

Town of Lyme  
Board of Selectmen  
Minutes for September 8, 2011

1. At 8:00 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) and Fred Stearns (Highway Agent)
2. At 8:01 AM Charles moved and Simon seconded that the Board go in to non-public session under 91-A:3 II(c) "Matters concerning the reputation of a person". The motion passed unanimously. Charles, Richard, Simon and Fred attended the NPS session.
  - a. The Board discussed with Fred some issues of road safety.
  - b. The Board returned to public session at 8:05 AM.
  - c. The Board discussed the highway budget with Fred and asked that he give an account of the additional expenditure on Pinnacle Road, so that funds could be transferred from the Emergency Highway Repair Fund.
  - d. The parking of a Hanover school bus in the Highway Facility was discussed and Dina was asked to talk with First Student regarding this.
3. The following administrative matters were discussed and actions taken:
  - a. The minutes of the meeting of September 1<sup>st</sup> were approved.
  - b. A manifest to the value of \$669,581.71 was signed. This included \$600,000 for the school. A separate manifest to the value of \$1,065.55 was signed for the Overseer of Public Welfare.
  - c. Simon reported on the Budget Committee meeting of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>:
    - i. One member was now employed part-time at the school and the committee discussed the possible conflict of interest. They agreed that he should recuse himself from votes on school line items that directly affected him and that this should be made clear at any future meetings.
    - ii. The school had been hit with very high special education needs for this year. This meant that they were likely to deplete most of their reserves in the Special Education Reserve Fund. Because of this they had considered the possibility of a special school meeting and had asked the Budget Committee's view of this move. There was a feeling in the Budget Committee against such a meeting.
  - d. A communication had been received from the Utility Club Beautification Committee regarding weeding/planting at a number of sites in town. The Board had no issues with the work being undertaken at the E. Thetford Rd/Rte 10 intersection but asked Dina to clarify the ownership of the On The Common/Rte 10 land. The Rte 10/High St area is maintained by Bon Thebedo and family and the Utility Club should not be involved that.
  - e. The Board noted the safety issues regarding a tree at the intersection of Pinnacle Rd and

- Rte 10. The landowner had been notified of this but the tree was not in the State nor Town's right-of-way.
- f. The DOT draft ten-year plan had been received. This had put preparatory work on the E. Thetford bridge back to 2014 and the actual engineering work to 2017.
  - g. The Board noted a DOT driveway permit on Route 10 for Map 401 Lot 17.
  - h. The Board noted a Permit-by-notification for dredging a pond at Map 201 Lot 37.
  - i. The Board signed the agreement with Daniels for the additional work required for the second Goose Pond Rd bridge over Hewes Brook.
  - j. The Board signed the agreement to take possession of a 'Those Guys' tents for the duration of the Energy Fair event on September 24.
  - k. The Board noted a letter received from a River Rd resident regarding the road issues.
  - l. The Workers' Compensation Audit had resulted in a \$1900 saving and the Board voted to use this as a credit against the 2012 payment.
  - m. Transfer Station:
    - i. Charles had investigated the unit that Lance had noted, however, the Board felt that there were insufficient funds to purchase this.
    - ii. There was a discussion on the safety issues for citizens endeavoring to dispose of cardboard and commingled containers in to 50-yd dumpsters. The Board authorized Dina to write a memo to Lance asking for the steps to these containers to be chained off with "employee only" signs and notices to be placed asking citizens to place containers in bins at the foot of the dumpsters for the staff to load in to them.
  - n. The Board agreed to lock the fuel rates in with Dead River. This will be \$2.369/gal propane, \$3.37/gal heating oil and rack rate for petrol and diesel.
4. There was discussion on possible funding for River Road work. Dina clarified the situation in respect of expenditure of funds without a special town meeting
  5. At 9:16 AM Charles moved and Simon seconded that the Board go in to non-public session under 91-A:3 II(c) "Matters concerning the reputation of a person". Charles, Simon, Richard, and Dina the non-public session.
    - a. The Board discussed an elderly exemption that had not been correctly registered and agreed to abate the taxes due of \$2,480.60 to for 2010.
    - b. The Board returned to public session at 9:25 AM.
  6. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 AM.

Simon Carr  
Recorder

River Road Timeline.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event: brief summary. Further information in BOS minutes at Town Offices</b>
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 25, 2011	Holden presents an initial solution to the Board.

September 1, 2011	Holden presents further alternatives to the Board. Tree-cutting commences.
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