

TOWN OF LYME
Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 21st, 2023
9:00 AM
Approved: October 19, 2023

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. Select Board/Assessing Clerk Jordan Toland via Zoom, Road Agent Scott Bailey, pro temp or/Select Board member Michael Hinsley.
Public: Richard Brown. Jan Williams via zoom

1. At 9:07 AM Mrs. Brotman opened the meeting.
2. Public Comment:
 - Ms. Williams asked where she could find the Old to New report. Mrs. Cutting explained it is on the home page of the website under a tab labeled '2023 Assessing Information'.
3. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the public and non-public minutes from the meeting of Thursday August 24th, 2023. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
4. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of Thursday September 5th, 2023. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
5. The Board reviewed the manifest. Mr. Kilham moved to approve the manifest in the amount of \$81,645.14. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
6. Road Agent, Scott Bailey, gave an update on Highway Department projects. Goose Pond Road is getting its base paving layer today, and will hopefully be finished with this step today or tomorrow. In the first week of October the final paving work is planned to begin. Mr. Bailey suggested we do an extra section of paving from the four corners on Goose Pond Road up Baker Hill to the first driveway. This section of Baker Hill has been a washout problem. The Road crew put additional drainage under Goose Pond Road at the 4 corners to help with this problem. Some additional shim work needs to be done at the 4 corners location also. Mr. Kilham moved to do the extra paving at the Baker Hill four corners that Mr. Bailey suggests. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion with the understanding that there are sufficient funds in the budget. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. Mr. Bailey discussed aprons on certain roads. Preston Road and Whipple Hill Road will need more than just grading to address the water issues. Mr. Bailey suggests a warrant article for road aprons. The estimates should be coming in soon. A projection of next years' projects include; shim and overlay on Acorn Hill Road, shim and overlay on Grafton Turnpike by the Skiway and to address Hewes Brook Bridge decking. Mr. Hanson had advised Mr. Bailey to pave over the decking of Hewes Brook Bridge in order to get maximum longevity out of this wooden bridge. Mrs. Cutting is going to email Mr. Hanson to get additional information. Mr. Bailey also expressed that he would like roadside mowing to be a separate line within the operating budget. The grader will need new tires this coming year. The grader tires are estimated to cost \$2,500.00 per tire. Mr. Bailey noted the new highway employees are doing great work!
7. Mrs. Brotman invited Mr. Michael Hinsley, a retired Select Board member, to join the Board for the review of the Kilham Bear Center for qualification as an exempt property. Mr. Kahn moved to appoint Mr. Hinsley to serve temporarily as a voting Select Board member to address this matter.

Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. Following Mr. Hinsley's appointment, Mr. Kahn and Mr. Kilham recused themselves from the discussion and left the room.

8. Mr. Hinsley explained he has no connection, either legally or monetarily to the Kilham Bear Center. Mrs. Brotman and Mr. Hinsley reviewed the material. Mr. Hinsley moved to accept the Kilham Bear Center to continue being exempt as in previous years. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. Mrs. Brotman thanked Mr. Hinsley for temporarily serving as a Board member for this matter. Mr. Kahn and Mr. Kilham rejoined the meeting.
9. Emergency Management Director, Mr. Hinsley, explained that EMD will be looking into purchasing a bigger, more high-powered blower for use in keeping roadway ditches and culverts clear from storms and prevent further road damage due to blockages. It is imperative that roads stay as clear as possible during storms for safety reasons. Mr. Hinsley noted the Police, Highway and Fire departments have all supported this request. The Board will look into funding this purchase from this year's budget.
10. The Board reviewed an abatement for 711 River Road. Mr. Haywood recommends there be an assessment reduction in the amount of \$171,500.00, the new total assessment is \$1,574,800.00. Mr. Kilham moved to approve the abatement recommendation provided by the Assessor, Todd Haywood. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
11. The Board discussed the Edgell Bridge and its condition. The Select Board believes this bridge is in need of emergency repair. This project has not gone out to bid, but the Town has received a recommendation from Mr. Stan Graton, a well-respected Historical Bridge Repair professional. The town's policy has a section on dealing with emergencies. Mr. Kahn would like Mrs. Cutting to reach out to Town Counsel and get their opinion on treating this as an emergency. Mrs. Brotman would like to move forward with Mr. Graton for the Edgell Bridge repair contingent on advice from Town Counsel. Mr. Kilham moved to proceed with Mr. Graton for Edgell Bridge repair contingent on Town Counsel advice. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. Mrs. Cutting is also still working with the Bridge Historical Society hoping for a grant for this project. In addition, some community members in town have reached out to Mrs. Cutting, and have informed her they are starting a campaign to raise some funds towards this project. The sense of the Board was to support this fundraising effort and noted that the funds will be accepted by the Town and tracked in a dedicated revenue account. This historical bridge is an important part of Lyme and the maintenance and repair of it is important. The Board discussed ways to limit traffic on the bridge. Mrs. Cutting will ask Chief O'Keefe to bring some information back to the Board on this matter.
12. At 10:13 AM Mrs. Brotman moved to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote. Present for this session were Judy Brotman, David Kahn, Ben Kilham and Dina Cutting. The Board reviewed a hardship abatement.
13. At 10:27AM the Board returned to public session having unanimously voted to grant a hardship abatement. (Mr. Kilham moved to grant the abatement, Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously in favor)

14. The Bargain barn gave the yearly Transfer station usage report. They thanked the Board for the continued use of the Transfer Station.
15. The Select Board meeting on October 5, 2023 will be a budget review only session.
16. At 10:30AM Mr. Killham moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Toland