

TOWN OF LYME
Select Board Meeting
Thursday January 12th, 2023
9:00 AM
Approved: January 26th, 2023

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members Judith Brotman, Benjamin Kilham, David Kahn, Administrator Dina Cutting, Police Chief Shaun O'Keefe, Sergeant Camden Elliott, Road Agent Scott Bailey, Fire Chief Aaron Rich.

Dartmouth College representatives: Daniel Justynski and David Newlove

Public: Michael Whitman, John Biglow, Jan Williams (via Zoom)

1. At 9:05AM Mrs. Brotman opened the meeting.
2. Public comment:
 - Ms. Williams again inquired about the timing of Vision online database updates. Mrs. Cutting stated she will contact Vision to confirm this information and get back to Ms. Williams and the Board.
 - Mr. Whitman informed the Select Board that a petitioned warrant article for a town-wide property revaluation will be submitted prior to the February 8th deadline. He noted that some community members feel there were many errors in the 2021 revaluation. Mrs. Brotman informed Mr. Whitman that if this petition article should come forward it should have funding associated with it in order to permit such additional revaluation performed. At this time, it was noted that the DRA has approved the revaluation performed last period and numbers show that this revaluation is not flawed. People may not be happy with the numbers but the assessor and Select Board cannot control the sales. Mrs. Brotman and Mr. Kilham expressed the view that waiting until the real estate market settles down may be the best strategy at this time. Mrs. Brotman and Mr. Kilham indicated that they believe a new town-wide revaluation will cost between \$80,000 and \$100,000 and will most likely come out with the same or close to the same results because of the current state of the real estate market in Lyme.
3. At 9:12 AM Road Agent Scott Bailey reviewed the Chipper proposals. At the moment, the Highway Department is using a rental Chipper which the Town was offered the opportunity to purchase for \$25,500. The Highway Department has had the chance to try this Chipper out, and it performs well. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the purchase of the Chipper totaling \$25,500.00. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. Mr. Bailey updated the Board on truck options for the Highway Department. Mr. Bailey compared specifications of certain trucks and expressed his view that a Freightliner would be the most effective.
4. The Board reviewed the Hazardous Waste Agreement. Mrs. Brotman moved to approve the Hazardous Waste Agreement, as well as authorize Mrs. Cutting to sign the Agreement. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
5. Mrs. Brotman moved to approve the public session minutes from the meeting of Thursday December 29th, 2022, and two sets of non-public session minutes from December 29th, 2022. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
6. The Milfoil grant was reviewed. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the application and authorize the signing of the Milfoil Grant. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. Mrs. Cutting will sign these documents on behalf of the Board.
7. Daniel Justynski, Director of Real Estate and David Newlove, Associate Vice President, Business & Hospitality from Dartmouth College joined the meeting to speak about traffic control and other issues at the Dartmouth College Skiway. Sergeant Camden Elliott indicated that the Lyme PD has traffic concerns, especially on race days when the influx of traffic significantly increases. Sergeant Elliott suggested that placing traffic cones and/or snow fencing near the over flow parking lot could help to try and deter people from parking on or near the roadway. Mr. Newlove

stated that they are aware of the issues, and are willing to work with the Town and Lyme PD to find a solution to these issues. Staffing at Dartmouth Skiway has been an issue this year, which has added to the concerns identified by Sergeant Elliott. Mrs. Brotman requested Dartmouth Skiway let Lyme PD know in advance when an event is scheduled to occur so that the Town can be more prepared for the influx of traffic. Mr. Newlove stated that they do have a schedule of events and they try to notify Lyme a day or two in advance of each event. Mr. Newlove was advised that a day or two is often not sufficient time for Lyme PD to arrange for special event coverage. When questioned about the Lodge offering food and liquor this year, Mr. Newlove stated that they are not offering indoor food at the cafeteria. They have a box truck that comes occasionally, but due to staffing constraints, no alcohol is being sold at this point. Additionally, Dartmouth is working with the State to see if they can use water sourced from Grant Brook to help with making snow.

8. At 9:44 AM Fire Chief Aaron Rich, spoke to the Board about a 30KW, 50-amp service generator for the Fire Department through the State program they are a part of. This piece of equipment would be kept at the Fire Station, but would be beneficial for other Town needs. Under the program, there is zero out of pocket acquisition cost to the Town to obtain the generator; the only immediate costs to the Town are those associated with travel to pick up the generator in Massachusetts. The generator appears to be in excellent condition, has been used very sparingly, and has been well maintained. Mr. Kahn moved to approved the application for the generator. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. The Board signed the application with Mrs. Cutting as the witness.
9. Mr. Kahn moved to approve three manifests. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
10. The Board reviewed the Proposed Budget and Warrant Articles:
 - Mrs. Brotman expressed concern with funds for another Town Wide Revaluation, if that is proposed during Town Meeting. Mrs. Brotman expressed the view that additional funding can be proposed from the floor as long as it does not go over the 10% rule. Mr. Kilham expressed his hope that when/if this warrant article is proposed, all the “errors” that some residents believe occurred are explained in detail for people to understand why we should be spending this kind of money so soon.
 - Capital Reserve Fund review: The Board discussed increasing the Property Reappraisal line and the Fire fighter’s equipment CRF. After a discussion the Board decided not to increase the Property Reappraisal line but to increase the Fire Fighting Safety Equipment line by another \$10,000. This brings the total for Fire Fighters equipment to \$20,000. The “to Capital Reserve Funds” will now be \$390,000.
11. Mrs. Cutting asked the Board to consider allowing three employees to carry over their earned vacation time into year 2023. Mrs. Brotman moved to allow these employees to carry over their vacation time with the understanding that it must be used by June 1, 2023. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
12. There are 12 Fire Fighters that took a specialized course in driving. The cost was \$2,580. This expenditure was approved by the Board.
13. Chief O’Keefe presented the Board with a concern brought to him by a resident. A resident of Shoestrap Road has complained about speeding vehicles. The Lyme PD has investigated, but has not observed vehicles traveling at excessive rates of speed. The concerned resident inquired as to whether the Board would be supportive of closing the section of Shoe strap Road deemed Class VI subject to gates and bars? Mr. Kahn asked the opinion of Chief O’Keefe in this matter. Chief does not see a problem with this idea, but the resident themselves should be willing to do the research and take any necessary steps to bring this idea to Town Meeting/and the Board. The Board advised Chief O’Keefe to encourage the resident to proceed as he or she sees fit.
14. At 10:33 AM Mrs. Brotman moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3 II. (l) Legal. Present for all or part of this session were Board members Mrs. Brotman, Mr.

Kilham, Mr. Kahn; and Administrator Mrs. Cutting, Chief Shaun O'Keefe, and Town Counsel Walter Mitchell. The Board reviewed a legal matter with Mr. Mitchell.

15. At 11:26 Mrs. Brotman moved to return to public session. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor.
Mrs. Brotman moved to seal these minutes. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote.
16. The Board reviewed office security. The Board would like the office to continue with the past practices.
17. At 11:38 Mr. Kahn moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3 II. (c) reputation. Present for all or part of this session were Board members Mrs. Brotman, Mr. Kilham, Mr. Kahn; and Administrator Mrs. Cutting. The Board reviewed and discussed a hardship abatement application.
18. At 11:43AM Mr. Kahn moved to return to public session. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor. Mr. Kahn moved to grant a partial abatement in the amount of \$3,829.57. The Board voted as long as the balance is paid by or before June 1st 2023 there will be no interest or fees applied. Seconded by Mrs. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.
19. Mrs. Brotman moved to seal these minutes. Seconded by Mr. Kuhn. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote.
20. At 11:44 Mr. Kilham moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mrs. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Toland