

**Board members present:** John R. LaCourse, Chairman; Selectman W. James Griswold and Selectman Lombardo.

**Others present:** Town Administrator; Diane L. Guimond, Randy Stevens, Bill Humm, Laurel Cox, Dave Cedarholm, Town Secretary; Dawn Hayes.

1. Chairman LaCourse Called the meeting to Order at 6:00 pm.
2. Randy Stevens of the Highway Department; reviews the status of the High Road Bridge project. He presents pictures of the bridge dating back to 1978. He has contacted the DOT regarding acceptance of a smaller width to the bridge. The width of the proposed bridge was a major concern of residents during the recent public hearing. He is still awaiting their response. Randy states, there is enough money in the expendable trust for this project, however spending those funds would need to be voted on at Town Meeting. Randy recommends delaying the project until it can be voted on at Town Meeting.

Town Administrator Diane Guimond recommends nearby residents be notified that the Bridge project is going to be discussed at the Public Hearing on January 7, 2010.

Selectman Lombardo recommends Fire Chief Mike Blake present safety concerns at upcoming Public Hearings and possible delay in emergency response times if the bridge becomes washed out.

3. Laurel Cox of Land Protection presents an update on Land Protection activities. She has reviewed and revised her job description. She will be proposing two warrant articles for \$240,000 for land use change tax, the funds will come out of the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Trust Fund.

The board discusses the direction they would like to see her position focused on.

Selectman Griswold remarks that 20% of the land in Lee is already protected by easements. He is concerned that little or no development will increase the tax burden on residents. He recommends Laurel's position move in the direction of seeking out clean business development.

Chairman LaCourse requests the direction of this position be focused on promoting clean, green, low impact businesses.

Selectman Lombardo recommends Laurel seek out property owners that are interested in developing these types businesses.

4. Bill Humm of the Conservation Commission presents an update on volunteer efforts in repairing bridges in the Town Forest. Southeast Water Shed Alliance will have their first meeting this coming Monday. Bill is highly involved with ongoing efforts to resolve the easement issues at the Coppal House Farm. He feels reasonable negotiations and a resolution should be able to take place. A \$25,000

appropriation into the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund (part of the CIP) will be presented in a warrant article at Town Meeting. The Commission may request up to \$150,000 at Town Meeting for the proposed easement at the 27 acre Palmer Farm on Wednesday Hill Rd.

5. Town Administrator; Diane Guimond requests signature of the Board on a letter to Chittenden discontinuing payroll services. As of January 1, 2010 payroll will be processed in house by the Town Bookkeeper.

A new printer is required for this process. Selectman Griswold requests that the IT director (not present) submit explanatory details of this purchase to the Board and the Advisory Budget Committee Chairman.

6. Town Administrator; Diane Guimond presents a request by the IT Director; Chris Buslovich (not present) for the Boards approval on the security system of the Town Buildings.

Monies have been appropriated for Town Buildings. There is approximately \$8,000 left. However, currently there is a concern with the generator at the Safety Complex.

Selectman Lombardo is concerned with the dispatch and response time. He would like Chris to compare Strafford and UNH costs and response times.

Chairman LaCourse approves the new security system with the condition of explanation of response time and dispatch location. Both Selectman Lombardo and Griswold agree.

7. Dave Cedarholm updates the Board and reviews the Durham/UNH Water System report prepared by Emery & Garrett Inc. New monitoring wells have been installed in Durham on Packers Falls Rd. A meter has been placed in a culvert on Jenkins Rd to monitor surface water. A pilot test well will be drilled next summer. They are looking for an output of 250 gallons per minute. He estimates that it is a \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 project. However, the Town of Durham has received some federal stimulus money to fund part of the project.

Dave requests the Board review the report and educate Lee residents that the well monitoring project is designed to limit the impact on residential wells here in Lee.

8. Town Administrator; Diane Guimond reviews residents complaints regarding tax bills being posted on the Web Site.

Selectman Griswold recommends leaving the bills online at this time and revisit the matter should more residents express concerns. The Board agrees.

9. Town Secretary; Dawn Hayes request signature for the Town Bookkeeper; Joanne Clancy (not present) of the Board on escrow account for the bond collected on excavation tax.

10. Chairman LaCourse has finished reviewing the employee evaluations. Selectman Griswold will review them next. When all Board members have reviewed them, Department Heads will be evaluated by the Board.
11. Selectman Griswold requests the other Board members attend the Advisory Budget Committee meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>. He states the ABC has worked hard during the budget process and expects the Board will be happy with the end result.
12. **Approval of Minutes:** Selectman Lombardo motions to accept the amended minutes of November 17 and December 1, 2009. Chairman LaCourse seconds.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:

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Dawn Hayes, Town Secretary

Minutes accepted by:

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John R. LaCourse, Chairman

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W. James Griswold

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Joseph P. Lombardo  
Lee Board of Selectmen