

**LINCOLN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2013 – 5:30PM
LINCOLN TOWN HALL - 148 MAIN STREET, LINCOLN NH**

Board of Selectmen Present: Chairman O.J. Robinson, Tamra Ham, and Patricia McTeague.
Staff Present: Town Manager Butch Burbank, Finance Officer Helen Jones, Planning Board Member Norman Belanger, Acting Fire Chief Ron Beard, Solid Waste Facility Manager Paul Beaudin, and Administrative Assistant Brook Rose.
Public Present: Jon Ham, Darin Whipperman, Rick Kelley, and Chris Fournier.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MOTION: “To approve the meeting minutes of May 6, 2013 as amended.”

Motion: Tamra Ham Second: O.J. Robinson Motion carries with Patricia McTeague abstaining.

MOTION: “To approve the non-public meeting minutes of May 6, 2013 as presented.”

Motion: Tamra Ham Second: O.J. Robinson Motion carries with Patricia McTeague abstaining.

MOTION: “To approve the meeting minutes of April 29, 2013 as presented.”

Motion: Patricia McTeague Second: Tamra Ham Motion carries with O.J. Robinson abstaining.

MOTION: “To approve the meeting minutes of April 22, 2013 as presented.”

Motion: Patricia McTeague Second: O.J. Robinson Motion carries with Tamra Ham abstaining.

MOTION: “To approve the non-public meeting minutes of April 22, 2013 as presented.”

Motion: Patricia McTeague Second: O.J. Robinson Motion carries with Tamra Ham abstaining.

III. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Town Manager’s Report on Levee

Town Manager Burbank informed the Board that Dubois & King’s report on the levee will be completed by June 1st. It will then be submitted to the Town and the Army Corp of Engineers for review.

Update on School Funding Formula Committee Meeting

Paul Beaudin updated the Board on the most recent School Funding Formula Committee Meeting. The Town of Lincoln’s share will increase and the Town of Woodstock’s will decrease by over \$181,000.

Lincoln will pay sixty five percent and Woodstock will pay the remaining thirty five percent. Tamra Ham stated that there is no other cooperative in the state that has this type of formula. Town Manager Burbank stated that he does not believe the DRA and the DOE will approve this formula. Tamra stated that she is also confident that this formula will not be approved and that the DRA will revert back to the former funding formula. School Board member Jane Ludwig stated that the DOE did say they would approve the proposed formula and that the Town's taxes will go up because of it. The Board felt that the current formula is better than the proposed formula and at this point Lincoln does not have the voter participation to change the formula in favor of the Town of Lincoln.

Tamra Ham stated that this proposal would lower the Town of Woodstock's taxes and as a majority of the School Board members are residents of the Town of Woodstock, she believes they will vote to approve the new formula. Jane stated her proposal to the School Board will be to keep the formula 60/40. She added that this is the same formula that has been in place since 1965 when the Town of Lincoln had sixty percent of the students and the Town of Woodstock had 40 percent. However for the past 12 years Woodstock has had the majority of students yet the formula has remained unchanged.

Tamra Ham stated that the Board of Selectmen needs to undertake a campaign to educate the Town's voters. She added that she is amazed that the majority of townspeople think that the shared facilities are fiscally split 50/50. Paul Beaudin stated that the Town should start making up some of this lost revenue by charging the Town of Woodstock for some of the facilities that the Town of Lincoln shoulders the burden for. Patricia McTeague stated that she is not in favor of this and would rather maintain the working relationship with the Town of Woodstock rather than stir up ill will. Town Manager Burbank stated that he has examined the idea of charging the Town of Woodstock for other shared municipal facilities that the Town of Lincoln currently carries the financial burden for however, these costs pale in comparison to the disparity of the funding formula. Patricia McTeague stated that she does not see the Town going down this road. O.J. Robinson agreed but would be in favor of charging the school for water and sewer as payment in lieu of taxes.

Paul Beaudin stated that he was stunned at the lack of concern the Town of Woodstock expressed as they did not care that this change to the formula would greatly raise the Town of Lincoln's taxes to residents and businesses alike. He added that this is not acceptable to him as a taxpayer.

Tamra Ham stated that the Town of Woodstock's initial offer was 75/25 and Tamra Ham and Paul Beaudin worked very hard to come up with a fair and serious proposal which was 50/50 based on a five year average ADM.

Jane Ludwig commented that the generosity of the Town of Lincoln has almost become a sense of entitlement to the Town of Woodstock. The vote on this proposed formula will take place tomorrow night at the School Board meeting. If voted in, this formula is in place for five years until the committee meets again. Paul Beaudin stated that the residents of Lincoln work just as hard to make a living as the residents of Woodstock and the inconsistencies are simply not fair.

The Board agreed to commence a public relations campaign as Town Meeting approaches to educate the Town's voters on this matter.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT SESSION ON LOON MOUNTAIN BRIDGE PROJECT

O.J. Robinson opened the public hearing on the Loon Mountain Bridge Project at 6:10pm. Project Engineer, Chris Bergeron of HEB Engineers began the hearing by giving a brief history of the

project. He discussed the funding sources. He explained that the overall project cost is 8.7 million dollars. As the project progresses, that number will be fine-tuned. FEMA is funding seventy five percent of the project and NHDOT is funding twenty percent. The Town is funding five percent.

The project is now in the preliminary design phase which will be completed in June and then submitted to NHDOT for approval. Procuring right of ways and permitting is currently underway. Final design and bidding is scheduled for late fall/winter. The project completion date is estimated to be late summer 2015.

Paul Beaudin questioned whether there would be lighting on the bridge. The consensus of the Board was that it is too expensive to install and maintain lighting. The trend in the State of NH is moving away from additional lighting. Chris Bergeron went on to explain the design and construction of the bridge. The bridge will look fairly similar to what was pre-existing rather it is what is underground that will be greatly improved. Paul Beaudin questioned what the maintenance requirements of this new bridge will be? Town Manager Burbank replied that the bridge is town owned and maintained. Chris added that the average deck life of a bridge is fifty years and that the maintenance would be whatever is standard bridge maintenance.

O.J. Robinson questioned whether the parking area on the south side of the bridge that is currently there will be maintained. Chris replied that it would be and it would continue to the east side of the bridge.

Jeff, the landscape architect for the project, presented the surface restoration plan for the site. The plan takes the drainage into account while developing a visually enticing design that is also ADA complaint. The ADA requirements are mandated as this is a federally funded project. There are not a lot of additional plantings planned due to budget restrictions however whatever was existing will be replaced. Paul Beaudin expressed concern with the relocation of the engine. He did not think moving the engine across the street where pedestrians (especially children) would have to cross two lanes of traffic to see it was a safe idea. Chris Bergeron and Rick Kelley discussed the location and will examine the location of the engine further to see what other options exist for its placement. O.J. Robinson thought it would be a good idea if the information center and the engine could be on the same side.

Rick Kelley questioned when a firm construction schedule would be available. Chris replied that it would be sometime this fall.

There was a brief discussion about kayaking this part of the river. All were disappointed that the kayaking community was not represented at the meeting.

Chris Bergeron concluded the hearing by informing the Board that he would be meeting with NHDES on May 22nd to discuss the channel reconstruction. The public hearing was closed at 7:30pm.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Abatement Requests

MOTION: “To grant an abatement to North Country Center for the Arts in the amount of \$255.87 for parcel 119-001.”

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

MOTION: “To grant an abatement to Glen Parker in the amount of \$37.00 for parcel 105-005.”

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

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION: “To adjourn.”

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brook Rose

Approval Date ____/____/____

Chairman O.J. Robinson

Vice Chair Patricia McTeague

Tamra Ham