

Town of Lyme
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for September 29, 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), Sharon Greateorex (Assistant Town Clerk), Dina Cutting (Administrative Assistant) and Jay Smith.
2. Patty and Sharon came in to discuss the possible extended opening hours for the Town Clerk's office, at Richard's request. They proposed operating on Mondays from 8:00AM until 5:00PM as a trial period until the end of the year. This was viable within the current budget. It was suggested that the Selectman's office should also remain open to the public until the same time. After discussion it was agreed that the Selectman's office should ALSO be open to the public until 4:00PM on Mondays and Patty and Dina should monitor the results to report back at the end of the year.
3. The following administrative matters were discussed and actions taken:
 - a. The minutes of the meeting of September 14th and 22nd were approved.
 - b. Two manifests totaling \$447.00 and \$40960.23 were reviewed and signed. A separate manifest for the Overseer of Public Welfare to the total of \$4086.56 was also signed.
 - c. An Intent-to-Cut was signed for Matt and Kate Robinson Map 416 Lot 24.
 - d. Dina reported on the Recreation Commission meeting of Monday 26th:
 - i. They had asked that the Recreation Director receive the same pay increase as all other staff, this year.
 - ii. The ball field fencing was in disrepair. The material to fix this was approximately \$600 and they had volunteer labor to fix this. The Board agreed that the costs should come from the regular budget.
 - iii. There had been an issue with some children not using mouth guards when required. The Recreation Director had reinforced to all parents the need to use mouth guards.
 - e. Simon reported on the Planning Board meeting of Thursday 22nd: this was primarily concerned with a continuation of the hearing for Loch Lyme Lodge. A member of the public came in to emphasize that, while he was an advocate of strong planning, the delays to this project seemed undesirable and he urged the Planning Board to move speedily on the project.
 - f. Simon reported on the Heritage Commission meeting of Tuesday 27th: there had been two visitors asking for assistance with their projects. The Commission had also applied to the Lyme Foundation for a grant to carry out the buildings survey for all buildings constructed before 1940. Dina reminded him that this needed to follow the grant application rules and Simon will bring this to the Board.
 - g. Simon reported on the Selectpersons' Institute training at LGC on Saturday 24th. One of the

modules had been on grants and loans available to towns and this had been very useful.

4. Road Issues:

- a. The Board discussed town and FEMA funding for the Irene washouts on Dorchester and River Rd South. These would obviously need to come from the Emergency Highway Repair Fund, but the Board needed estimates from Fred before they could vote any money.
 - b. Charles and Simon reported on their meeting with Mike Poirier and Lance from the NH Department of Safety and with Fred regarding the River Rd North washout. Mike had emphasized that no FEMA funds had been received, for municipalities in NH for the April/May rain event; there had been funds available for individuals and small businesses. Simon and Charles explained that the FEMA website said that counties contiguous to those in a disaster declaration were eligible for FEMA funds and agreed to send the relevant webpage addresses to Mike. Mike said that the washout may well be eligible for FEMA mitigation funds and asked for the figures so that he and Lance could review them. The town would need to put in a full application once they had a good estimate of costs, but that no funding would be available before next year.
 - c. Dina reported that Holden had been working on plans for a shallower slope to the river bank. This would mean less need for rip-rap and a consequent significantly lower price. It would require taking approximately twice as much land from Carola Lea (20,000sq ft.) and Marselis Parson (15,000fr 0-sq ft.). Simon agreed to talk with them about this and Dina will talk with town counsel and Pete Helm of UVLT about the necessary agreement from them, together with NRCS and LCIP. Pete had emphasized that any application we make should be for the full amount of land needed to stabilize the bank and construct the necessary roadway.
 - d. The Board had received a summary of the liability issues from town counsel and agreed that this should be made public.
 - e. The Board agreed that Simon should draft an informational letter to the town to be ready for review by next week's meeting.
5. At 8:56 AM Simon moved and Charles seconded that the Board go in to non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(a) "the compensation of any public employee".
- a. The Board reviewed the current economic situation in terms of budget planning.
 - b. The Board returned to public session at 9:13AM.
6. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 AM.

Simon Carr
Recorder

River Road Timeline.

Date	Event: brief summary. Further information in BOS minutes at Town Offices Note that this does not summarize the discussions at the regular Selectboard meeting
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.

August 27, 2011	Tropical Storm Irene has major impact on Vermont, but no impact on River Rd and limited impact in the rest of Lyme
September 1, 2011	Holden presents further alternatives to the Board. Tree-cutting commences.
September 14, 2011	Holden presents options and costs to a town informational meeting. Comments and reaction from the public were noted and will be addressed by the Board.
September 22, 2011	Members of the public attend the regular Selectboard meeting to re-iterate their points from the informational meeting.
September 27, 2011	Mike Poirier and Lance Harbour from NH Department of Safety meet with Selectmen Charles Ragan and Simon Carr and Road Agent Fred Stearns to discuss possible emergency funding and suggest the possibility of FEMA mitigation funds. Initial information is given to them.
September 29, 2011	Holden produces an initial study using a shallower slope, which should reduce total costs to less than \$500,000. Work starts on modifying the existing easements to accommodate the additional land required.