

Town of Litchfield
Select Board
September 10, 2018
Final Minutes

1.0 Convened 6:30; Pledge to Flag; Selectmen, Gary Parker, Chairman, Rayna Leibowitz and Mark Russell; **Staff:** Trudy Lamoreau, Town Manager; Richard Lane, Cyndi Redmond, Toby Jutras and Tamas Szepsy, Road Advisory Comm; John Upham, FOAA Officer; Pat Soboleski, Senior Center Director; Vicki Russell, Rec. Comm.; Tiffany Caton, Rec. Comm.; Mike Seaman, Planning Board; Renee LaChappelle, BAR and Guests Present per the sign in sheet

2.0 Minutes of August 27, 2018 Meeting submitted for final approval. A motion to accept the minutes as drafted with corrections of typos was made by Mark Russell, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 3 - 0.

3.0 Reports and Correspondence

3.1 Town Manager - A. The Town Manager spoke with Rob of RJD Appraisals Inc. and he advised the revaluation of the waterfront properties are nearly completed, including the ones they needed to go back to.

B. A Tax Commitment Workshop has been set up for Sept 19 at 1:00 PM.

C. Another meeting with FEMA was held last week to identify more paperwork needed.

D. A copy of a letter from Cliff Wells, Director of the RCC in Augusta was distributed to the Board before tonight's meeting. Gardiner Fire Dept is again talking with Lincoln County Communications Center. We will monitor the situation at this time.

E. Thirty day foreclosure notices are almost ready to go out. The Town Manager will provide a list at the next meeting.

F. The staff is finishing the data entry of loose ends .

G. The Animal Control Officer has responded to several complaints and feedback has been very positive.

3.2 Code Officer/Plumbing Inspector -A. In Steve's absence, Trudy reported he has received 4 applications for new house building permits.

3.3 Road Commissioner - A. In Larry's absence, Richard Lane reported Oak Hill Road ditching may be finished this week or early next week, depending on the rain situation.

B. The grader broke down but staff was able to fix it.

C. We are one man down as Jeremy Ported resigned.

D. Richard was asked if there was any word on the stump removal or the pine trees on the Plains Road, but he hadn't heard anything about it.

3.4 Fire & Rescue - Chief Labbe was absent but had previously advised Trudy the FD had one fire call during the Fair, otherwise all efforts were focused on their fund-raising.

3.6 Assessing Agent - A. Ellery Bane was here doing data entry one day last week.

3.7 Transfer Station A. In Bryan's absence, John Upham advised they had put up rafters in the HazMat room.

B. Some gravel work still needs to be done. The Public Works crew will be reminded.

3.8 Other Town Committees - The Road Advisory Comm will participate in discussion regarding Oak Hill Road paving.

4.0 Agenda Adjustments

4.1 Chadd Hill discussing the Rec. Dept will be added as 6.1

4.2 Driveway Entrance Permit Form will be added as 6.2

5.0 Scheduled Business

5.1. Richard Lane and Cyndi Redmond - Road Advisory Committee reported a special meeting had been held on Sept 4 with residents of Oak Hill Road in an effort to listen to comments and try to resolve the differing opinions regarding paving the gravel section of the road and the width the road should be. Richard discussed the pros and cons of gravel and pavement and width of the road. Cyndi had provided the Board with information she had researched. The Road Advisory Committee recommended paving the road.

Several residents spoke in favor or against paving the road and the Board heard from everyone who wanted to speak. Mike Seaman of the Planning Board (not a resident of Oak Hill Road) asked if the Cobbossee Watershed District had been invited to comment. They had not and he recommended it. A resident asked if speeds could be lowered. There was discussion of putting up cautionary signs for lower speeds, but advised the law enforcement would not enforce them. Also reminder signs that children are present can be put up. The Chairman discussed to relative costs for the short term and long term of gravel versus paved roads and gravel roads are much less expensive. Many states encourage gravel roads for low traffic areas, such as this.

A motion was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker to not pave the road this fall but to wait until a winter of experience had been realized. An independent assessment will be done this fall when the road work on Oak Hill Road is done and another in the spring (perhaps early June) looking at sediment issues, potholes and other factors, with a recommendation to the Board regarding to pave or not to pave. The vote was 3 - 0.

6.0 Unscheduled Business

6.1 Chadd Hill - discussion of the Rec. Dept. - He would hate to see it go away. He was urged to find members for a committee that would be willing to put the effort into maintaining the fields, repairing the dugouts, replacing the benches, etc. as well as coaching the teams. These things need to be accepted as responsibilities of parents who want their kids to have the experience of team sports. An assessment of the full status of the Athletic Complex will be made and reported back to the Board.

6.2 Driveway Entrance Permit Form - The Road Ordinance for Litchfield indicates a decision to approve a permit request or not shall be in writing, but no form had been developed to facilitate this. The Chairman drafted a form to be used. A motion was made by Mark Russell, seconded by Rayna Leibowitz to adopt a policy to use the drafted Driveway Entrance Permit form as designed and voted 3 - 0.

9.0 Warrants

9.1 Town Voucher #5 for \$486,099.08 A motion to approve was made by Mark Russell, seconded by Rayna Leibowitz and voted 3 - 0.

9.2 Town Payroll # 5 for \$21,401.93 A motion to approve was made by Mark Russell, seconded by Rayna Leibowitz and voted 3 - 0.

10.0 Other Business

10.1 Richard Lane advised he will be traveling south for the winter and will step off as Chair of the Road Advisory Committee. He expects another member will be voted on to act as Chairman. It was noted the list of boards and Committees is not accurate regarding some of the committee members and errors need to be pointed out so corrections can be made.

11.0 Selectmen/Public Discussion/Communication

11.1 Bob Smith advised the person with nuisance dogs he has complained about before has let his dogs bark outside until midnight. He called the ACO and the ACO visited the resident and the dogs were quieted.

12.0 Future Agenda Item

12.1 Feedback on Selectman's Handbook

12.2 Whippoorwill Rd Culvert/Bridge (Reissue bid request in Oct)

12.3 List of properties subject to foreclosure

12.4 Assessment of the Athletic Complex

13.0 Adjournment at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by

Rayna Leibowitz