

TOWN OF LYME  
Select Board Meeting  
September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016  
8:00AM

Town Office conference Room  
Approved: September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members: Susan J. MacKenzie (Chair), Charles J. Smith, Patty Jenks. Administrative Assistant, Dina Cutting. Planning and Zoning, David Robbins. Emergency Management Director, Margaret Caudill-Slosberg, Fire Chief Michael Mundy. Police Chief, Shaun O'Keefe. Conservation Commission Chair, Blake Allison. Community members and property owners, Liz Cole, Rich Brown, Judy & Paul Barker, Tammy Bailey Pippin and Mildred Bailey

- 1) At 8:00 AM MacKenzie called the meeting to order.
- 2) No Highway personnel at this monthly meeting.
- 3) Chief Mundy: reported on various topics i.e. there will be no grant for breathing apparatus replacement, this will need to be funded from the Capital Reserve Fund. Mundy will have estimates and amount to the Select Board for budgeting purposes. Hose testing needs to be done, a company will be hired to come in and help with this job. David Kahn with a residence on Pout Pond Lane put in a fire pond this year. The town need to secure an easement for this. The board and Mundy reviewed the budget process and the Capital Reserve Funds for vehicle replacement. The Fire Dept. is working to pin point what type of vehicle will serve the Town the best.
- 4) 8:30AM: Emergency Management Director, Police Chief and Fire Chief all shared concerns over the announcement that went on the Town web site and the Lyme listserv concerning the after action report. It was noted that some community members felt the message sent out was a negative message to the community about the Emergency personnel. After a lengthy discussion MacKenzie noted this was simply a communication to the community in keeping with the Board's mission to keep people informed about town events and was not intended to be negative in any way. It was agreed any post-emergency reports to the community and or made public will come from the Emergency Management Director.
- 5) Chief O'Keefe announced that East Thetford Road will be closed from September 12 to September 16 by the State DOT for culvert replacement.
- 6) 8:45AM: Jenks moved to approve the minutes of August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Seconded by Smith. Voted unanimously in favor.
- 7) Matter arising & new business:
  - Jenks reported on the matting and other options for the common: roughly \$200.00 to \$300.00 for the common skating rink area. Jenks will inform Dave Celone of this cost.
  - No Parking signs for the Police parking spots at the Town Offices need to be checked on. Chief O'Keefe will do this.
  - Robbins recommended checking in to having the frequency of the highway radios changed before purchasing new ones. O'Keefe confirmed the radios are too old for this.
  - Smith recommended the board hold off on the committee for Holt's ledge climbing. He would like to do some research on the subject and talk with other towns that have gone through this. He will report back to the board at a later date. The sense of the Board was to support this.
  - An additional registration fee can be added to vehicle registrations as

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recommended by the Tax Advisory Committee if approved at Town Meeting.

According to the vehicle registration numbers from 2015 it could have generated approximately \$14,000 in fees if the interpretation of the law is correct.

- 8) 9:00AM: Water height in Post Pond: Concerns were expressed with the water height being too high and property being flooded. The gauge at the boat landing is at 2'9" and has been at or around this mark for some time now. Cutting reviewed what had happened in the past and what options there were for this to be addressed. There are 2 large beaver dams in Clay Brook holding the water back. A town employee has been breaching the lower dam but not the upper one. The upper dam needs to be breached as soon as possible. The Select Board has committed to breaching the beaver dams when the water reaches 2.5 on the gauge. Some questions as to if the gauge was set correctly were noted. Rich Brown noted the height numbers from the old water release policy. He will communicate with Blake Allison on this subject. Blake Allison of the Conservation Commission noted the CC was not going to do anything formally to prevent the Board from breaching the beaver dams but cautioned it be done in accordance with the old water release policy for erosion and safety concerns. It was noted the mean high water mark was 3' and a discussion concerning the meaning of this term took place. Loch Lyme Lodge has noted damage and concern for the perched beach they installed a few years ago. This has been under water and is causing damage to the soil and wall. It was their understanding the water would be kept at 2.5' or below. The challenges of regulating a body of water were discussed. Paul Barker noted the upper beaver dams in Clay Brook is the largest dam he has seen in years. The discussion ended with the understanding that the Town would continue to breach both dams until the water level on the gauge reached 2'5". The employee will call Rich Brown when they are breaching the dam. Cutting will keep in touch with Rich Brown and if there are any concerns, questions or problems the Barkers, Browns and Coles are to call Cutting and report it.
- 9) 9:45AM: Smith moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91A: 3 II (c) for the purpose of discussing matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person. Seconded by Jenks. Voted unanimously by a roll call vote. Present for this non-public was Sue MacKenzie, Patricia Jenks, Jay Smith and Dina Cutting. Mildred Bailey and Tammy Bailey- Pippin.  
At 9:55AM the board returned to public session having discussed matters if discussed in public likely would affect adversely the reputation of a person. MacKenzie moved to seal these minutes until June 1 2017. Seconded by Smith voted unanimously.
- 10) MacKenzie recommended the board approve allowing a volunteer group who will be cleaning up the River bank in Lyme be allowed to utilize the recycling bins. This will be on a day and time the Transfer Station is not normally open to the public. MacKenzie will meet them there to open the gate and make sure things go where they need to. The board supported this.
- 11) Workscore: The board does not want to utilize this group for advertisement for the Town of Lyme.
- 12) 10:00AM-David Robbins: The board discussed inner office issues concerning work being done in a timely fashion. It was noted an "official complaint" brought to a Select Board member could and should have been discussed with in the office staff. Robbins indicated that

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hadn't worked. Cutting noted the issue of an accurate address list- is now up to date and on the shared drive. People will need to go to the shared drive and get the information themselves. Robbins noted he will be off Friday and Tuesday of next week.

13) New business:

- CLD for Berway Farm project is waiting for comments from Willis on the revised engineering plan. The board members felt this was not necessary. MacKenzie will communicate this to CLD.
- Hidden Valley: this looks to be a 2 week project. They may need to do it in sections. They need to wait for the permit to come back with and special conditions to be considered if necessary before any plans can be made.
- Community Care work day: In October, if the board can think of any projects for them send an email and they will make arrangements. Kathy McGowan is the contact.
- Smith cleanup: MacKenzie left a message concerning a vehicle which was scheduled for removal by Sunday August 28th. It has not been moved yet. Next on-site check will be on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM.

14) Public Comment: None

15) Report of wood cut signed for Timothy & Tammy Olsen in the amount of \$120.49 was reviewed and signed.

16) MS-1 Was reviewed and signed.

17) On September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 11:00AM regulatory officials from Department of the Army Corps of Engineers will meet to inspect sections of the River road.

18) NH State DOT will be doing borings for the bridge work and reminded that the town had requested to "piggyback" on the effort to gain more detail about the slump problem. It was the sense of the Board not to take the states' time doing this as a decision has been made on how best to proceed and wheels are set in motion to that end. The Board appreciates that DOT extended the advisory.

19) Committee & Commission:

- Assessing Committee: The committee met and will be interviewing 3 candidates in the coming week.
- Coffee hour: Rich Brown-Post Pond water height. Rusty Keith assessing information.
- Road Committee: They agreed not to support doing any more borings for the Slump on River Road. Discussed returning paved roads to dirt roads. Concerns about not getting ahead were discussed. The long range plan needs to be based on available finances. The committee will be working on a presentation for the community to inform people on these upcoming plans and potential costs. Smith noted the Block Grant funding was the traditional source of funding for upkeep of paved roads. This money has not been used for more than 3 years. The roads are going to continue to get worse, the committee needs to make it a priority to come up with this plan.

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20) Ongoing:

- It was noted some concerns had been reported about lack of signage when roads are closed due to work. Citizens are getting all the way to the work site and then having to turn around and go back to maneuver around the closed section. Jenks will let the Highway Dept. know about the request to put signs at intersections and beginning of roads to notify the closure.
- Capital Reserve Fund for Transfer Station was briefly discussed. The Transfer Station Committee needs to come up with a figure to recommend so this can be included in the Public Works Facility CRF.
- Upcoming budget cycle: Cutting to come to the board with a tentative schedule. Various items for the 2017 budget were discussed, i.e. Maintenance employee, highway- increasing material line, grader proposal needs to be included in information. Replacement vehicle spreadsheet needs to be updated-Smith to do.

21) Erosion on the Connecticut River: Ross McIntyre came before the board and requested a bill be sent to TransCanada for all the erosion repairs the Town has done to date. TransCanada should be held responsible for these costs. The sense of the board was to invoice them for the known costs to date and invoice them with a projected completion cost for each project.

22) At 11:00 AM MacKenzie moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91A: 3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.. Seconded by Jenks. Voted unanimously by a roll call vote. Present for this non-public meeting was Sue MacKenzie, Patricia Jenks, Jay Smith.

23) Returned to public session at 11:45 AM

24) At 11:45AM Jenks moved to adjourn. Seconded by Smith. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dina Cutting