

Town of Lyme
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for May 19, 2011

1. At 8:00 AM Charles opened the meeting. The following attended part or all of the meeting: Charles Ragan (chair), Simon Carr (member), Richard Vidal (Member), Patty Jenks (Town Clerk), Dina Cutting (Administrative Assistant), Shaun O'Keefe (Police Chief), Stephen Campbell, Lee Larson, Julia Griffin (Fast Roads Chair), Fred Stearns (Road Agent), Peter Holden (Holden Engineering and Surveying Inc.), Mike Smith, Charles and Elaine Hallett, and Tim Cook.
2. Steve, Lee and Julia came in to update the Board on progress with the Fast Roads fiber-optic communications initiative:
 - a. UNH has signed a contract with Waveguide to implement the backbone. There is some further funding required of approximately \$3M in match funds; approximately \$2.1M of this is already in place.
 - b. Fast Roads is anticipating getting several Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to offer services over the link.
 - c. Fast Roads is now resolving the community anchor locations. Steve and Lee volunteered to work with Carole Monroe, Fast Roads' executive director, to determine suitable locations. The Board expressed their thanks for this work. It was noted that, as work develops in the future, it might be advantageous for the town to set up a technology committee.
 - d. It was noted that this phase of the project is only the "Middle Mile". An approximate cost for the final connection ("Last Mile") is in the region of \$2,500-\$2,700 per house (conceivably \$2-3M for Lyme).
3. Peter Holden came in to discuss the issues with and possible solutions for the River Road. Several members of the public were also present and offered their comments:
 - a. Peter said that the initial cause of the bank collapse was the combination of saturated soil in the adjoining land and then the very high/fast flow of the river. He offered two initial approaches to restoring the bank: either to restore the bank in place, using stone at a shallower angle than the present bank or to relocate the road further from the bank. Subsequently the bank could be restored over several years. His estimate was that this should be done in a maximum of ten years. Either option requires a permit from DES and input from the Connecticut River Advisory Committee. He considered that the cost of preparing the engineering solution and submitting the permit applications was likely to be in the region of \$25,000.
 - b. He noted that there was one portion where rip-rap had been put in (about fifteen years ago) and this was holding up well.
 - c. It did not appear that there were any disaster funds available; it was not of a scale that FEMA would help.
 - d. Mike Smith observed that the stratified soil had caused trouble in the past. He advised that

given the possible cost, the Selectboard should consider all the possible options, not just that of repairing the road.

- e. Charles Hallett, who had been involved with an organization, For Land's Sake, in the past said that he considered the problem was due to the varying water level from the dam operators, as they managed the electricity supply. He considered that the solutions initially laid out would lose the character of a scenic road.
 - f. Elaine Hallett suggested applying a load limit on the road before re-opening it.
 - g. The Board agreed that the safety issues precluded re-opening the road, even as a single lane. They also agreed that they needed to consider further the various options. It is also an issue that should be taken to the Capital Improvement Plan committee. Any option will definitely require public hearings but Simon said that he felt the Board should hold a public meeting to lay out possible options before any decisions were made. It is also
4. The following administrative matters were discussed and actions taken:
- a. The minutes of the meeting of May 12th were approved as submitted.
 - b. A manifest to the value of \$8,121.09 was reviewed and approved.
 - c. Timber Tax Warrants were signed for:

John and Sandra Torget	Map 504 Lot 17	\$325.84
Wayne Pike	Map 407 Lot 133	\$107.33
 - d. A Timber Tax Abatement for Balch, Tensen & Loschivio, Map 415 Lot 30 in the value of \$703.43, due to an administrative error and a revised warrant in the sum of \$85.96 was signed.
 - e. Richard reported on the Planning Board meeting of May 12.
 - f. Dina and Charles reported on the Recreation Commission meeting of May 16:
 - i. DES had refused reconsideration of the beach and ball field permit. They are still awaiting Alteration of Terrain approval.
 - ii. The Commission wants to secure the ball field fencing using volunteer and student labor and the Board gave their approval for this.
 - iii. They are still looking for a further Commission member.
 - g. Simon and Patty reported on the 250th Committee meeting of May 17: Fund raising has been going well and all the plans are taking shape, especially those concerning the catering. The committee had a question regarding liability insurance for use of the Jenks' pit, 1 The Common and Those Guys tents and Dina will check in to this.
 - h. The Board asked Dina to set up initial meetings for the Heritage Commission and CIP Committee.
 - i. The Board agreed to participate in the DRA state wide mosaic parcel mapping project.
 - j. There was a discussion concerning the transfer station:

- i. The Board agreed to write to Lance concerning the issues that had been raised.
 - ii. Given the current out-of-hours usage, the Board agreed that they should be pursuing prices for gates across the entrance to the whole transfer station and highway garage site.
 - iii. There are issues with rats in the transfer station and the Board authorized Dina to employ a professional exterminator. It was hoped that he would also give advice on blocking some of the areas the rats currently nest in.
5. The meeting adjourned at 10:18 AM.

Simon Carr
Recorder