

LINCOLN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 20, 2015
LINCOLN TOWN HALL - 148 MAIN STREET, LINCOLN, NH

Present: O.J. Robinson and Jayne Ludwig.

Excused Absence: Patricia McTeague.

Staff Present: Town Manager Alfred Burbank, Fire Chief Ron Beard, and Recording Secretary Brook Rose.

Public Present: Paul Beaudin, Mike Simons, Mary Conn, Dave Beaudin, Cindy Rineer, Susan Clark, Ted Smith, and Steve Noseworthy.

I. CALL TO ORDER

O.J. Robinson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

II. REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: “To approve the minutes of the April 13, 2015 Board of Selectmen’s meeting as amended.”

Motion: Robinson **Second:** Ludwig **All in favor.**

MOTION: “To approve the two sets of non-public meeting minutes of the April 6, 2015 Board of Selectmen’s meeting.”

Motion: Ludwig **Second:** Robinson **All in favor.**

MOTION: “To approve the non-public meeting minutes of the March 30, 2015 Board of Selectmen’s meeting.”

Motion: Ludwig **Second:** Robinson **All in favor.**

As there is a new Board in place, Chairman Robinson stated that the members should have a discussion when the full Board is present to discuss the format of the meeting minutes. Jayne Ludwig is researching software that takes a recording and transcribes it into written meeting minutes.

III. OTHER BUSINESS AS PRESENTED

Financing for Loon Mountain Bridge Project

O.J. Robinson would like to request that State Representative Gionet advocate on behalf of the Town in an attempt to expedite the payment from the State for the Loon Mountain Bridge. Also, there are funds available in the water tap, sewer tap and bedroom fees so that the Town can borrow from other municipal funds rather than applying for a tax anticipation note.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mary Conn- Concerns re: Wastewater Treatment Plant

Town Manager Burbank provided Ms. Conn with a copy of the financial itemization he received today from Utility Partners. He stated that the company was reluctant to provide itemization of the contract as it is charged to the Town in a lump sum. Mary Conn questioned whether the Board would do a cost analysis of overseeing the wastewater treatment plant rather than contracting the service out. She believes that it would save the Town money to train the water operators to also operate the wastewater plant. O.J. Robinson replied that the contract the Town has with Utility Partners has only gone up 4% over the past few decades. The Town is very happy with their services as well as the extremely minimal amount the contract price has gone up. He added that there was a zero percent increase in the contract this year.

Town Manager Burbank explained the difference between water and sewer operator licenses and the fact that it could take anywhere from six months to one year to get a license. He added that Utility Partners not only has a full time operator overseeing the plant but they also have 15 contractors who are on standby in the event of an emergency. This is not a service the Town could replace. O.J. Robinson stated that the water treatment plant operators are full time employees with full time work and do not have the time to take on running another plant.

Mary Conn questioned whether this service has ever gone out to bid. O.J. replied that it had. Ms. Conn stated that she has approached surrounding towns who feel that keeping the service in house is a cheaper way to go. O.J. replied that the Town of Lincoln has proved that wrong since this contracted service has barely gone up at all. Jayne Ludwig stated that the Board owes it to Ms. Conn to look into this further.

Paul Beaudin Inquiry regarding Budget

Mr. Beaudin had a few questions about the revisions the Board made last week to the new budget. The Board addressed Mr. Beaudin's concerns by explaining the four revisions they made to the budget at their last meeting.

Cindy Rineer Budget Questions

Cindy Rineer questioned whether the Board has considered reinstating personnel that were laid off or had their hours reduced with these monies that they added back into the budget at their last meeting. O.J. Robinson replied that as Cindy had voluntarily agreed to be laid off, her hours were given to the Town Clerk & Tax Collector, Administrative Assistant, and HR Coordinator/Board Secretary. Ms. Rineer questioned what the Board planned to do when Town Clerk Whitman retires. O.J. replied that bringing someone back on board to work in that office may be part of next year's budget. Ms. Rineer stated that she highly recommends that the Board keep the Town Clerk and Tax Collector position as one full time job as opposed to splitting it up. All agreed that with the significant flow of traffic to that office, keeping the position full time would be ideal.

E-mail from Bill Conn

O.J. Robinson read the following e-mail from Bill Conn:

*Hi,
I have a question on your budget reductions.*

*You removed the Manager from the Solid Waste Facility because he wasn't needed and then replaced him with 2 Managers from Lincoln, the Lincoln Town Manager and the Public Works Director with no cost to the Town of Woodstock. The budget cut was \$51,000.00, under the gross budget act it's really only a \$25,000.00 cut to Lincoln, so in reality you cut Woodstock's budget by \$25,000.00 also. Could the Selectmen explain to the people what gross budgeting is so they know the real cost reduction? Also I believe the Recreation Dept. budget reductions fall under the gross budget act too. As a taxpayer for the Town of Lincoln I'd like to know if you're working for the Town of Woodstock or the Town of Lincoln? I'm requesting that this be read at tonight's (4/20/15) BOS meeting and put in the minutes. Also, would someone acknowledge receipt of this email?
Thank you,
Bill Conn*

O.J. Robinson replied to Mr. Conn's questions as follows:

Town Manager Burbank acknowledged receipt of the email.

The Board did not replace him with the Town Manager and Public Works Director. The Town Manager was already overseeing this department and the Public Works Director will have some oversight of the facility but is by no means replacing the Solid Waste Manager.

O.J. stated that he did explain the gross budgeting process as part of the recent budget meetings. He stated that he could explain it in greater detail to anyone that requests it.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Energy Efficiently Improvement Proposal

Town Manager Burbank presented a proposal from NH Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) for the installation of LED bulbs at the public works garage and the water treatment plant. He explained that the Town could finance the job through the monthly electric bills however switching to LED bulbs will save the Town so much that there will actually be a credit reflected on the monthly bills for the LED financing. The Town will save \$28 per month at the water treatment plant over the life of the payback during financing and the Town will save \$18 per month for the public works building. The net cost to the Town would be \$9,195 but with the financing being offered, there would be no cost reflected in the current operating budget.

Mr. Burbank commented that the Town will very rarely have to replace another lightbulb after making the switch to LED's. This NHEC program is a very popular program but NHEC is not sure how long it will be offered for. This is a green initiative that will show a small cost savings for the Town. The Board would like to see a proposal to switch to LED's for the town hall as well.

Property Liability Trust

Town Manager Burbank informed the Board that he was recently made aware that Healthtrust will not be allowed to continue in the property liability business after July 1, 2015 per mandate by the State of NH. Thus the only current provider of this type of insurance is Primex. Mr. Burbank went on to say that the Legislature needs to take a look at this issue as municipalities cannot afford private insurance entities. Municipalities will suffer greatly if the Legislature fails to get involved.

Solid Waste Facility Hours of Operation

The Town is waiting to hear back from the Town of Woodstock.

Junkyard Violations

Town Attorney Malia is working on behalf of the Town on the ongoing junkyard violations.

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VI. NON-PUBLIC WORK SESSION Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II(legal)

MOTION: To go into Non-Public Work Session at 6:15pm.

Motion: Robinson Seconded: Ludwig Roll call vote all in favor.

MOTION: To go back into public session at 7:15 pm.

Motion: Robinson Seconded: Ludwig Roll call vote all in favor.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

After reviewing the weekly accounts payables, the Board made the following motion.

MOTION: "To adjourn."

Motion: Robinson Second: Ludwig All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brook Rose

Approval Date 5 / 04 / 2015



Chairman O.J. Robinson



Jayne Ludwig