

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Approved Meeting Minutes
November 28, 2023**

Board Present: Traci Homol, Everett Thurber and Mark Lightner

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

Others Present: David Richards, Jon Thomas, Scott Goodspeed, Jennifer Gildner-Blinn, Read Gildner-Blinn, Lynda Perry, Mindy Chadwick, Bob Porter, Alvin McNeill, Adam Howard, Janet Howard, Daryl Simino and Jenny Caron.

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 November 14, 2023. Traci moves to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

Old Business

Highway Department:

Culverts – The culverts are on hold, we have filed with HSEM for an extension through June 30, 2024.

Mountain Road – Line markings are on hold until the spring of 2024.

The beaver trapper has removed eight on Lovejoy Road, the State of NH has hired a trapper for Dodge Pond.

Long Pond Lot Map/Lot 241-20 –

Traci moves that we list the lot for sale with Kelly Caron, seconded by Mark, Everett concurs; all in favor.

New Business - None

Department Reports –

Highway Department:

Transfer Station Compactor- The electrician should be wiring the compactor this week. The attendants asked to have the Transfer Station closed on Sunday December 24, 2023, Christmas Eve. Traci moves to close seconded by Mark; all in favor.

Fire Department:

Chief Thomas updated the Board on the department's recent activity, stating they have been very busy.

He asked that the Highway Department keep the turnaround plowed, Scott stated they do

and the boat ramp. Jon asked about having the boat ramp at Sand Pond plowed, the Board recommended he work with Marlow Chief Brewer and the Marlow select board.

Jon presented a letter regarding the lowering of Long Pond; discussion ensued, highlighting the same ongoing issues. Everett gave a brief history surrounding the lowering and raising of the pond, including how someone would lower the water and someone else would raise it, therefore the State of NH recommended the Town place a lock on it.

Chief Thomas updated the Board on his future plans for the Fire Department including: looking into a grant for portable radios, installing a security system at the fire house, replacing the air vac filters, looking into splitting the cost of an air gas calibrator with Goshen and Marlow, he would like to meet with the Board after the first of the year to discuss building a training facility; Everett explained that the Board has not received any plans from the Chief as requested.

The Department is looking to improve their water rescue equipment, perhaps with CIP and budget funds.

Chief Thomas presented a list of year end expenditures; the list was not approved until the Board has a chance to review the current budget numbers.

Forrest Fire Department:

Warden Richards requested to expend \$812.00 for equipment. Traci moves to allow the purchase totaling no more than \$812.00, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Administrative and Correspondence –

Budget Review – Work session date scheduled for December 6 at 4:30PM.

A.P. Howard Automotive Recycling Application – Traci moves to approve for release as soon as the fee is received from Adam, seconded by Mark; all in favor approved and signed.

Emergency Response Liaison – Traci moves to appointed Mark as the primary contact, seconded by Everett.

2024 Hazardous Waste Collection – Everett signed the contract and read the dates and locations of the collection sites.

Fema July 2021 – Check received \$112,761.98.

Road Safety Audit Application – The State will not move forward without the application; Traci has contacted Megan at UVLSRPC.

Ladies Auxiliary. Meeting House Rental for a Christmas party in conjunction with Drift New England on December 10 – The application was signed and the fee waived.

Propane Contract signed - \$1.459 down from \$1.645.

Public Participation-

Jennifer Gildner-Blinn read the following to the Board:

“We have a petition to present to you. We believe the Drift New England project should be considered a development of regional impact (DRI). We consulted a land law attorney, and it appears that the only entity with the authority to declare a DRI in a town with no zoning is the building inspector. In April, we wrote to Mr. Porter stating this. When we didn’t receive a response, the attorney’s office called the building inspector. Mr. Porter emphatically denied it was his role. We’ve created a petition, signed by 98 people, which states that the project is a DRI, and that the building inspector has a responsibility to declare it so. We’re presenting this petition to you now, the Select board, and respectfully ask you to recommend to the building inspector to declare the project a DRI. We also ask that the Select board clearly state their intention on this matter as soon as possible, and prior to a building permit application being submitted by Drift New England to the building inspector. Jennifer and Read Gildner-Blinn”

Nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II (c)

At 8:25 PM Traci moves to enter non-public session, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

At 8:42 PM Traci moves, seconded by Everett to end the non-public session and return to the public meeting; all in favor.

Traci moves to seal the minutes of the non-public session, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

There being no further business, Traci moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 PM, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant