

Town of Lyme  
Select Board Meeting  
Minutes for December 16, 2013  
PUBLIC HEARING  
SKATING RINK ON THE COMMON

The following were present for part or all of the public hearing: Charles J. Smith (Chair), Richard A. Vidal, Susan J. MacKenzie, Shaun O'Keefe (Police Chief).

Members of the Public: Dave Celone, Nora Gould, Ann Baird, Bev Strout, Earl Strout, Margot Maddock, Steve Maddock, Eric Sailor, Joanne Sailor, Colin Robinson, Shannon Munger, Laurie Wadsworth, Luke Prince, Tony Pippin, Harley Gray, Bob Thebodo, Lisa Celone, Mary Callahan, Owen Callahan, Alex Grossman, Mr. & Mrs. Knights.

1. The Hearing was called to order at 6:05PM by Chair Smith.

- Smith asked Dave Celone to explain what the plan for the skating rink entailed. Dave noted there was a tarp 60 feet by 100 feet which would be put in a frame and filled with water. Mike Hinsley had said the Fire Department could do some training on drawing water to do the initial fill up. After that the faucet on the common would be used as needed to smooth the top.
- The floor was opened to questions from the public. A question was asked if anyone had talked to Norwich about their rink. – Dave noted he had talked to the person in charge of the rink about what was required, what daily maintenance was performed, number of volunteers needed and potential pitfalls.
- A question was asked regarding funding. Dave explained that they had a request in to the Lyme Foundation and they also had an anonymous donor who has offered \$1000.00. The total cost would be about \$3400.00 and no tax dollars will be used.
- Storage of the ice rink was discussed. Tony Pippin Jr. did not think it would be a problem but there are specific things that have to be done when it is stored.
- How to clear the snow off was another concern and this will be done by volunteers.
- Parking was discussed. Shaun noted that he would prefer not to be the “bad guy” but there are laws against parking on the road and there is a Town Ordinance that prohibits any parking on the common from December – April. Dave noted that they had talked to Jeff Valence and they can use the school lot when school is not in session. They can also park by the horse sheds.
- Smith noted a list of conditions which had been discussed between our insurance people and the Selectboard. Discussed the conditions and this will be discussed further at the Selectboard meeting this Thursday.
- Discussed the No Hockey Playing, sticks or Pucks on the ice. This was something the insurance provider was very concerned with due to the proximity of Route 10, vehicle traffic and houses on the common. It would require a backstop of either Plexiglas or chain link fence, neither of which is compatible with use of the common. The majority agreed that there should not be hockey. The rink at Post Pond was brought up and smith noted that Post Pond was under the recreation committee and that would have to be discussed with them.

- Lights were discussed and Dave noted they had put in money to pay electric and had considered lights on tripods but felt that lights were not necessary at this time.
2. What is the next step? The Dave Celone filled out the request to use the common and it will be voted on at Thursday's Selectboard meeting. The Board will attach the conditions to the request and then it is up to the volunteers. The early snow may hamper having it this year but they are going to try.
  3. Overall everyone who attended thought the idea of a skating rink was a positive for the Town. There were only a few concerns and they seemed to be addressed to people's satisfaction. Smith thanked everyone for coming and providing input. The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Jay Smith