

Town of Litchfield
Select Board
May 23, 2022
Meeting Minutes

1.0 Convened at 6:30 PM; Pledge to Flag; Selectmen: Gary Parker, Chairman, Rayna Leibowitz, (Clarence Gowell III was absent); **Staff:** Kelly Weissenfels, Town Manager; Larry Nadeau, Road Comm.; John Upham, Acting Transfer Station Manager; Pat Soboleski, Senior Director; Tom Wood, Budget Comm. Chairman and Broadband Comm. Larry Bell, Chm., Broadband Comm. via Zoom; Joline Bell, Friends of Woodbury Pond Park via Zoom.

2.0 Minutes of May 9, 2022 Meeting submitted for final approval. A motion to approve the minutes as drafted was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2- 0.

3.0 Reports and Correspondence:

3.1 Town Manager: A. Kelly advised some skate board ramps had been dropped off at the tennis courts at the Veterans Athletic complex but they are not in good enough condition to stay. The Recreation Committee has been authorized to remove them and request the owner reclaim them.

B. The Request for Proposals for Woodbury Pond Dam are out and due back for June 13.

C. Kelly is working with the Klienfelder Rep. regarding the Whippoorwill Rd. grinding project. The grinding has stopped due to equipment failure and parts are on order.

D. A Federal and State holiday need to be added to the Personnel Policy- Junteenth (June 19th) which falls on a Sunday so June 20 will be a holiday which will have the Town Office closed if the Select Board is in agreement. It is.

E. The Memorial Day Parade route needs to be changed as the detour of traffic for Route 196 on the Plains Road will mean the road cannot be closed for the Parade. An alternate plan has the marchers gathering in the field across from the Fairgrounds, marching through the Plains Cemetery approaching the Veterans Monuments from the rear. It was noted that field belongs to the Litchfield Plains Cemetery Association so permission should be obtained from that organization.

F. The Town Report draft is expected to be sent to the printer this week.

3.2 Code Enforcement Officer/Plumbing Inspector –Kelly reported Steve is absent.

3.3 Road Commissioner – A. A new mechanic/worker started this week.

B. Another one is expected to start next week.

C. About 1/3 of the Whippoorwill Rd. is ground. There have been a lot of questions from residents.

D. The Dead River Rd. was ground and calcium is being spread to minimize dust.

E. The Public Works Dept. has agreed to repair the Fire/Rescue Dept. yard. See 5.3.

3.4 Fire & Rescue – A. Chief Sherman is not in attendance.

3.5 Emergency Management – No Report

3.6 Assessing Agent – Spring work is complete. Ellery will be here on May 31.

3.7 Transfer Station – A. See the written report provided by John Upham, Acting Manager.

3.8 Broadband Committee – A. Larry Bell, Chairman, reported the South Monmouth and AT&T towers have had the vertical work completed. Redzone is working on the Gardiner tower, then the WCBB tower will be done. They are on schedule for the ramp up.

3.9 Other Town Committees – Woodbury Pond Park, Joline Bell reported 11 businesses and some individuals have sponsored work to be done at the park, including Larry and Selena Nadeau. Sherwin Williams Paints in Lewiston provided paint valued at \$500! They need more volunteers to help with clippers, chainsaw, chipper and painting materials. Joline will open the gate for helpers whenever they can come. A professional brochure is being developed to be put around town so folks will have an opportunity to learn what a lovely place it is and use it more. Poison Ivy and Brown Tail Moths are being treated. They are working on coordination of porta-potties with other local activities.

Budget Committee: Tom Wood, Chairman, advised the committee met on Wednesday and voted on the proposed recommendations on appropriate articles. A final copy has been sent to the Committee members and the Town Manager.

4.0 Scheduled Business

4.1 Presentation of Core Sample Results – Ron from All States Paving provided information– Libby Road– Spot Shim Repairs will be done as needed. Wentzel Road will get a multiple layer chip seal this year (early July). Whippoorwill Road – pavement and subsoil were tested. There is a lot of clay content that holds moisture. Recommend reclaim, full depth 12” gravel base, 3.5” – 4” new hot top. Lunts Hill Rd., Recommends 9” reclaim, depth grade compact, 4” emulsion injection to create a 75% firmness between rigid surface and granular subsurface. Recommends 2.5” pavement to provide a life cycle of 10 – 12 years. All States Paving can do all of it. The Select Board requested recommendations for the Whippoorwill Road. He advised they have a Quality Control person on site for their work already doing inspection, monitoring quality.

Stevenstown Road chip seal was done mid September, 2021. That was about a week later than they usually do chip seal. It needs time, traffic and higher temperatures to settle the layers well and fill voids. Double chip seal takes even longer. Ron will take a look at this road to evaluate the condition.

4.2 Pavement Fix Options for Dennis Hill Rd (Rte 126 to Pine Tree Rd) – Discussion was held regarding the rapidly deteriorating condition of this portion of Dennis Hill Road. Various options were considered. All States Paving can immediately do paving that will eliminate the worst of the problems on this stretch for \$31,000. A motion to approve this project for \$31,000 to be paid out of the Roads and Bridges funds was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2 – 0.

4.3 Proposed Amendments Litchfield Fire/Rescue Department Ordinance – Tabled in the absence of the Fire Chief.

4.4 Finalize Town Warrants – A review was done including a motion to include the Selectmen Recommend “Ought Not To Pass for Article 21 on a motion made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2 – 0. After the full Town Warrant was reviewed and any required changes made, a motion to approve the final version was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2 – 0.

4.5 Extend the Lapse Date of the Invasive Plant Control Special Project (\$9,425) with the Maine Dept. of Conservation – A motion to extend the lapse date to June 30, 2023 was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2 – 0.

4.6 Request for Approval of Kennebec County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2021 Update - Tabled

5.0 Unscheduled Business

5.1 Liquor License Renewal – Doolins Pub – A renewal application for the liquor license was

submitted. There are no proposed changes from previous licenses. A motion to approve the application was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2 – 0.

5.2 Bids for Bridges - Calderwood Engineering sent bid requests out prior to review and authorization by the Select Board. The decision was made to not open the bids at this time.

5.3 Fire Dept. Yard Repairs – The engineering report for this project included changing the grade, removing poor soils, excavating, putting fabric down and adding gravel for a 200’ X 175’ area for an estimate of \$48,000. A reassessment of the needs resulted in the Public Works Department determining 1,000 yards of gravel and fabric (including shipping) for an area 140’ X 100’ with a projected cost of \$25,000 (see the related comment under 8.1)

7.0 Warrants

7.1 Town Warrant #30 for \$52,773.66. A motion to approve Town Warrant #30 for \$52,773.66 was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2-0.

7.2 Town Payroll #23 for \$19,949.62. A motion to approve the Payroll #23 for \$19,949.62 was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2-0.

8.0 Selectmen/Public Discussion/Communication

8.1 Regarding the Fire Dept. yard project – Tom Wood, Chairman of the Budget Committee, recommended the cost should be the burden of the beneficiary (the Fire/Rescue Dept.) and not the Public Works Dept. budget. It is a special project and should be funded as such.

8.2 RSU#4 School Budget – In the past the Select Board has taken a public position regarding the RSU#4 School Budget. Following further discussion, a motion to recommend “Ought Not To Pass” was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 2 – 0.

9.0 Future Agenda Items

9.1 Feedback on Selectman’s Handbook

9.2 R02, Lot 015, 2793 Hallowell Rd

9.3 R02, Lot 017, 2783 Hallowell Rd.

9.4 Safety Flaggers

9.5 Selling Town Property

9.6 Proposed Amendments Litchfield Fire/Rescue Department Ordinance

9.7 Request for Approval of Kennebec County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2021 Update

10.0 Adjournment at 9:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted By

Rayna Leibowitz