

Lincoln Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2007
5:15 pm

Present: Chair Deanna Huot, Selectman Peter Moore, Selectman Patricia McTeague, Town Manager Ted Sutton, Recording Secretary Susan Chenard
Audience members: Wilfred Bishop, Charlie Cook, Roy Sabourn, Maggie Machinist

Approval of public and non-public meeting minutes of August 20, 2007: A motion was made by Selectman Moore, seconded by Selectman Mcteague, to approve the public meeting minutes of August 20, 2007, as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Routine Business

- **Forest Management Presentation** – Maggie Machinist of the Forest management Bureau gave a brief presentation on the cutting taking place at Fay State Forest off Route 3 in Lincoln. The April 15, 2007 storm took down about 100 acres of trees, so the NH Division of Forest and Lands decided to salvage harvest the area to enhance wildlife habitat, create structural diversity, minimize forest fire hazards and support the local forest products industry (as well provide timber tax dollars to the Town). They plan to do this by doing two sections of clear-cut, about 1500 cords of wood, but maintain a buffer by the road. There will also be an interpretive sign to explain what happened here long into the future.
- **Kass-Trotti parcel transfer** - In accordance with NH RSA 41:14-a, the Board of Selectmen of Lincoln will be holding two public meetings on September 10, 2007 and September 24, 2007 at 5pm in the Lincoln Town Hall to discuss the conveyance of a tax deeded parcel of land off Goodbout Road, formerly of Frank Trotti, to The Kelley-Ann Kass 2002 Trust. The parcel, formerly owned by Frank Trotti, was landlocked when taken by the State for the Route 93 right-of-way. Mr. Trotti did not pay taxes on the property that was left, about 9860 square feet, and the Town of Lincoln took it by tax deed. Ms. Kass, as abutter to this land-locked parcel, would like to purchase it. Town Manager Sutton, in speaking with Roy Sabourn of Sabourn Surveying, Mike Pelletier, the Town assessor, and Attorney Tom Cowie, working for Ms. Kass, collected all pertinent information, and described to the Board how the land is currently valued at \$800. Roy Sabourn also noted that there are two other very small pieces of land in that area, at one time belonging to a Mrs. Bouchard, and her heirs might be approached as well.
- **WaterSense Partnership agreement** – Chairman Huot explained that Wilfred Bishop had an interest in the Town of Lincoln becoming involved in this program and thereby promoting products that are more water efficient, mainly by passing along information. It is a totally voluntary situation, although there would be some disclosure of information about our own water system. The Board decided to join.
- **Cannon Mountain Land Swap** – Town Manager Sutton explained that he had recently met with George Ball, a Commissioner of DRED. Some Forest Service land between Mittersill and Cannon was going to be traded for some State-owned

- land in Lincoln, up by Georgiana Falls, but now the Cannon land will be traded with another Town, Piermont we believe.
- **Groundwater Permit** – This permit, dealing with the discharge of water from the base of the sewer lagoons is almost complete. The Town Manager reiterated that we did receive the NPDES permit, which limits us to lower copper levels, which the town is working on with FCI, our biggest depositor.
 - **Reach the Beach** – This Friday, September 14th, we will see some 300 runners coming down the closed Connector Road in a relay race known as Reach the Beach, which goes from Cannon Mountain to Hampton Beach. A portion of profits from the race will benefit the New Hampshire State Parks and community organizations along the race route. Conn Brothers have been asked to leave space for the runners.
 - **Water Shut Off on Main Street** – A hydrant located near White Mountain Bagel is scheduled for replacement on September 11, 2007. Bill Willey reported that it is out of service and he intends to try replacement with low (20) psi, but may have to shut off the water in that area for up to 4 hours. The date was chosen to be between Labor Day and Highland Games/fall foliage to provide the least disruption to local businesses. Chairman Huot wondered about state work near the school, and Town Manager Sutton reported that they are improving catch basins prior to the road repaving next year.
 - **Community Center Update** – The projects are coming along nicely, including the parking lot improvements, ADA walkway, heat system replacement and addition of another classroom at the east end of the building. A new entrance will also be created at the end of the ADA walkway, in the center of the brick wall on the west side of the building, so the seniors will have easier access to their portion of the building. Town Manager Sutton will meet with Joe Silveira, LeFebvre Construction and Tara Tower, among others, on Wednesday at 1pm to complete paperwork for grants. Elliott Construction has done much more than expected in terms of in-kind work. There was a discussion on the Day Care Center, which is now current with rent and excited to start new programs such as infant care and outing club, as well as restarting the after-school program. The application forms have been reviewed and approved by our insurance company.
 - **Light Pole on Pleasant Street** – The school has asked for a light pole to be installed at the end of Pleasant Street, as many children follow a path through that area on their way to and from school. The electric co-op said it would cost about \$1000, but the Town Manager wanted to confirm which account to take this out of, as it did not seem to fit the Roads and Streets criteria. He also reported that reshaping of the pavement has been completed and the drainage works well. Chairman Huot said she saw some very happy people at the block party celebrating this construction. Chairman Huot also asked if that area would help for snow removal, which the Town Manager said could be provided on the unpaved sections.
 - **Water Study** – Town Manager Sutton reported on his meetings with Centex, Bill Willey and John Hettinger regarding a storage tank on Centex property, which has led to a study on the town's water infrastructure. Centex has agreed to put up a 300,000 gallon tank to service 27 units, but there may be a need for a larger tank

that will also service part of Lincoln, but we need to determine how much larger the tank would need to be. The study will be done this month at a cost of about \$19,000, which will come from the water rehab account. The tank will eventually be owned by the Town of Lincoln.

- **Common Man Land** – The Common Man Restaurant currently leases a small portion of Town land for parking, and pays an annual amount based on the tax value of it. The Town may consider selling it to them via RSA 41:14-a, as that would ensure they have enough parking (versus an annual lease that is not as secure) for when they build their Common Man Inn. This lease was created in 2002 and was intended to supply both the Common Man and the Kancamagus Motor Lodge with parking facilities. Currently, the Common Man uses it all, and the Motor Lodge has created another lot on its own land. The Town Manager said he would have Alex Ray (owner of the Common Man) have his lawyers investigate this purchase option. Selectman Moore felt that they should pave their lot also, to regulate the parking, and he wants to make sure the abutters are protected from lighting, etc. He also mentioned that this piece of land would become more valuable as a part of that property.
- **CIP** – Chairman Huot, Town Manager Sutton and John Hettinger have completed the CIP and will be presenting it to the planning Board at one of that Board's next meetings.
- **Flu Shots** – Flu shots are scheduled for October 19th from 11am to 1pm here at Lincoln Town Hall. It is available to all Town employees under our health insurance plan at no cost, and can be received for \$25 for those not covered.

Other business:

- The Cross Street sewer repair work is almost complete, with the 4-inch town-owned sewer main having been infiltrated and broken by tree roots, etc. Completion and re-paving should be done by the end of the week.
- With Town Manager Sutton on vacation over the next few weeks, and the upcoming Columbus Day holiday, the next two meetings are scheduled for September 24th and October 15th.
- The Town Manager and Chairman Huot will be heading to the State House in Concord on Tuesday, September 11th, to meet with the Coalition Communities and Governor Lynch regarding school funding and the donor town issue.
- The Board reiterated that all would attend the North Country Council annual meeting at the Common Man Inn in Plymouth on October 17th.
- The Village Core Group will continue meeting every second Tuesday to discuss plans for a Riverfront Park and a trail system throughout town. It is an exciting process.
- The Grafton County Municipal Association is still in the process of being formed, with the charter-drafting committee meeting at the Local Government Center on Thursday to discuss the charter with an LGC lawyer there. Interest is definitely there, as evidenced by the front page headline in last week's Littleton Courier. The Town Manager had received a newsletter today about the new Jail/Sheriff Facility, where he saw that there will be a meeting for legislative delegation only on October 15th, which means the association will not be able to voice an opinion

directly there. Also, the county is planning a meeting January 7th to seek approval for the bond for the jail, the cost of which is unknown. The operating costs are described as being significantly higher for the new facility, possibly \$200,000 per year. The Sheriff's department would also be receiving a gym and other space, yet they have told local towns that they will be receiving reduced services from the Sheriff's department, as the department did not receive funding for another sheriff this year. With the latest move by the County government, besides a 17% budget increase and the bond that they are proceeding with for the new jail and Sheriff's department, the tax rate could easily double.

- Chairman Huot read a letter she received from Local Government Center about HB790, which allows the (re) enrollment of children age 18-26 under their parents' health and dental insurance plans, even if not in college. Primex is also affected by this bill.
- Two Elderly Exemptions were reviewed. A **motion** was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Selectman Moore, to approve Kelley-Ann Kass's application and deny Ann Carr's as she was over the income limitation. The vote was unanimous. Ms. Carr is encouraged to re-apply next year.
- Chairman Huot felt the Board should discuss goal setting at its next meeting.
- Town Manager Sutton reported that Rosie Welsh's exemption was re-instated, as the assessors found a way to tax her on only her home, similar to the situation at the Sunny Day Diner, a trailer on leased land.
- A local citizen (Pat Romprey) had suggested that the Community Center should have an indoor pool. He had planned to attend the meeting but did not arrive. The Board felt that this would not be a good idea at the present time as it is very costly and there are several other local options. Chairman Huot reported that it cost about \$1800 to heat the pool at her motel for just 10 weeks this summer. Town Manager Sutton stated that he also did not agree with Mr. Romprey and that we have enough pools in town.

Audience Participation

- Mr. Cook asked if we actually spend the total budgeted figure for streetlights each year, or if the funding for the streetlight installation on Pleasant Street could be funded from that. This led to a comment from the Town Manager that he had a current statement of income and expenses and we are working within our budget. He will meet with Department heads in October in preparation for budget season. He will also start working on setting the new tax rate.
- Mr. Cook wondered from where the funds for the water tank on Centex property would come, and reminded the Board to budget for this. Town Manager Sutton replied that the study would give us an amount, but that there was the potential to just credit water tap fees to Centex, as had been done at Forest Ridge.
- Charlie Cook saw the article in the Littleton Courier about the Grafton County Municipal Association and felt it was frustrating that there were so few full-time elected county government positions to vote for. He felt more publicity was needed to let the County Delegates know how the public feels. It's great that Lincoln gets in the paper on this County Government tax issue, but other towns should do the same. There should be a groundswell of public voices on a "tax

- revolt”. The Town Manager reiterated that our tax rate could be twice the rate we have today.
- Mr. Cook agreed with Selectman Moore’s earlier comments on illegal parking throughout town, and felt that the town should enforce parking regulations, not the business owners. For example, there is a lot of parking in Pollard Road around the Common Man, as people who wait to get into the restaurant fill the lot, and the Kancamagus Motor Lodge had to hire someone to keep these people out of the Motor Lodge’s lot.
 - Wilfred Bishop also felt the Town should use solar panels for other buildings. He reported that the State is in the process of developing a water plan and will be asking citizens how to conserve water. The Town Manager is already working with the state. Finally, Mr. Bishop said he receives a monthly environmental newsletter which covers many of the same concerns the Board covered this evening. He was happy that the Board had decided to join WaterSense.

At 7:30 pm, Town Manager Sutton left and the meeting was adjourned. The Selectboard then reviewed payroll and accounts payable check registers for the week ending September 9, 2007.

Date: _____

Approved by:

Chairman Deanna L. Huot

Selectman Peter E. Moore

Selectman R. Patricia McTeague