

**Special Town Meeting
November 2, 2016
6:00PM at the Fire barn**

There were approximately 60 citizens in attendance.

Article 1) Rich Ruhlin from Cornish, was elected moderator to preside over the meeting. No objection to show of hand voting procedure.

Article 2) To see if the town will vote to raise up to \$5,000, from surplus, to purchase from Maine Department of Transportation the property by the waterfall immediately west of Little River (formerly part of the Harrington lot comprising 5905 square feet) for a pocket park to further enhance the current and future enjoyment of historic Cornish Village.

A motion to Article 2 was made and seconded to start discussion. Meredith Harding spoke briefly on this topic.

A motion to amend Article 2 for “up to \$3,000” was seconded and opened for discussion.

Motion to stop debate and call the question was made and seconded. The motion did not carry for amending Article 2.

Motion to stop debate and call the question was made and seconded. The motion to call the question was approved with 2/3 majority. The vote to approve Article 2 as read, was carried with a 2/3 plus majority.

Article 3) Shall an ordinance entitled “Medical Cannabis Ordinance” to regulate the cultivation, processing, storage, and distribution of medical cannabis consistent with the Town of Cornish “Land Use and Development Ordinance” and the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act (Maine Revised Statutes Title 22, Chapter 558-c) be adopted.

A motion to Article 3 was made and seconded to start discussion. James Les MacMaster, Chairman of the Medical Cannabis Ordinance Committee, spoke on this topic.

Motion to stop debate and call the question was made and seconded. The motion to call the question was approved with a 2/3 majority. The vote to approve Article 3 as read, was carried with a 2/3 plus majority.

Article 4) Shall the town vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes or by other means, by the following procedures:

- a) All town-acquired properties shall be listed separately, each year in the Town Report.
- b) Any properties, determined for sale by the Selectmen, shall be disposed of by soliciting offers of purchase, utilizing a sealed-bid method annually.

- c) Notification of each annual sale shall be place in “Your Weekly Shopping Guide” and the “Portland Press Herald” once each week for the three consecutive weeks prior to the date of sale.
- d) All bids received shall be opened and announced during a public meeting at the first Selectmen’s Meeting of the following month. With regard to any property advertised for bids, the Selectmen shall have the right to reject all bids and withdraw the parcel from sale.
- e) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Selectmen are authorized: 1) to sell tax acquired property to its previous owners or their successors in interest, 2) to sell an undeveloped, undersized or unbuildable lot to an abutter. Any such sale shall be for not less than the total of unpaid taxes plus interest and the costs of administering, holding and selling the property unless the Selectmen determine by unanimous vote of the entire board that the property concerned can only be sold for a lesser price.

This article, if approved, shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by vote of the Town Meeting.

A motion to Article 4 was made and seconded to start discussion.

Motion to stop debate and call the question was made and seconded. The motion to call the question was approved by a 2/3 majority. The vote to approve Article 4 as read, was carried with a 2/3 plus majority.

Article 5) Shall the town adopt a sign moratorium on digital, illuminated from within, and moving signs either temporary or permanent in nature for a period of 180 days, unless extended by the Town of Cornish Selectmen.

A motion to Article 5 was made and seconded to start discussion.

Motion to stop debate and call the question was made and seconded. The motion to call the question was approved by a 2/3 majority. The vote to approve Article 5 as read, was carried with a 2/3 plus majority.

Article 6) Shall the Town update the Land Use Ordinance to include the following definitions:

Appendix A. Definitions and/or the MMO

Club: An association or organization dedicated to a certain interest or activity.

Social Club: A group of people or the place where they meet, generally formed around a common interest, occupation, or activity. Such clubs and/or social clubs are welcome within the Town of Cornish, however, are prohibited from the districts of the Village Center and the Historic District overlay. For the purpose of this amendment, a church is not considered as a social club.

A motion to Article 6 was made and seconded to start discussion.

A motion was made to amend the article and strike the last two sentences. This motion was seconded and opened the amendment to discussion.

Motion to stop debate and call the question was made and seconded. The motion to call the question did not carry to amend the Article.

Motion to call the question on the amendment was made and seconded. The motion to call the question was approved with a 2/3 majority. The vote to approve the amendment to Article 6 was not carried.

Motion to stop debate and call the question on Article 6 as written and read was seconded. Without a clear 2/3 majority Article 6 was open for discussion

Motion to amend Article 6 to include; “Such clubs and/or social clubs are welcome in the Town of Cornish, however, new clubs and/or new social clubs are prohibited from...” was seconded and opened for discussion.

Motion to stop debate and call the question was made and seconded. The motion to call the question was approved by a 2/3 majority. The vote to approve the amended Article 6, was carried with a 2/3 plus majority.

Motion to call the question on Article 6 as amended was approved with 2/3 plus majority. The vote to approve the amended Article 6 was carried with a 2/3 plus majority.

Rich asked that before the assembly left that they would take a moment and recognize Ken Hall as he received a 2016 Spirit of America Foundation Tribute for outstanding community service today at the York County Commissioners Office in Alfred.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08PM