

Lincoln Board of Selectmen – Meeting Minutes
August 30, 2010

Board of Selectmen Present: Chairman Peter Moore and Selectman Deanna Huot.

Excused Absence: Selectman Patricia McTeague.

Staff: Town Manager Peter Joseph and Administrative Assistant Brook Rose.

Members of the Public: Becky Noseworthy, Edmond Gionet, and Greg Sorg.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Peter Moore called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.

II. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION: Deanna Huot made a motion that the meeting minutes of August 16, 2010 be approved as written. Peter Moore seconded the motion. Motion carries.

MOTION: Deanna Huot made a motion that the non-public meeting minutes of August 16, 2010 be approved as written. Peter Moore seconded the motion. Motion carries.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representative Edmond Gionet & Mr. Greg Sorg

Representative Gionet and Mr. Greg Sorg appeared before the Board to ask for the community's support as Mr. Sorg is running for election and Mr. Gionet is running for reelection to the House. Mr. Gionet presented the Board with his 2010 Session and Special Session Vote Tabulation. His attendance was 100% and voting was 98%. He also handed out a list of 31 new or increased taxes and fees for the 2010-2011 Biennial Budget as well as his and Sue Ford's voting record and the bills they voted on over the past two years. He stated that his and Ms. Ford's votes are usually opposite and pretty much cancel each other out. Mr. Gionet would like to see Mr. Sorg elected as they work very well together, are in agreement on a lot of issues and could get a lot accomplished for the Town. Their goal is to get rid of some of the proposed fees and taxes.

Mr. Sorg mentioned that his first term as Representative was in 2002 and he served for three terms. One particular issue Mr. Sorg and Mr. Gionet worked together on specific to the Town of Lincoln was the school funding. There was an extended discussion on the matter. Mr. Sorg also worked closely with the former Town Manager, Ted Sutton on managing the education bills as they were presented. Mr. Gionet stated that the party does not dictate the policy or decisions he makes. Mr. Sorg agreed. Mr. Gionet is on the State Public Works Committee and works on the capital budget for the State which could be a great benefit to the North Country. Mr. Gionet added that he is very sincere in what he is doing and enjoys accomplishing things for the district. The Board thanked Mr. Sorg and Mr. Gionet for coming in to meet with them.

Becky Noseworthy

Ms. Noseworthy attended the meeting because she is concerned with her contract recently being put out to bid. She is worried about losing the contract she has had with the Town for seven years. She stated that she has had people calling her at home asking why she is giving up her job when that is

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not the case. She questioned why since last September the Board changed their mind and decided to go ahead and put the job out to bid. She read minutes where Peter Joseph had stated that there was no legal obligation to put the job out to bid. There was some discussion as to why the Town contracts for the cleaning of the Town Hall and Police Department yet employs someone to clean the Community Center and Library. Peter Joseph commented that part of the reason why the person that cleans the Community Center and Library is an employee is that with the Town's purchase of the Community Building, it was in the purchase and sale agreement that that particular employee was to be kept on as an actual employee of the Town. Also, the cleaning arrangements at the Library are handled separately from the Town as the Library Board of Trustees oversee the Library. He added that the Board discussed putting the Town Hall, Police Department and also the Fire Department out to bid last winter and that the issue had come up during the budget process.

Peter Moore stated that it is important to him to keep things that work in place and to keep local jobs open to local people but that it is also important to bid out this contract to include the Fire Department as that has never been included in the past. He asked Ms. Noseworthy to write up a bid that includes cleaning the Fire Department.

IV. OLD / NEW BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Joseph presented the Board with a letter regarding the purchase of a cemetery lot by a non-resident. He explained that the individuals making the request live in Woodstock seasonally. The Cemetery Trustees are opposed to selling lots to non-resident and seasonal residents due to the lack of space in the cemetery. The Board supported the Trustees decision as it follows the current Cemetery Policies and Procedures. Mr. Joseph will respond to the request.

Mr. Joseph then presented the Board with a copy of policies proposed and on the table for the NH Municipal Association's Annual Legislative Policy Meeting, scheduled for Friday, September 17, 2010. Mr. Joseph is planning to attend on behalf of the Town. The Board will review the policy proposals and advise Mr. Joseph on their stance prior to the meeting. The following motion was made.

MOTION: Deanna Huot made a motion to appoint Peter Joseph as the voting delegate to the NH Municipal Association's Annual Legislative Policy Meeting. Peter Moore seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Mr. Joseph gave the Board a copy of the letter of response from David Beaudin to the Forest Ridge Association to keep them informed on the ongoing private road dispute. Additionally, he gave them a copy of the letter he wrote to J&M Donahue Excavating, Inc. at the Board's request. The Board was also given a copy of the recent Utility Valuation update performed by George E. Sansoucy, PE, LLC. The Board discussed the matter. Mr. Joseph stated that Mr. Sansoucy's figures are considered accurate by the Town's assessors. The Town's assessment that is currently being appealed to the BTLA by NH Electric Co-Op (NHEC) is approximately \$9.5 million. NHEC estimates the value to be closer to \$2.6 million. Peter Moore stated that the difference in the two assessments is large enough that it merits going to court over the appeal. The case will go to court sometime in December or January.

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Mr. Joseph informed the Board that Primex is requiring that the Town make a decision on how they qualify Town employees' dependants relating to the Patient Protection Act. He explained that how the Town defines its dependant coverage does not make a difference to the coverage or cost and that it makes the most sense to accept Primex's recommendation on the definition.

The Board agreed and made the following motion:

MOTION: Deanna Huot made a motion to elect to offer expanded dependant coverage according to the definition presented by Primex under the Patient Protection Act. Peter Moore seconded the motion. Motion carries.

The Town requested an extension on the MS-1 from DRA until October 1, 2010. The Board signed the request and Helen Jones will send it in this week.

V. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to attend to, the Board adjourned at 6:35pm. The Board then reviewed the accounts payable and payroll registers for the week ending August 27, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Brook Rose

Approval Date: ____/____/____

LINCOLN BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Chairman Peter Moore

Selectman Deanna Huot