

TOWN OF LYME
Select Board Meeting
March 29, 2018
8:00 AM
Town Office Conference Room
Approved: April 5, 2018

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members: Susan J. MacKenzie, Chair, Bradford E. Keith and Kevin Sahr. Administrative Assistant: Dina Cutting. Road Agent: Steve Williams and Highway employee Scott Bailey. Police Chief O'Keefe. Department of Revenue representatives: Steven Hamilton and Philip Bodwell. Members of the Public: David Russ, Matt Stevens, Julia Elder, Put Blodgett Mary Callahan, Carol Jenks, Bob Rusvold, Ben Kilham, Wilks McClave, Tim Cook, Michael Whitman, Susan Musty, Tim Camerato, Rich Brown, Faith Catlin, Yolanda Bujarski, David Shayer, John Stadler, Harry Glass, Jane Fant and Sue Ryan.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00AM.

1. Highway: Williams reported the owner of 393 Baker Hill Road has called with concerns over water damage to the field and sediment in the pond. The board reviewed makeup of the road, and discussed limited options to address this concern. The field was created by clearing trees and the road cuts were in place prior to the clearing. Because it is impossible to get water to flow uphill there is no other option for drainage in this location. The board requested Cutting invite the land owner to come and meet with the board to discuss this issue.
2. Keith moved to accept the minutes of the March 15, 2018 meeting. Seconded by MacKenzie. The minutes were approved unanimously as written.
3. Matters arising:
 - Sahr will be gathering information concerning the options including but not limited to recycling, trash removal & site requirements he will come back to the board at a later date.
 - The board discussed the Pond Program and funding request at Town Meeting. Because quality swimming lessons were a concern the Recreation Commission had previously discussed making sure there were swimming lessons offered to the youth of Lyme. After a brief discussion including the Pond Program salary, program length of time and history of the program. The Board requested the Recreation Commission meet to discuss the options for swimming lessons and report back next week.
4. Public Comment: None at this time.
5. Manifests: Reviewed and approved in the amounts of \$25,807.65, 18,355.57 and \$1,018.255 (Over Seer of Welfare).
6. Select Board communications: This topic was discussed and ideas were reviewed. Sahr would like the board to receive e-mails through a common e-mail address, then before Board members respond the Board will have the opportunity to discuss the issue and respond as a board, not individual board members. Sahr noted concern that some board

members received information and others did not. The Select Board will continue to review and discuss these ideas at a following meeting.

7. Wray Land Use Change Tax- The board reviewed and signed an abatement in the amount of \$192.00 plus interest in the amount of \$44.04. The final LUCT amount for Wray was \$3,008.00.
8. The board reviewed the revised draft Memorandum of Understanding concerning the River Road slump. MacKenzie moved to approve this draft. Seconded by Sahr. This draft will go to Town Counsel to be forwarded to Arend Tensen's attorney. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.
9. The following appointments were reviewed and signed: Sharron Gretorex, Deputy Town Clerk; Curtis Sheppard, Recreation Commission; James Munroe, Alternate for the Conservation Commission and Russell Hirschler Conservation Commission member.
10. Committee and Commission reports:
 - Sahr reviewed the Recreation Commission meeting: Bats are in for the little league and the swim program will be worked on.
 - Keith informed the Board of his Coffee hour. Holt's Ledge was discussed, CLyme would like to know when the Town is going to un-post the land? It has been determined that Dartmouth College owns the ledges. The board is waiting while Dartmouth works things out and makes a public announcement on this.
 - Roads Committee: The committee will be working on a strategic plan. Grant Brook was reviewed. Hewes Brook Bridge: The electric pole has been moved, trying to move forward with this as concerns are noted from the engineer that the bridge is in bad shape. Still waiting on the permit. This project cannot wait until next year. River Road Slump: April 9th more Geotec information will be gathered. Baker # 1: still gathering information on the history and removal of old culvert. Dorchester 383: Traffic counts are done, information for a possible grant is being gathered. North Thetford and River Road intersection: Army Corp of engineer waiting for them to get back to the Town with a figure for the additional cost of engineering. MacKenzie has talked with both land owners and they are in agreement that this needs to be fixed and are amenable to this work, with the understanding that the stairway leading down to the river will be put back once the work is completed. Note: more than 400 cars on the dirt section of Dorchester Road when the traffic count was done.
 - Lyme Community Development Committee: Sahr is going to try and facilitate an open meeting and have these 2 committees come together and work on the information gathering for the Master Plan. There is a large group interested in helping with this and it would be a plus to have this energy utilized in a positive way. Sahr will think about what the next step should be to help this work.
11. 9:30AM- Steven Hamilton and Philip Bodwell of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue: At this time Mackenzie announced the meeting was being recorded by Richard Brown and she had a tape recorder. Approximately 23 members of the public were in attendance. Mr. Hamilton thanked the board for allowing him to come on short notice to address his concerns. Mr. Hamilton noted concerns with a letter sent by the select board

to property owners that have current use land with permanent conservation easements. Mr. Hamilton wanted to discuss his concerns with the Select Board and was willing to answer any questions the public may have. Mr. Hamilton commented that he had received several calls and emails regarding the letter which caused confusion. He wanted to make it clear that The Department of Revenue has never communicated to Lyme that a PA-60 is required for property subject to a Conservation Easement. The board and Mr. Hamilton discussed RSA 79A and RSA 79B pertaining to Current Use and Conservation Restriction Assessments. The form PA-60 is not mandatory and the property owner may choose to enroll in the RSA79B category or not. The requirements on the MS-1 form were reviewed and discussed. Following was a lengthy discussion on Current Use, Conservation Easements, qualifying events and disqualifying events for RSA 79A and RSA 79B categories. It was noted the Towns Assessor informed the Board that in order to list acreage that falls under 79B on the MS-1 form it must have a PA-60 form on file. Town Counsel informed the board that it is incumbent upon the board to reclassify the land to 79B if it has a Conservation Easement on it. It was noted that land in Current Use and land in a Conservation Easement are not assessed differently by the Current Use Board. After a lengthy discussion Mr. Hamilton noted he had come to this meeting to ask the Select Board how they will be correcting the misinformation to the property owners of Lyme. Mr. Hamilton asked to review the e-mail communication from Town Counsel on this matter. The group went on to discuss Current Use, the amount of acreage in Lyme in Current Use and Conservation Easements, concern of the tax burden from the current use program. It was noted there are links on the state Current use web site to review the information. Comments were noted that a Current Use study committee is needed to look into these concerns. The Current Use program is regulated by the State. Mr. Hamilton encouraged the town to direct their concerns to the State legislators. Mr. Hamilton requested the Town send a correction letter. The sense of the board was to write a letter explaining the request for a PA-60 form did not come from the DRA and apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. Any PA-60's that have been submitted to date will be returned with the new letter. It will be made clear the property owner may submit a PA-60 if they wish. Mr. Hamilton thanked the board and public for having him at this meeting. Cutting will draft a letter for the boards review.

12. A short break was taken.

13. The Board reviewed the discussions concerning Current Use, Conservation Easements and how they affect the town. People look at these issue differently. Sahr asked the board to consider the relative importance of this issue in light of other issues in Town. A lot of items were brought up and this has created a tense atmosphere in town. The board needs to clarify where they should be focusing their energy. Mackenzie recommended the board come up with a prioritized list of what the board wants to do over the coming year.

14. Ongoing:

- Fire Station needs information ready for the 2019 Town Meeting.
- Steve Campbell will be coming to the next board meeting to discuss communications
- Smith inspection: April 16, 2018 at 10:00AM Goose Pond Road.
- Over Time policy still needs to be discussed

15. At 12:03PM MacKenzie moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91A: 3 II (c) to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Keith. Voted unanimously by a roll call vote. Present for this non-public was Sue MacKenzie, Bradford Keith, and Kevin Sahr.
16. At 1:30PM the board moved back to public session. The minutes to this non-public session were sealed at the April 5, 2018 Select board meeting.
17. There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned at 1:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dina Cutting