

Lincoln Board of Selectmen – Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2009 – 5:00 pm

Present: Chairman Peter Moore, Selectman Deanna Huot, Selectman Patricia McTeague,
Town Manager Peter Joseph and Administrative Assistant Susan Chenard
Audience: Charlie Cook, David Beaudin and later; Pat Romprey and Joe Chenard

Chairman Moore opened the Board of Selectmen's meeting at 5:10 pm.

Routine Business

- **Approval of the Public Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2009** - A motion was made by Selectman McTeague, seconded by Selectman Huot, to approve the public meeting minutes of October 19, 2009, as written. The vote was unanimous.

Other Business

- The Selectmen asked David Beaudin if he would like to speak with the Board prior to the balance of the routine business. Mr. Beaudin asked the Selectmen for permission to construct a driveway across Town property and onto Forest Ridge Drive, which is a private road over Town property. The new driveway would be to alleviate concern of heavier traffic on Louis Lane after Mr. Beaudin had received permission last week from the Planning Board to subdivide his property. Mr. Beaudin had received permission from the Selectmen in 2001 for his current driveway, and was looking to construct a second driveway for the new parcel, to be located roughly across from the Kanc Rec ball field. To do this, he would also need to remove a portion of the fence put up on his property by Forest Ridge some time ago. As that portion of road is fairly straight in that area, and he only planned to use 16 feet out of 106 feet of frontage, the Selectmen felt that it was a good solution. The Board has no objection to the new driveway entrance from the second lot onto Forest Ridge Drive, subject to an approved driveway permit and a letter from Forest Ridge approving removal of a portion of the fence. After thanking the Board, Mr. Beaudin left.

Routine Business

- **School Resource Officer Continuation Discussion** – The LinWood School Board requested that Chairman Moore, Town Manager Joseph, Police Chief Smith and current SRO Ulwick attend their upcoming meeting the next night, October 27, 2009. Selectmen Huot and McTeague, and any other interested parties, were also invited to attend. Officer Ulwick has been receiving glowing reviews from the superintendent and principal, as he is doing many things including teaching classes etc., but the school board needs to agree to help fund the position next year, when the grant runs out. Town Manager Joseph suggested creation of an MOU describing the distribution of costs between the Town and school, based on total pay and benefits divided by the number of days Officer Ulwick is at the school or not. As Officer Beaudry is definitely retiring in January, we need to know how to plan for future staffing, depending on if the SRO position will be continued at the school.
- **Update on Donor Towns** – Town Manager Joseph distributed information he collected at an October 9, 2009 meeting of the Coalition Communities in Concord. Various scenarios of the school funding issue were depicted, with

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Lincoln in the 5th spot in the first two scenarios. Even in the best scenario, Lincoln would be hit with a little over \$1 million in additional taxes, and Moultonborough \$3.5 million. Some of the top five donor towns are bedroom communities without large income earners, but rather many second home owners, such as Lincoln. The Coalition Communities group discussed how to raise more awareness of the issue, pointing out both who could donate more, but also who would receive less money. Also, the school tax would go up as the state portion of taxes goes down or stays even. Another highlight is the number of representatives and how many towns they represent in the North Country versus the southern part of the State. Other income opportunities could arise in the future, so the group decided to try to push to hold any changes for two more years and to hold increases at 15%, while studies continue. The Coalition Communities will meet again in three months. The Selectmen discussed how much various towns contribute to Coalition Communities and approved of Lincoln being in the middle range. They also noted that Manchester and Nashua win no matter what school funding scenario is used.

- **Health Officer Update** – Administrative Assistant Chenard, who also functions as the Town Health Officer, reported on her visit to the Health Officer's conference that she attended in Concord recently, and on other activities completed over the course of the year in her duties as health officer. In particular, discussions centered on the H1N1 pandemic.
- **Manager's Report**
 - The Town Manager circulated pictures he had received from Helena O'Rourke depicting before and after scenes of the Hanson Farm Road Cemetery. Over the past year Trustees, along with other volunteers, have spent a lot of time cleaning up the cemetery, removing stumps, filling holes, righting age-toppled stones and putting up new chain along the original granite fence posts. The results have really brought this neglected cemetery back to life.
 - The Community Center building insulation and window replacement project is underway. Chey Insulation of Canaan will have the old insulation out by the end of this week, and new insulation will be installed immediately thereafter. Granite State Glass of Plymouth will then start removing windows starting on November 16th, and expect to be done by Thanksgiving or earlier. There had been concern over the \$5,000 higher than projected costs, but the Kanc Ski Tow hut costs are \$10,000 under budget due to various donations, so this has been resolved. Rotary and the Town of Woodstock had volunteered to split the excess Community Center costs with Lincoln, but as the Town is the grant recipient, we cannot take money from them. The Selectmen did ask the Town Manager to give them thank you calls.
 - Representative Susan Ford delivered copies of the State 10-year highway plan for our review. Included are three future projects in Lincoln; pavement overlay on Route 93 between exits 32 and 33 in 2012 (Project #3254), pavement rehabilitation and roadway improvements along 1.3 miles of Route 112 near Hancock Brook in three phases, scheduled for 2011, 2013 and 2015 (Project #3895), and then overlay of 4.2 miles on Route 93, from exit 33 to White House Bridge, in 2016 (Project #7291). The comment deadline is November 13, 2009. Selectman Huot was happy to see it coming.

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Other Business

- Selectman McTeague asked if there had been any news on Beechwood. Town Manager Joseph replied there had not, but that the Town plans to put \$50,000 per year into the capital budget for this project, based on a \$600,000 cost to improve those roads. Loon still needs to investigate locations of the other utilities, so there is no immediate work. Selectman McTeague asked if had petitioned for creating a district yet and they have not done so.
- Selectman Huot confirmed that the tax rate setting date would be this Wednesday morning, at the Department of Revenue Administration in Concord.
- Chairman Moore asked about the status of the flooding off Connector Road. The Town Manager reported that there had been more than 3 inches of rain on Saturday, and only slight ponding of an inch or less in the upper retention pond by the Business Park. Both of the culverts at the retention pond and under Connector Road were dry. The culvert under Connector Road did show an old high water mark of several inches having passed through previously. He thought something should be done by the Town to try to minimize water flowing from the Town property through the culvert under Connector Road, as there was evidence of flooding in Mr. Conn's yard. Town Manager Joseph felt it could be a State drainage issue, due to Connector Road contouring and we will try to determine where the majority of that is coming from. Public Works Director Bill Willey plans to put dye tablets into the catch basins along Connector Road on State property, during the next rain storm, to see if that is where the excess water is coming from. Although a portion of the issue may be from the Department of Transportation, the Town will take a two-pronged approach, as we do put some water into Conn's yard as well, and will work to try to resolve both. The Town Manager would like to budget drainage money into the Public Works budget on a regular basis, for this instance and other drainage issues that regularly arise.
- Administrative Assistant Chenard reviewed foreclosures completed and scheduled.

Public Comment

Charlie Cook noted that Thai Nine has the same type of grease container that was a problem at Chieng Garden's and Elvio's last year, though there is no leakage now. He also noted that three children had been standing in the doorway at the Community Center, while a visible cloud of something, most likely vermiculite, was pumping out. The Town Manager assured him that it was not dangerous. Mr. Cook felt that alternative means to raise taxes, such as income taxes, would not lower property taxes enough. On gambling, most money would go to the counties, and very little to the towns. He wondered why towns could not budget for their own education costs.

Joe Chenard felt that the town should receive more than 1% from any casino funding. Mr. Cook still feels that the jail should reconsider geothermal heating and should use wood chips instead. Selectman McTeague wondered when the superior court would render its decision on the jail, and how much the case has cost the county so far.

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The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm and the Board of Selectmen reviewed payroll and accounts payable check registers for the week ending October 25, 2009.

Date: _____

Approved by:

Chairman Peter Moore

Selectman Deanna Huot

Selectman Patricia McTeague