

**LINCOLN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**DECEMBER 1, 2014**  
**LINCOLN TOWN HALL - 148 MAIN STREET, LINCOLN, NH**

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**Board of Selectmen Present:** O.J. Robinson, Patricia McTeague, and Tamra Ham.

**Staff Present:** Town Manager Burbank, Fire Chief Ron Beard, Planning Board Vice Chairman Jim Spanos, and Recording Secretary Brook Rose.

**Public Present:** Edmond Gionet, Bill Conn, Jayne Ludwig, and Dave Beaudin.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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## **II. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**MOTION:** "To approve the minutes of the November 24, 2014 Board of Selectmen's meeting."

**Motion:** Tamra Ham

**Second:** Patricia McTeague

**All in favor.**

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## **III. PUBLIC MEETING ON REVISED FEE SCHEDULE**

The Board and members of the public in attendance reviewed a revised schedule of water/sewer/bedroom assessment fees. O.J. explained that the fees were instated in 1982 and have been altered very little since that time. He explained that the Board is reviewing the fees now to ensure that they are still fair and consistent. O.J. explained that the Board revised the water points to match the sewer points. A lot of the points remained the same. The sewer fees were increased by \$50 per point as the Town is likely facing a future addition to the sewer treatment plant. The Board also explained that the fees for a new campground or a campground expansion increased substantially. O.J. explained that the Board added a fee for outside underground irrigation for both residential and commercial uses. The Board reduced the sewer points for indoor and outdoor pools.

At this time, O.J. opened up the meeting for public comment. Jim Spanos questioned whether the practice would change that when a home burns down, the owner would keep the points for what was in place and not have to pay for them again when applying for a building permit. O.J. replied that this practice would remain the same; the board isn't changing that part of the ordinance. Jim Spanos commented that he thought the fee schedule was still fairly subjective and open to interpretation. Dave Beaudin questioned whether the additional income from the increased fees is earmarked for anything. O.J. replied that there is a water tap fee fund which has historically been used to pay any infrastructure related to water. The sewer fees can be used directly to fund anything at the sewer treatment plant or to pay for the one bond the Town has for sewer. Additionally, the bedroom tax goes into a separate fund to pay for infrastructure related to the expansion of town services. After further discussion regarding the fee schedule, the following motion was made:

**MOTION: "To accept the proposed revised fee structure effective immediately."**

**Motion: Patricia McTeague**

**Second: Tamra Ham**

**All in favor.**

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#### **IV. OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Public Participation - Representative Edmond Gionet**

Mr. Edmond Gionet attended the meeting and read the attached statement. He also stated that he is awaiting a written decision from the Town regarding his request for Plummer Road. Additionally, he submitted another affidavit regarding said road as well as meeting minutes where the back alleys were discussed. He also questioned whether the Board had discussed the Audacity program.

##### **Pleasant Street Dumpster**

The Board asked that Town Manager Burbank increase the fines charged to the owner of the dumpster on Pleasant Street for the continued violation of the Wild Animal Ordinance. Tamra Ham stated that the owner has taken some measures to correct the situation as there are chains on the dumpster.

##### **Burning of Brush**

Dave Beaudin commented that he finds it ironic that the Town is no longer burning brush at the transfer station in large part due to the new Riverwalk project being constructed. However, all day today brush was being burned at the Riverwalk construction site. Chief Beard commented that they did contact the Fire Department to get permission to burn. The Board noted Mr. Beaudin's comments.

##### **Town Manager's Report**

##### **Skate Park Update**

Town Manager Burbank stated that he received a report from the LinWood Skate Park Committee informing the Town that the park structure will be approximately 5,000sqft. He is planning to schedule a meeting with the landscape architect, Skate Park Committee, and the town's engineer sometime in January. Members of the audience questioned the location of the park and why a skate park was even being built in Town when there is a decline in skateboarding and it only brings drugs into the community. O.J. explained all of the research done by the Skate Park Committee and the fact that the Committee is working to raise approximately \$100,000 to build the park. The Board all agreed that the park would be a great asset to the community. Mr. Gionet was strongly opposed to bringing a skate park to Town and recommended that no municipal funds be spent on it.

##### **Loon Mountain Bridge Update**

FEMA has informed the Town that they intend to designate the train engine and ticket booth stand as historical monuments which will then require historic preservation review. Bill Conn stated that the train that is there now isn't even the original train. He recommends that Mr. Burbank speak with the Clark family and Rick Kelly to determine ownership of the train. Mr. Burbank stated that FEMA hasn't

halted the process however they are not guaranteeing funds until their review is complete. He added that the contractor has agreed to work with the Town to extend the contract beyond 60 days.

### **Community Center Drainage**

Town Manager Burbank informed the Board that engineer Ray Korber is near completion with his report on the drainage situation surrounding the Community Center. Mr. Korber has informed the Town that there are significant drainage issues in this area that the Planning Board will have to seriously consider when reviewing future development.

### **Town Christmas Party**

Edmond Gionet questioned how much the Town budgets for their annual Christmas party. O.J. replied that there was \$4,000 budgeted this year. O.J. made it clear that there have been no significant changes in many years in the way the Town holds their holiday party. All board members, volunteers, staff and spouses have always been invited. On a few separate occasions, the Budget Committee has been approached by the Board or Town Manager to discuss either doing away with the party or cutting the budget for it. The Budget Committee has always been strongly against doing either. The Committee feels that the party is a way to thank and recognize volunteers and staff for their hard work. Edmond Gionet replied that there are several senior citizens that only earn \$4,000-\$5000 a year and he feels it would be the right time to do away with the party. He would like the Board's recommended budget not to include the Christmas party. O.J. replied that he would bring it up to the Budget Committee.

### **Connector Road Bridge Lights**

One of the new lights on the bridge has been found to be defective. A new light was ordered but has not come in yet.

### **250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary License Plates**

The Board reminded everyone that the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative license plates need to be removed from all vehicles by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Town staff will put a reminder on the Town's website, Facebook, the Police Department App and the electronic sign.

### **Change to CIP Spending Procedure**

The Board discussed the current process for CIP expenditures. O.J. would like to see any major one time expenditures come before the Board before they are purchased. Bill Conn stated that the Board should make a motion if they would like a change in protocol.

**MOTION: "All capital expenditures other than emergency purchases should be brought before the Board of Selectmen for prior authorization of the purchase."**

**Motion: O.J. Robinson      Second: Patricia McTeague      All in favor.**

### **North Country Council Transportation Advisory Committee**

**MOTION: "To reappoint Joe Chenard as the Town of Lincoln's Representative to the NCC Transportation Advisory Committee."**

**Motion: Patricia McTeague      Second: Tamra Ham      All in favor**

The Board asked that Mr. Chenard report back periodically to them to keep them informed about what is going on with the TAC.

### **Tax Collector's Supplemental Warrant**

A supplemental warrant is required on the land only parcel located at 31 School Street owned by Barbara Hooker which was abated last week due to a town software conversion error.

**MOTION: "To approve the Tax Collector's Supplemental Warrant in the amount of \$1,277.00."**

**Motion: O.J. Robinson      Second: Tamra Ham      All in favor.**

### **Solid Waste Facility Mall**

Tamra Ham informed the Board that a few different people have approached her about the possibility of creating an area at the Solid Waste Facility for repurposing household goods similar to the "dump mall" located at the Thornton Solid Waste Facility. Town Manager Burbank replied that he has had experience with the Thornton mall during his tenure as a selectman in Thornton. The selectmen tried to close down the mall because there were too many issues with people dumping household goods that weren't in working order. It was also very time consuming to clean up items that people drop off that aren't re-usable and are actually garbage. The response from the residents in the towns of Campton and Thornton was overwhelmingly in favor of keeping it open. The towns then had to put a line item in their budgets to hire an additional part time staff member to oversee the mall. Dave Beaudin stated that the Board may want to consider that if they allow something similar in Lincoln, they may not be able to get rid of it in the future. Town Manager Burbank added that the towns of Lincoln and Woodstock would have to agree to hire additional staff to oversee the operation. Some kind of a building to house the mall would also be necessary. Tamra Ham stated that repurposing household items would save them from going into the landfill. The Board asked that Town Manager Burbank speak with Solid Waste Facility Manager Paul Beaudin to get his input on the matter.

### **Plummer Road Update**

Bill Conn informed the Board that Sue Clark hired him to install a new piece of sewer line to fix the leak on Plummer Road. He informed the Board that if the culvert is replaced, 20-30 feet of sewer line beyond the culvert will also have to be replaced. He added that he believes there is a good chance that the culvert is sitting right on the sewer line. O.J. stated that when the Town receives the drainage report from Ray Korber, it should address some of the drainage issues in this area. Bill Conn stated that some of the problem is water running off of the driveway and also that the pipe isn't long enough or large enough. Bill added that the Town should have Mr. Korber size a culvert for this road however he isn't sure that NHDES would even allow the installation of a culvert into this water way.

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## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

After reviewing the weekly accounts payable and with no further business to attend to, the Board made the following motion.

**MOTION: "To adjourn."**

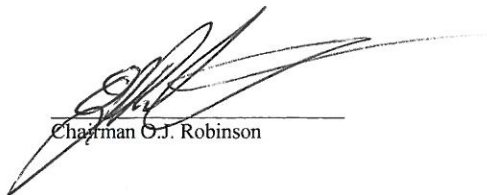
**Motion: O.J. Robinson      Second: Tamra Ham      All in favor.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Brook Rose

Approval Date 12/8/14

  
Chairman O.J. Robinson

  
Tamra Ham

  
Patricia McTeague

December 1, 2014

O.J. Robinson  
Chairman Board of Selectmen  
Lincoln, NH

Dear Sir,

Having had the opportunity to review the copy of the draft minutes that I requested and received this morning December 1st for the Selectmen meeting held on November 24th I offer the following remarks to be entered into the minutes. Given the fact that the minutes are vague by definition , for the record, to put things in perspective, when I stated the town was accountable I explained why. That, being that new development that was approved by the town and others increased the volume of water considerably causing the culvert that was installed by the town to overflow on many occasions washing away portions of the roadway and it wasn't fair to the residents to be liable to repair the damages. and I pointed out the fact that one of them was a 91 year old. The way the minutes are written it neglected to mention the facts. It merely states that O.J. translates the event to simply mean I believe the town should repair Plummer Road. O.J. refers to the levee's which had nothing to do with the reason I was before the board. Not even comparing apples to apples. That is a whole separate issue to be addressed at another time. O.J. highlights the fact that the sewer may need some work. Very possible because of the washouts. That was why I said common sense should dictate policy. When I said I had a problem with the town employees throwing a party for themselves at the tax payers expense. I explained that for this to happen was not fair , especially since so many had to scrape to live on social security benefits to pay their Taxes. This caused Select person Ham to become unhinged and accuse me of name calling, and being disrespectful . I don't recall her saying I



was arrogant and condescending . I considered myself as being honest and to the point. Select person Ham decided to leave when I asked who I was calling names? O.J. was quick to stand up for the board and it's action, adding that he didn't agree with me that town government was deteriorating. To which I replied : I am entitled to my opinion and unhappy. O.J. then proceeds to emphasize the complications of the culvert replacement.

The town manager piped in saying that I had mistreated town employee Brook Rose on that day and in the future that I not speak to to employees but to deal directly with him. At this time I addressed the Chair and said I would not be asking Father Casey for permission to speak to a Town employee. Burbank continued to make unfounded accusations and that I was a bully. He claims to know all of this when he was behind closed doors in his office. I then said to Burbank that he was not qualified to be town manager and that he was costing the town a lot of grief and money. O.J. backed Burbank . I did not have an issue with a staff member. I had an issue with the lack of minutes and the manner in which the minutes were presented . Not in compliance with the Statute. The town hall had received a copy of the Statute prior to my attendance there. I reminded employee rose of the statute and that was the extent of our conversation, other then the fact that she said she had family issues that prevented her from having them ready on time. This statement by her was unsolicited. In spite of what Burbank would like you to believe is the extent of my conversation with employee Rose , until latter on that day asking that I return part of the minutes she had inadvertently included in my packet. I have copies of two distinct sets of minutes.

Since the meeting referenced above, I have sent Chairman Robinson a link and assistance available for him to have the minutes recorded in the future so they don't have to be edited and they

can be burned on a disc and be available almost immediately and in a form to be stored in perpetuity.

Edmond Gionet