

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Approved Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2023**

Board Present: Traci Homol, Everett Thurber and Mark Lightner

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

Others Present: David Richards, Danielle Melvin, Al McNeill, Jennifer Gildner-Blinn, Scott Goodspeed, Kevin Onnela, Maren Ardell, Brian Irwin, Ted Kraus and Daryl Simino.

Traci called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Board reviewed and approved the payroll and accounts payable manifest.

Approve/amend the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting held on August 22, 2023. Traci moves to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Old Business

Highway Department:

Shrenk Road Bridge – The guardrails have been completed.

Culverts – Passed over.

Mountain Road Paving –All States is scheduled to begin shouldering next Thursday. Questions regarding painting lines on the road were raised; the Board reiterated their previous statement that lines will not be painted.

Winter Sand – The sand should be all put up this week.

New Business

The Board reviewed Central Equipment's estimate to replace the cracked calcium tank:

3000 Gallon - \$3,477.86

5000 Gallon - \$6,952.45 (Yellow)

5150 Gallon – \$6,902.01

Shipping - \$889.00

Traci moves to approve the Highway Department ordering the 3,000 gallon tank including shipping, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

The Board reviewed culvert prices from the following vendors: EJP, JAF, Weed's and Pipe Connections, LLC. Traci moves to allow Daryl to order from Pipe Connections for \$25,118.40, seconded by Mark; all in favor. Mark inquired if the culverts were in stock, Daryl explained it will take 1-2 weeks to receive them.

Mountain Road ATV usage – At the August 22, 2023 BOS Meeting the Lempster Trailblazers asked the Board to open Mountain Road to the Washington Town line. A letter was presented by Phil Tirrell from LTAC Trail Master Keith Chadwick which stated "This road was on the list of requested trails at the last public hearing and has met the legal requirements to be acted upon without any additional hearings." Mark feels his vote to approve was a hasty one and would like to rescind his vote. Traci would also like to rescind her vote to open the road, and Everett had abstained from voting previously. Legal opinion was requested on the legality of approving the opening of the road without notifying the abutters and holding an additional public hearing due to the amount of time that had lapsed since the abutters were

notified and a public hearing was held. The attorney's opinion was as follows: "Failure of the board to make a decision in a timely fashion after holding the necessary hearing with notice would require the Board to hold another public hearing preceded by the required abutter notifications." The Board feels that the Public Hearing held July 28, 2020 does not constitute a timely decision. Motion to rescind previous approval passed.

David Richards spoke on behalf of the Lempster Trailblazers, citing RSA 215-A:6, IX, stating the required notices and hearing requirement had been met.

Scott Goodspeed had contacted the Washington town office confirming ATV use on the Washington side and was told only UTV's were allowed. ATV's cannot get to the store in Washington or connect to Washington's trails via Mountain Road.

Mark stated at the last BOS meeting that he was unaware only UTV's were allowed once you crossed the Washington town line - ATV's are not allowed.

Department Reports

Highway Department – Daryl mentioned that the highway trucks inspection month is this month, Trusted Rentals will be performing the inspections this week.

Daryl spoke on the condition of the roads. He has had several complaints on Long Pond Road, they will be grading Long Pond Road on Friday.

At 284 Long Pond Road a new septic tank has been installed and the ditch has been filled in for access, this is below the area where a driveway permit was issued which included the installation of a 12" culvert and 2- 6" culverts were installed instead. Property owners will be contacted.

There is a failed culvert on Keyes Hollow causing the road to undermine and Mill Road is impassable.

Fire Department Training Tower – It was brought to the Board's attention that a training tower is sitting at the Fire Station. Chief Thomas had presented the idea of a training facility at the station to the Board at the June 27, 2023 BOS meeting. The Board raised concerns which included the following; cost to build, maintain, insurance liability and security; they asked Chief Thomas to gather further information to present to them. The Board will issue a Cease and Desist to the Fire Department stating they are to take no further action on a training facility at this time.

David Richards explained that the tower was donated to them and has not been constructed.

Planning Board Access to Town Server- Robin has contacted Twin Bridge Services Lempster's contracted IT Company reminding them that the Planning Board is interested in connecting to the server for record keeping. Twin Bridge Services was given the contact information for David Richards so they can discuss directly with him the process of uploading documents from David's equipment to the Town's equipment. Mark wanted to mention that no outside equipment is to be connected to the Town Equipment which could potentially infect it.

Administrative and Correspondence – None

Public Participation-

Residents discussed utilizing volunteers and perhaps the County Farm program. Mark explained we had looked into utilizing volunteers but we wouldn't benefit as they had to be supervised by the Highway Supervisor in order for our insurance to cover them. Traci will inquire about the County program with Sheriff Simonds.

David Richards asked about the items in the shed at the cemetery. The items will be removed prior to Fire Department's training.

Ted Kraus asked about the replacement of culverts on Long Pond Road and Splake Drive.

Traci moves to enter into nonpublic session under 91-A; 3, II(a) at 7:53PM, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

At 8:29PM Traci moves to return to the public meeting, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

Mark moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32PM, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant