TOWN OF LYME Select Board Meeting November 4th, 2021 10:00 AM

Approved: November 18th, 2021

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members Judith Brotman, Benjamin Kilham and David Kahn; Administrator Dina Cutting

Public: Karen Keane (zoom), John Biglow (in person), Hebe Quinton (zoom), Donald Graham (in person)

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.

Please call in on the conference number: Join Zoom Meeting

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: 899 0194 3299

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 except during periods of public comments. A role call will be conducted to indicate public members attending via phone.

- **1.** At 8:39 AM Mrs. Brotman opened the non-public session under RSA A II (a) personnel Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor. Present for this meeting were: Brotman, Kahn, Cutting and Elliott.
- 2. At 8:57 AM the Board returned to public session with no votes having been taken.
- 3. Ms. Brotman opened the public meeting.
- 4. Public comment:
 - ✓ Karen Keene asked the Board to comment on the mask resolution. Ms. Keane wonders where the Board is getting its information on which to base these decisions. She also wondered if the Board foresees a time that the mask resolution would not be in place. Ms. Keane is concerned that some residents' voices or ideas are not being heard and wonders if something could be implemented to make sure everyone is heard. Ms. Keane believes every individual has a choice to be in a public place. The Board responded that they are relying on the knowledge

- and expertise of our Town Health Officer and Emergency Management Director, as well as following CDC guidance. Mrs. Brotman explained this is a very confusing time for all and the Select Board is trying to do their best to keep everyone safe and healthy by following the advice they are being given.
- ✓ Mr. Biglow was unable to attend the assessor Todd Haywood's presentation and was trying to piece together the information given. Mr. Biglow requested a copy of this years' Old-to-New report and MS-1.
- 5. The Prosecutors Association has gone through some changes and the fee has increased to total roughly \$10,200. Chief O'Keefe recommends that the Town stay as a part of the Association even with the increased cost. The Board concurred with the recommendation and will ensure the 'legal' budget is adequate to cover the fee increase.
- 6. At Donald Graham's request, the Board briefly reviewed the gate placements on the old section of River Road. The Board is in agreement that they should place the gates and some signage as discussed. The Board will continue to receive other ideas and suggestions from the Conservation Commission going forward.
- 7. Capital Reserve Fund:
 - ✓ Mrs. Brotman noted that the budget committee is requesting a projection of capital expenses and money warrant articles at their next meeting. Given that there isn't adequate information at this time, no decisions were made. Ms. Cutting is going to provide a spreadsheet showing the current .funding level in the CRF. The Board will return to this topic after receiving the updated spread sheet.
- 8. Mr. Kilham moved to accept the Department of Transportation's reclassification letter pertaining to the road known locally as 'back side of the common'. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.
 - ✓ The public meeting to discuss the 'backside of the common' will be scheduled for Thursday, November 18th, 2021 from 6:00 PM − 7:00 PM.
- 9. The Select Board meeting on Thursday, December 2nd, 2021 is cancelled due to a schedule change and will be rescheduled to Wednesday, December 1st, 2021.
- 10. Ms. Brotman moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of October 21st, 2021. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Two in favor and one abstain (Kilham).
- 11. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of October 27th, 2021. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Two in favor and one abstain (Kilham).
- 12. The Board reviewed and approved the manifest.
- 13. Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission: 2022 Household Hazardous Waste Collections Contract:
 - ✓ Mr. Kahn moved to approve and sign the contract with Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
- 14. The Board signed two Intent-to-Cut applications.
- 15. The Board signed a Report of Wood cut for \$2,300.60.
- 16. Ms. Cutting updated the Board on various documents:
 - ✓ MS-4, MS-535, and MS-1
 - ✓ The Board signed these documents and the final documents will be sent in to the Department of Revenue.
- 17. Email has been received pertaining to the East Thetford VT/Lyme NH Bridge:

- ✓ The Board understands that an added pedestrian/bike walkway would be very beneficial, however, the information Mr. Kahn received from the state was clear that this idea cannot happen without significant design changes to the bridge, which would cause major delays to the refurbishment of the bridge. Also the State noted that this bridge is classified as an historic bridge and significant changes to the bridge would have the consequence of altering that classification. The bridge is in very bad shape and the current state plans call for construction to begin in the spring. There were a number of public hearings and significant time to share these concerns with the state before now. At this point the Board believes for the safety of the public it is most prudent to move forward with the repair of the bridge as presently designed. The Board believes that in the future a location for a pedestrian/bike bridge across the river can be located and the bridge constructed.
- 18. The Board reviewed a contract for the removal of the diseased or dying trees on the common. Mrs. Brotman moved to sign the contract for the removal of 4 trees on the common for \$3,500. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote
- 19. At 10:29 AM Mrs. Brotman moved to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) personnel.
- 20. At 11:05 AM Mr. Kilham moved to re-enter the public session. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. Mrs. Cutting will request information from legal and report back to the Board.
- 21. At 11:05 AM Mr. Kilham moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor 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.