TOWN OF LYME Select Board Meeting June 27th 2019

8:00 AM

Town Office Conference Room Approved: July 11, 2019

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members Kevin Sahr, Judith Brotman and Benjamin Kilham. Administrative Assistant Dina Cutting. Road Agent Steven Williams. Lyme School Board Chair Johnathan Vogele. Principal/Superintendent Jeff Valence. Energy Committee member Jim Nourse. New England Field Services Dennis & Laura Thompson. Community members Bret Ryan, Sue MacKenzie, Wayne Bates and Chris Ramsden.

- 1. At 8:00 AM Chair Sahr called the meeting to order.
- 2. School: Mr. Valance reviewed the school audit schedule he will have financial information mid-August. The Select Board and Mr. Valance discussed the Budget Committee schedule and the upcoming teacher negotiation. Upcoming road closures and the timing was discussed, focusing on the need for a school vehicle for closed road sections, and what may be the best financial choice for the school.
- 3. Highway: Army Corp of Engineering reported the section of River Road near North Thetford has an estimated cost of \$1.6 million dollars to repair. The town would be responsible for 35% of this cost. The timing of the funding may be a problem. The Select Board will address this as the process moves along.
- 4. There was a general discussion concerning the tax rates, with a goal of keeping increases at 0. The Select Board will be scheduling mid-year update meeting with the Budget Committee in mid-August.
- 5. Northern New England Field Services:
 - River Road: Mr. Thompson reviewed the observation report. Mr. Thompson noted some concerns. Projected completion date of River Road is August 15th, 2019.
 - b. Baker Hill: Mr. Thompson noted the permit for this project needs to be in hand with in 2 weeks in order to avoid impacting the school bus route.
 - c. Hewes Brook Bridge: Once River Road is complete the Hewes Brook Bridge project will start. The goal is to have this project completed prior to the opening of school, but the construction schedule will determine this.
- 6. Energy Committee: Mr. Nourse reviewed the Sierra Club's "Ready for 100" renewable energy project. The Energy committee will come back to the Select Board with a proposed 2020 warrant article for the Board to consider.
- 7. At 8:45AM Ms. Brotman moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. Present for this discussion was Sahr, Brotman, Kilham, Williams and Cutting. Matters which may affect a person's reputation were discussed. At 8:58AM Mr. Sahr moved to enter public session. Seconded by Ms. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.

- 8. Goose Pond Road project was discussed. Mr. Williams reported on the review of the contractors' bids on the project. Following a discussion Mr. Sahr moved to accept Mr. Williams proposal to continue the work on the Goose Pond Road project and to recommend a contractor to the Board. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor.
- 9. Mr. Williams reported some damage to roads from last night's rain.
- 10. River Road and Baker Hill overlay & shoulder work was reviewed. Mr. Sahr moved to accept BlackTop's bid for this work. Seconded by Ms. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.
- 11. Chadwick-BaRoss rental contract was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.
- 12. New England Field Services: Mr. Thompson reported the delivery of material to Mr. Tensen. More material will be delivered in the coming weeks. In review of DES rules Mr. Thompson believes an amendment to the Alteration of Terrain permit in not necessary. Mr. Sahr and Mr. Thompson will meet to review items.
- 13. Army Corp of Engineer River Road project: The Board will ask Engineer Anthony Puntin to come for a site visit and review this potential project.
- 14. Public Comments: A total for the River Road engineering costs was requested. Goose Pond Road project is not believed to be an emergency, so it could wait until the following year if necessary. Why did the slope on the bank change at the River Road project? (It was noted the mentioned slope was not on any plans.) A request was made to receive more detailed school budgets and both town and school budget reports ahead of time for the coming budget cycle. Also, it was requested to have the budgets sent electronically in excel so budget committee members can analyze these budgets. Teacher negotiations were discussed and how much input the budget committee will have in these negotiations. (These items need to be brought up at the organizational budget committee meeting.) Concern of speeding on River Road was noted and a request to have some form of speed control.
- 15. Mr. Sahr moved to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2019 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor.
- 16. Compactor: The compactor has been broken down for 2 Transfer Station operation days. There needs to be a back-up plan. Mr. Thebodo is working to get the compactor repaired as soon as possible.
- 17. 2019 Tax Anticipation note: Ms. Brotman moved to accept the resolution set forth in the tax anticipation governmental certificate with the loan date of July 1, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor.
- 18. Mr. Sahr moved to hire Rowen Hutchins as Pond Program counselor at the rate of \$7.75 per hour. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor.
- 19. Continued review of tax-exempt properties for 2019:
 - Montshire Museum- additional information was requested and discussed. Montshire Museum noted this land is not used for educational purposes. Mr. Kilham moved to deny this application. Seconded by Ms. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.
 - Upper Valley Land Trust- reviewed community benefits- Mr. Kilham moved to accept this application for 2019. Seconded by Ms. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.
- 20. Lyme Community Development Committee: Mr. Sahr moved to accept the final report from this committee. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor. This report

- will be posted on the Town web site with a link for detailed information. Mr. Kilham moved to disband this committee. Seconded by Ms. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor. The Board wishes to thank all committee members and community members who participated in the work.
- 21. Utility Abatements: Great River Hydro, Northern New England Telephone, and Eversource. The Town's Utility appraiser George Sansoucy recommended they be denied. Ms. Brotman moved to deny the listed utilities abatement request. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted 2 in favor and 1 abstention (Mr. Sahr).
- 22. Mr. Williams, Mr. Sahr and Mr. Thompson will review the proposed change order for the River Road project and come back to the Select Board at its next meeting.
- 23. Mr. Kilham noted concern from Community members of the South River Road section. They are requesting information on when this section will be asphalted.
- 24. No Board meeting next week-Happy 4th of July.
- 25. There being no further business before the Board at this time Mr. Kilham moved to adjourn at 10:23AM. Seconded by Ms. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dina Cutting