

Lincoln Board of Selectmen - Meeting Minutes
December 22, 2008 - 5:00 pm

Present: Chairman Peter Moore, Selectman Deanna Huot, Selectman Patricia McTeague,
Town Manager Peter Joseph, Administrative Assistant Susan Chenard
Audience Member: Charlie Cook

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Routine Business

- **Approval of the Public Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2008** - A motion was made by Selectman Huot, seconded by Chairman Moore, to approve the public meeting minutes of November 26, 2008, as amended. The vote was unanimous, with one abstention by Selectman McTeague as she was not present.
- **Approval of the Public Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2008** - A motion was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Selectman Huot, to approve the public meeting minutes of December 15, 2008, as amended. The vote was unanimous, with one abstention by Chairman Moore as he was not present.
- **Discussion of Draft Capital Budget** – Town Manager Joseph reported that he and Selectman Huot have started working on this. However, we currently look to be considerably over last year’s budget. Last year, \$273,000 was funded via the CIP, but we have been under-budgeting in the past. Selectman Huot said we might look to see about just doing the engineering for Bog Brook Road and Parker Road this year. She suggested having a warrant article for engineering. This way we could gauge the priorities of the townspeople to see if it makes sense to move forward. We could bond the project in the following year, but interest rates are favorable now. Road and street repair and upgrades are important, it seems, but we currently have little to no income from impact fees. Chairman Moore led a brief discussion of the library capital account. He has received a quote for the new building addition but would like to fine tune it. Tara Tower is also working on the USDA grant application with Carol Riley.
- **Town Manager’s report** –
 1. United Water is not responsible for the emissions fees assessed at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The fees were instituted after our contract with United Water. An Administrative Rule, making the fees collective retroactively, was changed at the State level after our contract with United Water.
 2. Health insurance quotes from LGC and RJ Dragon were received today. Primex is still the best price and plan. Therefore, Town Manager Joseph asked the Selectmen to sign the resolution to get the 2% discount from Primex, subject to us holding similar health classes as the ones held last month, during the next plan year. The Selectmen signed the 2% EXTRA program resolution, but felt we should check rates earlier in the fall next year.
 3. As mentioned earlier, Recreation Director Tara Tower and Library Director Carol Riley are working on USDA grant applications for the Community Center and Library respectively.
 4. Tara Tower and David Dovholuk will put together an estimate for the insulation work needed at the Community Center. We had a recent quote of \$16,000 through NHEC, but should realize a substantial savings by doing the work in house, and

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may even be able to fund it through a Community Building CRF appropriation next year.

5. Grafton County information was distributed, including a letter from Hanover to the County asking them to please not move forward on the jail project. Our letter to the County was mentioned in the minutes, as representative Edmond Gionet made them acknowledge having received it. Representative Gionet also provided a monthly variance report for the County budget.

Other business

- Town Manager Joseph noted that the Board of Selectmen would be seeing a supplemental tax warrant issued. One property was picked up by the assessor today as he was doing pickups. We had issued a building permit, but never given a certificate of occupancy. However, it seems the people have moved in and are living there. All the paperwork must be done again for the tax warrant, but it must be correct.
- The Town Manager reported that we had a failure of a compressor on a snow gun at the Kanc Rec ski area. This is a \$1,500 part, but the gun is scheduled for replacement soon anyhow. The Kanc can run on two guns until the part is replaced, but would be less financially efficient, as the personnel cost savings would no longer be available. The equipment capital reserve budget has \$13,000 in it and a new snow gun would cost \$10,000. Mr. Dovholuk said that the compressor is the most likely part to fail, so the snow gun should last considerably longer than its scheduled replacement date, with the new compressor installed. Hoses and valves are easier to fix. A **motion** was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Chairman Moore, to spend the money from the Kanc Rec Area Equipment Fund, to repair the snow gun by having Mr. Dovholuk replace the compressor. The decision was unanimous. The discussion then moved to the repair/replacement of the top hut. We have a quote from a vendor, but Mr. Dovholuk could again do this for less. It was confirmed that we can move the hut back further since we now know where the property line is located. Tara Tower would rather focus on the hut, rather than the snow guns, as the guns are more repairable. Selectman Huot asked that, in the future, we keep an eye on buying second hand guns.
- Town Manager Joseph reminded the Board that we need to continue to inspect and maintain all sewer lines in accordance with our EPA permit. We have inspected all of Route 3 down to the pump station to date, and are now looking to start at the Loon Mountain end of Main Street. Director of Public Works Bill Willey usually contracts with Hartigan and Green Mountain Pipeline, two "local" vendors, to do this work. Two years ago, they had quoted \$2.15 per linear foot, and are currently offering to do the work this winter at 95 cents per linear foot, as it is off-season. This would include jetting and removal of debris, and could therefore help extend the life of the sewer lagoons as well. The Board seemed to feel it made sense to go ahead with the work at a discounted rate.
- Chairman Moore asked if the December 29th Selectmen's meeting was necessary, as the Town Manager would be on vacation anyhow. After a review of warrant articles, the transfer of the White Water Treatment Plant property to the NCCA still

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being in progress, and a review of general budget, it was decided to skip that meeting.

- Chairman Moore asked the Town Manager to review the Fred Fuller fuel cost situation with him, and then confirmed that we had signed up for the change immediately.
- Chairman Moore asked about the status of the transfer of deed to the Donahue's. The Town Manager is still waiting for the name of the legal entity into which to transfer the deed. Selectman Huot wondered if they had the choice, as the contract was with J&M Donahue.
- Chairman Moore also asked about the Common Man offer. The Board will discuss this in non-public session on January 5th.

Public Participation

Charlie Cook commented that funding for the repair of the snow gun at the Kanc shouldn't be an issue, as the warrant article should be vague enough to allow us to repair it. However, he felt that articles in the future should be written more specifically.

Mr. Cook wondered if there might now be federal money available for the County jail construction at this point. Selectman Huot felt the County should do this research while waiting for the court decisions.

Mr. Cook also noted that he had heard people ask why we don't move the library to the community center, as we are spending money upgrading both. He felt Chairman Moore should be prepared to make a statement at Town Meeting to counter those sentiments. People may wonder about the amount of money being planned to be spent for the Library and Community Center compared to Roads and Streets.

Finally, Mr. Cook wondered why we were making snow this weekend at the Kanc while there was a blizzard. The town Manager said that they are sticking to the recently approved schedule. This was very fluffy snow, and it would be good to mix manmade and natural to keep the base.

At 6:26 pm, the meeting was adjourned and the Board of Selectmen reviewed payroll check registers for the week ending December 21, 2008.

Date: _____

Approved by:

Chairman Peter Moore

Selectman Deanna Huot

Selectman Patricia McTeague