

TOWN OF LYME
Select Board Meeting
October 21st, 2021
9:00 AM
Approved: 11/4/2021

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members Judith Brotman and David Kahn, Administrator Dina Cutting, Police Chief O'Keefe and Road Agent Scott Bailey.

Assessor: Todd Haywood, Granite Hill Municipal Services

Mr. Kilham was absent from this meeting.

The Town buildings are open to the public following the lapse of Governor Sununu's Emergency Orders. The Town is following CDC guidance on masking and distancing. The Board will be meeting via Zoom and in person. The location of the meeting is 1 High Street, the Town Office conference room. If you come to this location you must wear a mask when entering the building and while in the conference room.

Anyone not wishing to attend the Board meeting in person may do so by dialing in on one of the publicized Zoom Meeting conference numbers.

877 853 5247 US Toll-free
888 788 0099 US Toll-free
833 548 0276 US Toll-free
833 548 0282 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: ID: 876 9544 6688

Access is for voice only at this time. If you can't access the conference number please email dina@lymenh.gov. All incoming public lines will be muted with the exception of when public comments are accepted. A role call will be made to indicate public members attending via phone

1. At 9:05AM Mrs. Brotman opened the meeting.
2. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the minutes from the meeting on October 7th, 2021. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.
3. The Board reviewed a Report of Woodcut. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the Report of Woodcut. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.
4. Road Agent, Scott Bailey and Police Chief, Shaun O'Keefe discussed the gates to be installed at the section of old River Road that is now a Class A trail:
 - ✓ Chief O'Keefe reported that he has had a conversation with a property owner about their property line.
 - ✓ Chief O'Keefe measured and marked where he thinks it would be appropriate to put the north end gate. It may be more challenging to find a good placement for the gate on the South end, because there will be a gap large enough for a vehicle

to get through even with the gate in place. Chief O'Keefe believes if we remove the Jersey Barriers from the other side of the road and use those to fill the gap it would prevent the public from entering with vehicles.

- ✓ The gate will be closed but not be locked. If the public does not respect the regulations of the trail then we will have to revisit the topic of locking the gates.
 - ✓ A letter will be drafted to send to property owners affected by the placement of the gates.
 - ✓ A fence may need to be installed to delineate this trail. This will make it clear to walkers and bikers where the trail is.
5. Mr. Bailey and the highway department will need to do an emergency tree removal on Goose Pond Road tomorrow, October 22nd, 2021.
 6. Todd Haywood, the town assessor, updated the Board on the revaluation and gave an explanation of the process:
 - ✓ There was a \$59,728,000 increase to the Town valuation, which is a 15.3% increase.
 - ✓ There were 61 sales from April 2019 through September 2021.
 - ✓ The equalization ratio is now 98%.
 - ✓ The Board is going to review the documentation Mr. Haywood provided and they are feeling comfortable with the progress and he can continue to move forward.
 - ✓ Residents have the opportunity to apply for an abatement any time following receipt of tax bills until March 1st.
 - ✓ See attached documentation for further information.
 7. The Select Board will be having a Budget Workshop on Wednesday October 27th, 2021 at 1:00 PM followed by a non-public session concerning personnel.
 8. The Board will approve the manifest electronically.
 9. The Board acknowledged Mr. LaBombard's resignation with regret from the Sexton position. He has been Sexton for thirty-one years and the Board wants to express their appreciation for his many years of service to the Town of Lyme.
 10. Mrs. Cutting reported that she received the final numbers for Health Insurance. The cost of health insurance has decreased 8.1% and dental has decreased 1.5%. While everything else stayed almost level. Those numbers will be reflected in the budget under 'benefits'.
 11. The Board signed the list of 2021 tax exempt properties.
 12. A group of students and a teacher at the Lyme School are learning about maple syrup making and would like to ask the Board for permission to tap a couple of maple trees on the small common. The Board is in full support of this project.
 13. Mrs. Cutting received one mowing bid from Lyme Lawn Care LLC. Their bid totaled is \$49,500. Lyme Lawncare has mowed for the Town in the past and they have solid recommendations. Mr. Kahn moved to accept Lyme Lawn Care LLC bid of \$49,500 for mowing. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.

14. The CPI figure which is traditionally used for the cost of living increase to employee wages was noted to be 5.4% for September 2021. The Board has requested Mrs. Cutting calculate payroll and benefit based on this new %.
15. At 10:41 AM Mrs. Brotman moved to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) reputation. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.
16. At 11:05 AM the Board returned to public session haven taken no votes during this non-public session.
17. At 11:06 Mr. Kahn moved to adjourn. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Toland

Interested Lyme residents are welcome to attend in person. [Masks will be required and appropriate social distancing will be observed.] As a convenience to Lyme residents, we will also attempt to permit participation electronically via Zoom, however, electronic participation can be subject to various technological challenges, some of which are outside the Town's control or beyond our technical ability to address. In the past, some residents who have attempted to participate in meetings electronically have been unable to do so or have otherwise been dissatisfied. While we will always try hard to get the technology to work properly, if participation in this meeting is important to you, in-person attendance is more reliable and considerably less prone to technical problems.