

**LINCOLN BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S
MEETING MINUTES**

APPROVED

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023 – 5:30PM

LINCOLN TOWN HALL - 148 MAIN STREET, LINCOLN, NH

(THE RECORDING OF THIS MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON YOUTUBE)

Lincoln Board of Selectmen Present: Chairman, OJ Robinson, Vice Chair, Tamra Ham and Selectman Jack Daly

Staff Present: Town Manager, Carina Park, Recreation Director, Tara Tower, Officer Kris Lowe, Officer Josh Meier and Executive Assistant, Jane Leslie.

Public Present via Zoom: Paul Beaudin, Ryan Fairbrother, Michael Weden, David Tomaso, Drew Lindow, Nathan Jenkins and “Michael’s Iphone”

Public Present: Debbie Celino, Jim Welsh, Roger Harrington, Kevin Bell, Renee Hoover, Wayne Baltzer, and Al Poulin

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(s)

MOTION: “To approve the Non-Public BOS meeting minutes of February 27, 2023 presented.”

Motion: Tamra Ham

Second: Jack Daly

All in favor.

III. SKATEBOARD PARK *Location Decision*

Chairman Robinson reminded everyone that the past two (2) Board of Selectmen’s meetings (2/13-2/27/23) public discussions were held regarding the skateboard park and its proposed location at the Community Center (194 Pollard Rd.). OJ explained that this issue was presented to the public to obtain input/comments and concerns, and during tonight’s meeting, the Selectmen will deliberate on all that has been said, and all that they have heard over the course of the two recent meetings.

OJ noted that several emails were received after the February 27th meeting, and the writers’ requested that they be read into tonight’s minutes:

Emails received from the following residents (*see attached*): Tracey Brumlik (51 School St.), Karen Gallagher (Pollard Rd. resident), Joshu Osmanski, Rebecca Spustek & Elizabeth Fortes (216 & 218 Pollard Rd.), Amy Cleveland & Phil Robinson (211 Pollard Rd.), Mary-Lynn & Wayne Colby (152 Pollard Rd.) & Amy Swift & Donna Tombarelli (24 Rue De Gionet).

Selectman Ham commented on the email received from J. Osmanski, R. Spustek & E. Fortes which states that 216 & 218 Pollard Rd. never received notices of the February BOS public meetings regarding the skatepark. Tammy explained that *all* abutters to 194 Pollard Road were mailed notices of both scheduled meetings which were sent to the mailing addresses on the properties tax bills. Tammy also noted that both 216 & 218 Pollard Rd. are listed as Air B&B Superhosts.

OJ explained that the only reason the Selectmen brought this idea before the public is because it was something that they believed in and supported. OJ summarized the history of the “idea” of having a skateboard park in the Town of Lincoln for decades, and the reason that the Riverfront Park site was a good location (initially) until the soil contamination was discovered. OJ summarized the contamination issues with the Riverfront Park location that will cost upwards of \$800k for the Town to mitigate, and the lengthy EPA Brownfield grant process that the town has applied for in an effort to help with clean-up

costs. OJ explained that the Community Center was not a second-choice location, but rather a *better* location for the skatepark due to it being a neighborhood park feature that is geared towards younger local children, and intermediate skateboarders. OJ added that the same children that visit the Kanc Rec will be the same children using the skatepark, which is an enhancement to the community (more visible and accessible to local children). OJ also responded to a comment made at the previous meeting about the negative connotation of younger children mixing with older kids, and noted that both young and older children attend the same K-12 school and co-exist together, whether riding the school bus or eating lunch in the same cafeteria. OJ also expressed feelings about the full-time, year-round residents in town which are now in the minority.

OJ responded to some of the public concerns that he heard expressed, and feels in an effort to make this a better part of the neighborhood they can add fencing, signage, reasonable park hours, and casual oversight (Police Dept., Rec Center & Food Pantry staff) to monitor any mis-behaviors that may occur.

Selectman Daly commented that although he expressed his support for the skatepark during the previous meetings, he also listened to the public's concerns. Jack noted some of the comparisons that were being made were to larger metropolitan areas like Manchester and Hudson, NH which is not representative of what the Lincoln community is.

Selectman Ham commented that although many people say that this is a residential neighborhood, the truth is that there is an automobile repair shop on Pollard Rd. along with many short-term rental operations, a hostel and Bed & Breakfast, childcare center and senior center, and hasn't been residential for years. Tammy noted that although they received many emails and letters from people stating why Pollard Rd. was not the right place, there were also many locals at last week's meeting who are all long-term residents that have grown up in Lincoln, and now raising their families in town and fully support the skatepark.

Carina commented that the Town reached out to its property liability carrier to confirm that this project will not cost the town any money, and have no impact on the town's current premium(s) which proves that these types of parks are *not* viewed as a liability.

Prior to the Board's vote, Ms. Elizabeth Forte addressed the Selectmen and explained that her main concern is walking out of her home and there being strangers in her neighborhood that she doesn't know, and she's worried about her safety, and feels that there are other locations that would be better suited for the park. The following motion was made:

MOTION: "To approve the new skate park location at the Community Center on Pollard Road."

Motion: Tamra Ham

Second: Jack Daly

All in favor.

Public Participation:

Jim Welsh questioned whether or not the town can enforce "no skateboard riding on the sidewalks" and have signage and penalties for those who don't abide. Selectman Daly commented that they could put up signage just as other communities do.

Kevin Bell (Skateboard Park Committee Member) commented that the skatepark committee is currently working through the final design of the park, and it will be a beginner-intermediate park which will be mostly flat with some ramps on the ends, and ramp features in the middle (park will be a rectangular design-100' x 60').

Paul Beaudin commented that everyone may not agree, but at the end of the day there is always the opportunity for individuals to vote during the election process if they don't agree with any decisions that

101 opportunity for individuals to vote during the election process if they don't agree with any decisions that
102 one or all of the Selectmen make. Paul also feels the Board needs to listen to the abutters who are directly
103 affected, and keep that in mind when making their decisions.

104 **IV. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

105 **NEW BUSINESS:**

106 **Town Meeting - Town Clerk Candidate:**

107 Tuesday, March 14th is Town Meeting Day. Delia Sullivan, Candidate for the Town Clerk's office wanted
108 to inform the public that due to personal reasons, she will not be pursuing the election for the Town Clerk's
109 office.

110 **Annual School District Meeting:**

111 The School District's Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21st.

112 **Public Works Department:**

113 Selectman Ham gave a special shout-out to the DPW Crew for handling the busy snow event(s) this past
114 week while being short two public works employees.

115 **Lincoln 2022 Town Reports:**

116 The Town Reports are available at Town Hall, the Public Library as well as in a digital format on the
117 town's website (WWW.LincolnNH.Org).

118 **Marshall Young Proclamation – Town Meeting**

119 Marshall Young's family is currently reviewing the wording for the Proclamation that will be presented at
120 March Town Meeting.

121 **Linwood Vet Rabies Clinic:**

122 A rabies clinic will be held at Lincoln Town Hall on March 25th from 11am-3pm. Cash Only @ \$10/per
123 vaccine.

124 **Joint Lincoln-Woodstock BOS Meeting**

125 There will be a joint Lincoln-Woodstock Board meeting on Monday, March 27th at 5:30pm at Lincoln
126 Town Hall Conference Room.

127 **V. VI. NON-PUBLIC Session Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3:(III) (c) Personnel**

128 **MOTION: "To go into Non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 (III) (c)**

129 **Motion: Tamra Ham Second: Jack Daly All in favor**

130 The BOS went into Non-public session at 6:35 p.m.

131 **MOTION: "To re-enter public session."**

132 **Motion: Jack Daly Second: Tamra Ham All in favor.**

133 The Board reconvened public session at 0:00 p.m.

134 **V. ADJOURNMENT**

135 After review of the weekly payables and with no further business to attend to, the Board made the following motion:

MOTION: "To adjourn."

Motion: OJ Robinson

Second: Tamra Ham

Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.


Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Leslie

Approval Date: March 13, 2023

Lincoln Board of Selectmen:


Chairman O.J. Robinson


Tamra Ham

Jack Daly

Town Hall

From: Town Manager
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8:19 AM
To: Town Hall
Subject: FW: Public Hearing on Skate Park

Carina Park

Town Manager
Town of Lincoln
148 Main Street
PO Box 25
Lincoln, NH 03251
(W) 603-745-2757
www.lincolnnh.org

From: Tracey Brumlik <tjbrumlik@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 11:53 AM
To: O.J. Robinson <robinsonbos@lincolnnh.org>; Tamra Ham <hambos@lincolnnh.org>; Jack Daly <dalybos@lincolnnh.org>; Recreation <recreation@lincolnnh.org>; Town Manager <townmanager@lincolnnh.org>
Subject: Public Hearing on Skate Park

Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and Recreation Leader,

Please read this at the next Board of Selectmen meeting to be made part of the public record.

I am writing this to express my frustrations over the intent and running of the Public Hearing for the skate park. I thought the intent of this public hearing was to gather the voting public's opinion regarding the pros and cons of this possible location for the skate park. Why have a public hearing if the matter was already decided?

When the topic of the skate park was opened for public comment, Tammy Gionet was the first to speak. She was quickly shot down and Jack Daly then spoke in high support of the park and all the reasons he is for this location. He's entitled to his opinion as a voting member of the public, however, I'm not sure why he spoke when, at this time, he was representing the Board of Selectmen. It was the voter's chance to speak and the Board of Selectmen should be unbiased and willing to listen to the voters and then make their decisions.

At one point in the meeting, Tara Tower said that normally she doesn't hold a public hearing on recreation department decisions, they just ask the BOS and move on. Why give us a sense that our opinions mattered when the petition and the public concerns about the park's location were not taken seriously or even considered? It was even argued that the area is not a residential area....the definition of a residential area is: ***land used as a permanent residence or domicile, such as a house, apartment, nursing home, school, child care facility, land zoned for such uses, or land where no zoning is in place.*** All of this fits this area.

I hope, at the very least, the concerns about the hours and fencing will be taken seriously since our other concerns, opinions and ideas on other places to put the skate park were not.

I want to understand why when the toxic nature of the river area was known years ago, the public was not informed right away that the plan presented at the town meeting would be scraped and the skate park moved to a different area. It doesn't feel like decisions are being made transparently.

What we did last night was a waste of 3 hours of our time for nothing! In the future, please, only hold public hearings on matters where we can potentially affect the outcome and it's not a foregone conclusion.

Sincerely,
Tracey Brumlik

Town Hall

From: Town Manager
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8:19 AM
To: Town Hall
Subject: FW: Public Hearing on Skateboard Park Letter

Carina Park

Town Manager
Town of Lincoln
148 Main Street
PO Box 25
Lincoln, NH 03251
(W) 603-745-2757
www.lincolnnh.org

From: Karen Gallagher <ibelieve121@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 5:26 PM
To: Town Manager <townmanager@lincolnnh.org>
Cc: Tamra Ham <hambos@lincolnnh.org>; O.J. Robinson <robinsonbos@lincolnnh.org>; Jack Daly <dalybos@lincolnnh.org>; Recreation <recreation@lincolnnh.org>; John Koziol <jkoziol@metrocast.net>
Subject: Public Hearing on Skateboard Park Letter

To: The Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and Recreation Director,

Please read this into the record at your next board of Selectmen meeting before your final decision on the skateboard park location.

My husband Brian and I attended the final hearing for the public's comments regarding the new proposed location of the skateboard park. To say that we are disappointed and frustrated is an **understatement**. The public meeting was to gather the thoughts and concerns from the residents of Lincoln and Woodstock regarding the proposal for this new site on Pollard Road. We feel we were not heard. Within the first 15 minutes of the hearing, we could see that this was a done deal and opening it up to the public was basically perceived as a legal formality.

Tammy Gionet spoke first. She gave many valid reasons against this Pollard Road location. She asked a question about the possibility of locating it in another town owned piece of land and Selectman Jack Daly gave his answer to that. But when she then tried to continue he cut her off and then went on to give his reasoning why this proposal is a good idea citing the police and dispatchers in various towns he had contacted to verify his reasons.

As one of the Selectmen voting on this, he is to remain impartial and **listen** to the public who come to speak and not give his opinion in advance. So at this point into the meeting , it was evident to us where he stood and he actually stated it by saying, “ **I will listen but I think you know where I am coming from**”

We immediately felt deflated and realized the rest of our concerns about the new location of this park would probably fall on deaf ears and be completely overlooked.

The third person who spoke cited several skateboard parks in New Hampshire that have been closed due to the same concerns we all had; vandalism, littering, noise and crime. This completely refuted what others said about these parks having none of these problems.

Then another gentleman went up and passionately spoke about his concern as an abutter and shared how he and his wife spoke to many people who were afraid to openly express their disagreement for fear of retribution. Then they put a petition together and along with several other concerned citizens, spent hours going door to door getting it signed, accumulating over 80 signatures. Even though this was mentioned and the petitions handed to the selectmen, it appeared to be completely overlooked and of little importance. Just because people are afraid to be vocal, and /or are elderly and thus unable to come out to a meeting to voice their disapproval does not mean they should not be heard and counted.

Below are a few more important concerns that were never answered or even addressed at last night's meeting:

1. As Paul Beaudin suggested, why shouldn't this be properly brought to a vote at town meeting just like the original proposal was?

If too late this year, why not next year so it's done right the first time?

2. Why haven't impact studies or a visual plan been done on this new location such as:

- Number of projected users for the park versus the words “we have strong support”;
- Potential storm water drainage issues on existing residential houses ;
- Quantitative monetary impacts on home real estate values in effected neighborhood;
- Real data documenting traffic flow on Pollard Road. (Chief Morris has now offered to do this)
- Potential drug and alcohol usage.

This information should be shared with the public prior to a formal decision on relocation.

3. How long has it been since you were made aware of the higher cost of the soil clean up ?
4. Because the Tony Hawk Grant for \$80,000 is running out, why not re- apply? August seems to be an artificial deadline or excuse to cause this to happen without proper planning.
5. Why not actively consider now other funding sources as outlined by a speaker for not only the skateboard park, but also for the entire riverfront park area. It's a concern for the entire town, not just a select group who is seeking closure now.
6. We noticed a letter of concern was read last night from someone in No. Woodstock. This made us wonder if this park, next to the recreation center, is going to be a shared responsibility with Woodstock as the Lincoln/Woodstock recreation center is.

It clearly appears that due diligence has not been completed. The best decision is for the Select Board to pause to think this through for another year.

Please understand, we support the town having a skateboard park, just not having it in this neighborhood location.

Respectfully,

Karen Gallagher

181 Pollard Road, Lincoln

February 28, 2023

"Love God First. Then love everything and everybody else for the sake of God"
- Saint Augustine

Town Hall

From: Elizabeth Fortes <cranmore57@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 5:11 PM
To: Town Hall
Subject: Fwd: SKATE PARK - 216 & 218 Pollard Rd

Attn: Board of Selectmen:

We have 2 homes located at 216 and 218 Pollard Rd, Lincoln NH. We have just recently been informed (last week) that the town of Lincoln plans on building a skate park directly on the side of our homes. We never received any written or verbal communication from the town of Lincoln that these plans were in the works. We had to find out by a local resident. We feel we should have had ample awareness of this matter. With that said we have significant concerns regarding the building of this skate park directly near us. We feel this will impact our living conditions in a negative way. I live on the property full time and I enjoy my peaceful environment hence the reason I moved to NH. I feel this skate park will bring an array of people/strangers to this peaceful neighborhood and with that safety concerns. I have previously lived in California and around skate parks and I know firsthand the level of noise, rowdiness, debris, and unsavory characters it can attract and we do not want to be subjected to that type of living state. We do feel that the kids in this town can benefit from a fun activity, skate park however in a better less residential community. We also have been informed that you all have not done an impact study which we feel is crucial before moving forward with these plans. Such as finding out how this may affect traffic, real estate, crime, drug use, flooding etc. And with the impact study we would ask to be a part of it since it will directly affect us in many ways, including and not limited to financially.

We ask that you reconsider the location, perhaps on Forest Ridge Dr. Kancamagus Recreational Area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope you take into account the seriousness of our concerns and weigh all opinions and options before making a final decision as it will affect many people.

Sincerely,
Joshu Osmanski
Rebecca Spustek
Elizabeth Fortes

Town Hall

From: Town Manager
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 10:24 AM
To: Town Hall; Recreation
Subject: FW: Skatepark

FYI

Carina Park

Town Manager
Town of Lincoln
148 Main Street
PO Box 25
Lincoln, NH 03251
(W) 603-745-2757
www.lincolnnh.org

From: Amy Cleveland <amerhood@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 11:26 AM
To: Town Manager <townmanager@lincolnnh.org>
Cc: O.J. Robinson <robinsonbos@lincolnnh.org>; Tamra Ham <hambos@lincolnnh.org>; Jack Daly <dalybos@lincolnnh.org>; Phil Robinson <sm0k3y.phil@gmail.com>
Subject: Skatepark

Good Morning All,

After attending Monday night's Town Meeting, Phil and I have come away with a different perspective on the Skatepark being located at 194 Pollard Road.

As we mentioned at the 1st meeting, we were never opposed to the Skatepark, rather we just questioned the location and the sense of urgency behind the new location. Throughout the meeting we were moved by all the parents in favor of the Skateparks location at the Community Center and the excitement that the town's children have for this venture. Additionally, we acknowledge that the Skatepark committee has worked extremely hard to fundraise to see this goal accomplished and as such they deserve a Skatepark where the children can gather and enjoy the sport.

These points we never doubted, but what changed our perspective was the additional information that was presented by Tara Tower (we believe). This being the schematic of the location of the park, the actual size of the park in relation to the available and critically the focus of this park being for beginners and intermediate skaters. As such it would appear that it will be the intrusion originally envisaged and the most likely attended by younger children. I have to add that had this information been appropriately shared at the first meeting then there would have been every chance this could have sailed through without opposition!

As a side note, our children are 26 and 22 years old (one a roller skater ~ the other a skateboarder), so understand we are not even opposed to skating in general!

We therefore wish to formally retract our opposition to the Skatepark and do back the selection of this location.

This all said, since our home will be directly looking on to the Skatepark is it possible to see an actual plan/layout of what is envisioned on the property? May we discuss the area having a real park-like feel with benches and possibly small bushes? We believe working together, so all residents can feel comfortable within the community is the best option moving forward.

Please share our email with the Skatepark committee and hopefully they will be open to sharing information with us, 'the neighbors' directly moving forward.

Thank you
Amy & Phil
211 Pollard Road

Town Hall

From: bronxet <bronxet@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 10:52 PM
To: Town Hall
Subject: Skate park

We live on Pollard rd full time. And we totaly support the skate park.
Mary-Lynn and Wayne Colby

Sent from my Galaxy

Town Hall

From: Town Manager
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 3:01 PM
To: Town Hall
Subject: FW: Skate park

Carina Park

Town Manager
Town of Lincoln
148 Main Street
PO Box 25
Lincoln, NH 03251
(W) 603-745-2757
www.lincolnnh.org

From: O.J. Robinson <robinsonbos@lincolnnh.org>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 5:25 PM
To: Town Manager <townmanager@lincolnnh.org>
Subject: Fwd: Skate park

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Donna Tombarelli <djtombarelli@comcast.net>
Date: Feb 28, 2023 2:41 PM
Subject: Skate park
To: "O.J. Robinson" <robinsonbos@lincolnnh.org>, Tamra Ham <hambos@lincolnnh.org>, Jack Daly <dalybos@lincolnnh.org>
Cc:

Dear BOS,

We attended the meeting last night via Zoom with particular regard for the proposed site for the skate park on Pollard Road. Although we support building a skate park in town (and always have), we both had signed the petition out of support for friends and neighbors who live close to the proposed site who had concerns. We had not been in attendance of the earlier meeting. Given what we heard last night, we believe those questions and concerns were addressed favorably. We now support putting the skate park at the proposed site on Pollard Road.

Thank you for giving the opportunity for folks to ask questions and express their opinions and concerns. We know this has been a long time in the making and appreciate all the time and effort in making this happen. A skate park will be a great addition for the kids in our community.

Respectfully,

Donna Tombarelli and Amy Swift
24 Rue de Gionet

Sent from my iPad

Town Hall

From: Tamra Ham
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 6:51 PM
To: Town Hall
Subject: NP

Hey Lady,
Tonight in NP we discussed 2 separate personnel issues.
We adjourned at 6:50pm
Thank you for all you do!!!

Tamra Ham
Selectman
Lincoln, NH

