

Town of Lyme
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for October 13, 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), Shaun O'Keefe (Police Chief), Dina Cutting (Administrative Assistant), Scott Nichols, Donna and John Andersen, Delores Drew, Duncan Macintosh, Greg and Sue Hanlon, Arend Tensen, Walter Wetherell, George and Ann Hartmann, Pat Super and Anna Super.
2. River Road:
 - a. Several River Road residents came in to ask for information on the Board's progress. There was a discussion on the letter sent out to residents this week and residents felt that it answered many of their questions. The Board endeavored to answer all the questions raised, although they were unable to say yet, exactly when the new road would be constructed.
 - i. Donna Andersen registered that she was very concerned with the loss of income from drive-by bookings.
 - ii. Greg Hanlon raised a concern on the phrasing in HTE's report concerning supervision of the construction phase. He considered that the phrasing was inappropriate in terms of HTE requiring to be involved in the construction phase. The Board noted his comments and will take this up with Holden/HTE.
 - iii. Pat Super asked about the Edgell Bridge closure. This is to enable the State to carry out repairs to the bridge trusses. It had been scheduled for earlier in the year but was now due to start within the next ten days and last for three months. The Board will put out notices as soon as they receive firm confirmation of the closure date.
 - b. The Board discussed the proposal and budget from Holden for the preparation of final construction documents that would enable bids and permit applications to be prepared. They were concerned at the cost and timescale for these. After much discussion, the Board agreed to authorize Holden to proceed with preparation of the documents, but in confirming this, they also emphasized to Holden the need for there to be no slippage.
3. The following administrative matters were discussed and actions taken:
 - a. The minutes of the meeting of October 6th were approved as submitted.
 - b. A manifest to the value of \$283,020.02 was reviewed and signed. This included \$250,000 for the school.
 - c. Charles reported on the CIP Committee meeting of Tuesday 11th: the committee hoped to be able to present a draft CIP shortly.
 - d. Richard reported on the Building Maintenance Committee meeting of Tuesday 11th: they had agreed not to press for a generator for the Highway Garage building this year. Their next meeting will be December and they will probably drop back to less-frequent meetings next year.

- e. Dina reported on her conversation with Shelley Gerlarneau of DRA regarding setting the tax rate. Shelley was waiting on a response from the school superintendent, which she had asked some time ago. The Board expressed their deep concern that the superintendent had not responded in a timely fashion: this was delaying setting the tax rate and it was possible that tax notices would not go out by the end of the month. This would delay tax collection by a month.
 - f. Dina reported on her discussions with the Dorchester Road property owner. Work on clearing the junkyard had slowed and the Board were concerned about the number of illegal vehicles and trailers on the property. The Board discussed options and agreed that Dina should talk with town counsel to determine the next steps.
 - g. The Board authorized Charles to sign a letter supporting UVLSRPC's application to USDA for grants for more efficient Household Hazardous Waste collection.
 - h. Charles moved and Simon seconded that the town forgive ambulance charges of \$115.52 for a resident who had subsequently died. The motion passed unanimously.
 - i. The Board unanimously approved the Heritage Commission's application to the Lyme Foundation for a grant of \$7,500 to undertake a historic property survey.
 - j. Charles reported that Bill had requested to increase his maintenance budget by \$1,000 for the big mower, as there were no plans to replace it this year.
4. The meeting adjourned at 9:59 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 meetings
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 the Board.
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.
September 30 and October 4, 2011	Simon Carr meets with the abutting landowners to discuss the revised layout, which they are both agreeable to.
October 6, 2011	The Board reviews the necessary steps to implement the revised layout. They authorize Holden to apply for the necessary DES permits and decide to invite bids for the work.
October 12, 2011	The Board sends out a town-wide mailing updating the present status of the road and their plans for proceeding on the replacement road.
October 13, 2011	Members of the public attend the regular Selectboard meeting to raise their concerns and also acknowledge the usefulness of the letter. The Board reviews Holden's proposals for the final construction documents, bid and permit application processes and agree to proceed with this.