

**Lincoln Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2008
5:00 pm**

Present: Chairman Peter Moore, Selectman Deanna Huot, Selectman Patricia McTeague, Town Manager Peter Joseph, Administrative Assistant Susan Chenard
Audience members: Charlie Cook, WT Bishop, Lutz Wallem

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at approximately 5:15pm. He opened the public hearing under RSA 31:95-b to accept unanticipated revenue.

Public Hearing to Accept Unanticipated Revenue under RSA 31:95-b

The Selectmen discussed whether to accept unanticipated revenues from a \$5,000 grant from the NH Charitable Foundation towards the Village Core Trails and a \$10,000 donation from Mike Sabourin towards replacement of the heaters at the Father Roger Bilodeau Community Center. The Board asked for any public comment. A **motion** was made by Selectman Huot, seconded by Selectman McTeague, to accept unanticipated revenue in the form of \$5,000 towards the Village Core Trails and \$10,000 towards the purchase and installation of new heating units at the Community Building, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b. The vote was unanimous. Chairman Moore closed the public hearing at 5:17pm.

Routine Business

- **Approval of public meeting minutes** - A **motion** was made by Selectman Huot, seconded by Selectman McTeague, to approve the public meeting minutes of August 18, 2008, as written. The vote was unanimous.
- **Approval of non-public meeting minutes** - A **motion** was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Selectman Huot, to approve the non-public meeting minutes of August 18, 2008, as written. The vote was unanimous.
- **Goodbout Road Town-owned Parcel Inquiry** – Town Manager Joseph explained that Brian and Jill Pakus had expressed interest in purchasing the so-called Trotti parcel at the end of Goodbout Road, currently owned by the Town. The Pakus's own two of three adjacent lots at the end of Goodbout Road, having bought one of them from Kelley Kass. Ms. Kass still owns the middle lot, but the Pakus's are the abutters to the Trotti property, along with the State of NH, with I-93 on the east and Franconia Notch State Park on the North. The Town took the Trotti parcel by tax deed in 2007 for back taxes from the 1970's. The Town has not taken the abutting parcels, one held by Rugieri, Campisani and Santilli, and another held by Bouchard. All three properties are land locked as a result of the I-93 layout in the 1970's. They are effectively "abandoned" as no tax payments have been made, however only the Trotti parcel. Selectman McTeague felt the assessors should place a current value on the property and then see if the Pakus' would be interested in buying it at that price. After some discussion, the Board asked that an appraisal be done, at the Pakus's expense, followed by the public hearing process.

➤ **Energy and Water Conservation Committee update** – Town Manager Joseph explained that he will be going over water usage at the Kanc Rec area, and the possibility of using an on-site well there, which both Bill and Tara were interested in, but that we need to look at the costs versus benefits. He has been investigating energy use there, and throughout the town. The Town Manager showed the water department's spreadsheet that Finance Director Helen Jones has put together so far, as each bill comes in, showing the amount of electricity and fuel used (propane, diesel, gasoline, diesel, electric, etc.) and how much each cost. This will lead to pinpointing the highest uses and where we should look first to reduce that amount. Bill Smith of the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) gave a good presentation at the Energy and Water Committee's meeting, describing available business rebates and rebates available for wind and solar power too. The Town Manager is interested to see if alternative power would be cost efficient for us to use somewhere. We will look for grants and other rebates available to us, as we already use megawatt hours per month, just at the water pump stations. Lutz Wallem said he also talked about what is available for homeowners and small businesses, as we don't have many big businesses that use over 1000 kilowatts per month. NHEC also supports the CAP program to some extent. Mr. Wallem was interested to discover that each of our local towns' residents have to apply elsewhere for fuel assistance through CAP (Lincoln under Littleton, North Woodstock under Woodsville, and Woodstock under Plymouth.) The CAP maximum is only \$550 per year, though. Paul Kasianchuk is doing public education and publicity, and the committee is planning an education day for local citizens, scheduled for October. The Town Manager explained that Mr. Kasianchuk is putting together a variety of press information pieces, such as press releases, looking to get more members. The committee is also trying to come up with a shorter, catchy name. There was a question as to whether to include Woodstock, as there are no current members from that town on this committee, and its function is as an advisory committee to the Lincoln Board of Selectmen. Town Manager Joseph hopes that the committee looks at different projects each season. Chairman Moore said he is most interested in finding the biggest energy wasters in town buildings, as is the Town Manager, now that the community center has had various upgrades, etc. Chairman Moore was happy to hear that a representative from the school is attending our meetings too.

➤ **Town Manager's Report**

- Town Manager Joseph said that he had a meeting last week at FCI, and also met with some of the corporate people. They went on a plant tour and he got to see the plant in operation. Scott Durnin, the environmental manager, Reg Phelps, the site manager, and several others sat down and discussed the new treatment equipment they have been installing due to the new NPDES permit with the Town Manager. They are meeting their copper loading requirements, etc. and Mr. Phelps is working to make lessening the plant's environmental impact a priority for day-to-day workers too. There are daily, multiple tests done, both on-site and off-site. They are trying to cut back further on copper and water output and use. They will invite Director of Public Works Bill Willey and Town Manager Joseph to the

plant every time they install new equipment or change a process to reduce wastewater flows, etc.

- Last week, Tim Fountain of CAI had given his report. The \$7,600 he had mentioned was budgeted and placed in a reserve fund for this year and will most likely be spent early next year, once the tax bills have gone out, come back and information is transferred in the computers. As the money is in a capital reserve fund, it can be carried over.
- The Town Manager plans to attend the annual meeting of the Grafton County Economic Development Council (GCEDC) on September 16 in Littleton.
- He reminded the Selectmen that there will be no meeting on September 1st, due to the Labor Day holiday.
- On September 8th is the joint meeting with the Woodstock Board of Selectmen regarding solid waste. The Town Manager and Chairman spoke about complaints regarding ash and smoke on burning days. Any changes would mean new equipment or a change in procedure. We do try to monitor and are only burning Monday through Thursday, so as to avoid weekend traffic, even though that's when the most comes in. Solid Waste Facility Manager Paul Beaudin will put together a cost summary of an alternative. One could chip the wood and brush, but this would create a huge volume. We can't refuse to take it, so a new grinder could be purchased for \$170,000, which would also mean more employee hours and maintenance. Selectman Huot asked if there would be information available prior to that meeting, which Chairman Moore said he would be receiving from James Steele of the North Country Council. The Town Manager will contact Mr. Steele to confirm the meeting and materials.
- We are consolidating the Town's cell phone service back to US Cellular. Non-police employees switched to Nextel earlier this year in an effort to save money and improve service. Service under Nextel turnout out to be spotty at best. Currently non-police employees are using Nextel and the Police Department is using US Cellular. The new contract will combine all Town Departments under the terms of state contract, which means the monthly cost will be slightly less than the two bills we had, and the fees for activation, cancellation and new phones were waived. Chairman Moore suggested donating the Nextel phones for 911 phones, as Nextel wouldn't buy them back.
- The Town Manager noted that the number of welfare or direct assistance applications is high for this time of year. Peter and Susan Chenard have been spending about 5 hours a week, reviewing and acting on applications for emergency housing, financial aid, and even some heating oil bills already, in the past month. Town Manager Joseph spoke with Sandy Dovholuk in Woodstock today, and they will sit down together to make a standardized set of application standards, in conjunction with the keep warm program.
- Administrative Assistant Susan Chenard has been putting meeting notices on Channel 3, including those for the Selectmen, Planning Board, Village Core, Energy and Water and other committees.

Other Business

- Selectman Huot stated that we have a bedroom tax for residential properties, but don't seem to have one for commercial, and wondered if we should. The new car wash highlighted this for her, as a commercial entity that seems to use a larger amount of water. Chairman Moore pointed out that the business is using a self-contained water system. The Town Manager felt any taxes for water usage would have to be based on gallons used per day and equitable when compared to the bedroom tax. We do already have water tap fees for specific fixtures, but no fees based on usage. An example would be FCI, another major user of water, with no bedrooms. Selectman Huot feels we are missing some potential major impacts to the demands on the water system by ignoring industrial or commercial uses. The current billing system was set up based on development of condominiums, houses and hotel rooms, and we have been saving money as per the spreadsheet, so as to have the funds for a new cell when it is needed. Chairman Moore felt it was something to think about and create hypothetical situations, but that it would ultimately be a Town Meeting decision. Peter Joseph clarified that only future development could be considered as existing businesses and facilities would be grandfathered from any future impact fees.
- Chairman Moore asked about the status of the dirt-based jump at the Kanc Rec ski area. Town Manager Joseph felt that if they want a terrain feature there this winter, it should have an earth sub-structure to reduce the amount of water used to create the jump. Recreation Director Tara Tower will work on this after her vacation. There was discussion regarding if the Public Works crew could build these sub-structures.
- Chairman Moore felt we should look at all striping, including bike paths, and that we should be implementing more signage. He did note that the striping at the Connector Road intersection is working well for all 3 westbound lanes. The Town Manager said that more pylons and pedestrian markers are being ordered to clearly outline some of the central crosswalks.
- Chairman Moore would like the Town Manager to have an update regarding the county jail situation in the near future. Town Manager Joseph has already been playing phone tag with some of the involved parties, so should have this soon.
- Chairman Moore would like copies of any Coalition Communities and related emails posted on the Selectman's clipboard.

Public Participation

Charlie Cook asked that Kelley Kass be specifically informed of the new value of the Trotti parcel on Goodbout Road, as she was most interested in it. She is actually no longer an abutter. Chairman Moore also pointed out that in regards to heavy industrial and commercial water users, the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen would negotiate with any business that would be very water intensive, via the impact ordinance.

WT Bishop said he and Lutz Wallem would be attending a governor's task force listening session on Wednesday. He also asked the Town Manager when he would be starting the grant application.

Ivan Saitow said he could not hear any of the Selectmen or the Town Manager. He asked that they make more of an effort to speak up.

At 6:20 pm, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Wallem, and Mr. Cook left.

At 6:20 pm, a **motion** was made by Selectman Huot, seconded by Chairman Moore, to enter into **non-public session** per RSA 91-A:3 II(d).

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Deanna Huot	Yes
Patricia McTeague	Yes
Peter Moore	Yes

At 7:40 pm, a **motion** was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Selectman Huot, to reconvene the public session.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Deanna Huot	Yes
Patricia McTeague	Yes
Peter Moore	Yes

A **motion** was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Chairman Moore, to seal the non-public meeting minutes of August 25, 2008 until the future date when the real estate matter discussed in the session was concluded or no longer relevant. The vote was unanimous.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Deanna Huot	Yes
Patricia McTeague	Yes
Peter Moore	Yes

As Finance Director Helen Jones was on a brief vacation, check registers would not be available until Tuesday.

Town Manager Joseph asked if anyone would be attending the North Country Council annual meeting at the Common Man Inn on October 9th. The Selectmen will need to check their schedules.

At 7:45 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Date: _____

Approved by:

Chairman Peter Moore

Selectman Deanna Huot

Selectman Patricia McTeague