

TOWN OF LYME
Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 9th, 2024
Public 9:00 AM
Approved: Thursday January 25th, 2024

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members Judith Brotman, Ben Kilham (via Zoom) and David Kahn; Administrator Dina Cutting. Road Agent Scott Bailey, Public James Graham, SB/Assessing Clerk Jordan Toland via Zoom.

Select Board member David Kahn left the meeting at 11:20 AM.

Public James Graham, Public via Zoom - Hebe Quinton, Rusty Keith

1. At 9:00 AM Mrs. Brotman opened the public meeting.
2. Public comment:
 - Mr. Graham asked if Little Town Meeting or an informational session will be held to discuss and understand the warrant articles. Mrs. Brotman stated that the Board is unsure if Little Town Meeting will be taking place, but suggests we reach out to the Librarian, Judy Russell, to see if she would be willing to host another candidate/informational session.
 - Ms. Quinton commented on continuing issues with Shoestrap Road.
3. The Board reviewed warrant article #16. – Lyme Electric Aggregation Committee (LEAC). Mr. Kahn moved to accept warrant article #16. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
4. Road Agent Scott Bailey presented a quote from CAT for a new loader. Mr. Bailey received information on two machines. The price ranges from \$138,000.00 to \$144,000.00. Mr. Bailey recommends the 420XE Loader/Backhoe priced at \$144,000.00. There will be a warrant article presented at Town Meeting for this item. The Board supports Mr. Bailey's decision in this matter.
5. Mr. Bailey also reported that Grafton Turnpike is taking more and more labor and materials to maintain. This last mud season the Highway Department brought out 38 loads to Grafton Turnpike. Past Ben Kilham's house there are no residents. Most of the traffic is coming from Cannan. The Board will look into classifying this road as a seasonal road. Mrs. Cutting will do some research on the qualifications of a seasonal road.
6. The Board reviewed warrant article #10 for Shoestrap Road. There was a consensus of the Board to accept warrant article #10. Mrs. Brotman moved to accept warrant article #10. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
7. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of Thursday, December 28th, 2024. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
8. The Board reviewed the EMS contract with Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. The Board has some clarifying questions. Mr. Kahn is going to contact Mr. Trimarco to clarify some points in the contract.
9. The Board reviewed the following proposed warrant articles:
 - Warrant Article #3(operating budget): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 4 (Capital Reserve Funds): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 5 (Edgell Bridge): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.

- Warrant Article # 6 (Block Grant): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 7 (withdrawal from Public Works CRF): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 8 (withdrawal from Vehicle CRF): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 9 By consensus earlier in the meeting the Board approved the purchase of new backhoe at an approximate cost of \$144,000 to come from the Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.
 - Warrant Article # 10: Earlier in the meeting Mrs. Brotman moved putting this article on the warrant. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 11 (Independence Day celebration): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 12 (Milfoil treatment): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 13 (withdrawal from Cemetery Maintenance): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 14 (Veterans' Tax Credit): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 15 (Veterans' Tax Credit): Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
 - Warrant Article # 16 (Lyme Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan): Earlier in the meeting the Board voted to put this article on the warrant. Mrs. Brotman moved. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
10. The Board reviewed the operating budget. The bottom-line numbers were reviewed. At this time the budget is projecting a 3.6% increase. A final vote on the proposed 2024 operating budget will be taken at the January 25th Board meeting.
11. Primary Election Select Board schedule:
- Judy Brotman: 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM
 - Ben Kilham: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
 - David Kahn: 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM
12. The Board reviewed the contract with 3G Construction (Stan Graton) for Edgell Bridge. Mr. Kahn moved to approve Mrs. Brotman to sign the contract for the Board. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor. Mrs. Brotman signed the contract with 3G Construction.
13. Mrs. Brotman moved to approve two additional ballot clerks (Lynn McCrae & Barbara Sterns). Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
14. Mr. Kilham moved to approve an Intent to Cut for Map 201 Lot 17. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
15. Planning and Zoning administrator, David Robbins, came to the Board to discuss a FEMA update. The Board is asked to consider and vote on a Resolution to update the Floodplain Ordinance and to adopt new FEMA maps and flood insurance study. Mr. Robbins recommends the Board approve the FEMA requested actions. Mrs. Brotman moved approval. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.
16. Mrs. Brotman regretfully accepted Marylou Robinson's resignation from the position of Town Treasurer. Seconded by Mr. Kahn. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.
17. At 11:27 AM Mrs. Brotman moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Reputation. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote. The following individuals were present for the non-public session: Select Board members Judith Brotman, Ben Kilham and David Kahn; and Administrator Dina Cutting.

18. At 11:50 Mrs. Brotman moved to return to public session. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- On a motion by Mrs. Brotman and seconded by Mr. Kilham, the Board voted to grant a hardship abatement of 50% of overdue taxes and waive the interest and fees.
- On a motion by Mrs. Brotman and seconded by Mr. Kilham, the Board voted to accept the recommendation of the out-going Treasurer and appoint Michelle Whitcomb to fill the vacated Town Treasurer position.
- On a motion by Mrs. Brotman and seconded by Mr. Kilham, the Board voted to correct an error in the amount of a tax abatement granted earlier in the year. At 11

19. At 11:52 AM Mrs. Brotman moved to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation, to discuss a welfare issue. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Motion voted unanimously in favor. Present for this session were Board members Mrs. Brotman and Mr. Kilham, and Administrator Mrs. Cutting.

20. At 12:06 PM the Board returned to public session, no action having been taken.

21. At 12:08 PM Mr. Kilham moved to adjourn. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Toland