

Town of Lyme
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for August 25, 2011

1. At 8:03 AM Charles opened the meeting. The following attended part or all of the meeting: Charles Ragan (chair), Richard Vidal (member), Simon Carr (member), Patty Jenks (Town Clerk), Dina Cutting (Administrative Assistant), Shaun O'Keefe (Police Chief), Michael Hinsley (Fire Chief), Bill Rossignol (Holden), Paul and Judy Barker, George Hartmann, Carola Lea, Duncan Mackintosh, Regina Laraway, Stan and Harriet Rosenberg (Public).
2. Paul and Judy came in to express their concerns about the water level in Post Pond, which had risen about 3ft on the gauge. The original beaver dams abutting the Chaffee were no longer holding the water level and therefore the Chaffee water release policy was not currently relevant. The RSAs had also been amended and now required written permission from the landowner before the removal of a beaver dam. The beaver dam that was now setting the level was in the old grist mill on Nancy Wray's property. Simon had talked with Nancy about this dam and she had indicated that she was amenable to work on the dam to reduce the pond water level. The Board agreed to ask Nancy for written permission to take the half of the dam on Nancy's property down by between six inches and a foot and to designate Paul Barker and his associates to undertake the work. Simon undertook to liaise with Nancy. (A subsequent conversation with Nancy resulted in the information that she owns to the west back of Clay Brook. She also requested that any material removed from the dam be removed and not just left on the bank.)
3. The following administrative matters were discussed and actions taken:
 - a. The minutes of the meeting of August 18th were approved.
 - b. A manifest to the value of \$47,812.29 was signed. A separate manifest to the value of \$2,955.55 was signed for the Overseer of Public Welfare.
 - a. An increased Current Use Application was signed for Stephen Doig and Marion Cass, Map 414, Lot 11.11 for an increase of 1.86 acres.
 - b. Updated Conservation Restriction Applications were signed for:

Virginia Walton	Map 410, Lot 33.1
Joan Barthold	Mal 407, Lot 81
Kimberley Taylor	Map 406, Lot 36
 - c. Although he had not attended Simon reported on the ZBA meeting of Thursday 11th: The lot line adjustment for Jane Fant's property in Lyme Center had passed. The ZBA had looked at the Dowd's Inn application for a variance. However, portions of the existing septic were under the proposed location for the tavern and Colin Robinson, as representative, had been asked to arrange for a suitable septic design before the ZBA could consider the variance.
 - d. Charles reported on the Energy Committee meeting of Monday 22nd:
 - i. There were concerns that the town was not moving forward as fast as the committee wished.

- ii. Shaun queried the propose energy committee fair being held at the same time as the final flea market in September. He had received no application from the energy committee and he had major concerns about parking. Charles undertook to talk to the energy committee chair, Rebecca Lovejoy to arrange for submission of the necessary request and possible amendment to the date.
- e. Simon reported on the Heritage Commission meeting. They are pursuing grant funding for an inventory of historic structures in town.
- f. Dina reported on Post Pond:
 - i. The recent water samples of 2 CTS and 4 CTS are well below the State’s critical levels.
 - ii. The docks have now been removed.
 - iii. There is a serious issue with the mess from geese that have taken up residence.
- g. The State had reported the completion of the East Thetford Rd./Route 10 intersection.
- h. There was concern about a tree on David Allen’s property at the intersection of Pinnacle Rd and Route 10, creating a major blind spot. Charles undertook to talk to him.
- i. The State had now issued a “no further action” notice following the removal of the buried oil tank at the town offices.
- j. The Board agreed to appoint Thomson Timber to cut the trees on River Rd. at a maximum bid of \$10,985. They are to remove brush but leave the timber for the landowners. Fred will oversee the work. Dina will check with the State on the need for an Intent-to-Cut.
- k. Fred will also talk with Thomson about the leaning trees on Acorn Hill Rd and Franklin Hill Rd. As Acorn Hill Rd. is a scenic road the Board agreed to issue a written instruction to Fred and authorized Charles to sign this on behalf of the Board.
- l. DES has issued a revised permit for the Goose Pond Rd bridge and Daniels notified that they expected to start work September 7th.
- m. The State has notified the town that Edgell Bridge will be closed for 13 weeks from the end of September for the repair work. Shaun will contact DOT for use of DOT signage. Dina will arrange for notices in all the relevant media.
- n. Charles moved and Simon seconded that the contract with Dennis Thorell, as town forester, be renewed. The motion passed unanimously and the Board signed the contract.
- o. Michael Hinsley expressed his concern about the proposal from Grafton County to offer dispatch services. The Board agreed that he and Shaun should review the proposed document from the County before the Board returned it, but also re-iterated that they had no intention of moving from the present satisfactory agreement with Hanover dispatch.
- p. Dina submitted a revised MS-4 and the Board approved this and authorized her to sign it. Diana is still working on the MS-1. There are issues with some properties, which she had hoped to resolve but is now sick.
- q. Patty reported that she planned to come in next month, with Sharon, to discuss possible extension of hours for the Town Clerk’s office.

- r. Shaun reported on some issues at the Transfer Station and the Board agreed to ask Lance to come in and discuss these at next week's meeting.
 - s. Dina reported that a resident wished to come in and talk about issues with roads. Given the previous issues with this resident, the Board referred the issue to town counsel and will respond according to her advice.
2. River Road:
- a. Bill Rossignol presented Holden's initial work on repairing River Rd. The geotech engineers had undertaken some test borings. These had not revealed anything unusual in the soil, which is typical silt. They proposed to stabilize the bank with a 1:1.5 slope of stone, larger at the base and reducing in size to enable some planting to the top. As far as they could determine the Right of Way is 3 rods (49.5ft) wide. The existing roadway is 17-17.5ft wide and they proposed to implement two 9ft wide lanes with 2ft gravel shoulders and a guard rail on the river side. There would be a minimum of 6ft from the top of the stabilized bank to the roadway. The proposed layout would move the road 15-16ft in the center section, reducing at the North and South ends. They would be planning on French drains between the abutters land and the roadway. These clean the runoff before it is discharged in to the river. Bill responded to various questions from the public. He will continue to work on estimated costs for the repair and will report back to the Board.
 - b. Regina Laraway asked about River Rd near to the Hanover town line. Fred had replaced a culvert and the section was now dirt, which was breaking up badly. As this is a paved section, the Board expected that Fred would be re-paving this as soon as the section had stabilized. They will follow up with him.
4. At 10:22 AM Charles moved and Simon seconded that the Board go in to non-public session under 91-A:3 II(b) "employment of a person". Charles, Simon, Richard and Dina attended the non-public session.
- a. The Board voted to appoint Dan Quinn to work as a temporary transfer station attendant at an hourly rate of \$11.00/hour.
 - b. The Board returned to public session at 10:38 AM.
5. At 10:39 AM Charles moved and Simon seconded that the Board go in to non-public session under 91-A:3 II(c) "matters affecting the reputation of a person". Charles, Simon, Richard and Dina attended the non-public session.
- a. There was a brief discussion of matters affecting the reputation of a person.
 - b. The Board returned to public session at 10:44 AM
6. The Board discussed how they should handle planning issues while David was on sick leave. They agreed that the Selectboard should stand in for the Zoning Administrator and hold public hours on Friday mornings.
7. The meeting adjourned at 10:54 AM.

Simon Carr
Recorder

River Road Timeline.

Date	Event: brief summary. Further information in BOS minutes at Town Offices
April 30/May 1, 2011	Heavy river flow washes out a portion of River Rd.
May 2, 2011	BOS meet in emergency session. Vote to authorize tree cutting if necessary (scenic road) and vote to close road with jersey barriers.
May 5, 2011	BOS appoint Holden to undertake initial investigation.
May 19, 2011	Holden reported on two possible approaches for re-instating the road. Both options exceed the town's emergency highway CRF. The failure did not fall within FEMA funds.
May 27, 2011	Simon and Shaun meet with Grafton County Commissioner Ray Burton, Rene Pelletier (DES Wetlands Commissioner), Steve Couture (DES), Richard Roach (Army Corps of Engineers) and Bill Rossignol (Holden). It was made clear there were no state or federal funds available, also that no work could extend the bank in to the river. The advice was to move the road and stabilize the bank.
June 10, 2011	Mailing to all residents confirming that the road will currently remain closed. A public meeting will be held September 14 to lay out all the options, but any votes will have to wait until Town Meeting.
June 16 and June 23, 2011	Citizens request that the road be re-opened to single-track traffic. BOS review the costs and ask Holden to consider this option.
June 22, 2011	NRCS visits the Tullar Farm and views the road.
June 23, 2011	Holden reports that the road is not safe, even as a single-line road. NRCS writes to Shirley Tullar giving her possible grant program information. Also concurs in not re-opening the road.
June 27, 2011	Shirley Tullar passes NRCS information to Selectman Simon Carr.
June 28 and June 29, 2011	BOS staff (Dina) contact NRCS, submit initial verbal notification of application for funds, subsequently followed up with emailed notification to ensure application is within 60 day limit.
July 5, 2011	NRCS staff visits the site and discuss the procedures with staff in respect of the town application for funds. Peter Holden and Simon Carr meet with the adjoining landowners and Upper Valley Land Trust to discuss the possible relocation of the road and the effect of this on their land. Following their provisional agreement, Holden will now prepare a proposed scope of work for submission to the Board.
July 14, 2011	The Board meets with Bill Rossignol (Holden) to review which trees should be removed to ensure the stability of the riverbank.
July 15, 2011	Coos and Grafton counties are declared disaster areas for the May 26-30 rain event, but this does not cover the earlier event. The Board will endeavor to see if they can obtain a waiver, which would cover the earlier event.
August 4, 2011	Collis Adams (DES) meets with the Board and Bill Rossignol (Holden) and accepts the schedule of trees to be removed with minor amendments.
August 11, 2011	Planning Board holds a public hearing for removing trees affecting the bank stability and agrees to do so with conditions.
August 25m 2011	Holden presents an initial solution to the Board

