on East Road and winter sand delivery. Board members discussed with Erich some of the changes to the driveway permit application and process Dillon will propose to the Planning Board.

John Drye asked the Board to suggest the information it needs from the Fire Department to prepare the budget. Jason asked if the department has a complete list of its assets and a depreciation schedule or an anticipated life span of those assets. Apparently, the Fire Department has not yet compiled one. Following a discussion about the various assets Keith suggested John was answering his own question. John agreed but said the questions need to come from the Board. Dillon said the Board will take it up with Fire Chief Bill Harthan when he returns from a work related trip.

Board members again discussed the upcoming installation of fiber optic cable in the Town right of way in the Flat and questioned why TDS needs access to the right of way on both sides of School Street.

Board members discussed their experiences and observations while serving as Election Officials at the recent election. The Board will offer a few suggestions, resulting from members observations, to the Moderator.

Dillon said Lois Fitts had told him about a "burial area" containing headstones behind her house on Creamery Road that is now completely overgrown. It has not been maintained for many years. None of the Board members were aware of it. The Board will look into it since the Town is responsible for all cemeteries.

Dillon noted that in the course of a recent site visit for a building permit on North Parsonage Road, the landowner's representative stated he would cut down the trees next to the road, some of which may be in the Town right of way, when they die due to the excavation activity associated with putting in the driveway. Dillon said that should they die and not be removed they could cause a safety hazard. However, trees in the Town right of way belong to the property owner.

Board members continued an ongoing discussion about tracking and recording highway department activity.

Jason made a motion to adjourn. Keith seconded the motion. Motion approved at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Beardslee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 17, 2026 4:00–6:00 pm

Present: Dillon Gallagher (Chair), Jason Bourne, Keith Beardslee

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Board members reviewed mail and invoices.

Mary Curtis thinks there is a leak in the bathroom on the second floor of the Town office. Water spot has appeared on the ceiling tile in her office located below the bathroom. She asked the Board to for the name of a local plumber.

Road Agent Erich Weeks reported on progress on the gravel road improvement project. Dillon gave him some feedback he has heard from residents.

Dillon has sent maps he has created to TDS that detail the existing utility infrastructure in the Town right of way which TDS proposes to use to bury fiber optic cable. The Board doesn't know why TDS proposes to bury the cable rather than hang it on the poles they now use.

The Board took a call from Lyle Parry. Parry Construction has been repairing the roof on the highway department garage, the last town project funded with LFRF money. The money has to be spent by September 30 or be returned to the Federal government. The discussion with Lyle was to be certain he invoicing, payment and timely deposit will happen before September 30.

Fire Chief Bill Harthan has received two proposals in response to the RFP issued for boots for fire department members. Board members reviewed the proposals. Bill does not think the department will need as many pairs as it anticipated when Article 21 authorizing the purchase of

the boots was approved at Town meeting. He will decide on the vendor, model and number of pairs next week.

Following a recommendation from the Energy Committee Keith moved the Board appoint Kevin Noble as an alternate member of the Energy Committee. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Dillon noted he has observed a number of installed solar panels that have never received a build permit.

The Town needs to address a failing culvert on Jackson Road. State law requires an engineer design the replacement of a culvert that size. The Board needs to have a project proposal and prices to present in the form of a warrant article at next year's Town meeting. The Board has the names of 4 civil engineers, Dillon will ask an acquaintance for another.

Jason made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion approved at 6:21.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Beardslee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 21, 2026 6:30-8:30 pm

Present: Dillon Gallagher, Chair, Jason Bourne, Keith Beardslee

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30. Board members reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.

Kurt Wyman bought a question to the Board regarding a burial plot. The Board will need to research the answer or refer the question to the Sexton.

Jacob Simino liaison for the Cornish Fair Association gave a brief summary of this year's Fair activity and results. The additional parking area worked out well. The Board expressed its appreciation for the much improved communication between the Fair Association and the Board.

The Board reviewed pricing proposals for heating oil for the upcoming heating season. Keith made a motion use Hinkley as the Town's fuel oil supplier. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion approved.

The Board reviewed the status of the gravel road improvement work.

Mike Fuerst, Laura Cousineau, Library Trustee and David Kruidenier from Historical Society, presented the draft of a Cy Pres petition authored by Mike. Submission of a Cy Pres petition by

the Town and Library Trustees to the Charitable Trust Division of the NH Attorney General's Office for its approval is the first step in the process required to change the use of the Stowell Library building. Included with the draft of the Cy Pres petition was a letter from the Charitable Trust Division dated February 16, 2023 indicating it would likely not object to the use of the building as a library annex for storing books and other documents and/or the purchase or lease of the building by the Historical Society.

Ms. Cousineau said she was in contact with the Charitable Trust Division about two months ago and its position on the Cy Pres has not changed.

The Board will need to review the draft Cy Pres and consider the best use of the Stowell building and the old Selectmen's office to determine how best to proceed.

In June Mike Fuerst submitted the title work he had done on the property on which the Cornish Library and Community Center is located to the Board. He encouraged the Board to forward the title work to Town Counsel.

The Board discussed the condition and possible future use of the old Selectmen's office, the Stowell Library and the Town Office.

Keith made a motion to adjourn. Jason seconded the motion. The motion was approved at 8:42.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Beardslee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 24, 2026 4:00–6:00 pm

Present: Jason Bourne, Keith Beardslee, Absent: Dillon Gallagher

Jason called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Board members reviewed mail and invoices.

Road Agent Erich Weeks updated the Board on the gravel road improvement project. The last section was completed earlier in the week but he would like to add ¾ hard pack to some areas on East Rd that he thinks needs more. There are sufficient funds left in the project budget to pay for the additional hardpack he wants to add. The Board authorized him to go ahead and reiterated it wants the gravel roads crowned with a 4% pitch.

Erich reviewed his interactions with Fidium, TDS and NH Broadband regarding fiber optic cable installation in the town right of way and under town roads. Fidium will remove the cable it buried under Beechwood and run it overhead across the road then run it underground in the Town

ROW with a tracer wire above it. NH Broadband wants to bury a cable under Dingleton Hill Road. Erich encouraged TDS to begin the permitting process.

The 24 and 17 trucks are going to Reed's for Federally mandated inspections. The 02 was inspected earlier this year. The 550 will be inspected for the purpose of catching any safety or maintenance issues that need to be addressed.

Next week the highway department will replace a culvert with a hole in it at the lower end of Clark Camp Rd. The failed catch basin near the Mill Village bridge is scheduled to be fixed next week.

All the winter sand has been delivered.

In anticipation of the upcoming winter, Erich has connected with the school, exchanged contact information and has the bus route information.

Erich said he wants it placed on the record that he strongly recommends the Town adheres to the highway department equipment replacement schedule that was developed a few years ago by a committee made up of Cornish residents' familiar with construction equipment. He is particularly concerned about the 02 truck and the grader. Both are approaching 25 years. He is concerned about having dependable equipment and said if the Town continues to allow its equipment to age it runs the risk of needing to replace multiple pieces of equipment at the same time. That will be a significant burden on tax payers. He added that at some point parts for the older equipment will no longer be available. The Galion grader is no longer made. The Town had to convert all the wheel assemblies on the 02 this year because the original equipment was worn out beyond repair and obsolete. He said he realizes that some people think the 02 is the best truck in the department. But as the road agent responsible for maintaining Town roads, he has to voice his opinion.

Jason said that looking at the replacement schedule it appears the only piece that hasn't been replaced on schedule is the 02 truck. It was repaired rather than replaced. The grader is due to be replaced.

Erich is getting prices on a truck and a grader. He thinks buying a used grader at a government auction and then having it "gone through" by the dealer is a viable idea. He believes he knows the ideal size, model and year(s) for this approach.

Jason said he had sent a letter on behalf of the Board to Keith Mullane at CCI requesting an electronic version of the "For Construction" blueprints from the architect, the complete report on mold mitigation from the mold mitigation contractor, the complete report on asbestos mitigation from the asbestos mitigation contractor, the location, if available of the remaining asbestos from the general contractor, all RFIs by the contractor requesting clarification from the architect or engineer and the response to those RFIs and follow up notices or bulletins, all change orders from the architect, and all inspection reports from the NH State Fire Marshall's office which is serving as the building inspector at the request of the Board.

Keith Mullane responded to Jason that he has forwarded the request to Trumbull Nelson the General Contractor for the project.

A draft of the request, compiled by Dillon, was reviewed in last Monday's meeting. Some, if not most of the information specified in the request has already been received by the Board. Some, e.g. RFIs and subsequent response and change orders, has not.

Keith said he thinks the water leak Mary Curtis brought to the Board's attention last week is coming from a failed patch job on the standing roofing on the Office building rather than a plumbing leak in the second floor bathroom. Water damage to the building is evident on both the exterior and interior of the building. Jason and Keith walked around the exterior or the building, and looked at various building components that need attention.

Jason sent an email to Eckman Engineering on behalf of the Board requesting an update on the status of the NH DOT Form 4 load rating for the Leavitt Hill bridge the Board requested from Eckman Engineering in the Spring after receiving a request for the Form 4 from NH DOT.

Jason made a motion to adjourn. Keith seconded the motion. Motion approved at 6:07.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Beardslee

Town of Cornish
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2026 6:30-8:30 pm

Present: Dillon Gallagher, Chair, Jason Bourne, Keith Beardslee

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30. Board members reviewed mail, invoices and signed checks.

Richard Thompson asked if the Board appointed the Energy Committee's nominees for alternate members. The Board has done so. Richard will advise them to stop in at the Select Board meeting to be sworn in prior to the next Energy Committee meeting.

Richard wanted to know why the yoga class was denied use of the second floor of the Town Office building. The yoga class has had use of the space in the past. The Board responded that the use had occurred without the Board's knowledge and that the Board has decided to restrict use of the space to Town boards, committees, meetings and affiliated groups such as the Historical Society. One of the reasons is the display of historical items, some of which are irreplaceable, in that room. The Town has invested a considerable amount of money in upgrading the Town Hall with the aim of improving it as place where a variety of people and groups can gather and use. The Board has therefore suggested the Town Hall as an alternative to various groups that have inquired about using the second floor space in the Town Office building. Richard said the Board should make an exception to its policy because yoga practice takes place

on mats on the floor and the concrete floor at the Town Hall is both hard and filthy. In addition, with the onset of cooler temperatures, the floor is becoming cold. The Town Hall is therefore a very uncomfortable place to do yoga. Board members responded that the Board is determined to apply its policies uniformly. It can foresee fielding requests from a wide variety of groups with a wide variety of requests and wants to avoid charges of favoritism. Allowing a special exception for one group opens the door to requests from other groups and the Board doesn't want to be put in the position of allowing one group to use the space but denying another. Richard said he was aware the Library Trustees might allow the yoga class to use available space in the Cornish Library and Community Center when it opens. Richard was asked if he had inquired if there was space at the school that could be used in the interim. He replied he hadn't. He reiterated his argument that the yoga class deserved an exception to the policy because of the nature of the activity and said he considers the Board to be cruel and insensitive.

Following Richard's departure Board members discussed the merits of his request and while empathizing with the yoga practitioners agreed the policy should remain as is. Board members reflected on the uncomfortable position in which they find themselves when friends and acquaintances, some of whom they have known and worked with for many years, are angry with the Board or a Board member for a decision made or action taken by the Board.

Keith and Jason reviewed for Dillon the reasons they think a water leak in the building is originating from a failing patch on the standing seam roof. The Board placed a call to Lyle Parry who agreed to assess the situation this week. A permanent repair will probably have to wait until next year but the Board wants a temporary repair in place before winter.

The Board reviewed the wording of a request to an engineer regarding his availability to look at the failing culvert on Jackson Rd and approved sending the request.

The Board approved sending the title work, submitted by Mike Fuerst in June, on the property and building undergoing renovation to become the Cornish Library and Community Center to Town Counsel. It was submitted on paper. Administrative Assistant Mary Curtis will need to create a digital file to send it to Town Counsel.

Board members briefly discussed the draft of the Cy Pres petition. Keith suggested the Board define the future use of the Stowell Building to include as many possible uses as the A G's office and probate court find acceptable. The Board is aware the Town is going to need additional space for file and document storage. The Historical Society would like to use the Stowell building but also retain some use of the old Selectmen's Office which it currently occupies because the latter is handicap accessible. The Town may want to use the Stowell building for file and document storage and the library may want to use it as an Annex. The Board can't foresee what the Town will need in the distant future.

The Board discussed providing for and restricting parking associated with the Cornish Library and Community Center. It will review the Planning Board recommendations and Select Board minutes prior to returning to the subject.

The Board agreed to refer the question about a burial plot brought to the Board by Curt Wyman to the Sexton.

The Board discussed highway department equipment.

Keith made a motion to adjourn. Jason seconded the motion. Motion approved at 8:46.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Beardslee