

**LYNDEBOROUGH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
August 8, 2012**

Members Present: Chairman Arnie Byam & Kevin Boette

Staff Present: Town Admin Kate Thorndike, OIC Rance Deware and Road Agent Kent Perry

Public Present: Bob Rogers, Clayton Brown, Lee Mayhew, Fred Douglas, James & Fay Parratt, Mike Decubellis, Phil Brooks

Media Present: Jessie Salisbury

Recorder: Pauline Ball

Approval of Minutes, Manifests, and Items for Signature

The Board addressed all items that needed their signature.

Appointments:

6:30 p.m. Rance Deware- Police Dept. Report

Sgt. Deware addressed several issues with the Board:

- (1) IMC.....there is sufficient room on the server in the office, no change is necessary. The approximate cost for two desktops is (\$500 each) and two laptops is (\$600 each); three licenses are also needed.
- (2) Court complaint forms.....both the old and new forms will be acceptable to the district court
- (3) Policy and procedures manual.....the Board approved the update and signed the document
- (4) Accounting.....up to date except for the \$620 Uniform line item which has not been taken out; \$120 overage on Office Supplies line item for Telegraph ads
- (5) P/T officer Zack Byam will be over his 1300 hr cap by next week; 6 mo. waiver from the Director of Training should not be an issue because the police academy session will begin in January.
- (6) Salaries.....recommends hiring two full time officers for 2013; increase p/t hours to 24; increase the overtime line item for school and vacation schedules; review certified full time pay scale for similar town populations for a comparison.

6:40 p.m. Non Public Hearing RSA 91-A:3 II (e)

Selectman Boette made a motion to close the public meeting and enter into a non-public session for a discussion on personnel issues with Sgt. Deware. **Selectman Byam** seconded the motion. **VOTE:** The vote in favor the motion was unanimous.

6:55 p.m. The Board reconvened the public meeting and addressed other appointments on the agenda.

7:00 p.m. Kent Perry – Highway Report

- Removed an old headwall on Center Road near Paradise Farms and a large 23” culvert on Johnson Corner Road.
- Will meet with the Lemires to discuss removing part of their stone wall to make a three to four feet cut into the slope and then replace the wall. He also needs to contact PSNH about the utility poles in that area.
- Will install a catch basin at the corner of Johnson Corner and Wilton Roads.
- Will do ditching, filling in low areas and installing culverts along Center Road.

RA Perry submitted a paving quote for \$1300+ which is good for 30 days and asked if the Board needed more bids before making a decision. **Selectmen Boette** and **Byam** agreed that more bids were needed.

Selectman Byam, referring to the Lemire property, suggested discussing language for the slope easement and have it reviewed by town counsel. The area should be surveyed to establish the line and pins should be set so that in the future there isn't any confusion in the easement's location. **TA Thorndike** said that this will be discussed with the property owner and documentation will be recorded at the Registry.

Schoolhouse Rd Property..... Hopkington logging group has agreed to cut and chip the timber on this town owned property. The project will take about a day and **RA Perry** will create the truck landing.

Injured highway employee.....Has returned to work on a limited/restrictive schedule and presently working traffic control.

TA Thorndike said that the Paving Plan document is being finalized and it will include the Center Road project; it will describe the road work to be done and where activity will occur each year.

7:15 p.m. James Parratt – J & F Auto

Selectman Byam said that they had received a notification from the State acknowledging that Mr. Parratt was looking for a change in his business status. Mr. Parratt explained that he has been repairing vehicles for thirty years and wants to buy cars at auction and sell them from his present location. He no longer does any repair work for insurance companies and has applied for Dealer status because the fee for 20-day plates is expensive. **Selectman Byam** thought that this change of use would subject his application to a review by the Planning Board and/or to the ZBA for a variance asked if the volume of activity would change with the new status. **Fay Parratt** replied that it would not.

Mike Decubellis, a member of the Planning Board, said that this is a zoning issue and retail sales are not allowed in the Rural Lands 1 district. His repair business is grandfathered but a change of use to retail may require a site plan review and if denied by the Planning Board, would require an appeal to the ZBA. **TA Thorndike** agreed and stated that in her inquiry this morning, the State has not issued a license and is waiting for the Board of Selectmen's review and assessment before they proceed.

Mr. Parratt said that he asked for Dealer plates in the past but was rejected because his building had less than the required footage. Apparently that requirement has been changed and he only wants to get Dealer plates so that he could pick up vehicles from the auction. He sells, at the most, about 15 cars in a year and there will be no increase in traffic from his property.

After listening to all the comments and concerns from those present on the reported "Grandfathered" status of Mr. Parratt's property on Forest Road, **Selectman Byam** made a motion that the Board of Selectmen authorizes the State of NH to proceed with their approval process of J & F's Retail Dealer application. **Selectman Boette** seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Passed in favor by unanimous vote.

7:30 p.m. Phil Brooks - Highbridge

Phil Brooks showed some photographs of the new bridge on Highbridge Road which was recently rebuilt. The bridge was designed and constructed for light duty (pedestrian and equestrian use) and it is open for travel. Some users in both New Boston and Lyndeborough have requested a wider entrance so that horse drawn carriages can easily cross the bridge. Presently large rocks and a middle post have restricted that access. He would like to devise a barricade at one end of the bridge which will allow passage of these carriages and prevent access to motorized vehicles, i.e. Jeeps, etc. Signage is posted which states that the bridge is not for motorized vehicles but there have been reports of its use. **Selectman Byam** suggested asking LGC about any liability issues because of the new bridge which was previously condemned and inaccessible.

Mr. Brooks asked permission to install three or more posts on each side of the road near the abutments for safety reasons. He will supply the material and install the fencing. He also asked for some assistance from the highway department to install the post in the marked areas. Both the Selectmen and RA Perry agreed with his request.

New Business:

Citizen Petition Response

Selectman Byam told those present that instead of the citizen's petition, they should consider a warrant article for the March 2013 town meeting. The Board agreed that the position of police chief was voted out by the governing body and it should be reinstated by that same body.

Bob Rogers asked the Board of Selectmen, since they have the final authority, if they would honor a warrant article vote in favor of reinstating a police chief position. **Selectman Byam** said that he would. **Selectman Boette** stated that he would also honor the vote, although personally, he did not agree with it.

Church of Lyndeborough Exemption

Selectman Byam said that there have been many lengthy discussions on whether the Church of Lyndeborough should be given a tax exemption on their property located on Forest Road. **TA Thorndike** thought that church officials should provide proof that they are using the small structure for religious purposes. It appears that the property is tidied up from time to time but there isn't any appearance of use. It was suggested that the Board discuss this issue with the church council instead of the pastor because they have the authority. After listening to other comments, the consensus of those present was to deny the exemption and let the church council appeal the decision.

Selectman Boette made a motion to remove the Religious Tax Exempt status from Map 231 Lot 004-000, 315 Forest Road due to lack of use for religious purposes. **Selectman Byam** seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Passed in favor by unanimous vote.

TA Thorndike said that she would send a notification letter to both the church council and the pastor stating that the exemption has been denied.

2012-2013 School Payment

TA Thorndike received a letter for the consolidated school payment and there has been a \$23,000 increase. Kay Hopkins researched the records and over the past few years this amount of increase has been the same. **Selectman Boette** questioned why there was an increase since the school budget was reduced about \$700,000 at the last annual school meeting. **TA Thorndike** said that she would look into this issue for an explanation.

Church Restoration Donation Box at Community Day

RA Perry asked the Board's permission to put a donation box in Center Hall on Community Day which is scheduled for Saturday August 18th.

Selectman Boette made a motion giving permission for the donation box to be placed at Center Hall. **Selectman Byam** seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Passed in favor by unanimous vote.

RA Perry said that volunteers have been on the church repairing and painting the steeple and reshingling a section of the church roof. Windows will be touched up and more painting will be done this year. The Board asked for a list of those who have participated in this endeavor and a "thank you" to those who are helping to bring the church back to its former beauty.

On another issue, **RA Perry** said that the highway crew has paved the handicap parking space at Center Hall.

Old Business:

Perambulation

The Board of Selectmen scheduled Saturday, September 15th as the date to walk the town boundary in order to locate the markers and try to resolve the discrepancy. September 22nd was chosen as a rain date. **TA Thorndike** said she would advise the Wilton Board of Selectmen of the dates. The meeting place will be at Carnival Hill.

Town E-mail

TA Thorndike said that more discussion is needed before changes are made to the town e-mail site. Initially they were thinking about changing to Virtual Town Hall but Cloud Tech may be more secure.

Adjournment:

All scheduled items having been addressed, the public meeting was closed at 8:17 p.m..

Date: August 8, 2012
Pauline Ball, Recorder

Arnie A. Byam, III
Chairman

Donald R. Sawin

Kevin J. Boette

APPROVED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON AUGUST 22, 2012

