

# TOWN OF LISBON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Stephen Knox (SK) Donald Butson  
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE: Greg Colby (GC) Suzanne Tavernier

SK called meeting to order 3:00

**PUBLIC:** Resident of Pearl Lake Road asked the Board if they came to any conclusion about Pearl Lake and possible paving in future.  
SK Explained the Board had met with Road Agent and that Pearl Lake is not a top priority. He went on to say he had driven Pearl Lake Road and there are many other Town roads that are more heavily traveled that are a high priority. He went on to explain the Road Agent and Selectboard are working on a plan regarding the Town roads in terms of priority, to establish a plan so regardless of who is sitting here the plan is in place.

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION:** Roselind Paige and Robert Cook from the Conservation Commission came in to speak with the Board about setting up a meeting with the Board, Planning Board, Zoning and Conservation Commission. She explained she would like to move forward with the understanding of what the Commission's role is. Regarding the Local River Advisory Commission, they should be notified regarding anything within a ¼ mile of river. Then made reference to the Dollar General and suggested the plans should be shown to Commission.

There was a discussion about the hearing on the Dollar General. SK explained the application adhered to the zoning regulations in place; Planning Board is bound by law to follow regulations.

Robert Cook asked if SK had any thoughts on changing the regulations moving forward

SK explained only the Legislative Body, at Town Meeting can change or adopt new zoning regulations

**SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS:** Board signed AP & Payroll Manifest and posting journals.

The Board tabled requisition requests from Fire Department. The Board requested Fire Chief come in and speak to the Board regarding the requests.

SK made motion to accept minutes as written DB 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted all

DB spoke to GC about cell towers and the possibility of trying to get a company to come into Town. GC stated he did have a contact in the field and would reach

*SK*  
*DAB*

out to that party to see what if anything could be done to encourage the development of a cell tower in Lisbon.

DB stated he was approached by Josh and Angie Dumont regarding the Planning Boards vote on the Dollar General. They had asked what the Selectboard could do about decision or what he could do

SK explained that the Planning Board made their decision based on authority of the zoning regulations.

GC stated with barring any major exceptions to the zoning regulations, which it appears there were none.

Board asked that Town Counsel be contacted regarding zoning regulations and appeal process requirements

**LIFE SQUAD:** Dave Combs and Gary Gagnon came in to speak to the Board regarding GG being reinstated on the Life Squad

The Board explained they had given a directive to have all background checks and employee files updated. They explained they had spoken to Department Head and had set deadlines.

SK when the deadline passed the directive to dismiss was given to Department Head.

DB just so you are aware, it didn't sit well with me personally when we were just being ignored

GG I understand and I started this because I wanted to help the community. I was not aware of the deadlines

SK My hang up is that it reflects badly on everyone on the department when we ran up against the attitude, but that's water under the bridge

DC that might have been on my side, I didn't want to lose him.

SK You understand as a member of squad you are counted on by the public and other members, there is question of Town liability regarding members.

GG I can appreciate that and I understand. I don't make all the meetings and I didn't know about deadline. I have nothing to hide, more than willing to have background done

SK do you mind stepping out for a moment while we discuss?

**NON-PUBLIC: (RSA 91:a3III)** SK made motion to enter non-public to DB 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted all

**PUBLIC:**

SK made motion to recess Selectmen's Meeting for Public Hearing regarding the over expenditure request

**HEARING:**

SK called meeting to order-Purpose of Hearing to purchase side walk tractor for snow removal. We will give you a finance background and history . He asked

Road Agent Kevin Clement (KC) to speak on the history and why we need new tractor

KC explained the old tractor failed transmission wise. Cost of transmission was more money than tractor was worth. It was sold as is at auction where we received around 7,000.00. When the tractor failed, we were not sure which route the Town was going to take so we rented a tractor to get us through until Memorial Day.

SK so to paraphrase, old tractor was 9 years old, cost to fix was more than tractor was worth.

DB Part of the reason the tractor failed was not big enough for what we were using it for correct KC

KC yes that was part of the issues

SK the weight of the sander deemed too heavy for old tractor caused or likely caused the failure. We leased a tractor to get us through Lilac. We needed to determine what we were doing going forward. We weighed the options of used vs. new. Don and I deemed it be necessary for longevity of the equipment to go with new. In the long run would be best to go with new, and then came the question how do we pay for it. I am going to turn it over to GC so he can explain why we are here today.

GC Explained a Public Hearing is required under RSA 32:11 regarding over expenditures When the tractor failed we were unsure where we going to come up with the money. With the budget so tight and cut backs. We waited as long as we have to see if there would be enough left in equipment lines or the overall budget to come up with any of the funds needed. With the budget cut backs it couldn't be done. That is the purpose of this hearing, to overspend the budget, to expend money from the fund balance to cover the cost of new tractor. The fund balance at the end of 2013 had around five hundred thousand which is about one hundred fifty thousand increase from prior year. That is where the funds will be coming from. This purchase will not affect taxes

Perry Gagnon (PG) asked if new tractor came with warranty

KC said yes a one year warranty. If we had purchased used would not be the same. If we had repaired would only warranty for 60 days

PG asked if they considered getting extended warranty

KC said he did not believe they would offer extended warranty to a municipality due to the work load, wear and tear on the vehicle. We looked into several other options, we looked at Kubota but tractors too big for sidewalk, we looked at Bobcats but visibility and speed excluded that as option.

SK stated the life expectancy is about 10 years

PG said I believe it would be longer than that

SK we need to understand the harsh conditions this equipment is put under. He asked if there were anymore questions or comments

PG stated I had wished you had hung on to the old tractor and gave the option to repair but now that I know the size was a concern look like we didn't have an option.

Barry Liveston I agree with how this has been done, taking out of fund balance without raising taxes at the end of the year. We don't have to borrow to get it.

DB made motion to move forward with purchase of tractor SK 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted all

SK Thanked the group for coming in and showing interest, the public's help is always appreciated

### **SELECTMEN'S MEETING:**

SK reopened Selectmen's Meeting

DB asked if it was appropriate for SK to have delayed hearing beyond posted time.

GC Could argue both ways, but can't be opened sooner than posted. He went on to say based on vote today letter will be sent to DRA and Town should have answer in a day or two regarding approval

### **HIGHWAY:**

SK spoke to KC regarding the decision of the Planning Board to continue hearing for 30 days on proposed gravel pit on River Road, wanted to make sure what the Town's liability is regarding road

KC explained section of road is called cribbing, place along river

GC like a retaining wall

KC I don't know where the town's responsibility is with increase truck traffic and the potential damage

SK explained the size of the operation and concerns raised about damage to road and costs associated with such damage. It has also raised the question as to the responsible party for such costs.

The Board requested Town Counsel be contacted regarding River Road

There was a discussion about how gravel pits are approved through the Planning Board. In the past certain pits have been required to set up bond to cover damage of roads.

DB asked questions regarding road weight limit

SK said a weight limit can be posted on road along with road bans in spring

KC asked that two members of the Planning Board meet with the property owner along with himself to review section of road.

SK said they can't have quorum or make decisions but can identify area of concern, gather facts to bring to the remaining Planning Board members at next month's meeting.

GC asked if there is damage done to road, making it unpassable is there another access to the houses on the road

KC No other than the railroad access

GC I would think that is a concern regarding the financial burden to the town if damage makes road unpassable

**SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS:** The Board discussed RFP Draft in reference to mowing contract for Grove Hill and Town Parks. Bids need to be sealed  
The Board wants RFP to be advertised in Courier, the Record, Town Web Page and bulletin Board

The Board Discussed RFP for Town Assessor as contract is up at the end of December.

Board requested draft budgets be emailed to them for review, GC will be meeting with Department Heads on Monday

DB made motion to adjourn SK 2<sup>nd</sup>