

Lincoln Board of Selectmen - Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2008 - 5:00 pm

Present: Chairman Peter Moore, Selectman Patricia McTeague, Town Manager Peter Joseph, Administrative Assistant Susan Chenard, and Selectman Deanna Huot (arrived at 5:30pm)
Audience member: WT Bishop

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

Routine Business

- **Approval of public meeting minutes of September 22, 2008** - A **motion** was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Chairman Moore, to approve the public meeting minutes of September 22, 2008, as amended. The vote was unanimous.
- **Solid Waste Meeting Update** – James Steele, of the North Country Council, had to take care of some family matters, and said he would not be ready for a September 30th meeting. He would like to be fully prepared for this meeting regarding the results of the solid waste audit. The Lincoln Selectmen asked Administrative Assistant Chenard to see if the Woodstock Selectmen would be able to join them on Monday, October 6th instead. Chairman Moore said he hadn't had a chance to speak to Paul Beaudin at the solid waste facility about the results of the hazardous waste day, but did note it was busy when he went. Selectman McTeague said it was quiet when she took her items.
- **Town Manager's Report** –
 - Town Manager Joseph said he spoke with Maura Carrol at the New Hampshire Municipal Affairs government affairs branch about a statewide warrant article regarding fixing the retirement system. Ms. Carrol felt it would have to have a specific viewpoint. It should have a positive slant with a possible solution. She would consider it further and wouldn't be opposed to putting forth a proposal if this problem could be addressed. The Town Manager will check back with her at a later date.
 - The owners of Lincoln Green just responded to our letters about planning for the facility's future. The Town Manager spoke with Kathy Cook, facility manager, and she confirmed the letter's contents. They would like to wait until closer to the end of their current contract in 2012 to see what the market looks like, and what options are available, at that time. This makes it difficult for planning by the Town. We will need to look at other solutions first and come up with a timeline to prepare for the possibility that Lincoln Green might discontinue its HUD programs. The Board members felt that the Town should begin investigating options available to the Town in terms of Senior/Disabled housing. Selectman Huot commented that the need will likely still be there for this type of housing in four years, even if Lincoln Green decides to continue their subsidized programs. Town Manager Joseph noted that Lori Wiggett from AHEAD had contacted him recently as well.
 - The Town Manager went to a Grafton County Transportation Summit last week. It was presented by the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Transportation. They are looking to create a regional system of transportation efforts. Private and volunteer drivers would operate in a regional program directed at seniors, the disabled, and Medicaid recipients first, with a lesser focus on the general public. The system would use a centralized transportation broker, so one 800# would connect a person with someone that calls their local provider. The provider would be reimbursed, where applicable, by the state. The Town Manager felt the right people were in the room, such as the volunteer and church groups who most of the driving for this type of situation currently. The current emphasis was not on mass transit or transit that would be accessible to the

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general public, but the presenters stressed that this would eventually become a significant portion of the plan.

•The Phase 2 Environmental Report has come back on the White Water Treatment Plant property. It revealed just shallow surface soil issues, and no ground water contamination. There were 4 recommendations:

1. Obtain a discharge permit for water in the tanks to either discharge to the ground or the river. One tank may require treatment before discharge due to high chlorine levels.
2. Any asbestos materials in or around the building on the ground must be disposed of properly during demolition.
3. Lead paint present in the building components must be disposed of properly during demolition.
4. A limited amount of hazardous materials were found in steel tanks and 50-pound bags in the basement. These materials were contained in the bags and had not spread, but would have to be disposed of properly as hazardous wastes

Some surface soil containing lead paint or asbestos might also need to be removed from around the building. In general, the results were very good for this property. Rick Kelley has a copy of the report and is forwarding it to the North Country Center for the Arts board. Mr. Kelley is getting quotes for remediation and our attorney is reviewing the Purchase and Sale agreement.

Other Business

Town Manager Joseph reported that the date for the Grafton County delegates meeting has been rescheduled for November 10th. This date fit the commissioner's schedule better. We believe Commissioner Burton, Executive Director Clough, Representative Gionet and Representative Sorg are coming, and the other two Commissioners are tentative. The Board asked that we spread word of the meeting via our website, channel 3, and local papers. Executive Director Clough had asked for potential subjects, and the Board felt the main topics should include the budget and the jail project, but that the conversation should not be limited to just those subjects.

The Town Manager said he spoke with FEMA and received an update of the flood-mapping process. It is in progress, and he will give more details at the Selectmen's next meeting. Chairman Moore asked any dates were discussed, and Town Manager Joseph said he was told it should be about 4 months until we receive draft maps, and a year to the final maps.

The Town Manager reported that we will have to do some repair work of about \$4,000 at the Boyce Brook pump station to repair the generator.

He and Public Works Director Willey have also been talking about the sand and salt budget. Everyone has been hearing about a salt crunch. Usually, we buy salt in the new fiscal year, using leftovers from the previous year until that point. However, we are somewhat low after last winter. Public Works Director Willey suggested buying the salt early in order to avoid a shortfall should salt be hard to get after the start of the new fiscal year in January. Town Manager Joseph suggested using the rolled-over block grant money to purchase the salt now, and then we could

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purchase the sand later in the year. It would be about \$14,000 for the salt, and \$4,000 for the sand. His intention would then be to budget for the same expenditure in next year's budget, so that we could buy 2010's salt and sand before December 31st, 2009. This would effectively be a one-time expenditure and would re-align our salt and sand purchasing so we would not be waiting until January 1st each year to purchase out of that year's budget. The Board agreed with this idea. Selectman McTeague said it would help prevent a situation like last year where we run out of sand or salt if it is hard to get midway through the season. Selectmen Huot confirmed that this would not affect the current budget as it is an expenditure out of the highway block grant fund.

Town Manager Joseph asked the Selectmen to make a motion authorizing him to accept annual grant funds from NHDES on behalf of the municipal water system, as the new Town Manager. This paperwork was discussed and signed earlier this year, but had been lost in transit somewhere between Lincoln and the appropriate office at NHDES. A **motion** was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Selectman Huot, to authorize Town Manager Joseph to accept any payments of the State Grant for Compliance with the Surface Water Treatment Rule. The vote was unanimous.

The Town Manager distributed the sign ordinance letter to be mail merged tomorrow. The Selectmen reviewed it and approved of the letter.

Administrative Assistant Chenard presented a request for a veteran's exemption, explaining that all data had been verified and the person qualified. A **motion** was made by Selectman Huot, seconded by Chairman Moore, to provide a tax exemption for veteran Robert McCulloch. The vote was unanimous.

Public Participation

Wilfred Bishop suggested touching base with Commissioner Burton about the Lincoln Green situation.

At 5:53 pm, the Board of Selectmen reviewed payroll and accounts payable check registers for the week ending September 28, 2008.

At 6:00pm the Board adjourned the meeting to the Lin-Wood Public School, to participate in the video-conference on the Governor's Climate Change Action Plan, held by NHDES. The Board members and the Town Manager participated in the video-conference along with school employees and members of the public. The video-conference concluded at approximately 8:30pm. No Town business was discussed at said conference.

Date: _____

Approved by:

Chairman Peter Moore

Selectman Deanna Huot

Selectman Patricia McTeague